

VSBL Reported Person and Tribunal Procedure

Table of Contents

Reporting Procedures	2
Reporting Timeframe Guidelines	3
Tribunal Hearing Procedures	4
Tribunal Hearings	6
Zoom	6
Face-To-Face	6
Tribunal Etiquette	6
Tribunal Hearing Procedures	7
Suspensions	10
Example Online Tribunal Schedule – Example Only	11
Re-Opening a Tribunal Hearing	12
Appendix A - TABLE OF TRIBUNAL OFFENCES AND PENALTIES	13
CLASSIFIABLE OFFENCES	13
DIRECT TRIBUNAL OFFENCES	13
FIXED FINANCIAL OFFENCES	14
References	16

Reporting Procedures

- 1) Any umpire in control of any Victorian Summer Baseball League (VSBL) game may report any person who engages in conduct detrimental to the best interests of the game of baseball.
- 2) Immediately following any ejection, the provisions of **Rule of Baseball 6.04** shall be enforced in so far as they are practicable in the circumstances of that particular game. In addition, the following process of recording the reported person shall be completed:
 - a. The Scorers shall record the report of a person on the 'Match Report Sheet' with the letter "E" next to the reported person. Managers are listed on the match sheet. If ejected, place an E next to their name.
 - i. This record constitutes notice of the ejection and report to both clubs participating in the game.
 - ii. At the conclusion of the game, the Reporting Umpire shall ensure the correct person(s) has been indicated on the match sheet.
 - b. The Reporting Umpire and the manager of each team shall sign the record of the report on the 'Match Sheet'.
 - i. The signed 'Match Sheet' is confirmation to all relevant parties that a person was reported.
 - ii. Failure to sign the Match Sheet will not be considered grounds for the Tribunal or Appeals Committee to invalidate a report.
 - c. The Match Sheet shall be submitted by the relevant party as soon as possible to the Competition Manager as per VSBL match sheet submission timelines.
 - d. The Reporting Umpire must provide a draft Umpire's Report, which shall include the relevant charges related to the report, to the Baseball Victoria Umpire Officer – Operations (BVUO) for review no later than 10:00am the next working day following the game.
 - i. The BVUO has the right to request the Reporting Umpire amend the Umpire Report, including the charges related to the report, limited to amendments for the purpose of elaborating and/or clarifying the Reporting Umpire's evidence.
 - e. The Reporting Umpire must provide the completed Umpire Report to the Competition Coordinator (CC) no later than 9:00am of the second working day following the game.
 - i. Failure to submit this report by the stated deadlines does not invalidate the report and shall not be considered grounds for an appeal of any penalty that results from the report.
 - ii. A Reported Person shall be permitted to continue participating in any competition if the delay in submitting the report results in any delay in the formation of a Tribunal hearing.
 - f. Upon receiving notice of the Report, the Competition Coordinator shall forward the 'Umpire's Report' to the Match Review Officer (MRO).

Rule of Baseball 6.04d

When a manager, player, coach or trainer is ejected from a game, they shall leave the field immediately and take no further part in that game. They shall remain in the clubhouse or change to street clothes and either leave the park or take a seat in the grandstand well removed from the vicinity of their team's bench or bullpen.

- 3) The MRO has the power to:
 - a. dismiss a charge(s) when there is insufficient evidence in the 'Umpires Report' to sustain such a charge
 - b. Consider the Umpire's Report as prima facie evidence, determine the severity of the charge(s) set forth by the Reporting Umpire, and impose a penalty on the Reported Person based on, but not limited to, the Recommended Table of Penalties in Appendix A.
 - i. If relevant, the MRO may consider the Reported Person's previous report record in determining any penalty.
 - c. In the event the MRO categorises an offence for which the Recommended Table of Penalties list Tribunal as the recommended penalty, or the charge is not listed on the Recommended Table of Penalties, the MRO shall not issue a penalty and must refer such offences to the Tribunal for a hearing.
 - 4) The MRO shall notify the Competition Coordinator of any decision related to the report by no later than 5:00pm of the second working day following the game.
 - 5) The Competition Coordinator must notify the Reported Person's Club Secretary on the same day they receive the MRO's decision by email of all charges and penalties offered by the MRO and any requirement of the Reported Person to appear before the Tribunal.
- The Umpire's Report will not be provided with the offer but will be made available 24 hours before any tribunal hearing.
- 6) In all cases, the Club shall be responsible for notifying the Reported Person of any correspondence it receives related to the report.
 - 7) The Club must notify the Competition Coordinator within 24hrs of receiving the MRO's penalty offer, of the Reported Person decision, being one of the following:
 - a. The offer is 'accepted' and the Reported Person shall serve the penalty imposed.
 - b. The offer is 'rejected', and a Tribunal hearing is requested to contest the charges or severity of charges.
 - c. If the Club fails to notify the Competition Coordinator of the Reported Person's response by the stated deadline, the MRO's penalty offer shall stand, and the suspension shall be served immediately.

