

DISCIPLINARY REPORT FOR SEASON 2010-11

Since September 1st 2010 there have been 56 Red Cards issued to players of clubs in the South and this figure includes red cards issued in EHL matches. The number of Red Card offences is showing a large drop over last season and this is extremely encouraging especially as the number of MMOs and Disrepute Offences has also fallen by a considerable number. Well done to all Counties and especially to the CDAs, who have all worked extremely hard.

Unfortunately there was one Red Card offence that was particularly serious in that a player who had committed a serious stick tackle was given a yellow card by the umpire. After being subjected to a torrent of nasty verbal abuse the umpire recalled the player and presented him with a Red Card but while asking for the players name and number the player punched him in the face. The player's club and County were in agreement that the player be suspended for a period of three years coupled with a further two-year suspended suspension if a further Red Card is issued.

We have had one appeal so far this season and as a result of a small technical lapse the RDAP had to allow the appeal to succeed.

The number of MMOs and Disrepute offences has also fallen to 8 in total but, again, the majority of these have been for umpire abuse after the final whistle has been blown and they appear to represent all ages since both female and male players have been found guilty. In one case a coach and manager of a County schools team were found guilty of deliberately falsifying the age of a player in order that he could continue playing for the school. All the people involved were summarily dealt with by the South RDA.

Split between the counties, the following details are shown, this season, Hants and Dorset had the most cards with Berks, Bucks and Oxon having the least. Also, Middlesex and Surrey have the worst record for MMOs and Disrepute Charges with Berks, Hants and Dorset, Kent and Oxon, having none. The second column shows where MMOs or Disrepute Charges have been issued.

Berks	2	0
Bucks	2	1
Hants & Dorset	15	0
Kent	9 (1EH)	0
Middlesex	9 (2EH)	3
Oxon	2	0
Surrey	7 (1EH)	3
Sussex	10	1

(EH shows that incidents occurred under England Hockey jurisdiction.)

Considering the number of appointments made throughout the region the number of Red Cards issued is still relatively small, but we must continue to ensure that the clubs, who have been very supportive on all suspensions handed out by the CDAs, make sure that their players continue to respect whoever is blowing the whistle. The worrying aspect is the number of MMOs and disrepute charges being brought for verbal abuse. Hopefully the clubs and counties will be able to reverse this current trend as soon as possible

Once again I would like to thank everyone in the South for their continued help and support and especially the CDAs and deputies who have given consistently fair decisions when called upon. I would also like to thank Colin Howard for his continued support as the RDAP and his sound reasoning which ensures that the appropriate decisions are always made.

Ray Strudwick, South RDA

17^h June 2010.