



JUNIOR ROLLER DERBY ASSOCIATION

Suspension Policy

Updated 17 May 2016

A. Applicability

Under the JRDA Addendum to the WFTDA Rules and the JRDA Code of Conduct, players, coaches, and spectators may be expelled for infractions which rise to a level of dangerous, negligent, reckless, or egregious actions.

In addition to the expulsion, players, coaches, and support staff may be penalized with a suspension lasting a minimum of one game. JRDA enforces multi-game suspensions during all sanctioned gameplay, which includes host-run tournaments and JRDA Playoff/Championship events.

B. Infractions During Sanctioned Game Play

Depending on the severity of an incident in a game, an expulsion may result in an individual being expelled and/or suspended for additional games.

Additionally, incidents sometimes occur in the last moments of a game, and the offender may serve very little penalty time (or none at all). In this case, a suspension may be issued on a case-by-case basis to mitigate egregious late-game actions that would otherwise warrant an expulsion (but not a suspension).

1. Game Expulsions:

Whenever an individual is expelled from a game (not a foul out), the following parties must complete and sign the Expulsion-Suspension Form from the IGRF and Standard Stats Calculator workbook ("IGRF" and "StatsBook"). With the exception of non-head official(s) who witnessed the action, any of these individuals may recommend that the expelled individual be suspended from their next sanctioned game(s):

- Official(s) Witnessing the Action
- One or both Head Official(s) (Crew Head Referee and/or Crew Head NSO in tournament play)
- Team Captains
- Tournament Head Official(s) (in tournament play)
- Games Oversight Representative (GOR, if applicable)

The GOR will be responsible for the completion of this form in a Playoff or Championship tournament. Otherwise, the T/HNSO will be responsible for its completion.

All parties above must clearly describe the incident and reasoning on the form. If the party/ies recommending suspension do not fill out the form, the suspension will be dropped and the matter considered closed by the SRP. Signatures and suspension recommendation responses are required (either "Yes" or "No") from all parties to the document. Signatures do not indicate agreement with the statements of other parties or the alleged infraction, but certify only the party's own statement and receipt of the form.

The Expulsion/Suspension information should be noted on the IGRF and the completed and signed Expulsion-Suspension Form returned to Sanctioning along with the rest of the Statsbook, and within the same time limits.

If no party recommends a suspension for the infraction, the Games Review Panel will consider the matter concluded.

If one of the signatories recommends a suspension, Sanctioning will forward the Expulsion-Suspension Form to the Suspension Review Panel (suspension@juniorrollerderby.org) for review within 48 hours of receipt. The Suspension Review Panel (SRP) will be made up of the Games Director, Rules Director, and chaired by the Sr. Vice President. Other members may be appointed by majority vote of these three individuals, but the total number of people on the panel (including the chair) must always be odd, and may not exceed 7.

At JRDA Regional Playoffs or Championships, the on-site GOR is responsible for handling these incidents and collecting statements from involved parties. For incidents occurring at the JRDA Regional Tournaments or the JRDA Championship Tournament, the "Championship Tournament Suspension Review Process" applies. Incidents happening at any other event would follow the "Non-Championship Tournament Suspension Review Process."



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2. Championship Tournament Suspension Review Process (JRDA Regional and Championships Only)

In the event of a suspension recommendation during a JRDA Regional or Championship Tournament, when the individual will still be actively participating in the tournament following the incident, the “Championship Tournament Suspension Review Process” is required. If, during JRDA Regionals or Championships, the individual or team does not have additional games in the tournament, the Non-Championship Tournament Suspension Review Process should be followed.

a. Suspension Meeting and Review:

i. *In-Game Incidents*

If there is a suspension recommendation noted on the Expulsion-Suspension Form, all parties signing the form will meet to discuss the infraction and vote to determine whether the suspension recommendation is valid. Each of the following gets one vote:

- Team Captain of expelled Skater or, in the case where the Captain is the expelled Skater, the Designated Alternate.
- Opposing team Captain
- Crew Head Official(s)
- Tournament Head Official(s)
- Games Oversight Representative (GOR)

ii. *Incidents Outside of Game Play*

If there is a suspension recommendation for an infraction outside of game play, the GOR will moderate a suspension review meeting between the two parties and responsible managers and/or oversight as deemed necessary.

b. Suspension Recommended:

If the majority determines that a suspension is valid, the suspension will be enforced during the tournament.

