

# TEMPORARY DISMISSALS (SINBIN CAUTIONS)

## BACKGROUND

IFAB, the body responsible for the [Laws of the Game of Association Football](#), have released updated Rules for football seasons commencing after 1 June 2017.

One of the modifications to the Rules is the use of Temporary Dismissals (sin bins). A temporary dismissal is when a player commits a Cautionable (YC) offence and is punished by an immediate 'suspension' from participating in the next part of that match. The philosophy is that an 'instant punishment' can have a significant and immediate positive influence on the behaviour of the offending player and, potentially, the player's team.

The use of Temporary Dismissals at grassroots football is at the discretion of each competition's national Football Association, which for GHFA is FFA. This Rule is optional, but where used is implemented under one of two systems.

On 22 Sep 2017, the FFA Director of Referees issued a memorandum approving the use of Temporary Dismissals using System B (i.e. applies to some but not all Cautions) as follows:

In Australia, any competition that wishes to use temporary dismissals must adhere to these basic guidelines:

- Any player who is cautioned for **dissent** will be punished by a yellow card and a temporary dismissal period of:
  - Ten (10) minutes, for matches greater than 60 minutes in duration; and
  - Five (5) minutes, for matches of 60 minutes or less in duration.
- All other cautionable offences are punished with a yellow card.
- The referee will manage the timing of the dismissal period and/or may delegate this responsibility to one of The Other Match Officials

GHFA has consulted extensively with GHFRA about the implementation of Temporary Dismissals in GHFA competitions, and will proceed with the implementation of Temporary Dismissals for **Cautionable Dissent offences only** for Season 2018 in all GHFA senior competitions (U18 to U21, AA, O35, O45, PL and SL). Restricting implementation to senior teams only will limit the complication of SinBin Offence management to where the referees are more experienced, and where most of these offences occur.

The implementation of Temporary Dismissals has required modifications to the GHFA By-Laws and the GHFA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations which were approved by the Clubs at the SGM held 14 Feb 2018.

## OPERATION OF TEMPORARY DISMISSALS

### 1. TEMPORARY DISMISSAL CAUTIONS

- a. Temporary Dismissals shall apply to the following cautionable offences
  - i. Dissent
- b. All other cautionable offences are punished with a caution (YC)
- c. Temporary dismissals apply to cautions received by players on the field only.  
Cautions (YC) for substitutes or substituted players are not a Temporary Dismissal.

## 2. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- a. The referee has the power to temporarily dismiss a player once the referee has entered the field at the start of the match until the match has ended but excluding the period for the taking of penalty kicks, see 5.i). This includes
  - i. the time between the referee entering the field of play and the kick-off to start the match,
  - ii. first and second half of normal playing time,
  - iii. added time for stoppages,
  - iv. the half-time interval,
  - v. the period between the end of normal time and the start of extra time
  - vi. the first and second period of extra time
  - vii. half time in extra time
- b. A temporary dismissal is when a player *on the field* commits the cautionable offence of Dissent (Y2) and is punished by an immediate 'suspension' from participating in the next part of that match (for a period of 10 minutes, see 5.a.i).

## 3. PLAYERS ONLY

- a. Temporary dismissals apply to all players *on the field of play* including goalkeepers. It does not apply to cautionable offences (YCs) committed by a "substitute" (a player on the substitute or interchange bench) or "substituted" player (a player that was on the field of play, but has been substituted or interchanged and is no longer on the field of play).
- b. If the goalkeeper is subject to a temporary dismissal caution, then one of the remaining field players from that team shall take over the goalkeeping duties, or the team may substitute one of the remaining field players for a reserve goalkeeper.

## 4. REFEREE'S SIGNAL

- a. The referee will indicate a temporary dismissal by showing a yellow card and then clearly pointing with both arms to the temporary dismissal area and raising all fingers of both hands to indicate the "10" minutes.

## 5. THE TEMPORARY DISMISSAL PERIOD

- a. The length of the temporary dismissal is the same for all offences.
  - i. The length of the temporary dismissal shall be 10 minutes
- b. The temporary dismissal period begins when play restarts after the player has left the field of play.
- c. For matches where stoppage time is played, the referee shall include in the temporary dismissal period any time 'lost' for a stoppage for which 'additional time' will be allowed at the end of the half (e.g. substitution, injury etc...)
- d. Once the temporary dismissal period for a player has been completed, the player can return from the touchline at the half way point subject to the referee's permission, which may be given while the ball is in play.
- e. The referee has the final decision as to when the player can return.
- f. A temporarily dismissed player cannot be substituted until the end of the temporary dismissal period (but not if the team has used all its permitted substitutes).
- g. If a temporary dismissal period has not been completed at the end of the first half, or the end of the second half when extra time is to be played, or at the end of the first period of extra time, the remaining part of the temporary dismissal period is served from the start of the second half, start of extra time or start of the second period of extra time (as appropriate).

