



## POLICY NOTICE

**AUTOMATIC ONE-MATCH SUSPENSION FOR SEND-OFFS  
OFFICIAL FIFA REGULATION  
OBLIGATORY SUSPENSION FOLLOWING A DISMISSAL**

**October 26, 2011**

---

FNQ Football provides this notice to all players, coaches, officials, clubs, Associations and Branches as notification and reminder of the FIFA Mandatory One-Match suspension regulation.

Any player dismissed from the field of play is to be **automatically suspended from the next match** of the competition in which the player was dismissed.

This obligatory suspension is to be enforced for both an indirect (two yellow cards) and direct (red card) dismissal. A relevant Disciplinary Committee may also extend the duration of the suspension.

The disciplinary bodies of the relevant competitions may not breach this binding instruction by passing exceptional rules. The automatic one-match suspension may only be waived if it is proven that the referee dismissed the wrong player in a case of mistaken identity. In no case can the decision of the referee be modified after the game, as is clearly stated in Law 5 of the Laws of the Game:

*"The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play are final. The referee may only change a decision on realising that it is incorrect or, at his discretion, on the advice of an assistant referee, provided that he has NOT restarted play."*

FNQ Football advises that this regulation is applicable to all levels of football, including local club and association football. A copy of the official FIFA notice to members is also available on the official FIFA website.

FNQ Football