



Sanctions and Discipline 2026-27

When participants behave inappropriately or fail to act in the best interests of the game, this is generally referred to as "**Misconduct**". Misconduct is defined under **Rule E of The Football Association**.

It encompasses a wide range of behaviours, including swearing or abusive conduct.

We understand that poor behaviour can negatively affect others' enjoyment of the game. Feedback from grassroots football has made it clear: there is a need to crack down on unacceptable conduct, especially from repeat offenders.

Everyone involved in the game shares a responsibility to promote positive behaviour. The FA, County FAs, and Leagues are committed to supporting initiatives that encourage respect and fair play. As part of this, **stronger sanctions** are being introduced to deter misconduct and ensure those found guilty face appropriate consequences.

You can find full details of the sanction guidelines in the **Grassroots Discipline Guide** [available here](#).