

Rule 16 The Punishments**Warning**

16:1 A warning **can** be given for :

- a) fouls and similar infractions against an opponent (5:5 and 8:2), which do not fall under the category of punished progressively in Rule 8:3;

A warning **shall** be given for :

- b) such fouls which are to be punished progressively (8:3);
c) unsportsmanlike conduct by a player or team official (8:4; Clarification No. 5 :1-2).

Comment :

An individual player should not be given more than one warning, and a team should not be given more than 3 warnings; thereafter, the punishment should be at least a 2-minute suspension; A player who has already had a 2-minute suspension should not subsequently be given a warning.

No more than one warning in total should be given to the officials of a team.

16:2 The referee shall indicate the warning to the guilty player or official and to the timekeeper/scorekeeper by holding up a yellow card. (hand signal no. 13).

Rule 16 The Punishments

Attachment 2

Warning

16:1 A warning is the appropriate punishment for:

- a) fouls that are to be punished progressively (8:3; *compare however 16:3b and 16:6d*);
b) unsportsmanlike conduct that is to be punished progressively (8:7);

Comment:

A player should not be given more than one warning, and the players of a team should not be given more than 3 warnings in total; thereafter, the punishment must be at least a 2-minute suspension. A player who has already had a 2-minute suspension should not subsequently be given a warning.

No more than one warning in total should be given to the officials of a team.

16:2 The referee shall indicate the warning to the guilty player or official and to the timekeeper/scorekeeper by holding up a yellow card. (hand signal no. 13).

Suspension

16:3 A suspension (2 minutes) **shall** be given:

- a) for a faulty substitution, if an additional player enters the court, or if a player illegally interferes with the game from the substitution area (4:5-6);
- b) for repeated fouls of the type that they are to be punished progressively (see 8:3; 16:1 Comment);
- c) for repeated unsportsmanlike conduct by a player, on the court or outside the court (see 8:4; 16:1 Comment);
- d) for unsportsmanlike conduct by any one of the officials of a team, after one of them has previously received a warning in accordance with 8:4 and 16:1c; see Rule 16:1 Comment;
- e) for unsportsmanlike conduct of a type that is judged to warrant a 2-minute suspension on each occasion (8:4; Clarification No. 5:3); see also Rule 16:3 Comments;
- f) as a consequence of a disqualification of a player or team official (16:8, 2nd paragraph; see, however, 16:14b);

Suspension

16:3 A suspension (2 minutes) **is the appropriate punishment:**

- a) for a faulty substitution, if an additional player enters the court, or if a player interferes in the game from the substitution area (4:5-6); **note, however, rule 8:10b (ii);**
- b) for fouls such as those under 8:3, if the player and/or his team has already received the maximum number of warnings (see 16:1 Comment);
- c) for fouls such as those under 8:4 ;
- d) for unsportsmanlike conduct by a player as under 8:7, if the player and/or his team has already received the maximum number of warnings;
- e) for unsportsmanlike conduct by a team official as under 8:7, if one of the officials on the team has already received a warning);
- f) for unsportsmanlike conduct by a player or team official as under 8:8; see also 4:6;
- g) as a consequence of a disqualification of a player or team official (16:8, 2nd paragraph ; see, however, 16:11b);

- g) for unsportsmanlike conduct by a player before the game has been restarted, after he has just been given a 2-minute suspension (16:12a).

Comments :

It is indicated in b), c) and d), that the suspension in those cases is generally intended for cases of repeated fouls or unsportsmanlike conduct. However, the referees have the right to determine that a particular violation warrants an immediate suspension, even if the player did not previously have a warning and the team did not yet have a total of three warnings.

Similarly, a team official may be given a suspension even if the officials of that team did not previously have a warning.

It is not possible, however, to give the officials of a team more than one 2-minute suspension in total.

When a 2-minute suspension is called against a team official in accordance with 16:3d, the official is allowed to remain in the substitution area and carry out his functions, however, the team's strength on the court is reduced for 2 minutes.

