



To: Secretaries / CEOs of Unions and Regional Associations in Membership
From: David Carrigy, Head of External & Member Relations
Subject: Law Ruling by Designated Members of Rugby Committee
Date: March 19, 2010
Ruling: 3: 2010

Request from the WRU

The WRU request a Ruling related to Law 22

Doubt about grounding Law 22.15

Scenario

Team A kick the ball into their opponents in goal. Both a player from Team A and Team B dive for the ball. The referee refers to the TMO for decision of try or no try and also if any foul play has occurred.

On viewing the evidence the TMO advises no foul play has occurred and that it is inconclusive as to who last plays the ball as the ball is in the air when both players go for it. The ball then goes dead.

Question from above:

Does Law 22.15 apply scrum 5 attacking ball although no grounding has taken place?

Or

Is it 22m drop out as Team A were the last team to conclusively play the ball ?

Or

Are there any other options open to the referee?



Ruling of the Designated Members of the Rugby Committee

The Designated Members have ruled that

- If the ball is kicked into in-goal by a player from the attacking team and the ball is made dead by the players touching the ball down but the match officials cannot determine which player touched the ball down Law 22.15 applies and the referee awards a five metre scrum with the attacking team throws in the ball.
- If the ball is kicked into in-goal by a player from the attacking team and the ball is made dead by the players touching the ball and the ball travels and lands on or over the dead ball line or touch-in-goal line the referee awards a drop out.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Carrigy', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

David Carrigy
Head of External & Member Relations