Reporting Timeframe Guidelines

Process	Day of Report				
	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Report finalised	Monday 8pm	Monday 8pm	Tuesday 8pm	Wednesday 8pm	Thursday 8pm
Report to CC & MRO	Tuesday 9am	Tuesday 9am	Wednesday 9am	Thursday 9am	Friday 9am
MRO decision to CC	Tuesday 5pm	Tuesday 5pm	Wednesday 5pm	Thursday 5pm	Friday 5pm
CC offer to Club	Tuesday 5pm	Tuesday 5pm	Wednesday 5pm	Thursday 5pm	Friday 5pm
Club Response to CC	Wednesday 5pm	Wednesday 5pm	Thursday 5pm	Friday 5pm	Tuesday 5pm
Tribunal	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday

Tribunal Hearing Procedures

- 1) Upon receiving confirmation that the Reported Person intends to contest the MRO's decision at a Tribunal hearing, the Competition Coordinator shall confirm a date and time for the hearing, the Competition Coordinator shall confirm the details of the Tribunal hearing to the Tribunal Panel, the Reported Person's Club and the Reporting Umpire.
 - a. The meeting of the Tribunal is fixed and cannot be changed, except at the discretion of the Tribunal Chairperson.
 - b. If the Reporting Umpire is unable to attend the scheduled Tribunal hearing, the Tribunal chairperson may offer the Reporting Umpire a telephone or other electronic conference link to have the tribunal held. This shall be given at the discretion of the Tribunal Chairperson.
 - c. Should a Reported Person be unable to attend the next scheduled hearing of the Tribunal, that person shall immediately notify the Competition Coordinator (directly or via their club Secretary/President) and state the reason for their enforced absence. The Tribunal shall consider all aspects of the matter and decide if the reported person should be given permission to participate in any games set down to be scheduled prior to the rescheduled hearing.
- 2) The Competition Coordinator shall provide to the Reported Person's Club Secretary and the Tribunal Chairperson copies of the Umpire's Report no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled Tribunal hearing.
- 3) The Competition Coordinator shall establish the Tribunal Panel for the purpose of conducting the Tribunal hearing.
 - a. In the situation where insufficient Tribunal members are available for a Tribunal hearing, the Competition Coordinator and Tribunal Chairperson shall have the power to co-opt any member of the Victorian Summer Baseball League Pennant Committee, or administrators affiliated to the Association to act as a Tribunal member.
 - b. If the Tribunal Chairperson is unable to attend a Tribunal hearing, one of the attending Tribunal members shall perform the role of Chairperson in accordance with these Tribunal Procedures and continue the hearing with a Tribunal Panel of 2.
 - c. In the event any two of the Tribunal Panels Members are unavailable for the Tribunal hearing, the hearing shall be rescheduled.
- 4) Notification of all witnesses and observers attending the Tribunal hearing must be submitted to the Competition Coordinator by 12:00pm the day of the scheduled tribunal hearing.
 - a. The Reporting Umpire and the Reported Person may call any witness they desire. It is not the responsibility of the Tribunal panel to arrange for the presentation of any such witness.
 - b. The Tribunal Panel may call any witness it deems to have the capacity to provide evidence relevant to the outcome of the hearing. The Tribunal Panel will arrange for the presentation of such witnesses.
- 5) Any witness statements and/or written character reference must be submitted to the Competition Coordinator by 12:00pm the day of the scheduled tribunal hearing.
 - a. Witness statements must be
 - i. a) signed by the witness or
 - ii. b) sent to the Competition Coordinator directly via email from the witness.
 - b. Character reference must be
 - i. a) signed by the referee or
 - ii. b) sent to the Competition Coordinator directly via email from the referee.
 - c. Witness statements and/or Character reference is tabled at the hearing at the discretion of the Tribunal Chairperson, who shall provide sufficient time for all parties at the hearing to read the written evidence.
- 6) Notification of all advocates attending the Tribunal hearing must be submitted to the Competition Coordinator by 12:00pm the day of the scheduled tribunal hearing.

