

DRSL Card Accumulation Policy

Purpose

This policy ensures that all players, coaches, and spectators contribute to a safe, respectful, and enjoyable playing environment. While soccer is a competitive sport, this is a recreational league—sportsmanship and fair play come first.

Yellow Cards

- When a player receives a yellow card caution, they must leave the field of play via an allowed substitution. The opposing team may substitute one player at that same substitution. The cautioned player may re-enter at the next available substitution.
- The accumulation of 3 yellow cards in a season (including 2 in a single game) will result in a one game suspension.

Red Cards

- Any player receiving 2 yellow cards in one game shall be ejected from the remainder of that game and will not be eligible to play in their next game.
- Any player receiving a red card shall be ejected from the remainder of that game and will not be eligible to play in their next game.
- The accumulation of 2 red cards in a year will result in that player being ineligible for one year.

** The league reserves the right to remove any player from the league for any disciplinary reasons as deemed appropriate.

Current Red Card Policy

Red Card Policy

- 1) Any player receiving 2 yellow cards in one game shall be ejected from the remainder of that game and will not be eligible to play in their next game.
- 2) Any player receiving a red card shall be ejected from the remainder of that game and will not be eligible to play in their next game.

3) Any player receiving 2 red cards in any one season or 3 in one calendar year will not be eligible to play for 1 year.

** The league reserves the right to remove any player from the league for any disciplinary reasons as deemed appropriate.

Below is from when I asked ChatGPT to create a yellow and red card policy for a recreational soccer league.

Certainly! Here's a **Red and Yellow Card Policy** tailored for a recreational soccer league. This version emphasizes **safety, respect, sportsmanship**, and is suitable for youth or adult recreational environments.



Recreational Soccer League

Red & Yellow Card Policy

Promoting Safe and Respectful Play

Purpose

This policy ensures that all players, coaches, and spectators contribute to a safe, respectful, and enjoyable playing environment. While soccer is a competitive sport, this is a recreational league—sportsmanship and fair play come first.



Yellow Card – Caution

A yellow card is a **formal warning** issued by the referee for behavior or actions that are unsafe, unsporting, or disrespectful.

Examples of Yellow Card Offenses:

- **Unsporting behavior** (e.g. minor taunting, showboating, or dissent)

- **Persistent infringement** of the rules
- **Delaying the restart of play**
- **Dissent** by word or action toward referees or opponents
- **Reckless play** (not dangerous, but careless)
- **Entering or leaving the field** without the referee's permission

Consequences:

- Player must be substituted immediately (mandatory 5-minute cool-off period; substitution allowed).
 - Two yellow cards in one game = **automatic red card** (see below).
 - Players who accumulate **3 yellow cards in a season** may receive a **one-game suspension**, depending on severity and review by league staff.
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Red Card – Ejection

A red card results in immediate ejection from the game and is reserved for **serious misconduct** or dangerous behavior.

Examples of Red Card Offenses:

- **Violent conduct** (e.g. punching, kicking, fighting)
- **Serious foul play** (e.g. dangerous tackle endangering an opponent)
- **Spitting** at any person
- **Using offensive, insulting, or abusive language and/or gestures**
- **Denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity** through illegal means (e.g. handball, deliberate foul)
- **Receiving two yellow cards in the same game**

Consequences:

- Immediate removal from the game and **must leave the field and surrounding area**.
 - **Minimum one-game suspension** (more for severe conduct—determined by league review).
 - **Second red card in a season** = suspension for remainder of season (subject to appeal).
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Referee Authority & Appeals

- Referees have full authority to issue cards and manage the match.
 - Any disputes or appeals must be submitted **in writing within 24 hours** to league management.
 - League staff will review incidents and may take additional disciplinary action if needed.
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Expectations for All Participants

- **Players:** Play with integrity, show respect to opponents, referees, and teammates.
 - **Coaches:** Set the tone for respectful conduct and de-escalate conflicts.
 - **Spectators:** Encourage positive cheering. Verbal abuse or confrontation with referees or players will result in removal from the field.
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Final Note

This league exists to build community, enjoy the game, and promote physical activity. The card system exists to correct behavior—not punish—but repeated or serious violations will be taken seriously for the good of all participants. Let me know if you'd like a **shorter version for handouts** or signage!