- h) for unsportsmanlike conduct by a player before the game has been restarted, after he has just been given a 2-minute suspension (16:9a).

Comment:

It is not possible to give the officials of a team more than one 2-minute suspension in total.

When a 2-minute suspension is called against a team official in accordance with 16:3d-e, the official is allowed to remain in the substitution area and carry out his functions. However, the team's strength on the court is reduced for 2 minutes.

16:4 After calling time-out the referee shall clearly indicate the suspension to the guilty player and to the timekeeper/scorekeeper through the prescribed hand signal, i.e. one arm raised with two fingers extended (hand signal no. 14).

16:5 A suspension is always for a playing time of 2 minutes; the third suspension for the same player also always leads to a disqualification (16:6f).

The suspended player is not allowed to participate in the game during his suspension time, and the team is not allowed to replace him on the court.

The suspension period begins when play is restarted with a whistle signal.

A 2-minute suspension carries over to the second half of the game if it has not been completed by the end of the first half. The same applies from the normal playing time to overtime and during overtime. An unexpired 2-minute suspension at the end of overtime means that the player is not entitled to participate in a subsequent tie-breaker, such as 7-meter-throws in accordance with 2:2 Comment.

16:4 After calling time-out the referee shall clearly indicate the suspension to the guilty player **or team official**, and to the timekeeper/scorekeeper, through **the prescribed hand signal**, i.e., one arm raised with two fingers extended (*hand signal no. 14*).

16:5 **A** suspension is always for a playing time of 2 minutes; the third suspension for the same player also always leads to a disqualification (*16:6d*).

The suspended player is not allowed to participate in the game during his suspension time, and the team is not allowed to replace him on the court.

The suspension period begins when the game is restarted with a whistle signal.

A 2-minute suspension carries over to the second half of the game if it has not been completed by the end of the first half. The **same applies from the normal playing time to overtime and during overtime**. An unexpired 2-minute suspension at the end of overtime means that the player is not entitled to participate in a subsequent tie-breaker through 7-meter-throws in accordance with 2:2 Comment.

Disqualification

16:6 A disqualification **shall** be given:

- a) for unsportsmanlike conduct by any one of the officials of a team, after they have previously received both a warning and a 2-minute suspension in accordance with 8:4, 16:1c and 16:3d;
- b) for fouls which endanger the opponent's health (8:5);
- c) for seriously unsportsmanlike conduct by a player or a team official, on or outside the court (8:6; Clarification No. 6), and for the special case of significant or repeated unsportsmanlike conduct during a tie-breaker such as 7-meter throwing (2:2 Comment and 16:13);
- d) for an assault by a player before the game or during a tie-breaking procedure (2:2 Comment, 8:7; 16:14b);
- e) for an assault by a team official (8:7);
- f) because of a third suspension to the same player (16:5);

16:7 After calling a time-out, the referees shall clearly indicate the disqualification to the guilty player or official, and to the timekeeper/scorekeeper, by holding up a red card. (hand signal no. 13).

Disqualification

16:6 A disqualification **is the appropriate punishment:**

- a) for fouls under 8:5 and 8:6;
- b) for seriously unsportsmanlike conduct under 8:9 and extremely unsportsmanlike conduct under 8:10, by a player or team official, on or outside the court;
- c) for unsportsmanlike conduct by any one of the officials of a team under 8:7, after they have collectively already received both a warning and a 2-minute suspension in accordance with 16:1b and 16:3d-e;
- d) as a consequence of a third suspension to the same player (16:5);
- e) for significant or repeated unsportsmanlike conduct during a tie-breaker such as 7-meter throwing (2:2 Comment and 16:10);

16:7 After calling a time-out, the referees shall clearly indicate the disqualification to the guilty player or team official, **and to the** timekeeper/ scorekeeper, by holding up a red card (*hand signal no. 13*).

16:8 A disqualification of a player or team official is always for the entire remainder of the playing time. The player or official must leave the court and the substitution area immediately. After leaving, the player or official is not allowed to have any form of contact with the team.