- a. Any Reported Person or Reporting Umpire over the age of eighteen years of age at the date of the Tribunal hearing may have an advocate at the discretion of the Tribunal Chairperson.
 - b. A Reported person who is under eighteen years of age at the date of the Tribunal hearing shall be permitted to appoint an adult person as his or her advocate.
 - i. Should a Reported Person engage an advocate, the advocate shall assume control of the Reported Person's defense and the Reported Person will not be permitted to speak unless it is to give evidence on his/her own behalf or at the discretion of the Tribunal Chairperson.
 - c. Advocates are permitted to be in attendance for the duration of the hearing but are not entitled to give evidence during the hearing.
- 7) Notification of all observers attending the Tribunal hearing must be submitted to the Competition Coordinator by 12:00pm the day of the scheduled tribunal hearing.
- a. Observers must be approved by the Tribunal Chairperson.
 - b. At the discretion of the Tribunal Chairperson, observers shall be permitted to remain silent throughout the entire hearing.
 - c. Observers shall not be permitted to provide evidence or engage in any other function of the hearing.
- 8) The Tribunal Chairperson shall have the sole discretion to request any person to remove him/herself from the hearing at any time.

Tribunal Hearings

The Tribunal Chair will decide the format for the tribunal hearing; either face-to-face or via Zoom.

Zoom

- 1) Tribunal hearings will be hosted online unless advised otherwise by the Competition Coordinator.
- 2) Baseball Victoria will be utilising Zoom, a free online cloud-based video conferencing service. Baseball Victoria recommends making yourself familiar the Zoom program and suggest viewing some tutorial videos and checking out the Zoom website
 - a. Joining a Zoom Call for the First Time - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>
 - b. How to Join a Zoom Meeting Without Installing Zoom - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDZOx-N39EU>
 - c. Zoom Homepage - <https://zoom.us/>
 - d. Join a Zoom meeting Online - <https://zoom.us/join>
 - e. Download Zoom - <https://zoom.us/download>
- 3) An individual can also join in a Zoom meeting via a call to a designated phone number by entering the meeting code and password
- 4) Baseball Victoria is responsible for setting up a Zoom meeting and will inform all relevant parties of the meetings details including meeting codes and passwords.
- 5) In the event a technical difficulty is experienced by an attendee at the tribunal hearing, the Tribunal Chair has the right to;
 - a. Pause the meeting until the technical difficulty is rectified
 - b. Continue the meeting and choose to come back to the point of the meeting when the technical issue has been addressed
 - c. Postpone the hearing altogether and, via Baseball Victoria, arrange for the meeting to be continued on another day
- 6) Baseball Victoria strongly encourages tribunal participants to check microphone and speakers settings prior to entering the meeting.
 - a. Baseball Victoria can assist participants with Zoom settings prior the tribunal hearing (excluding the day of).

Face-To-Face

Baseball Victoria will communicate venue, dates and times for tribunal hearings via email.

Tribunal Etiquette

1. Dress appropriately.
2. Respect all attendees at a Tribunal hearing.
3. THERE ARE NO PERSONAL ATTACKS
 - An umpire has the right to explain in their own terms the events that transpired that lead to an ejection
 - A player has the right to defend themselves against the charges
 - The Tribunal Panel has the responsibility to make a determination based solely on the information and evidence that is provided at the hearing

Tribunal Hearing Procedures

1. Prior to the beginning of proceedings, the Tribunal Chairman shall be responsible for notifying all parties present at the Tribunal hearing of the following conditions:
 - a. "This hearing has begun and shall be conducted in a fair and unbiased manner. It is the Tribunal Chairperson's duty to ensure that all persons observe the standards and conditions set out in VSBL Tribunal Hearing Procedures."
 - b. "Any person giving evidence of an untruthful or unsatisfactory nature to the Tribunal may be suspended from taking part in any matches for such time as the Tribunal shall decide, and in the case of any other person, shall be reported to the Summer League to be dealt with as deemed appropriate."
 - c. "In the event the charges against the Reported Person are considered extreme or serious by the Tribunal Chairman, the Chairman shall consider the Tribunal hearing to be a preliminary hearing in order to confirm the charges and a subsequent hearing shall be convened as determined by the Tribunal Chairman to allow all parties additional time to confirm and arrange witnesses."
2. The Tribunal Chairman is responsible for calling the following parties into the tribunal.
 - a. The Reporting Umpire(s) and advocates
 - b. The Reported Person(s) and advocates
 - c. Other witnesses
 - d. Observers
3. The Administrator will introduce all parties in attendance
The Tribunal Chairperson may require observers to leave the hearing at any time.
4. Witnesses must not be present in the Tribunal hearing until such time the Tribunal Chairperson believes the Reporting Umpire and Reported Person have no further evidence to submit.
5. The Administrator shall be asked to announce the relevant charges.
6. The Reported Person shall be asked to enter a plea of Guilty or Not Guilty.
Should the Reported Person be undecided then the Tribunal shall enter a plea of not guilty.
7. The Reporting Umpire shall be asked to provide evidence to the hearing.
 - a. In the event that the Reporting Umpire is not in attendance at the appointed time of the Tribunal hearing, the Tribunal Chairperson shall allow a reasonable period of 'grace'.
 - b. If the Reporting Umpire does not appear during the period of grace, the report shall not lapse, with the hearing adjourned and all parties advised of the new hearing date and time.
 - i. The Reported Person may participate in any games to be played prior to the rescheduled Tribunal hearing, subject to the approval of the Tribunal Chairperson.
 - ii. The Tribunal Chairperson must advise the Competition Coordinator and the Umpire Officer – Operations-of the Reporting Umpire's failure to attend the Tribunal hearing.
 - iii. The Reporting Umpire shall be required to submit a written explanation for not appearing at the Tribunal hearing to the Umpire Officer - Operations. Disciplinary action for failing to attend the hearing shall be at the discretion of the Umpire Officer – Operations.
8. The Reported Person, or the advocate representing the Reported Person, may question the Reporting Umpire, limited to questions for the purpose of elaborating and/or clarifying the Reporting Umpire's evidence.

9. The Reported Player shall be asked to provide evidence to the hearing.
 - a. In the event that the Reported Person is not in attendance at the appointed time of the Tribunal hearing, the Tribunal Chairperson shall allow a reasonable period of 'grace'.
 - b. If the Reported Person does not appear during the period of grace, the Tribunal Panel shall, in the absence of the Reported Person, hear evidence from the Reporting Umpire and any witnesses.
 - c. The Tribunal Panel shall consider the information submitted and, should there be a prima facie case against the Reported Person, the Tribunal Panel may enforce a penalty on the Reported Person.
 - i. Where a penalty is enforced in the Reported Person's absence, the Secretary of the Reported Person's Club will be advised of the penalty by the Competition Coordinator within 24 hours of the hearing.
 - ii. The Suspended Person will remain under suspension from all Summer League competitions until an appearance before the Tribunal to give explanation for the absence from the original hearing, after which the Tribunal Panel has the discretion to determine the ongoing nature of the penalty.
 - iii. Arrangements for a Suspended Player to appear before the tribunal shall be made through the Competition Coordinator.
10. The Reporting Umpire, or the advocate representing the Reported Umpire, may question the Reported Person, limited to questions for the purpose of elaborating and/or clarifying the Reported Person's evidence.
11. Once all evidence is submitted by the Reporting Umpire and Reported Person, the Tribunal Chairperson may individually call on additional witnesses, including those arranged by the Tribunal Panel, to provide further evidence.
 - a. Any questions directed to or from any witness must be asked through the Tribunal Chairperson, limited to questions for the purpose of elaborating and/or clarifying evidence.
 - b. Where the Tribunal Panel can establish it is the intention of multiple witnesses to give similar evidence, the Tribunal Chairperson has the discretion to acknowledge these witnesses and have it noted that their evidence is similar in nature, without calling these witnesses to provide evidence.
 - c. Tribunal Panel members may ask questions of the Reporting Umpire, Reported Person, or other witnesses at any time, limited to questions for the purpose of elaborating and/or clarifying any parties evidence.
12. Once all evidence is presented, the tribunal shall retire to consider the evidence and determine the Reported Person's guilt, innocence or the severity of the charges in relation to the offences in the report.
13. Upon reaching a judgement, the Tribunal Panel shall re-convene, and the Tribunal Chairperson shall inform the Reported Person of the outcome of the Panel's deliberations.
14. If a Reported Person is found guilty of an offence(s), penalties may be based on the Recommended Table of Penalties contained within this procedure.
15. All penalties issued under these Playing Conditions take immediate effect from the next scheduled game of the grade in which the offense occurred.
16. All penalties issued by the Tribunal take immediate effect and the Suspended Person must not play, manage, coach, or assist in the conduct of any Senior, Women's, Masters or Juniors baseball game for the duration determined by the Tribunal.
17. For the purpose of these procedures, a game is deemed to commence when the umpire enters the playing field in compliance with **Rule of Baseball 4.03**.

- a. Any suspended person who, at or from that time, indulges in any of the activities mentioned may be reported for breach of suspension.
- b. Any person may report any breach of suspension to the Competition Manager.
- c. In the event this occurs, the Tribunal shall schedule an additional hearing to hear these charges. The Tribunal is empowered to hear the matter, with or without the Suspended Person present, and to impose any further penalty as it deems appropriate.

Rule of Baseball 4.03 – Exchange of Line-up Cards

Unless the home Club shall have given previous notice that the game has been postponed or will be delayed in starting, the umpire, or umpires, shall enter the playing field five minutes before the hour set for the game to begin and proceed directly to home base where they shall be met by the managers of the opposing teams. In sequence:

- a. *First, the home manager, or his designee, shall give his batting order to the umpire-in-chief, in duplicate.*
 - b. *Next, the visiting manager, or his designee, shall give his batting order to the umpire-in-chief, in duplicate.*
 - c. *As a courtesy, each line-up card presented to the umpire-in chief should list the fielding positions to be played by each player in the batting order. If a designated hitter is to be used, the line-up card shall designate which hitter is to be the designated hitter. See Rule 5.11(a). As a courtesy, potential substitute players should also be listed, but the failure to list a potential substitute player shall not make such potential substitute player ineligible to enter the game.*
 - d. *The umpire-in-chief shall make certain that the original and copies of the respective batting orders are identical, and then tender a copy of each batting order to the opposing manager. The copy retained by the umpire shall be the official batting order. The tender of the batting order by the umpire shall establish the batting orders. Thereafter, no substitutions shall be made by either manager, except as provided in the rules.*
 - e. *As soon as the home team's batting order is handed to the umpire-in-chief the umpires are in charge of the playing field and from that moment the umpire-in-chief shall have sole authority to determine when a game shall be called, suspended or resumed on account of weather or the condition of the playing field. The umpire-in-chief shall not call the game until at least 30 minutes after he has suspended play. The umpire in-chief may continue the suspension so long as he believes there is any chance to resume play. Nothing in this Rule is intended to affect a Club's ability to suspend or resume any game pursuant to a policy governing severe weather, significant weather threats, and lightning safety that has been filed with the league office prior to the championship season.*
18. As soon as practicable, the Tribunal Chairperson shall advise of the Tribunal Panel's judgement to the Competition Coordinator.
 19. The Competition Coordinator shall notify the following officials in writing within 24 hours of receiving notification of the Tribunal Panel's judgement from the Tribunal Chairperson:
 - a. The Reported Person's Club Secretary
 - b. Baseball Victoria Umpire Officer - Operations
 - c. An appeal of the Tribunal Panel's decision may only commence once this notification has been provided.
 20. If the Suspended Player is unsatisfied with a decision of the Tribunal, the Suspended Player may appeal the findings of the Tribunal in accordance with the VSBL Appeal – Tribunal Decisions Guidelines.
 21. If the Reporting Umpire is unsatisfied with a decision of the Tribunal, the Umpire Officer – Operations may appeal the findings of the Tribunal in accordance with the VSBL Appeal – Tribunal Decisions Guidelines.

Baseball Victoria they may appeal the decision if they are unsatisfied with a decision of the Tribunal

Baseball Victoria reserves the right to review and change tribunal guidelines and procedures as required as administrative process.

22. Baseball Victoria is responsible for maintaining a Register of Reported Persons and record the details of all proven offences and penalties.
23. Such record shall also be made available to the Match Review Officer and Tribunal Chairperson on request.

Suspensions

1. Suspensions in the form of a set number of matches, will be governed by the following conditions:
 - a. The player is ineligible to participate in any VSBL games until the penalty is served within the Division and Grade in which the report was made.
 - b. Once served, the player can then participate in a VSBL game on the day following the match suspension.
ie, If a player gets suspended for two matches and the second and final match is scheduled for a Saturday, then player can then commence playing on Sunday.
2. If the number of matches within a suspension is greater than the number of matches remaining in the season, the remaining matches will apply to start of the next VSBL season.
3. A player's suspension will be governed by the division's fixture even if the club does not submit a team into that division.
4. In the event the Division does not exist for the following VSBL season, the remaining number of matches will convert into weeks and will commence on the date of the first match of the VSBL season.

Example Online Tribunal Schedule – Example Only

- **Participants** – Log into Zoom – wait until the Administrator permits you to the meeting
- **Administrator** – Welcome all into meeting, introduce all in attendance, overview of the meeting
- **Chair** – Rules of the Tribunal Hearing
- **Chair** – request that witnesses leave the room
 - Administrator will arrange for witnesses to be allocated into a Zoom Breakout Room
 - People remaining – Tribunal Panel, Umpire, Umpire Advocate, Player, Player Advocate, Observers
- **Administrator** – Read out the charges
- **Chair** – Ask the advocate/player “how do they plead?” and/or “on what grounds do they appeal the MRO’s decision?” (if applicable)
- **Advocate/Player** – addresses the question
- **Chair** – Request Umpire to address the report – asking for the Umpire to provide the panel with a perspective of the events that lead to the charges
 - It is here that the Advocate can address this direction on behalf of the Umpire
 - Tribunal to ask questions
 - Player / Player Advocate to ask questions (limited to questions for the purpose of elaborating or clarifying umpire’s evidence)
- **Chair** – Request Player to address the report – asking for the Player to provide the panel with a perspective of the events that lead to the charges
 - It is here that the advocate can address this direction on behalf of the player
 - Tribunal to ask questions
 - Umpire / Umpire Advocate to ask questions (limited to questions for the purpose of elaborating or clarifying player’s evidence)
- **Chair** – To seek closing comments from both parties (Umpire then Player)
 - Opportunity for advocates to highlight umpires/players contribution to Baseball
 - Opportunity for advocates to address character references
- **Chair** – Call upon physical witnesses or introduce witness statements
 - If only statements are provided, provide an opportunity for any questions or comments to be made
 - Note that witness statements have been acknowledged
- **Chair** – Introduce character references
 - Provide an opportunity for any questions or comments to be made
 - Note that character references have been acknowledged
- **Chair** – to move that attendees retire to “breakout room” allowing tribunal members to convene to discuss the case
 - Administrator will arrange for witnesses to be allocated into a Zoom Breakout Room/s
 - Umpire and Umpire Advocate are permitted to leave the hearing if they so choose to
- **Chair** – to call upon the Administrator to reconvene meeting
 - Attendees will receive notification on Zoom to re-enter Meeting Room
- **Chair** – to address findings to attendees
 - The Player and Player Advocate are permitted (only) to ask questions relating to the outcome for the purpose of seeking clarity
- **Chair** – to thank all in attendance and request that the Administrator remove participants from the meeting

Re-Opening a Tribunal Hearing

A Player may appeal the decision of the Tribunal on one or more of the following grounds:

- An error of law that had a material impact on the decision of the Tribunal has occurred,
- The decision of the Tribunal is so unreasonable that no Tribunal acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it,
- The classification of the offence by the MRO was manifestly excessive or inadequate,
- The sanction imposed by the Tribunal was manifestly excessive or inadequate.

