



# NSW COUNTRY RUGBY UNION

## REFEREES ASSOCIATION

### FOUL PLAY & LAW 10 SANCTIONS

Dangerous play should not be tolerated. The referee must determine whether it was deliberate or over enthusiasm and carelessness by the player. This is especially important in the younger age group games. The “Law 10 Sanctions” gives the consequences for the various offences.

Nevertheless, it is very important the situation is managed fairly by the referee. There is no excuse for repeated offences.

In particular, when refereeing games with players in the lower age levels, it is important **NOT** to play advantage following foul play. Foul Play **MUST** be sanctioned in these junior games.

#### **CAUTIONS, TEMPORARY SUSPENSION & SEND OFF** (Yellow and Red Cards)

Never give a general caution. This restricts any future action if there are further foul play incidents during the game.

Practice giving a foul play report and how to caution or send off a player before a game - maybe in the shower in the morning! Never point a finger at the player when giving a caution.

The foul play report must be short and concise. Write down the details directly after the conclusion of the match. Information is as follows:-

- Identification of the offending player.
  1. The number of the player.
  2. The team the player is in - by colour if that is easier.
  3. The position of the player/description of the player and any other assistance for identification if there is no number on the jersey or it is not seen.
- The offence. Remember in a fracas, the third person in should be identified.
- Where the offence occurred.
- A recommendation, if the report is from an assistant referee e.g. temporary suspension and penalty.
- If an assistant referee makes the report, the referee must assess the offence and decide whether to act on the recommendation.

For the written report it will be necessary to note at what stage into the game the incident occurred and the tempo of the game.

#### **How to caution/send off a player.**

The following procedure is recommended:-

1. A loud blast on the whistle.
2. Step well back from the incident, away from the touch line and out of earshot of the players and spectators.
3. Listen to the assistant referee's report and then send the assistant referee back to the touchline.
4. Call out the offending player/s and the captain/s.
5. Clearly state the nature of the offence without elaborating or getting into an argument.
6. Issue the necessary caution, temporary suspension or send off.
7. Show the red or yellow card, if necessary.
8. Proceed to the position of the incident and award the necessary penalty.

When a player is cautioned, a yellow card must be shown and the player temporarily suspended. If a player receives a second yellow card in the same match, he must be sent off in which case you should show the player the yellow card for the second offence and then a red card for the send off.

When a player is sent off, obtain the name of the player before he leaves the field. It is vital that as many details of the incident are recorded at the time of the incident, including the name of the player - NOT after the game.

Players can all become "Smith" and change jerseys! Don't forget the implications of a sin bin or send off for replacements, especially in U19 games and for front rows at all levels.

### **WRITTEN REPORT**

Remember if a player is sent off, then a written report is required. If it is because of an assistant referee's report, then a report is required from both the referee and the assistant referee. Report should be written up on Rugby Xplorer, as soon after a game as possible while the incident is still fresh in the mind. Just state the facts in a report and don't embellish them. Remember to include the Law reference under which the offence occurred. Do not make any recommendations to the judiciary in the report.

### **SPECTATORS**

If serious problems occur with spectators the referee is advised to stop the game, then speak to a senior official, Ground Marshall or coach to have the person/s removed from the playing enclosure if necessary.

*Taken from: Rugby Refereeing In Practice. 2nd edition Pge: 37-38*