

MLS NEXT Discriminatory Conduct Reminders

MLS NEXT prohibits discriminatory conduct

Discriminatory Conduct

Banned Terms

Use of a confirmed Banned Term or discriminatory gestures will result in a red card and suspension of three (3) or more games.

MLS NEXT is committed to facilitating a diverse and inclusive environment. Discrimination or offensive remarks of any kind arising out of or in connection with an individual's background, ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or identity, in English or any language, will not be tolerated.

Examples of Banned Terms

"Sp*c" / "Sp*ck" / "Bean*r" / "Wetb*ck"	"Ch*nk" / "Sl*nt"
"Rag He*d"	"K*ke"
"N*gga" / "N*gger" / "N*gro"	"Monkey" / "Mono" / "Gorilla" / "Gorila"
"Black Boy" / "White Boy" / "Jew Boy"	"Cracker"
"P*to" / "Mar*cón"	"F*g" / "F*ggot" / "Homo" / "B*ttt Boy"

On-Field Alleged Banned Term Procedure

- Step 1: Player tells the coach or referee that they have heard a banned term.
- Step 2: The referee stops the match and addresses the coaching staff for each team.
- Step 3: Each coaching staff addresses their players.
- Step 5: The referee will not resume the match until both teams are ready to resume play.
- Step 6: The referee will report the incident on the match report.
- Step 7: Both head coaches will report the incident on the Fairwhistle report.
- Step 8: MLS NEXT will review the incident once reports are submitted.

Sanctions for Repeat Offenses

Any Club that is found to have committed multiple offenses involving racial/discriminatory conduct in connection with any MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division activity shall be subject to the Sanctions outlined on page 21 of the Disciplinary Code.

U15 through U19 Teams: See chart.

U13 & U14: Shall forfeit the chance to attend an MLS NEXT Homegrown Division Event based on Quality of Play standings.

- 1st Incident is a warning (sanctions to the individual player)
- 2nd Incident within Team activates penalties
- 3rd Incident within Club activates Club wide deductions

Team's 2nd act of Discrimination or Harassment



1 point deduction from FLEX standings and League standings

Team's 3rd act of Discrimination or Harassment



3 point deduction from FLEX standings and League standings for the team; 1 point deducted for the entire Club from FLEX and League standings.

Club's 3rd act of Discrimination or Harassment



1 point deduction from FLEX and League standings for the entire Club in each age group.

Club's 4th act of Discrimination or Harassment



3 point deduction from FLEX and League standings for the entire Club in each age group.