

### **NO STRIKE POLICY**

Australian Oztag is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all participants involved in our events. Violence, aggression, and physical altercations have no place in our sport and will not be tolerated under any circumstances. This No Strike Policy outlines the guidelines and consequences for individuals who engage in striking or physical violence during Australian Oztag events.

## WHAT IS IT?

For the purposes of this policy, striking is defined as any intentional physical contact or action with the intent to harm, injure, or intimidate another participant, including but not limited to:

- Punching
- o Kicking
- o Slapping
- Elbowing
- Headbutting
- Pushing or shoving with excessive force
- $\circ$   $\;$  Any other act of physical violence or aggression

# PROHIBITED CONDUCT

- Australian Oztag maintains a zero-tolerance approach towards striking or physical violence of any kind.
- Participants are expected to resolve conflicts and disagreements through respectful manners, such as dialogue, or seeking assistance from officials or event staff.
- Any participant found to have engaged in striking or physical violence during Australian Oztag events will be subject to immediate disciplinary action.
- Consequences may include but are not limited to:
  - Removal from the game or event.
  - Suspension from future participation in Australian Oztag events.
  - Permanent expulsion from Australian Oztag events and programs.



#### **REPORTING PROCEDURES**

- Participants who witness or are victims of striking or physical violence are encouraged to report the incident to Australian Oztag officials or event staff immediately.
- Reports should include details of the incident, names of individuals involved, and any relevant information or evidence available.
- Australian Oztag will handle all reports of striking or physical violence with the utmost confidentiality and respect for the privacy of individuals involved.
- Information shared during the reporting process will be treated with sensitivity and used only for the purpose of investigating and addressing the incident.

## INVESTIGATION REVIEW

- Australian Oztag will conduct a prompt and thorough investigation into any reports of striking or physical violence, gathering relevant evidence and interviewing witnesses as necessary.
- The investigation will be conducted impartially and with the goal of determining the facts surrounding the incident.
- Upon completion of the investigation, Australian Oztag officials will determine whether the reported participant(s) engaged in striking or physical violence and assess appropriate consequences based on the severity of the conduct and any mitigating factors.

# APPEALS PROCESS

- Participants who are subject to disciplinary action under this policy have the right to appeal the decision in accordance with Australian Oztag's appeals procedures.
- Appeals must be submitted in writing within the specified timeframe and include grounds for the appeal and any supporting evidence or documentation.
- Appeals will be reviewed by an Independent Appeals Committee appointed by Australian Oztag, which will assess the merits of the appeal and determine whether the original decision should be upheld, modified, or overturned.

By implementing and enforcing this No Strike Policy, Australian Oztag reaffirms its commitment to promoting a safe and respectful environment for all participants.