

Liability for Spectator Conduct

- 1 Each Affiliated Member National Organisation shall be responsible for ensuring that its players, clubs, teams, officials, employees, volunteers, representatives, spectators, and all persons purporting to be its supporters or followers, comply with the following clauses whilst attending at, or taking part in, a Match or Match Series in which it is involved, whether within its own country or elsewhere.
 - 1.1 They conduct themselves in an orderly fashion
 - 1.2 They refrain from any one, or combination of, the following:
 - racist, violent, threatening, abusive, obscene or provocative behaviour, conduct or language
 - 1.3 They refrain from any one, or combination of, the following:
 - displaying racist or insulting slogans or banners in any form
 - 1.4 That no spectators or unauthorised persons are permitted to encroach onto the pitch area, save for reasons of crowd safety
 - 1.5 That no spectators throw, or attempt to throw, missiles, bottles and other objects, whether potentially harmful or dangerous or not, on to the pitch, or at any person
 - 1.6 Let off any fireworks, flares, rockets or fire extinguishers
 - 1.7 Maliciously damage, or attempt to damage, any property at the venue
 - 1.8 They refrain from behaving in any way that may cause a danger to other spectators behaving in any way that may cause the stadium authorities to evacuate the stadium.
2. In all cases an Affiliated Member National Organisation is deemed to have overall responsibility for any of its clubs or teams.
3. A referee, and/or in IKF events the Jury, for any match where they are aware of any breach of clause 1 above, is obliged to report the matter to the relevant authorities and, in addition, take action as set out below.
 - 3.1 If racist or insulting slogans or banners in any form are being displayed by spectators then the referee, and/or in IKF events the Jury, may demand that the offending items are removed. Those persons responsible for security at the venue shall be responsible for carrying out this request.
 - 3.2 If there is a breach of 1.3 or 1.5 then the referee shall stop the game so that the offending item(s) is/are removed. If such a breach is repeated then the referee can ask those responsible for security at the venue to take such steps as necessary to stop the action being repeated, including removal of the offender(s) from the venue.
 - 3.3 For any breach of 1.4, the referee shall stop the game and request that the organization responsible for security at the venue removes the offender(s) from the field of play. If this is not possible within a reasonable amount of time then s/he shall terminate the game.
 - 3.4 If, at any time, the referee feels that the misbehaviour of the spectators is having an adverse effect on the match s/he can ask for the spectators from all, or part, of the venue to be removed and, if this is not possible or achieved within a reasonable period of time, or the situation within the venue has become unsafe to continue, then the game can be terminated.
4. The host National Organisation has overall responsibility for security within the venue and for ensuring that there is no improper conduct among spectators

5. Supporters which, due to the numbers concerned, are grouped together and occupying a sector of the spectator area of a venue shall, unless proven to be otherwise, be regarded as supporters of the Organisation, club or team concerned.

If the misconduct of one or more spectators causes a match to be terminated then the team of that spectator or spectators may be ordered to forfeit the match. If such a decision is pronounced by a Tournament Disciplinary Panel then, in accordance with article 10.2 of the IKF Disciplinary Procedures, no appeal is possible against such a decision

6. Any individual referred to in paragraph 1 above may be removed from any venue. Such force as may be necessary may be used for the purpose of effecting such removal.
7. Any team or Affiliated Member National Organisation which fails effectively to discharge its said responsibility in any respect whatsoever shall be guilty of misconduct.

A team shall be guilty of misconduct if there was misbehaviour on the part of any spectators at the venue, unless such team proves to the Disciplinary Committee or the Tournament Disciplinary Panel that the misbehaving spectators were not its supporters.

However, it shall be a defence in respect of charges for misconduct by spectators and all persons purporting to be supporters or followers of the team concerned, if it can prove that all events, incidents or occurrences complained of were the result of circumstances over which it had no control and that its responsible officers or agents had used all due diligence and all reasonable measures to ensure that its said responsibility was discharged. In the case of encroaching onto the pitch area, they would need to show that encroachment was for reasons of crowd safety.