



# WFTDA CANCELLATION AND FORFEIT POLICY

Updated October 2023

## DEFINITIONS

### **Cancellation:**

1. Any game that is canceled prior to game start and mutually agreed upon by both teams.
2. Mutual decisions by teams and the Head Referee to suspend play due to safety concerns, or other concerns with the venue, track, etc.

### **Forfeit:**

1. Any game that is canceled after a sanctioning application has been submitted to the WFTDA, and not in mutual agreement between the two competing teams.
2. Forfeits declared by the Head Referee due to one or both teams having five or fewer Skaters still eligible to participate in the game.

### **Strategic Forfeit:**

A strategic forfeit is a forfeit that is made to avoid competing in a game for reasons that benefit the forfeiting team (e.g., quitting while ahead, inability to field the best team when enough skaters are available to safely play the game, or other breach of contract that may cause a dispute between two teams).

## REPORTING A CANCELLATION OR FORFEIT

The host league representative for the game or event should contact WFTDA Sanctioning as soon as possible to report the situation.

1. Contact the email address that processed the game ([gamesanctioning@wftda.com](mailto:gamesanctioning@wftda.com)) or tournament ([tournamentsanctioning@wftda.com](mailto:tournamentsanctioning@wftda.com)).
2. If the game forfeit occurred mid-game, also submit the IGRF and WFTDA StatsBook to [igrf@wftda.com](mailto:igrf@wftda.com) and [stats@wftda.com](mailto:stats@wftda.com) respectively.
  - a. The forfeiting team will be the loser of the game, regardless of the score at that time.
  - b. The IGRF should indicate that the game was forfeited, the game time of the forfeit and the actual score of the game at that time.

3. If the game is disputed, provide any relevant information, including statements from the teams, if available.

## CANCELLATION PROCESSING

1. If the game is canceled under mutual agreement, Sanctioning will work with the host to determine how best to manage the sanctioning.
  - a. Games may be rescheduled under the same sanctioning application, or may require to be sanctioned again depending on the timing of the rescheduled game.
2. There is no penalty for mutually canceled games, and there is no game credit awarded. (See the Appeals For Game Credit section of this document for instances where game credit may be considered.)

## FORFEIT PROCESSING

In the event of a **forfeit of a game in progress that is not disputed**:

1. WFTDA Sanctioning will notify WFTDA Rankings of the situation.
  - a. If 75% or more of game play elapsed prior to the forfeit, the score of the game will stand as recorded on the IGRF at the time of the forfeiture and will be entered in the WFTDA Rankings Calculator and count towards game minimum requirements (or not), in the usual way.
  - b. If less than 75% of game play occurred before the forfeit, no game credit or score will be awarded.
2. Should one or both teams wish to appeal the process, see the General Appeals section below for information.

In the event of a **forfeit that is allegedly strategic**:

1. WFTDA Sanctioning will forward the complaint and any relevant information to the WFTDA Fair Play Panel.
  - a. The Fair Play Panel will review the information and will ensure that both teams provided statements on the forfeit.
  - b. If statements are missing, the Fair Play Panel will request them with a deadline to respond.
2. The Fair Play Panel will review the information and will determine if they have enough evidence to reasonably determine that a forfeit was strategic.
3. If a forfeit is determined to be strategic, WFTDA can apply the following actions, based on their investigation and findings:
  - a. Financial penalties may be assessed by the Fair Play Panel. These shall not exceed US\$1500 and may be payable to the WFTDA and/or to the forfeiting team's opponent.
    - i. This is due within 30 days of the event or of the final judgment, whichever is later.

- ii. Failure to pay fines will result in suspension from participation in WFTDA competitive play and events until paid.
- b. Additional competitive restrictions against the forfeiting team, including tournament ineligibility and/or suspension from sanctioned play for a determined period.
- c. Game and score credit may be granted to the opponent only if it falls under the 75% criteria described above.

## **APPEALS FOR GAME CREDIT**

Teams who were forced to cancel a game due to circumstances beyond their control, or who were forfeited against, and who were unable to reschedule, may petition the Competitive Play Panel for “close” game credit.

This appeal:

- may be made no earlier than 90 days prior to their scheduled Regional Championship;
- The team must provide evidence that they have exhausted all options to schedule a replacement game; AND
- The petition must be the difference between going to Regional Championships or not (this one game would qualify them, and they are ranked high enough to be invited).

Only in this case could game credit be awarded outside of a mid-game forfeit after 75% of the game had been played.

## **GENERAL APPEALS**

Should any party wish to appeal the decision of the Fair Play panel, they may email to the WFTDA Board of Directors at [directors@wftda.com](mailto:directors@wftda.com).