

RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

DISCIPLINARY HEARING

VENUE: Holiday Inn, Bloomsbury, London

DATE: 15 March 2010

Player: James TUBASEI

Club: Esher RFC

Match: London Scottish 2nd XV v Esher 2nd XV

Venue: Richmond Athletic Ground

Date of match: 30 January 2010

Panel: Jeremy Summers (Chairman), Peter Budge and Dr Julian Morris (“the Panel”)

Secretary: Liam McTiernan

In Attendance:

James Tubasei (“the Player”)

Mark Haslam – Solicitor

DECISION

1. **The Player was found guilty on his own admission of an offence of striking on an opponent contrary to Law 10.4 (a) of the iRB Laws of the Game 2009/2010. He was suspended from playing rugby for a period of 2 weeks. Having already served a suspension for that period imposed following internal disciplinary proceedings he is free to play again with immediate effect.**

PRELIMINARY ISSUES

2. The Player did not object the composition of the Panel and no other Preliminary Issue arose.
3. The Player pleaded guilty before the Panel to a single charge of striking an opponent in the 35th minute of the second half.
4. The Sending Off Report recorded as follows:

“A London Scottish player had thrown and connected with a punch, after which a skirmish broke out. The Esher player retaliated by throwing 3 punches from behind. They made contact with a Scottish player’s upper body region, shoulder, and left pectoral, before his team mates pulled him away to calm down. After I had sent the Scottish player off, and both teams were separated, I called the captain and player over, and gave him the red card. He apologised and walked off.”

5. The Player confirmed that he did not dispute the decision of his club's internal disciplinary committee, the minutes of which were provided to the Panel.
6. The Panel did not feel it appropriate to interfere with the decision reached by the club, and the Player was accordingly sanctioned as set out at paragraph 1 above.

COSTS

7. The Player and/or his club is ordered to pay costs of £150
8. The Panel would wish to commend Esher RFC for its action in this case

Jeremy Summers

Chairman

21 March 2010