



WFTDA Expulsion and Suspension Policy

Updated June 2023

Purpose of Document

This document outlines the requirements for managing foul-outs and expulsions for violations of *The Rules of Flat Track Roller Derby* in WFTDA-sanctioned games and includes:

- Exit requirements from the area of game play for fouled-out skaters and expelled individuals
- *WFTDA StatsBook* Expulsion-Suspension Form completion and suspension recommendation process
- Requirement for a suspension meeting if a suspension is recommended
- Enforcement of a one-game suspension in tournaments
- The review and appeals process for suspensions
- When a suspension must be served and how it will be recorded as served

The WFTDA Fair Play Panel handles reviews and appeals of infractions that occur during WFTDA-sanctioned gameplay and may be reached at fairplay@wftda.com.

The following cases are **not** managed using the process described in this document and the WFTDA and host league code of conduct and WFTDA Grievance procedures should be followed:

- Game play outside of WFTDA-sanctioned games
- On-track instances of abusive conduct not enforceable by Officials per [The Rules of Flat Track Roller Derby](#)
- Off-the-track violations of the [WFTDA Code of Conduct](#), [WFTDA Tournament Code of Conduct](#) or host league's event code of conduct

WFTDA Grievance handles reviews and appeals of all incidents involving WFTDA-member leagues outside of WFTDA-sanctioned gameplay and may be contacted at grievance@wftda.com.

Requirement for Fouled-Out or Expelled Individual to Leave the Track

If a Skater fouls out of the game, or if a Skater or coach is expelled from a game:

1. They must leave the immediate area of gameplay (the team benches and/or any space within the track and safety lane boundaries).
2. Skaters are required to remove their gear. Fouled-out and expelled individuals may remain in areas open to spectators and may not be positioned in trackside coach boxes.



3. Further interference in the game is prohibited and would be considered highly unsporting. "Interference" is considered any participation in the game beyond that expected from a spectator. Any expelled individual interfering with gameplay may be subject to a suspension recommendation and/or removal from the venue.

Expulsion Management

There are no additional requirements for foul outs. For an expulsion, the following process should occur:

Expulsion-Suspension Form Completion

1. Complete the Expulsion-Suspension Form from the [WFTDA StatsBook](#) and collect signatures from all required parties. For information on how to complete the Expulsion-Suspension Form, please review the [WFTDA StatsBook Manual](#).
2. Should any of the signatories on the form with the option to recommend a suspension consider the action or incident severe, reckless, or egregious, they may recommend a suspension.
3. All signatures are required on the Expulsion-Suspension Form and the IGRF. Signatures mean all persons involved received and read the form. A signature does not mean or imply agreement with the statements of others.
4. Any of the individuals listed as signatories on the Expulsion-Suspension Form may also request a review of:
 - a. Any action that did not result in expulsion that was of a highly reckless or egregious nature.
 - b. An incident that took place at the end of the game when little or no penalty time could be served.

In this case, the action may be reviewed in the same manner as an expulsion that resulted in a suspension recommendation.

Suspension Recommendation Review

1. If a suspension is recommended by any party, a suspension meeting must be held in order to discuss the infraction and vote to determine whether a suspension should be served by the individual.

If the expulsion takes place at a tournament, the GTO will schedule the meeting and will act as moderator. All parties signing the form must attend. Should the team have another game in the tournament, the meeting may be scheduled at any time prior to the team's next game.

2. The following individuals have one vote in the meeting:
 - a. All games:
 - i. Team Captain of expelled Skater or, in the case where the Captain is the expelled Skater, the Designated Alternate
 - ii. Opposing team Captain
 - iii. Head Referee (HR/CHR)



- b. Tournament games would add the following individuals:
 - i. Tournament Head Referee (THR) or Tournament Head Official (THO) for tournaments using that designation
 - ii. Games Tournament Oversight officer (GTO)
3. Majority vote determines if a suspension will be served.
- a. If the majority determines that a suspension **is not** warranted, no further action will be taken. All paperwork will be kept on file by WFTDA Sanctioning.
 - b. If the majority determines that a suspension **is** warranted, and the team has additional games to play in the event, a one (1) game suspension may be enforced.
 - i. If a suspension recommendation is for more than one (1) game, any additional game(s) will be subject to WFTDA Games review and enforced by the WFTDA outside of the tournament.
 - ii. In the case of an infraction which the GTO believes is serious enough to warrant an immediate and harsher penalty (because it is excessively forceful or dangerous, or threatens the health, safety, or well-being of another participant), the GTO will have the power to upgrade the suspension after communicating with the GRP.
 - c. If the majority determines that a suspension **is** warranted, and the team does not have additional games to play in the event, WFTDA will review the suspension recommendation and supporting materials per the "WFTDA Games Review and Appeals" process below and will handle any suspension enforcement.
4. The GTO or person responsible for game sanctioning must send the completed IGRF with the expulsion appropriately noted, the Expulsion-Suspension Form, and a brief summary of the meeting, including vote results and the reasoning behind the decision, to WFTDA Sanctioning and WFTDA Games for review.

See the "*Games Requirements for Suspensions*" section of this document for information on serving suspensions.

Should any party wish to appeal the decision after the tournament, see the "*WFTDA Games Review and Appeals*" section of this document.

WFTDA Games Review and Appeals

The WFTDA Fair Play Panel will review all reports and supporting material provided by the GTO or responsible sanctioning party.

- If the Fair Play Panel disagrees with a suspension recommendation, they may overrule the decision of the suspension meeting.



- If the suspended individual wishes to appeal a suspension recommendation or a recommendation to serve additional games, they must submit a request in writing to the Fair Play Panel within two weeks of the game in which the suspension was recommended. If a suspension is not appealed within two weeks from the date of the game in which it occurred, it will be considered uncontested.
- If a party feels that a suspension was issued in error or wishes to contest a non-suspension vote and appeal for a suspension, they would need to file a new grievance. The request and evidence should be sent to the WFTDA Fair Play Panel at fairplay@wftda.com.

Serving and Tracking Suspensions

This section outlines the Games requirements for serving suspensions. Any individual required to serve a suspension must follow the instructions provided by the WFTDA when the suspension is mandated.

Individual Responsibility

The individual suspended is responsible for serving the suspension. Failure to comply with issued suspensions may result in a more severe penalty.

A suspended individual may not participate in any way in a game during which their suspension is being served, including, but not limited to, bench coaching or coaching from a trackside coach box, officiating, or other kinds of non-skating game participation.

The team is allowed to replace the skater on their game roster.

Suspension Timing

Suspensions must be served during the next scheduled sanctioned game(s), including seeding games. The individual is not required to be in attendance at the game.

Suspension Tracking

The team must contact WFTDA Sanctioning prior to a game in which the suspension is being served to indicate the Skater is serving the suspension. After the game, this should be noted on the completed IGRF.

Revisions

October 2023

Compliance moved to the Fair Play Panel.

June 2023

Updated document to match current competitive structure and WFTDA organizational responsibilities.

December 2019

Added Open Division beta test games to the document's purview

July 2019

Removed Incidents Outside of Game Play section and redirected enforcement to WFTDA and event Code of Conduct procedures
Replaced missing section regarding return of expelled/fouled out skater to audience areas



All games with suspension recommendations must have a suspension meeting.
Edited for clarity

December 2018

Added WFTDA Continental Cups requirements.

December 1, 2017

Removed requirement for expelled Skaters to leave the game area. Added unsporting behavior penalty for expelled or fouled-out Skaters who interfere with game play

