



MRP & TRIBUNAL PROCESS

2024 SEASON



AREAS OF FOCUS



01

Reportable Offences Process

An overview of the Reportable Offences Process that was implemented ahead of the 2023 Season.

02

2024 Amendments

Covering the amendments to the Reportable Offences Process ahead of the 2024 Season.

03

Resources

Handbooks, cheat sheets and one-pagers.



PURPOSE OF THIS PRESENTATION

To educate and inform Central Victorian Clubs of the Reportable Offences Process so that they can be best prepared ahead of the 2024 Season.





REPORTABLE OFFENCES PROCESS



The Reportable Offences Process was adopted ahead of the 2023 Season and is covered within the National Community Football Policy Handbook (NCFPH)



GAMEDAY: Notice of Report

An umpire will acknowledge a reportable offence during a match by issuing a Notice of Report.

This notice is completed post-match and requires an umpire to grade an incident using the classification table (Appendix 2) and three provisions: Conduct, Impact & Contact OR for Auditory Offences using provisions: Conduct, Receiver, Volume from the Auditory Offences Table (Appendix 1).

This grading informs the MRO of how the Umpire interpreted the offence.

Importantly, the Reporting Official will notify the involved Club of any Reports from the Match.

Umpires can lay reports until 5pm on the first business day after the match.

MRP reviews Report

On the first business day after each weekend, the Match Review Panel reviews all reports.

Further investigation can be undertaken at this stage including interviewing the reporting official.

Members of the MRP will remain anonymous.



REPORTABLE OFFENCES PROCESS (cont.)

The Reportable Offences Process was adopted ahead of the 2023 Season and is covered within the National Community Football Policy Handbook (NCFPH).

For reference, the full Disciplinary Policy can be found in PART E (page 66) of the National Community Football Policy Handbook.



MRP Issue "Notice of Charge"

By 5pm on the first business day after the match, if the MRP believes a reportable offence has occurred, a Notice of Charge will be issued.

This notice will be sent to the Charged player's Club via email and it will outline the specifics of the charge including the classification and appropriate penalty.

An incident can also be referred directly to the Tribunal.



Early Guilty Plea

After receiving the notice of charge, the charged player and their Club has until **12pm** on the second business day after the match to accept the early plea if eligible.

Alternatively, Clubs can challenge the charge via the Tribunal.

If a response is not received prior to **12pm**, then the charged player will receive the appropriate base sanction.



Challenging a Notice of Charge

If a Club wishes to challenge a Notice of Charge, the Club can do so at the independent Tribunal.

In a normal situation, the Tribunal hearings occur on Wednesday evenings



AMENDMENTS TO THE NCFPH FOR 2024

The NCFPH was introduced in April 2022 and is now used across Australia.

After an extensive review and feedback process in relation to the 2023 version of the Policy Handbook, the following substantive amendments to the reportable Offence, Tribunal & Appeal Processes will be implemented in 2024:

Reportable Offences Amendments

Auditory Offences

Auditory Offences as a new category of Reportable Offence.

As with other Reportable Offences, Auditory Offences will be graded under a Classification Table (Appendix 1) that considers the conduct (i.e. threatening, high level abusive / obscene / insulting, low level abusive / obscene / insulting), the receiver (i.e. Umpire or another Person) and volume (loud or medium / low) of the offence to determine the Base Sanction and Early Guilty Plea penalty.

Under the Classification Table, any Auditory Offence directed at an Umpire will result in a minimum sanction of a 1 match suspension.

Maximum Number of Matches MRP can prescribe

This has been updated to align with the 2024 AFL Tribunal Guidelines (Elite).

This update includes a key amendment which provides that where a Classifiable Offence is graded as Severe Impact, if only the minimum prescribed sanction is sought, the Controlling Body will, in its discretion, specify that minimum prescribed sanction and the Player may enter an Early Guilty Plea and accept the sanction without the matter being referred directly to the Tribunal.



Amendments to the NCFPH for 2024 (cont.)

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Tribunal Process Amendments

Tribunal Attendance Requirements

A new provision which outlines that where any person who is required to attend a Tribunal fails to do so, the Tribunal may proceed to hear and determine the matter and impose any sanction in the absence of that Person, or postpone the Tribunal hearing.

Previously, this only applied where a person issued with a Notice of Charge or Notice of Breach, or that Person's representative failed to attend and did not extend to witnesses.

The provisions have been included to ensure that Tribunal panels can resolve matters in a timely manner.

Tribunal Attendance Requirements - Person Under 18yrs Old

We have removed the ability for a parent or guardian to attend a tribunal or appeal hearing 'in place' of a Person under the age of 18 years at Tribunal or Appeal.

Under the revised provision, a parent or guardian may only attend 'in support' of a Person under the age of 18 years.

Based on feedback received, it was impractical for a parent or guardian to attend in place of their child.



RESOURCES

All Reportable Offences, Tribunal and Appeals policies and procedures are available online.

National Community Football Policy Handbook

▶ [View and download the NCFPH.](#)

▶ View and download the memo outlining the changes to the 2024 NCFPH [here.](#)

▶ View and download a PDF version of the Auditory Offences Table [here.](#)

▶ View and download a PDF version of the Classification Table [here.](#)

Vic Country Football Handbook

▶ [View and download the AFL Vic Country Handbook.](#)



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APPENDICES

02

Reportable Offences Classification Table

01 Auditory Offences Table

Table 8 – Auditory Classification Table				
Conduct	Receiver	Volume	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea
Threatening	Umpire*	Any	4 or more Matches (Tribunal)*	N/A
	Another Person	Loud	4 or more Matches (Tribunal)*	N/A
		Medium or Low	3 Matches	2 Matches
High-level Abusive / Obscene / Insulting	Umpire	Loud	4 Matches	3 Matches
		Medium or Low	3 Matches	2 Matches
	Another Person	Loud	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Medium or Low	2 Matches	1 Match
Low-level Abusive / Obscene / Insulting	Umpire	Loud	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Medium or Low	2 Matches	1 Match
	Another Person	Loud	2 Matches	1 Match
		Medium or Low	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand

Table 2 – Classification Table					
Conduct	Impact	Contact	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea	
Intentional	Severe	High/Groin/Chest	5+ Matches (Tribunal)	N/A	
		Body	4+ Matches (Tribunal)	N/A	
	High	High/Groin/Chest	4 Matches	3 Matches	
		Body	3 Matches	2 Matches	
	Medium	High/Groin/Chest	3 Matches	2 Matches	
		Body	2 Matches	1 Match	
	Low	High/Groin/Chest	2 Matches	1 Match	
		Body	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand	
	Careless	Severe	High/Groin/Chest	4+ Matches (Tribunal)	N/A
			Body	3+ Matches (Tribunal)	N/A
High		High/Groin/Chest	3 Matches	2 Matches	
		Body	2 Matches	1 Match	
Medium		High/Groin/Chest	2 Matches	1 Match	
		Body	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand	
Low		High/Groin/Chest	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand	
		Body	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand	