



Georgia Soccer Ethics and Grievance Complaint Form

From the Georgia Soccer Youth Rules and Regulations:

760.4 The Ethics and Grievance Committee will accept grievances within 30 days of the occurrence. Grievances do not require submittal fees.

In order to promptly consider your complaint, the Georgia Soccer Ethics and Grievance Committee will need:

- **A written statement from you.** Please include the specific violations that you are charging if you know them. If the Georgia Soccer-Youth Rules and Regulations have been violated, it is strongly advised that you quote the precise rule(s) by number. This statement should be detailed and include names, dates, locations, etc. Keep in mind that this statement will be used to determine the validity of your complaint, so a thorough and complete explanation is necessary.
- **Any supporting documentation (if applicable).** Include documentation you believe is relevant to the charges you have raised.
- **Written Statements from witnesses (if applicable).** The statements should be from individuals you wish to reference and should describe the events in question. It is helpful to include contact information for the witnesses.
- **List of Witnesses (if applicable).** Include names and phone numbers of any witness(es) you intend to call upon during the hearing.

The material will be screened to determine first, whether your complaint falls within the jurisdiction of the E&G Committee and second, whether the complaint has merit. Assuming that jurisdictional criteria are met and the initial review determines that the matter warrants further inquiry, you will be notified of an in-person hearing date before the committee.

Please be advised that if the E&G Chair feels that you have grounds to press a grievance against an individual, that individual is entitled to receive the following information:

- All materials submitted to the E&G Committee. These materials are sent to the accused prior to any hearing, as the accused must be provided with the tools and time in which to mount a defense
- Names of all individuals who will be giving testimony against the accused

Please keep in mind that the E&G Committee does not act as an accusatory or investigatory body. You are responsible for proving your case. You are responsible for arranging for witnesses to present evidence supporting your claim. You are responsible for providing the committee with all the evidence you think will be necessary. While written testimony can be submitted in the absence of live testimony, it will likely be viewed with less weight than live testimony. Evidence or witnesses presented for the first time at the hearing may not be allowed or permitted to testify. Attached is a copy of USSF Bylaw 701, which details the rights of the accused.

Your name: _____ Today's date: _____

Address: _____

Phone numbers: (home) _____ (work) _____ (cell) _____

Email address: _____

Name of your affiliate: _____

Team name: _____

Team age bracket & level: _____

Who you are filing a complaint about: _____

Date of the incident: _____

Affiliate (if known): _____

Team (if applicable): _____

Geoff Fulton is Chair of the Georgia Soccer Ethics and Grievance Committee. Please contact Kathy Layden, E&G Administrator, klayden@georgiasoccer.org, 678-993-2106, with any questions.

To help us serve you better, please include a copy of this form with your letter of complaint. Anonymous complaints will not be considered.

USSF Bylaw 701 Hearing Procedures

In all hearings conducted under these bylaws, the parties shall be accorded:

1. Notice of the specific charges or alleged violations in writing and possible consequences if charges are found to be true;
2. Reasonable time between receipt of the notice of charges and the hearing within which to prepare a defense;
3. The right to have the hearing conducted at a time and place so as to make it practicable for the person charged to attend;
4. A hearing before a disinterested and impartial body of fact finders;
5. The right to be assisted in the presentation of one's case at the hearing;
6. The right to call witnesses and present oral and written evidence and argument;
7. The right to confront witnesses, including the right to be provided the identity of witnesses in advance of the hearing;
8. The right to have a record made of the hearing if desired;
9. A written decision, with reasons for the decision, based solely on the evidence of record, issued in a timely fashion;
10. Notice of any substantive and material action of the hearing panel in the course of the proceedings; and
11. Equality concerning communications, and no ex parte communication is permitted between a party and any person involved in making its decision or procedural determination except to provide explanations involving procedures to be followed.