



Steelcase

**To: All NPUA Members**

20 October 2015

Dear Colleague

### **Personal versus Team Penalties for Dissent**

As you may be aware there has been discussion recently about whether or not personal penalties (i.e. cards) given to players for dissent within the 23m area they are defending must be accompanied by a penalty corner.

You will recall that the [FIH Umpire Manager's briefing 2015](#) states on page 28:

- “Seeking to interpret breaches as personal penalties without correctly applying the Rules creates confusion and should be avoided.
- Deliberate offences inside the defending 23 metres area should be appropriately dealt with, including the awarding of personal penalties as necessary.”

On this basis, NPUA had previously advised that if a player was shown a card for dissent in the 23m area that they are defending a penalty corner should also be awarded. However, following a question that we raised with them, FIH have now clarified that this guidance does **NOT** relate to dissent, unless that dissent is extreme in nature.

**We therefore wish to clarify that there is no absolute requirement for you to award a PC if you card a player for dissent;** however, you may do so if you feel that the player's actions are extreme enough to warrant a stronger penalty than just a card.

No other aspect of our previous guidance has changed. To summarise:

- If you show a player a card for any offence, other than dissent, in the 23m area that they are defending, you **MUST** also award a PC.
- If you show a player a card for dissent in the 23m area that they are defending, you **MAY** award a PC if the dissent is extreme.
- If you give a PC for an offence by a defender in the 23m you **MAY** also give a personal penalty as necessary.

I trust that above clarifies the situation. I would be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

Best regards

David Ellcock  
Chair of Selectors