- h. A player who is still serving a temporary dismissal at the end of the match is permitted to take part in kicks from the penalty mark (penalties).
- i. Temporary dismissals do not apply during the period of taking of penalty kicks (where penalty kicks are used to determine the outcome of the match after normal or extra time).

#### 6. TEMPORARY DISMISSAL AREA

- a. A temporarily dismissed player should remain within the technical area (where one exists) or with the team's coach/technical staff, unless 'warming up' (under the same conditions as a substitute).
- b. A player knowingly leaving the Technical Area whilst serving a temporary dismissal except for normal 'warming up', and without the permission of the Referee, shall be cautioned for dissent, and will take no further part in the match and may not be replaced/substituted.

#### 7. MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON THE PITCH

- a. A player serving a temporary dismissal period is considered to remain under the jurisdiction of the referee hence the player is counted as one of the players "on the pitch" for the purpose of meeting the minimum number of players for a match (e.g. minimum 7 players for senior GHFA Matches).
- b. If a player receives a second temporary dismissal caution in the same match, and the team has no substitutes or replacements available, including where a team has used all allowed substitutions, and without this player the team will field less than the minimum number of players allowed, then the match shall be abandoned at the time the second temporary dismissal period is completed.

#### 8. OFFENCES BEFORE/DURING/AFTER A TEMPORARY DISMISSAL

In this section, the term Caution (CN) refers to any cautionable offence except a temporary dismissal cautionable offence, whilst the term Temporary Dismissal (TD) shall refer to a temporary dismissal cautionable offence.

- a. A player who receives a second Caution (CN) in the same match will be sent off and takes no further part in the match and may not be replaced/ substituted.
- b. A player who has received a Caution (CN) and then receives a Temporary Dismissal (TD) can continue playing after the end of the temporary dismissal period.
- c. A player who has received a Temporary Dismissal (TD), has returned to the field and then receives a Caution (CN) continues playing.
- d. A player who receives a second Temporary Dismissal (TD) in the same match after having fully served the temporary dismissal period for the first Temporary Dismissal (TD) will serve the temporary dismissal period for the second Temporary Dismissal (TD) and then take no further part in the match. The player may be replaced by a substitute at the end of the second temporary dismissal period if the player's team has not used its maximum number of substitutes.
- e. A player who has received a Temporary Dismissal (TD), who, before the completion of their temporary dismissal period, commits either another Caution (CN) offence or a sending-off (RC) offence will take no further part in the match and may not be replaced/substituted.
- f. A player receiving two Temporary Dismissals (TD) in the same match is not a red card offence (R7 Receiving a second caution in the same match), hence the automatic one-match suspension does not apply, but the two Temporary Dismissal (TD) count towards accumulated caution offences.

## 9. FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- a. Temporary dismissals shall be reported to the Association.
- b. Temporary Dismissal (TD) shall contribute to Caution accumulation offences and may result in suspension from matches for exceeding a preset number of offences per player, or per team as appropriate.

*Table 1 Summary of Actions following Multiple Caution Offences: CN = All Cautions except Temporary Dismissal Cautions, TD = Temporary Dismissal Caution*

First Caution Offence	Second Caution Offence	Third Caution Offence	Applied Send-Off Offence	Player Continued Participation	If Sent-Off, can Player be Substituted <sup>1</sup>
CN				Player continues to play.	
CN	CN		R7	Player sent-off for second Cautionable Offence (R7).	No
CN	TD			Player continues to play, after serving TD Period.	
CN	TD	CN	R7	Player sent-off for second Cautionable Offence (R7).	No
CN	TD	TD		Player cannot continue to play.	Yes, after second TD period ends
TD				Player serves TD period, returns to play.	
TD	CN			If 2 <sup>nd</sup> Caution after TD Period ends then, player continues to play.	
			R7	If 2 <sup>nd</sup> Caution before TD Period ends, then player sent-off (R7).	No
TD	CN	TD		Player cannot continue to play.	Yes, after second TD period ends
TD	CN	CN	R7	Player sent-off for second Cautionable Offence (R7).	No
TD	TD			Player cannot continue to play.	Yes, after TD period ends

## WHAT DO CLUBS NEED TO DO?

Essentially, nothing. SinBin cautions will be managed entirely by the appointed referee for the match. GHFA has consulted extensively with GHFRA about the management of SinBin Cautions, and all referees will be trained on the use of SinBin cautions prior to season

<sup>1</sup> Match abandoned if no replacement or substitute player available, or maximum allowed substitutes have been used, and fewer than the required minimum number of players are left on the field.

commencement, as was done for the new interpretations of the off-side rule and denying a goal scoring opportunity last season.

