

# MIDLANDS ADULT LEAGUE – 2023-24

## Forfeit Fixtures – Guidance notes for the application of penalties

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- Basic penalty for any forfeit game is 5-0 loss **with additional penalties subject to Grade**
  - **Grades 2 / 3 / 4**
  - **Standard penalty:** 5-0 loss and 1point deduction
    - progressive additional points deducted for repeat offences
    - fines if appropriate
  - **Additional Penalty:** points deduction for lower team at same grade.
    - Where the forfeiting team's next lowest team is also within these grades (and their game is played) then the points deduction applied above (1 point, 2 points etc) will also be applied to that lower team.
      - E.g., for a first offence, if the lower team plays then the result will stand but there will be a 1point deduction, whatever the score.
    - Note: this may seem harsh on the lower side, but this additional deduction is applied because the club *should* be forfeiting the lower team match in order to play the higher team match at these more competitive Grades.
- **Grades 5**
  - **Standard penalty:** 5-0 loss and 1point deduction
    - 1 point deduction for repeat offences (progressive as appropriate)
    - No penalty applied to any lower teams which play (subject to standard Fair Selection & Player Eligibility)
    - Not applicable to Development Teams.
- **ALL GRADES**
  - ALMC monitor forfeit games and have discretion to apply further penalties (additional point deductions, fines, goal difference) if they consider the forfeit has a significant impact on another teams or teams e.g. where the previous result was greater than 5-0, or players clearly dropped to strengthen a lower side etc.