



## Disciplinary Action Policy and Guidelines

The Okotoks Minor Ball Association (OMBA) "Disciplinary Action Policy and Guidelines" apply to all players, guardians, parents, coaches, officials, volunteers, directors, officers, committee members, conveners, team managers, trainers, administrators and employees (hereafter referred to as members) participating in, attending, or viewing OMBA related activities. Standards of behaviour expected are outlined in the OMBA code of Conduct.

The OMBA Hearing Committee shall be convened upon receipt of one or both of the following:

- Ejection / Incident report filed by an umpire assigned by OMBA, Baseball Alberta, Calgary Minor Softball Association, Alberta Softball Association or any other baseball association that OMBA is affiliated with and/or filed with the Umpire-in-Chief to the respective association.
- Signed letter of complaint addressed to OMBA.

Written receipt of submissions should be received as soon as possible following the incident.

Where positions are not vacant, the OMBA Hearing Committee shall consist of a minimum of 3 of the following, or in their absence, a designated representative. All disciplinary action shall be decided by a majority vote of this Committee.

- OMBA President (votes only in the event of a tie-breaker)
- Vice President of Baseball
- Vice President of Softball
- Vice President of Player & Coach Development
- OMBA Umpire in Chief or Tournament Umpire in Chief (if applicable)
- Tournament Director (If applicable)

The OMBA Hearing must be held within 7 days of notification of the incident.

The following parties shall be entitled to attend the Disciplinary Hearing to answer question from the Hearing Committee and provide additional information for the Committee's consideration when deciding action to be taken.

- All parties involved in the incident under review
- In the event a player is under review – at least one parent, and a maximum of two, shall attend with the player

The Disciplinary Hearing shall be conducted in the following manner.

- Each party shall be notified of their scheduled hearing time.
- Each party shall meet with the Hearing Committee separately.
- Each party is required to remain outside the hearing room until all parties have been interviewed. This will enable the Committee to verify any additional / conflicting information received during the interviews.
- Each party directly involved shall have 15 minutes to present their views of the incident and answer questions from the Hearing Committee.

The Hearing Committee shall decide what disciplinary action, if any, shall be taken based on the approved rulings set out in this document. Incidents other than those listed shall be evaluated by the Committee and disciplinary action appropriate to the conduct, using the established rulings as a guideline, shall be assessed.

The OMBA Hearing Committee decision shall be final. Appeals will not be accepted without additional pertinent information that was not available at the original hearing. Each party has the opportunity to present their views and pertinent information at the hearing. In the event that any party is unable to attend the scheduled hearing, they have the right to be represented by a designated speaker on their behalf or to submit their views in writing for the Committee's consideration.

The OMBA Hearing Committee decision may not be waived or disciplinary action reduced by any party. In the event that additional information becomes available after the Committee has met, the Hearing Committee may reopen with a majority vote of the Committee members present at the original Hearing.

BEHAVIOR	DEFINED AS	PENALTY
<b>ASSAULT</b>	Punching, Slapping, Kicking	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Incident – Immediate suspension for a minimum of 6 games plus Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Incident – Immediate suspension for 20 games plus Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>All suspensions are subject to added penalties resulting from the hearing committee review up to and including lifetime suspension.</p>
<b>PHYSICAL CONTACT</b>	Bumping, Shoving, Poking	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Incident – Immediate suspension of 3 games plus Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Incident – Immediate suspension of 6 games plus Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Incident – Immediate suspension of 20 games plus Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>All suspensions are subject to added penalties resulting from the hearing committee review up to and including lifetime suspension.</p>
<b>ABUSE</b>	Spitting, Throwing Equipment, Name Calling, Discriminatory Slurs, Obscene Gestures, Verbal Abuse, Harassment	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Incident – Suspension of 2 games plus Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Incident – Suspension of 4 games plus Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Incident – Suspension of 20 games.</p> <p>All suspensions are subject to added penalties resulting from the hearing committee review up to and including lifetime suspension.</p>
<b>PROFANITY</b>	Swearing or Cursing	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Incident – Suspended 2 games plus Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Incident – Suspended 4 games plus Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Incident – Suspension of 20 games.</p> <p>All suspensions are subject to added penalties resulting from the hearing committee review up to and including lifetime suspension.</p>
<b>EJECTION</b>	Based on Umpire's Discretion	<p>Each Incident - Hearing Committee review.</p> <p>Any suspensions resulting from the hearing committee review will use the above, established penalties, as guidelines.</p> <p>Umpire may make recommendation at the Hearing Committee Review</p>

## **Game Suspension Definitions**

Game suspensions are defined as the number of games suspended immediately following the date and time that the Hearing Committee ruling occurs. In an OMBA hosted tournament this will be the number of games suspended immediately following the game the ejection / incident occurred subject to the Hearing Committee ruling. In the event that the tournament is a provincially awarded tournament the disciplinary actions of the tournament will not supersede this process.

Games suspensions resulting from an OMBA Hearing Committee ruling are in addition to any suspensions handed out by any other baseball association or governing body.

Game suspensions do not include the game the ejection occurred in.

Game suspensions shall carry over to next season.