

**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.