The disqualification of a player or a team official, on or off the court, during the playing time, always carries with it a 2-minute suspension for the team. This means that the team's strength on the court is reduced by one (16:3f). The reduction on the court will, however, last for 4 minutes if a player has been disqualified in the circumstances indicated in Rule 16:12b-d.

A disqualification reduces the number of players, or officials, which is available to the team (except as in 16:14b). The team is, however, allowed to increase the number of players on the court again following the expiration of the 2-minute suspension.

A disqualification applies, in principle, only to the remainder of the game in which it is given. It is regarded as a decision by the referees on the basis of their observations of facts. There shall be no further consequences of a disqualification beyond the game, except in the case of disqualifications due to assault (16:6d-e), or when seriously unsportsmanlike conduct by a player or team official (16:6c) falls under category a), d) or g) in Clarification No. 6. Such disqualifications shall be explained in the match report (17:10).

16:8 A disqualification of a player or team official is always for the entire remainder of the playing time. The player or official must leave the court and the substitution area immediately. After leaving, the player or official is not allowed to have any form of contact with the team.

The disqualification of a player or a team official, on or off the court, during the playing time, always carries with it a 2-minute suspension for the team. This means that the team's strength on the court is reduced by one (16:3f). The reduction on the court will, however, last for 4 minutes if a player has been disqualified in the circumstances indicated in Rule 16:9b-d.

A disqualification reduces the number of players, or officials, which is available to the team (except as *in 16:11b*). The team is, however, allowed to increase the number of players on the court again following the expiration of the suspension.

As noted in rules 8:6 and 8:10, disqualifications in accordance with these rules are to be reported in writing to the responsible authorities for further action. In such cases, the 'responsible team officials', and the delegate (see *Clarification No. 7*), shall be informed immediately after the decision.

Rule 16 Exclusion

16:9 An exclusion **shall** be given :

when a player is guilty of an assault (as defined under 8:7) during the playing time (see 16:13, 1st paragraph, and 2:6), on or outside the playing court.

16:10 After calling a time-out, the referees shall clearly indicate the exclusion to the guilty player and to the timekeeper/scorekeeper, through the prescribed hand signal, i.e. the referee crosses his arms above his head (hand signal no. 15).

16:11 Exclusion is always for the entire remainder of the playing time, and the team must continue with one player less on the court. If a player who receives an exclusion was already serving (or had just received) a 2-minute suspension, or had caused a 2-minute reduction in team strength under Rule 16:12, then such a suspension or reduction would be incorporated into the exclusion. This means that the only remaining reduction is that which is caused by the exclusion.

The excluded player must not be replaced and must leave both the court and the substitution area immediately. After leaving, the player is not allowed to have any form of contact with the team.

An exclusion must be explained by the referees in the match report to the relevant authorities (17:10).

More than one Violation in the Same Situation

16:12 If a player or team official is guilty of more than one violation simultaneously or in direct sequence before the game has been restarted, and these violations warrant different punishments, then in principle, only the most severe one of these punishments shall be given. **This is always the case when one of the violations is an assault.**

There are however the following specific exceptions where in all cases the team must play at reduced strength on the court for 4 minutes:

- a) if a player who has just been given a 2-minute suspension is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct before the game restarted, then the player is given an additional 2-minute suspension (16:3g) "If the additional suspension is the player's third one, then the player is to be disqualified";
- b) if a player who has just been given a disqualification (directly or because of a third suspension) is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct before the game is restarted, then the team is given a further punishment so that the reduction will be for 4 minutes (16:8, 2nd paragraph);

More than one Violation in the Same Situation

16:9 If a player or team official is guilty of more than one violation simultaneously or in direct sequence before the game has been restarted and these violations warrant different punishments, then in principle, only the most severe one of these punishments shall be given.

