RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

DISCIPLINARY HEARING

At: Brighouse Holiday Inn, Leeds

On: Tuesday 29th March 2011

JUDGMENT

Player: Robert Hurrell

Club: Cambridge RFC

Panel: Clif Barker (Chairman), Mike Hamlin and David MacInnes

Secretary: Liam McTiernan (RFU)

Regarding: The Panel was convened to consider whether the Player, who had

received 3 yellow cards for foul play during the current season, should

receive any further sanction.

Evidence as to Fact

The Panel considered the following documents:

- 1. A Caution Report relating to the Player's sin binning on 4th September 2010 during the game between Sedgley Park and Cambridge for an offence of striking with the arm, contrary to Law 10(4)(a). The Report describes the incident as follows: "Players scuffling on the floor as the ball was passed away from the contact area. The Cambridge No 4 was on top of player and not allowing him to get up. At this time he forced forearm into the face/head area of player on the floor, to which I followed the referee's protocol and indicated to him that foul play had taken place".
- 2. A Caution Report relating to the Player's sin binning during the game between Macclesfield and Cambridge on 25th September 2010 for an offence of striking, contrary to Law 10(4)(a). In the Report, the incident is described as follows: "Cambridge attacking with Robert Hurrell (Cambridge) carrying ball in left hand into contact area. Defending players attempted to tackle. Robert Hurrell used right arm in a striking motion with right fist clenched. No contact made with opposing players".
- 3. Caution Report relating to the Player's sin binning on 12th March 2011 during the game between Cambridge and London Scottish for an offence of lifting a player off the ground and dropping him, contrary to Law 10(4)(j). In the Report, the incident is described as follows: "From the back of a maul LS7 broke and ran into Camb 5 with his head down, in the process of tackling him Camb 5 lifted the player so his feet were higher than his hips (the player was

horizontal). In this process he (LS7) was brought to ground and landed on his front. In my opinion the tackler did not bring his opponent down in a safe manner but neither did he try and drive him into the ground".

Decision

Having assessed the seriousness of the Player's conduct pursuant to the factors set out in RFU Regulation 19.8.2.5, the Panel concluded that the appropriate Entry Point was at the lower end of the scale of seriousness, which attracts, therefore, a suspension of one week. In that respect in particular, the Panel notes that no injuries were caused to any of the Player's opponents.

Sanction

The Player is, therefore, suspended for one week, running from 29th March 2011 up to and including 5th April 2011. He is free to play again on 6th April 2011.

Costs

The Panel made an award of costs against the Player/Club in the sum of £80.

Right of Appeal

The right of, and procedure on, appeal is set out in RFU Regulation 19.10.

Signed: Clif Barker, Chairman

Date: 1st April 2011