The Appellant must satisfy the Appeals Officer, in that person's sole discretion, that there is a reasonable expectation the Appeals Committee will review the Tribunal's decision on the basis one or more of the following grounds of appeal is satisfied:

- That new evidence, being evidence that, with reasonable diligence, could not have been made available at the time of the original tribunal hearing, has become available that will significantly alter the original decision made by the Tribunal.
- That a penalty imposed by the VSBL Tribunal is manifestly excessive, being a penalty that is well outside the recommended penalty set forth in the Tribunal Procedures and/or penalties imposed in comparable cases.

Before accepting these grounds, the Appeals Officer must request and review a summary of the Tribunal findings. The findings must be provided to the Appeals Committee in the event the appeal is referred to a hearing of the Appeals Committee.

- That the VSBL Tribunal failed to follow procedures set forth by Baseball Victoria or the principles of natural justice, thus resulting in a significantly different finding from that which may have resulted had the procedures been adequately followed.

The cost of an appeal will be \$200, with the fee refundable in the event of a successful appeal. In the event of an unsuccessful appeal, the amount of \$200 will be retained by Baseball Victoria.

Appendix A - TABLE OF TRIBUNAL OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

CLASSIFIABLE OFFENCES

All reportable offences, deemed to be a **Classifiable Offence** will be classified as “low”, “medium” or “high” and the base sanctions will reflect accordingly.

CLASSIFIABLE OFFENCE	LEVEL	BASE SANCTION
Abusive, insulting, threatening, obscene language: audible, towards opposition or other persons (Not an official)	Low	Yellow Card
	Medium	1 Game + \$50 fine
	High	2-4 Games + \$100-\$500 fine
Abusive, insulting, threatening, obscene language towards or in relation to an Umpire or Game Official	Low	\$25 fine
	Medium	1 Game + \$50 fine
	High	2-4 Games + \$100-\$500 Fine
Physical Altercation (Intentional)	Low	1 Game + \$50 Fine
	Medium	2 Games + \$150 Fine
	High	4+ Games + \$500 Fine
Physical Altercation (Careless)	Low	\$25 fine
	Medium	1 Game + \$50 Fine
	High	2-4 Games + \$100-\$500 Fine
Careless/Incidental Contact with an Umpire	Low	\$150 - \$200 Fine
	Medium	2-4 Games + \$200-\$400 Fine
	High	6-10 Games + \$400-\$500 Fine

