

Yellow Card & Red Card

If a player commits a serious foul, the referee will not only order an indirect or direct kick, but they will also show a yellow or red card. A yellow card is a warning. A player who is shown a red card is ejected from the game and cannot enter the game field for the rest of the game. A player who receives two yellow cards in the same game automatically receives a red card. Depending on the reason for the red card and league's rules, red carded player will also be suspended for the next one or two games.

Yellow Card - Indicates a caution/warning for any of the following 7 offenses:

1. unsporting behavior – this includes hard fouls; holding an opponent or deliberately handling the ball for the purpose of preventing an opponent from gaining possession of the ball; faking an injury; saying things that are designed to confuse or distract an opponent; harassment (such as jumping around, shouting or making gestures to intentionally distract an opponent; jumping in front of a corner kick, free kick or throw-in; obstructing the goalkeeper or trying to prevent him from putting the ball into play; and adopting a threatening posture), gaining an unfair advantage by leaning on, climbing on the back of, or holding a teammate or the goal; blatant cases of holding and pulling an opposing player or his uniform; any action designed to deceive the referee; and behavior which in the referee's judgment is unsporting or causes an unfair advantage,
2. dissent by word or actions
3. persistently breaking the rules
4. delaying the restart of play
5. defenders failing to stay the proper distance away from the kicker on a corner kick or free kick
6. entering the field without the referee's permission
7. deliberately leaving the field without the referees permission

Red Card - A player will receive a red card and sent off for any of the following 7 offenses:

1. serious foul play
2. violent conduct
3. spitting at anyone
4. a deliberate hand ball to deny an obvious goal scoring opportunity
5. fouling an opponent to prevent an obvious goal scoring opportunity
6. using offensive or threatening language
7. receiving a second yellow card in one game

Here is an interesting situation. It's against the rules to take a penalty kick on an empty goal. What if a goalie refuses to step in the goal to defend a penalty kick? In this situation, the referee will show the goalkeeper a yellow card and if the goalie still doesn't want to play, he will receive second yellow card and automatically a red card. His team will have to place a new goalkeeper in the goal. If the next goalie also refuses to defend the goal against a penalty kick, the referee will stop the game. Good luck to all our teams and hopefully nobody will see those cards!
Jeff