



# WFTDA FORFEIT POLICY

*Effective for all sanctioned games and WFTDA Tournaments starting July 1, 2013*

## Defining Forfeits

- 1) Any game that is cancelled in mutual agreement between the participating teams, or prior to the submission of a sanctioning application to the WFTDA, will not be considered a forfeit and will not be governed by this policy.
- 2) Any game that is cancelled after a sanctioning application has been submitted to the WFTDA, and not in mutual agreement, will be considered a forfeit, and will be forwarded by Sanctioning to the Games Review Panel (GRP) for review.
- 3) Mutual decisions by teams and the Head Referee, or forfeits declared by the Head Referee, to suspend play are not subject to penalty. A note should be placed on the IGRF stating the time and reason for the suspension of play, and contact information for the Head Referee should be provided for GRP follow up.

## Forfeit Outcomes

- 1) Teams can only receive rankings points in the Rankings Calculator for a forfeited game if it meets the requirements below (Section 3b).
- 2) Game credit received as a result of a forfeit may not be used to satisfy minimum games required to be ranked for the first time. The team that was unable to play a game due to an opponent's forfeit may be granted credit towards minimum game requirements for WFTDA Playoff eligibility by the GRP.
- 3) Final score for a forfeit mid-game:
  - a) In the event of a forfeit of a game in progress, the forfeiting team will be the loser of the game, regardless of the score at that time. The IGRF should indicate that the game was forfeited, the actual score of the game at the time of the forfeiture, and the game time of the forfeit.
  - b) IGRFs of games forfeited while in progress should be submitted to Sanctioning and will automatically be forwarded to the GRP for review. The GRP will assign a score according to the following standards:
    - i) If 75% of game play elapsed prior to the forfeit, and the GRP determines that the forfeit was not strategic, the score of the game will stand as recorded on the IGRF at the time of the forfeiture. Credit will be given to both teams towards minimum game requirements and the score will be entered in the Ranking Calculator.
    - ii) If 75% of game play did not elapse and the GRP determines that the forfeit was due to unsafe game conditions, the score of the game will not be entered into the Ranking Calculator, but both teams will be given credit towards minimum game requirements.
- 4) The GRP can apply the following additional actions, based on their investigation and findings:
  - a) Financial penalties:
    - i) A penalty paid by the forfeiting team to their opponent, regardless of who is host, of US \$1,000 (or the contracted amount as agreed upon in the host contract signed by both teams, if that amount is greater). The penalty will be paid within 30 days of the event or of the appeal's judgment, whichever is later.

- ii) An additional penalty of US \$500, paid to the WFTDA within 30 days of the event or of the appeal's judgment, whichever is later.
  - iii) Failure to pay fines by the deadline will result in additional action.
- b) Additional competitive restrictions against the forfeiting team, including tournament ineligibility and/or suspension from sanctioned play for a determined period.
- c) The team who was unable to play a game due to an opponent's forfeit may be granted credit towards minimum game requirements.
- 5) Any forfeiting team subject to GRP sanctions may submit an appeal of the forfeit penalty, stating their case for the forfeiture and any accompanying documentation or video evidence, for review by an ad hoc review panel to be comprised of a member of the Board of Directors, a member of Compliance and a member of Games leadership.
- a) If the forfeit is determined to be due to events outside of human control (for example weather or major transportation issue) and not the fault of the forfeiting team, the disciplinary actions will be rescinded.
  - b) However, if the forfeit is determined to be strategic or avoidable, the disciplinary actions will stand.

### **Forfeits in WFTDA Tournaments**

- 1) Once a team accepts an invitation and pays the deposit, that deposit is non-refundable.
- 2) If a team drops out, the Competitive Play Committee will re-work the tournament bracket with one team removed.
- 3) If a team forfeits a game during the tournament, the team will be placed in the Consolation bracket as the loser of the game. The Games Tournament Oversight Officer (GTO) will prepare the IGRF and any accompanying documentation and will send it to the Games Review Panel for review.
  - a) The forfeit will be subject to the same penalties as sanctioned games, however:
    - i. The fine for the forfeit will be US \$1,000 per game forfeited, payable to the WFTDA within 30 days of the event or of the appeal's judgment, whichever is later.
    - ii. The team will get a "Did Not Finish" (DNF) placement in the tournament standings regardless of final placement.
    - iii. Forfeiting teams may not proceed to Championships.
  - b) Appeals for tournament forfeits are handled in the same manner as appeals for sanctioned game forfeits. The team against whom the game was forfeited may also file additional grievances to the GRP for review.