

Disqualifications report

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The "new" BAFA Disciplinary Code has now been in operation for two years, since 1st October 2009. This is thus a good time to review how it has gone.

Our historic data on disqualifications goes back to the 2007 summer season.

1 Disqualifications by outcome

The following tables show the number of disqualifications made in each season. Those "withdrawn" are where the official has decided on the basis of video evidence that the disqualification was unjustified. Also shown are the number of cases where the club or player has appealed against the disqualification, and the number where the appeal was upheld and denied.

1.1 Summer seasons

Season	Disqualified	Withdrawn	Appeals	Upheld	Denied
BAFL/BYAFA 2007	18	0	0	0	0
BAFL 2008	21	0	1	0	1
BAFL 2009	22	1	2	0	2
"New code" introduced					
CL 2010	22	0	0	0	0
CL/NL 2011	35	0	3	0	3

After four consistent seasons, the number of disqualifications this past season has shot up by 59%. We hope that this is a blip. The number of teams (and therefore games) has been fairly constant each year so that does not account for any increase.

After a complete season without an appeal, we had three this year. This is probably explained by greater publicity given to the existence of an appeal process. All were denied: two because the video evidence did not indisputably show that no foul had occurred; one where no video evidence was submitted and the other evidence was unsubstantiated.

1.2 Winter seasons

Season	Disqualified	Withdrawn	Appeals	Upheld	Denied
BUAFL 2007-08	8	0	2	0	2
BUAFL 2008-09	5*	0	0	0	0
"New code" introduced					
BUAFL 2009-10	7	0	0	0	0
BUAFL 2010-11	11	0	0	0	0

* 2 of these occurred in a post-season "associate" game.

In BUAFL, the number of teams (and therefore games) has been rising each season. It may therefore be the case that the number of disqualifications per game has remained fairly constant.

It is of some concern that undoubtedly there are two different standards of discipline in BUAFL according to whether a game is officiated by BAFRA officials or not. One can only speculate how many players "deserve" to be disqualified in games where there are no qualified officials. There have been rumours of players being ejected in such games, but no formal report has ever been received from a non-BAFRA official.

2 Disqualifications by reason

Disqualifications are categorised by the reporting officials as follows:

ASS	Physical contact on an official
FGT	Fighting
FPF	Flagrant personal foul
FUC	Flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct
OTH	Other (e.g. cleats too long)
TUF	Two unsportsmanlike fouls

The breakdown by season is as follows:

2.1 Summer seasons

Season	ASS	FGT	FPF	FUC	OTH	TUF	Total
BAFL 2007	1	7	8			2	18
BAFL 2008		6	8	1		6	21
BAFL 2009	1	8	7	1		5	22
CL 2010		6	10	4		2	22
CL/NL 2011		15	11	3	1	5	35
TOTAL	2	42	44	9	1	20	118

From this, it would seem that the increase in 2011 is almost entirely attributable to a significant increase in calls of fighting.

2.2 Winter seasons

Season	ASS	FGT	FPF	FUC	OTH	TUF	Total
BUAFL 2007-08	1	1	5	1			8
BUAFL 2008-09			3	1		1	5
BUAFL 2009-10		1	4	1		1	7
BUAFL 2010-11		1	7	2		1	11
TOTAL	1	3	19	5	0	3	31

It is noticeable that over 60% of disqualifications in BUAFL games are for flagrant personal fouls.