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) 10.4(m)	Verbal Abuse of Match Officials	LE – 6 weeks MR – 12 weeks TE – 18+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(s) 10.4(m)	Threatening Actions or Words at Match Officials	LE – 12 weeks MR – 24 weeks TE – 48+ weeks	260 weeks
10.4(s) 10.4(m)	Physical Abuse of Match Officials	LE – 24 weeks MR – 48 weeks TE – 96+ weeks	Life
10.4(a)	Striking another Player with a 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 with knee	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(a)	Striking with head	LE – 4 weeks MR – 10 weeks TE – 16+ weeks	104 weeks
10.4(b)	Stamping/Trampling on 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 – 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 MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks	52 weeks

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(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 MR – 6 weeks 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 MR – 4 weeks TE – 6+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(f) 10.4(k)	Dangerous charging or obstructing or grabbing of Opponent without the ball, including shouldering	LE – 2 weeks MR – 5 weeks TE – 10+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(g)	Dangerous charging or knocking down an Opponent with the ball, including shouldering	LE – 2 weeks MR – 5weeks 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 MR – 5 weeks 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 MR – 6 weeks 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 MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(k)	Causing a scrum, ruck or maul to collapse	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 8+ weeks	52 weeks

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(m)	Testicle grabbing or twisting or squeezing	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
10.4(m)	Biting	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
10.4(m)	Contact with Eye(s) or the Eye Area	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
10.4(m)	Spitting at Players	LE – 4 weeks MR – 7 weeks 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 MR – 8 weeks TE – 16+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(m)	Any other acts (not previously referred to) which are contrary to good sportsmanship	LE – 4 weeks MR – 7 weeks TE – 11+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(m)	Hair pulling or grabbing	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 6+ weeks	52 weeks
10(4)(m)	2 yellow cards 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

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)

Bad Disciplinary Record

When dealing with a Club under the Bad Disciplinary Record provisions a Disciplinary Panel may impose any appropriate sanction, including (but not limited to) a reprimand, a financial penalty or deduction of league points or relegation, exclusion or disqualification from any competition, or a combination of the above. Sanctions may also be suspended if considered appropriate.

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	A player under the age of 18 trains with adults without permission. No injury	Suspension of coach/person responsible for training for 4 weeks; and Club reprimanded
Mid level breach	A player under the age of 18 trains with adults without permission. No injury A player under the age of 18 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	A player under the age of 18 trains with adults without permission. Injury occurs or no injury but player plays in the front row	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