Where an appointed referee is not available, it should be noted that club referees have the same authority as appointed referees to issue cautions and send-offs. Club referees should always manage the match to the best of their knowledge of all the rules of football.

## SUMMARY

GHFA believes that the implementation of Temporary Dismissal Cautions is a positive step in the reduction of Dissent offences, creating a better, safer and more enjoyable football experience for all players, spectators and match officials. It will complement the broader RESPECT program being actively promoted by GHFA and the Clubs.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### *Why is GHFA introducing SinBin Cautions?*

GHFA will continue to work with Referees and Clubs to make football safer and more enjoyable for players and match officials. As part of the larger RESPECT program, the use of SinBin Cautions is viewed as one tool in addressing dissent against match officials by providing for immediate suspension of players guilty of dissent from participating in the match for a short period.

### *Has the law for what constitutes dissent been changed?*

No, the determination of what is dissent, and when a caution should apply for dissent, have not been changed.

### *Has this system been trialled anywhere else?*

Yes, FIFA has trialled the system in other jurisdictions, including in the UK, as they do for potential significant changes. FIFA has deemed the introduction of SinBin Cautions as beneficial and the FIBA Rules have been created based on experiences with those trials.

### *Will referees issue more cautions for dissent than previously?*

No, there has been no instruction or intention that referees will issue more cautions for dissent than previous seasons because of the introduction of SinBin Cautions. Referees will continue to manage players using SinBin Cautions where appropriate.

### *How will we know when a referee has issued a SinBin Caution rather than a standard Caution?*

All Cautions, including SinBin Cautions, will be indicated by the offending player being shown a yellow card by the referee. In the case of a SinBin Caution, the referee will advise the player directly, and then point to the player's team's technical area with both arms raised and holding up all fingers of both hands to indicate the "10 minutes" of the SinBin temporary dismissal period.

### *Does this mean a player can receive two Cautions in a match and not be sent-off?*

Yes, a player that receives a non-SinBin Caution, e.g. unsporting conduct, and a SinBin Caution (dissent) may continue to play in the match after serving the SinBin Caution temporary dismissal period (excludes the case of the second caution being received whilst serving a SinBin Caution temporary dismissal period). This not a send-off (e.g., second cautionable offence) and the player is not suspended for the following match. This is because FIFA has determined that serving the temporary dismissal period is sufficient punishment for the player and the team.

Note however, that the two cautions will be counted as cautions for the purpose of accumulated cautions offences.

### *Does this mean a player can receive three Cautions in a match and not be sent-off?*

Yes, a player that receives a non-SinBin Caution, e.g. unsporting conduct, and two SinBin Cautions (dissent) may not continue to play in the match after serving the second SinBin Caution temporary dismissal period (excludes the case where a caution is received whilst serving a SinBin Caution temporary dismissal period). This not a send-off (e.g. second cautionable offence) and the player is not suspended for the following match. This is

because FIFA has determined that serving the temporary dismissal periods is sufficient punishment for the player and the team.

Note that the three cautions will be counted as cautions for the purpose of accumulated cautions offences. This means that the first limit point for accumulated caution offences could be reached in only 2 matches.

*Are all Cautions for Dissent a Temporary Dismissal Caution?*

No, Temporary Dismissal Cautions only apply to a player committing the offence of Dissent whilst on the field of play during the periods indicated in 2.a. Players committing the cautionable offence of Dissent whilst on the substitute/interchange bench, or have been substituted off the field, or a player committing the offence outside the period indicated by 2.a, will punished by a standard Caution for Dissent.

*There is no appointed Referee, but the Club Referee is not familiar with the new rule. What should we do?*

The Association strives to achieve the highest possible coverage of appointed referees to games, however, there will be times when a club referee is required. Club referees have the same authority as an appointed referee to manage the game to the best of their ability and knowledge. The SinBin Cautions rule is just one of many rules that a club referee will need to consider. As with the off-side rule and denying a goal scoring opportunity rule, GHFA will, in general, support the decisions of a club referee in the match. GHFA encourages club referees to participate with matches where required, and will provide consideration and understanding when they do so, as GHFA have done in all previous seasons.

*Does any unfinished Temporary Dismissal period carry over to the next game?*

No, all temporary dismissal periods apply to the current match only.

*Do temporary dismissals apply during the taking of penalties?*

No, temporary dismissals apply only to play during the normal playing times of a match plus the period immediately preceding the match kick-off (see 2.a). A player serving a Temporary Dismissal at the end of normal or extra time may participate in the taking of penalties. Temporary dismissals do not apply during the taking of penalties because it would not serve the purpose of penalising the offending player/team.

*The goalkeeper receives a temporary dismissal, but we don't have a goalkeeper shirt to fit their replacement?*

A team must always have a goalkeeper, and that goalkeeper must be distinguishable for all other players. It is acceptable for the replacement goalkeeper to use a training bib for this purpose.