**DIRECTIVE OF CENTRAL COUNCIL ON RULE 7.2(B) - RE MATCH  
SUSPENSIONS AND ALTERNATIVE PENALTY TO NON-APPLICABLE MATCH  
SUSPENSIONS**

(JANUARY 2015 and amended on foot of amendment of Rule at  
Annual Congress 2023.)

Where a Match Suspension has been imposed and it subsequently becomes  
apparent to the Committee-in-Charge that due to some circumstance the Match  
Suspension cannot be implemented in full or in part in the specified Competition:

(1) There is an obligation on the Committee-in-Charge to inform the player that an

equivalent Match Suspension in the same Code and at the same Level applies  
in substitution of each original one Match Suspension.

(2) The equivalent Match suspension should apply immediately. For example - if a  
player has a two Match Suspension, has served one and the second Match  
Suspension cannot be implemented in the specified Competition, the  
equivalent Match Suspension should apply from the date of the game in which  
the first Match Suspension was served.

(3) The Committee-in-Charge should advise the player as soon as it becomes  
apparent that the Alternative Penalty shall/may apply — even giving advance  
provisional notice where feasible.

(4) In the event of an Alternative Penalty being applied, it is not necessary for the  
Committee-in-Charge to charge (i.e. Propose a Penalty to) the player again —  
but merely advise him of the Alternative Penalty.

(5) In the event that a Committee-in-Charge does not advise a player of the  
Alternative Penalty becoming immediately operative, it is not to be taken that  
the player has played while under suspension.  
As stated, the obligation is on the Committee-in-Charge to inform the player of the Alternative Penalty — and if this is inadvertently done late, the player shall serve the equivalent Match suspension from the date of his last game in the Code and Level.

(6) Committees-in-Charge should note that the circumstances outlined in Rule 7.2(b) warranting the application of the Alternative Penalty are non-exhaustive. Other examples would include a change in the Championship status of a Club Team for the following year (say relegated to a lower status) or player (say a player who plays in a higher Championship status than the grade in which he is to serve the Match Suspension)  
  
(End of Directive)

In the context of the above Directive and in accordance with Rule 7.2(b), it is to be

noted that Match Suspensions involve the next game(s) of a specific competition of a  
current year and/ or of the following.