There are however the following specific exceptions where in all cases the team must play at reduced strength on the court for 4 minutes:

- a) if a player who has just been given a 2-minute suspension is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct before the game restarted, then the player is given an additional 2-minute suspension (16:3g); if the additional suspension is the player's third one, then the player is to be disqualified;
- b) if a player who has just been given a disqualification (directly or because of a third suspension) is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct before the game is restarted, then the team is given a further punishment so that the reduction will be for 4 minutes (16:8, 2nd paragraph);

- c) if a player who has just been given a 2-minute suspension is guilty of seriously unsportsmanlike conduct before the game is restarted, then the player is furthermore disqualified (16:6c); these punishments combined lead to a 4-minute reduction (16:8, 2nd paragraph);
- d) if a player who has just been given a disqualification (directly or because of a third suspension) is guilty of seriously unsportsmanlike conduct before the game is restarted, then the team is given a further punishment so that the reduction will be for 4 minutes (16:8, 2nd paragraph).

16:13 The situations described in Rules 16:1, 16:3, 16:6, and 16:9 generally involve offenses during the playing time. For the purpose of these rules, 'playing time' includes overtime, time-outs, all half-time breaks and intermissions and, in the case of 16:6, also any tie-breaking procedures (such as 7-meter throwing). During such tie-breaking procedures, the referees may determine that, as time-specific punishments are then meaningless, any cases of significant or repeated unsportsmanlike conduct should lead to a disqualification from further participation in the procedures (2:2 Comment).

- c) if a player who has just been given a 2-minute suspension is guilty of seriously or extremely unsportsmanlike conduct before the game is restarted, then the player is furthermore disqualified (16:6c); these punishments combined lead to a 4-minute reduction (16:8, 2nd paragraph);
- d) if a player who has just been given a disqualification (directly or because of a third suspension) is guilty of seriously or extremely unsportsmanlike conduct before the game is restarted, then the team is given a further punishment so that the reduction will be for 4 minutes (16:8, 2nd paragraph)

Infractions during the playing time

16:10 The punishments for actions during the playing time are established in rules 16:1, 16:3 and 16:6.

In the concept 'playing time' are included all intermissions, time-outs, team time-outs and overtime periods. In all other forms of tie-breakers (e.g., 7-meter throws), only rule 16:6 applies.

In this way will any form of significant or repeated unsportsmanlike conduct prevent the further participation of the player concerned (see *Rule 2:2 Comment*).

Infractions Outside the Playing Time

16:14 Unsportsmanlike conduct, seriously unsportsmanlike conduct, or an assault on the part of a player or team official, taking place on the premises where a game is played but outside the playing time, shall be punished as follows :

Before the game

- a) a warning shall be given in the case of unsportsmanlike conduct (16:1c) ;
- b) a disqualification of the guilty player or official shall be given in the case of repeated or seriously unsportsmanlike conduct, or assault, but the team is allowed to start with 14 players and 4 officials; Rule 16:8, 2nd paragraph applies only for violations during the playing time; accordingly, the disqualification does not carry with it a 2-minute suspension.

Such punishments for violations prior to the game can be implemented at any time during the game, whenever the guilty person is discovered to be a participant in the game, as this fact may not be possible to establish yet at the time of the incident.

After the game :

- c) a written report.

Infractions outside the Playing Time

16:11 Unsportsmanlike conduct, seriously unsportsmanlike conduct, extremely unsportsmanlike conduct, or any form of particularly reckless actions (see Rules 8:6-10) on the part of a player or team official, taking place on the premises where a game is played but outside the playing time, shall be punished as follows :

Before the game:

- a) a warning shall be given in the case of unsportsmanlike conduct under rules 8:7-8;
- b) a disqualification of the guilty player or official shall be given in the case of action deemed to fall under rules 8:6 and 8:10a, but the team is allowed to start with 14 players and 4 officials; Rule 16:8, 2nd paragraph applies only for violations during the playing time; accordingly, the disqualification does not carry with it a 2-minute suspension.

Such punishments for violations prior to the game can be implemented at any time during the game, whenever the guilty person is discovered to be a participant in the game, as this fact may not be possible to establish yet at the time of the incident.

After the game:

- c) a written report