

# Red Card Assistance for Umpires



Following the amendments to the Red Card Rules & Regulations in September 2016, EH have received numerous questions concerning the management of Red Cards, especially when a player has received a Red Card following two separate, but duplicate, minor offences for which a yellow card was awarded for the first offence.

The below is intended to help answer the most common questions:

**1) Do we have to award a Red Card when the player has committed two separate, but duplicate, minor offences where a yellow card was awarded for the first offence?**

Yes. This is in accordance with FIH Rules of Hockey (see Section 14 in the Playing the game– Personal penalties and Section 2.3 in the Umpiring section – Applying the rules). These cases should be recorded on the Red Card / Matchday Misconduct Offence report form under category D and returned to the relevant County Disciplinary Officer. If this person's contact details are not known, then the Regional Disciplinary Administrator's details are available on the form and should be sent to this individual.

**2) How does the umpire communicate this with the players and coaches in the game?**

It is recommended that the umpire shows the Yellow Card for the second time, swiftly followed by the Red Card.

**3) Can the individual who has been awarded a Red Card in this case, stay on the team bench?**

No, the player who has received a Red card for two separate, but duplicate, minor offences for which a yellow card was awarded has to leave the playing area, in accordance with rule 14.5 of the FIH Rules of Hockey. The game is not to be re-started until the player has left the playing area. The playing area is defined as the pitch and immediate surrounding area (normally the fenced area around the pitch). Umpires are urged to use common sense in these cases when players aged Under 18 are involved due to the duty of care for this player.

**4) Do we have to present a Red Card, if a player commits two yellow card offences, but they are for different minor offences?**

In accordance with the FIH Rules of Hockey, a player can receive two yellow cards in a game and not receive a permanent suspension if they are two different minor offences. It is recommended within the FIH Rules of Hockey that the length of suspension for the second yellow card is significantly longer than the first suspension (usually from 5 minutes to 10 minutes).

**5) If someone has already received a 10 minute suspension for the first minor offence where a yellow card was awarded, should the second yellow card (for a different offence) be a longer suspension?**

If a 10 minute suspension has been given for the first yellow card offence (such as a player going to ground and making contact with another player) then a second 10 minute suspension would be appropriate for a different, minor offence which a yellow card is awarded.

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- 6) Does a player who commits two separate, but duplicate, minor offences for which a yellow card was awarded for the first, automatically receive a 16 day ban?**

No, that player is permanently suspended from the match where this occurred, but is free to resume all training and playing responsibilities after the original match has been completed.

- 7) If a player does receive a red card following two separate, but duplicate, minor offences for which a yellow card was awarded for the first offence, are they now not able to receive a straight red card?**

No. If a player shows any behaviour that would've attracted a straight award of a red card, such as attempting or threatening another play or umpire, then a straight Red Card should be awarded and recorded appropriately on the Red Card report form.

- 8) If a player is shown more than 1 Red Card during the season, where both have come from committing two separate, but minor, offences where a Yellow Card was awarded for the first offence, does that player automatically receive a longer ban as they would do with receiving straight red cards?**

No, as there is no suspension from hockey (apart for the rest of the game) then there would be no additional ban for players who commit this type of offence. The only case where "match bans" may take place is down to leagues that already run player suspensions when they receive a certain number of Yellow Cards during a season. As these cases would count as 2 yellow cards being awarded to the player, this may result in the league suspending that individual for a match in line with their league rules.