

Black Card Policy

Australian Fencing Federation Limited ACN 161 544 752 (**AFF**)

1. Background

The Australian Fencing Federation Limited (**AFF**) is the National Sporting Organisation (**NSO**) for the Olympic Sport of Fencing.

This Black Card Policy (the **Policy**) governs Australian Fencing Federation Limited(**AFF**).

This policy replaces all previous Black Card Policies.

2. Application

2.1 The Policy applies to all persons in attendance at an AFF event.

2.2 This Policy was adopted by resolution of the AFF Board on: 6th April 2023

2.3 This Policy is to be read in conjunction with the FIE Technical Rules. Where there is contradiction between the FIE Technical Rules and this Policy, this Policy will take precedence.

Other AFF policies may be necessary to read in connection with this Policy. AFF policies are published on the AFF's website: www.ausfencing.org

A person penalised by a black card (which carries the penalty of exclusion from an event, suspension from the rest of the tournament and exclusion for the following 60 days of the current or following FIE season) at any international competitions or AFF event, shall be excluded from competing, participating, coaching or observing:

- in official FIE competitions - for 60 days, from the date of the offence in the current or following FIE season; and
- in all other international competitions - for 60 days from the date of the offence; and
- In all AFF tournaments for 60 days from the date of the offence; and
- In all State tournaments for 60 days from the date of the offence

2.4 Pursuant to FIE Technical Rule t.170

Any person not on the piste who disturbs the good order of the competition receives:

1. On the first infringement, a warning, indicated by a YELLOW CARD, valid for the whole of the competition, which must be noted on the bout scoresheet and recorded by the Directoire Technique.
2. At the second infringement during the same competition a BLACK CARD.
3. In the most serious cases concerning disturbance either on or off the piste, the Referee may exclude or expel the person at fault immediately.

Where a person receives three (3) YELLOW CARDS **within a 12-month period**, this will amount to a second infringement and a BLACK CARD shall be awarded and the exclusions detailed in 2.3 be implemented.

2.5 The AFF will take responsibility for advising Member States as to which persons are penalized in accordance with the above policy.

Where the AFF has been advised of the penalization of a person by a black card by an AFF Member State under the State Reciprocal Black Card Policy, the text of which has been ratified across all Member States, the AFF will not, subject to clause 2.3, register that fencer in any competition which requires entry by a National Federation on behalf of a fencer, and which takes place during the exclusion period that would apply to a National event under the State Reciprocal Black Card Policy.

- 2.6 The AFF may choose to review the awarding of a Black Card by a Member State to a person, either of its own volition or at the request of the person, and if it so deems, the AFF may choose to apply it at National level, or to not apply the black card, at its own discretion.

3. Appeals

- 3.1 If a Black Card is awarded at a competition, an Appeal must be made to the DT in the first instance by the person who receives a Black Card should the person who received the black card, wishes to appeal that decision.
- 3.2 If a person who receives a black card at a competition does not appeal to the DT in the first instance, at a competition, then they will forfeit all further avenues of appeal.
- 3.3 The DT determining to uphold the Black Card is an Original Decision for the purposes of the AFF's Hearing Tribunal Interim Guidelines .
- 3.4 A person aggrieved by the Original Decision may make an application for a review of that decision pursuant to the AFF's Hearing Tribunal Interim Guidelines
- 3.5 For the purposes of the AFF's Hearing Tribunal Interim Guidelines , a review of the Original Decision will:
- a. Firstly, be referred to an Internal Hearing Tribunal to undertake that review; and
 - b. Will be referred to the NST for any Appeal.