If a suspension recommendation is for more than one (1) game, only one game will be served during the tournament and additional game(s) are subject to SRP review. The SRP must be notified and sent a copy of the IGRF, Expulsion-Suspension Form and brief summary of the request immediately following the suspension recommendation so they may begin collecting information related to the incident. After the tournament, the SRP will review the suspension to determine if the action warrants additional games.

In the case of a serious infraction that warrants an immediate and harsher penalty, the GOR will have the power to upgrade the suspension.

c. Suspension Not Recommended:

If the majority determines that a suspension is not valid, the GOR will submit the forms and information from the meeting to the SRP for review after the tournament, along with the rest of the Tournament statistics, and within the same time limit.

3. Non-Championship Tournament Suspension Review Process

If a suspension recommendation is made during non-Championship tournament game play, the GOR or responsible party will submit the IGRF, Expulsion-Suspension Form and any additional materials for reference to Sanctioning and the SRP.

The SRP will review the incident per the process outlined in the JRDA Grievance Policy to determine if the incident warrants a suspension.

4. In-Game Incidents That Do Not Result in Expulsion:



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Any of the individuals listed above may request a review of an action that did not result in expulsion. See the "Appeals and Requests for Review" section of this document.

C. Incidents Occurring Outside of Game Play

Off-track incidents involving any skater, official, coach, or other attendee at a sanctioned game or tournament may be reviewable for suspension.

Off-track incidents may include (but are not limited to):

- Destruction of venue or event production property
- Illegal behavior at the tournament venue
- Code of Conduct violations occurring between games

D. Suspension Procedures, Rights and Limits

1. Individual Responsibility:

The individual suspended is responsible for serving the suspension. Failure to comply with issued suspensions will result in an automatic forfeit by the suspended player's team of any game which the suspended skater is rostered for, as set forth in the JRDA Forfeit Policy.

A suspended individual may not participate in any way in a game during which their suspension is being served, including, but not limited to, bench coaching, any officiating role, or other kinds of non-skating game participation. If present, the suspended individual must remain in the designated audience area. Any interference with gameplay, or malignant interference with skaters on or off the track, will be grounds for lengthening the suspension period by one game.

2. Suspension Timing:

Suspensions will be served during the next scheduled sanctioned game(s).

3. Team Rights & Responsibilities:

A suspended Skater's team may still field a 14-person roster during the game in which the Skater is serving the suspension, just without the suspended Skater.

If, in a JRDA Regional or Championship tournament, a Skater suspension is decided after the team has submitted its roster with the suspended Skater included, the team has up to 30 minutes following the conclusion of the meeting to identify a replacement and resubmit the roster.

4. Suspension Tracking

The team must indicate the Skater serving the suspension on the Sanctioning Application and on the IGRF for the game in which the suspension is being served.

When a suspension is served, this must be noted on the IGRF, and, in the case of in-tournament suspensions, on the Expulsion/Suspension Form for the game(s) in which the suspension is served.

E. Appeals and Requests for Games Review Panel Review

If the individual chooses to appeal a suspension recommendation, a request must be submitted in writing within two weeks of the notification to have the suspension have it reviewed. If a review of a multi-game suspension is desired after the initial game is served, the appeal must be filed no less than 14 days before the game in which the next suspension is to be served. Appeals must be sent to suspension@juniorrollerderby.org.

If a suspension is not appealed within two weeks from the date of the game in which it occurred, it will be considered uncontested by the SRP in its review of the report and supporting material provided by the GOR.

If a party feels that the suspension was issued in error or wishes to contest a non-suspension vote and appeal for a suspension, they need to file a new grievance. The request and evidence should be sent as per the JRDA Grievance Policy.