DIRECT TRIBUNAL OFFENCES

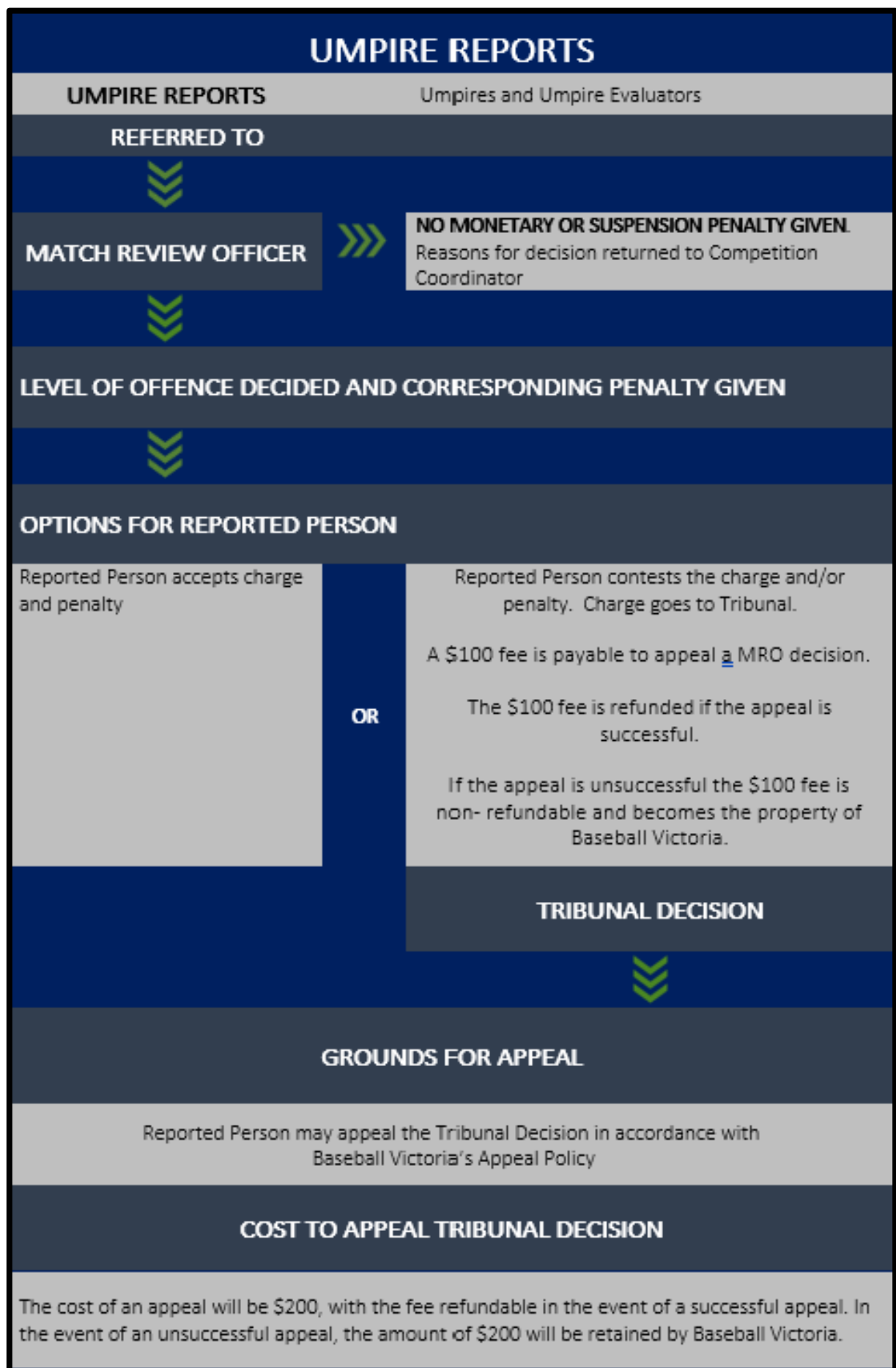
Direct Tribunal Offences are those Reportable Offences Specified in Table 2 which are directly referred by the MRO to the Tribunal for determination.

DIRECT TO TRIBUNAL OFFENCES
Confronting a Green Vest or Green Shirt leaver Umpire
Intentional Contact with and Umpire
Careless Contact with an Umpire (Extreme)
Spitting on or at an Umpire or Other Person
Attempting to strike an Umpire
Any Classifiable or Fixed Financial Offence which attracts a base sanction that the MRO finds inappropriate
Extreme intentional physical altercation
Any other act of serious misconduct which the MRO considers appropriate to refer to the Tribunal

FIXED FINANCIAL OFFENCES

Fixed Financial Offences are Reportable Offences which attract a fixed financial sanction only. (as per the following table).

FIXED FINANCIAL OFFENCES	FIRST OFFENCE	SECOND OFFENCE	THIRD & SUBSEQUENT OFFENCES
Instigator of Fight or Physical Confrontation	\$200	\$350	\$500
Attempt to strike, hit, kick, or trip a player	\$150	\$250	\$400
Unavoidable/Incidental contact with an Umpire	\$50	\$100	\$400
Leaving position on the field to partake in a Physical confrontation	\$150	\$250	\$400
Pitchers Intentionally Throwing at Hitters	\$150	\$250	\$400
Obscene gesture	\$50	\$100	\$250
Racial, Sexual or Religious vilification	\$200	\$350	\$500
Unreasonable/unnecessary contact with a Player/Person	\$150	\$250	\$400
Throwing of Equipment Damage to Facility/ Field	\$100	\$150	\$250
Not leaving playing area following an ejection/Disobey Umpire Instruction	\$200	\$350	\$500
Arguing Balls and Strikes	\$50	\$100	\$250
Any other act of misconduct that is not a Classifiable Offence or Direct Tribunal Offence	\$250		
Unsportsmanlike conduct Bringing the game into disrepute	\$100		



References

References to “Rule of Baseball” can be found in the [*Official Baseball Rules – 2021*](#)

Tribunal information can be found on the Baseball Victoria website [*Sanctions*](#)

Appeals information can be found on the Baseball Victoria website [*Appeals Process*](#)