

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

### Recommended Sanctions

Law and 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)(a) Striking another Player with the hand, arm or fist	LE – 2 weeks; MR – 5 weeks; TE – 8+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(a) Striking another Player with the elbow	LE – 2 weeks MR – 5 weeks TE – 9+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(a) Striking an opponent with the head	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks	104 weeks
10(4)(a) Striking an opponent with the knee	LE – 3 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(b) Stamping or trampling an opponent	LE – 2 weeks MR – 5 weeks TE – 9+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(c) Kicking an opponent	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(d) Tripping an opponent with the foot/leg	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 7+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(e) Dangerous tackling an opponent, including early or late and including the action known as the “stiff arm tackle”	LE – 2 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(f) Holding, pushing or obstructing an opponent not holding the ball, except in a scrum, ruck or maul	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 6+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(g) Dangerous charging or obstructing or grabbing of opponent with the ball, including shouldering	LE – 2 weeks MR – 5 weeks TE – 9+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(h) Charging into a ruck or maul	LE – 3 weeks; MR – 5 weeks; TE – 9+ weeks	52 weeks

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10(4)(i) Tackling jumper in the air	LE – 3 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(j) Lifting a player off the ground and dropping or driving that player into the ground whilst that player's feet are still off the ground such that his head/upper body comes into contact with the ground first	LE – 3 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(k) To cause a scrum, ruck or maul to collapse	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 8+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(m) Biting	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
10(4)(m) Contact with eyes or eye area	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	156 weeks
10(4)(m) Testicle Grabbing or twisting or squeezing	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
10(4)(m) Verbal abuse of players based on religion, race, colour or national or ethnic origin or otherwise	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 13+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(m) Spitting at players	LE – 4 weeks MR – 7 weeks TE – 11+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(m) 2 yellow in one match	LE – SOS 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 TE – the lower end of the range for the most serious of the yellow card offences	52 weeks
10(4)(s) Threatening words or action towards at match officials	LE – 12 weeks MR – 24 weeks TE – 48+ weeks	260 weeks

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10(4)(s) Verbal abuse of match officials	LE – 6 weeks MR – 12 weeks TE – 18+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(s) Physical abuse of match officials	LE – 24 weeks MR – 48 weeks TE – 96+ weeks	Life

*Footnote: “Notwithstanding the above, the recommended sanctions in Appendix 2 in cases where the player's actions constitute mid range or top end of 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 Judicial Officers and/or Disciplinary Committees may impose any period of suspensions including a suspension for life”.*

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