

## APPENDIX 2 – RFU RECOMMENDED SANCTIONS FOR OFFENCES WITHIN THE PLAYING ENCLOSURE

### Recommended Sanctions

| Law No.            | Description  | Entry Point based on Scale of Seriousness of the Player's conduct, which constitutes the offending. Lower End (LE), Mid Range (MR), Top End (TE). | Maximum Sanction |
|--------------------|--|---|------------------|
| 10.4(s)<br>10.4(m) | Verbal Abuse of Match Officials  | LE – 6 weeks;<br>MR – 12 weeks;<br>TE – 18+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(s)<br>10.4(m) | Threatening Actions or Words at Match Officials  | LE – 12 weeks<br>MR – 24 weeks<br>TE – 48+ weeks  | 260 weeks        |
| 10.4(s)<br>10.4(m) | Physical Abuse of Match Officials  | LE – 24 weeks<br>MR – 48 weeks<br>TE – 96+ weeks  | Life             |
| 10.4(a)            | Striking another Player with a hand, arm or fist   | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 5 weeks<br>TE – 8+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(a)            | Striking another Player with the elbow   | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 5 weeks<br>TE – 9+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(a)            | Striking with knee   | LE – 4 weeks<br>MR – 8 weeks<br>TE – 12+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(a)            | Striking with head   | LE – 4 weeks<br>MR – 10 weeks<br>TE – 16+ weeks   | 104 weeks        |
| 10.4(b)            | Stamping/Trampling on an Opponent  | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 5 weeks<br>TE – 9+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(c)            | Kicking an Opponent  | LE – 4 weeks<br>MR – 8 weeks<br>TE – 12+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(d)            | Tripping an Opponent with the foot/leg   | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 4 weeks<br>TE – 8+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(e)            | Dangerous tackling of an Opponent including early or late and including the action known as the “stiff arm tackle” | LE – 2 weeks;<br>MR – 6 weeks;<br>TE – 10+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |

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|--------------------|--|---|------------------|
| 10.4(e)            | Dangerous tackling of an Opponent including a tackle or attempted tackle above the line of the shoulders even if the tackle starts below the line of the shoulders | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 6 weeks<br>TE – 10+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(f)            | Holding, pushing or obstructing an Opponent not holding the ball, by a Player who is not in possession of the ball, except in a scrum, ruck or maul                | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 4 weeks<br>TE – 6+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(f)<br>10.4(k) | Dangerous charging or obstructing or grabbing of Opponent without the ball, including shouldering  | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 5 weeks<br>TE – 10+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(g)            | Dangerous charging or knocking down an Opponent with the ball, including shouldering   | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 5 weeks<br>TE – 10+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(h)            | A player must not charge into a ruck or maul. Charging includes any contact made without use of the arms, or without grasping a player                             | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 5 weeks<br>TE – 10+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(i)            | Tackling, tapping, pushing or pulling an Opponent jumping for the ball in a lineout or in open play  | LE – 3 weeks<br>MR – 6 weeks<br>TE – 12+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(j)            | Lifting a Player from the ground and either dropping or driving that Player's head and/or upper body into the ground whilst the Player's feet are off the ground   | LE – 4 weeks<br>MR – 8 weeks<br>TE – 12+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(k)            | Causing a scrum, ruck or maul to collapse  | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 4 weeks<br>TE – 8+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |

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|----------|--|--|------------------|
| 10.4(m)  | Testicle grabbing or twisting or squeezing   | LE – 12 weeks<br>MR – 18 weeks<br>TE – 24+ weeks   | 208 weeks        |
| 10.4(m)  | Biting   | LE – 12 weeks<br>MR – 18 weeks<br>TE – 24+ weeks   | 208 weeks        |
| 10.4(m)  | Contact with Eye(s) or the Eye Area  | LE – 12 weeks<br>MR – 18 weeks<br>TE – 24+ weeks   | 208 weeks        |
| 10.4(m)  | Spitting at Players  | LE – 4 weeks<br>MR – 7 weeks<br>TE – 11+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(m)  | Verbal abuse of Players based on Religion, Race, Colour, or National or Ethnic Origin, sexual orientation or otherwise | LE – 4 weeks<br>MR – 8 weeks<br>TE – 16+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(m)  | Any other acts (not previously referred to) which are contrary to good sportsmanship                                   | LE – 4 weeks<br>MR – 7 weeks<br>TE – 11+ weeks   | 52 weeks         |
| 10.4(m)  | Hair pulling or grabbing   | LE – 2 weeks<br>MR – 4 weeks<br>TE – 6+ weeks  | 52 weeks         |
| 10(4)(m) | 2 yellow cards in one match  | LE – SOS<br>TE – the lower end of the range for the more serious of the yellow card offences   | 52 weeks         |
| 10(4)(m) | Totting up of 3 foul play yellow cards within season – applies only to Levels 1-4                                      | LE – 1 week<br>TE – the lower end of the range for the most serious of the yellow card offences  | 52 weeks         |

*In respect of offences not referred to in Appendix 2 above, appropriate sanctions may be imposed at the discretion of the Disciplinary Panel.*

*Notwithstanding the Sanctions in Appendix 2 in cases where the player's actions constitute mid range or top end offending for any type of offence which had the potential to result and, in fact, did result in serious/gross consequences to the health of the victim, the Disciplinary Panel may impose any period of suspension including a suspension for life.*

*For the purposes of RFU Regulations 19.6.6 and 19.6.7, references to Match Officials in this Appendix 2 shall also extend to include Officials (as defined in RFU Regulation 1)*

## PLAYING UNDER-AGE PLAYERS IN ADULT RUGBY

This sanctions table relates to an entry point for the first breach of RFU Regulation 15. The final sanction may be increased to reflect aggravating features or reduced to reflect mitigating factors (see below). A second breach may include expulsion from the Union.

| Classification of breach | Description of classification  | Entry point for sanction  |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Low level breach         | U18 player trains with adults without permission.<br>No injury   | Suspension of coach/person responsible for training for 4 weeks; and<br>Club reprimanded  |
| Mid level breach         | U18 player plays with adults without permission.<br>No injury<br>U18 trains with adults without permission.<br>Injury occurs | Suspension of coach/person responsible for team selection 3 months; and<br>Team suspended from playing for 4 weeks; and Points deducted from club 1st XV equating to 2 wins (possibly suspended); and<br>Club reprimanded |
| High level breach        | U18 player plays with adults without permission.<br>Injury occurs  | Suspension of coach/person responsible for team selection for 6 months; and<br>Team suspended from playing for 3 months; and<br>Points deducted from club 1st XV equating to 4 wins; and<br>Club reprimanded              |

### Aggravating features:

Intentional breach of regulation

Club failure to warn teams of regulation and consequences of breach

Very young player

Very serious injury

### Mitigating factors:

Unintentional breach – team did not know player was under 18 and it was reasonable to assume he was

Player nearly 18 years old

Player capable of playing adult rugby and permission would have been granted has it been requested

Injury not serious