IMPORTANT

Please read these instructions for completing updated send-off reports.

- Where there are OPTIONS circle the relevant word/s or number (for example I was REFEREE / OTHER MATCH OFFICIAL – if you were the referee you circle REFEREE, if you were an AR OR 4TH official, you would circle 'OTHER MATCH OFFICIAL")
- Send off code and description. Use R 1 to 7 as you have in the past with the appropriate description (e.g. R7 "Receives second caution in match").

Use R8 where any form of abuse is directed towards the referee, assistant referee or 4th official. Abuse includes any physical or verbal abuse. So if a player directs OFFINABUS language or gestures or any form of physical abuse towards a match official rather than another player, use

R8 with description "Abuse of match official" instead of R2, R3 or R6. Note that this is for abuse of a match official, not dissent. Dissent should still be treated as a yellow card and sin bin offence unless the dissent includes significant "offinabus" language or gesture.

Use R9 where a team official (e.g. coach or manager) is shown a red card. Description to use is "Dismissal of Team Official"

• Severity of offence

You need to circle one number (or delete all and insert the appropriate number)

"1" is a minor and fairly technical offence. For example, where a player is standing on the goal line and uses a reflex action to stop the ball with his /her hand and prevent the ball crossing the line for a goal. It is a reflex action but is still a mandatory Red Card. We have all given mandatory red cards that we did not want to give – these would be level 1 severity.

"5" is extremely serious. This represents the worst level of offence in the category. So, for example, with violent conduct, it would cover a player violently kicking an opponent who is on the ground, or taking of a boot and using it as a weapon to strike an opponent. In an offinabus offence it would be used where a player loudly uses racially vilifying language. So "5" is really top end stuff.

"3" is mid-scale. It would be expected that MOST send-off offences will be in the 2-3 category, so level 3 is a reasonably serious level of offence. A VERY serious offence would be classed as "4" compared to "5" which is quite over the top (as noted above)

The player's conduct AFTER the offence may well raise the severity of the offence.