

APPENDIX 2 – SANCTION ENTRY POINTS

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 Entry Point
9.11	Players must not do anything that is reckless or dangerous to others	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 8+ weeks	52 week
9.12	A player must not physically abuse anyone. Physical abuse includes, but is not limited to:		
	Biting	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
	Punching	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 week TE – 8+ weeks A punch to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction	52 weeks
	Contact with Eye(s) ¹	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
	Contact with Eye Area ²	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks	52 weeks
	Striking with hand or arm (including stiff-arm tackle)	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 8+ weeks A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction	52 weeks
	Striking with the elbow	LE – 2 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction	52 weeks

1 & 2 The “eye” involves all tissues including the eye lids within and covering the orbital cavity and the “eye area” is anywhere in close proximity to the eye.

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 Entry Point
	Striking with shoulder	LE - 2 weeks MR - 6 weeks TE - 10+ weeks A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction	52 weeks
	Striking with head	LE - 4 weeks MR - 10 weeks TE - 16+ weeks	104 weeks
	Striking with knee	LE - 4 weeks MR - 8 weeks TE - 12+ weeks A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction	52 weeks
	Stamping or Trampling	LE - 2 weeks MR - 6 weeks TE - 12+ weeks Stamping/trampling on the head shall result in a top-end entry point sanction	52 weeks
	Tripping	LE - 2 weeks MR - 4 weeks TE - 8+ weeks	52 weeks
	Kicking	LE - 4 weeks MR - 8 weeks TE - 12+ weeks Kicking the head shall result in a top-end entry point sanction	52 weeks
9.12	A player must not verbally abuse anyone. Verbal abuse includes, but is not limited to, abuse based on: religion, colour, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation.	LE - 6 weeks MR - 12 weeks TE - 18+ 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 Entry Point
9.13	A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously. Dangerous tackling includes, but is not limited to, tackling or attempting to tackle an opponent 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 A dangerous tackle which results in a strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction	52 weeks
9.14	A player must not tackle an opponent who is not in possession of the ball.	LE - 2 weeks MR - 6 weeks TE - 10+ weeks	52 weeks
9.15	Except in a scrum, ruck or maul, a player who is not in possession of the ball must not hold, push, charge or obstruct an opponent not in possession of the ball.	LE - 2 weeks MR - 4 weeks TE - 6+ weeks	52 weeks
9.16	A player must not charge or knock down an opponent carrying the ball without attempting to grasp that player.	LE - 2 weeks MR - 6 weeks TE - 10+ weeks	52 weeks
9.17	A player must not tackle, charge, pull, push or grasp an opponent whose feet are off the ground.	LE - 4 weeks MR - 8 weeks TE - 12+ weeks	52 weeks
9.18	A player must not lift an opponent off the ground and drop or drive that player so that their head and/or upper body make contact with the ground.	LE - 6 weeks MR - 10 weeks TE - 14+ 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 Entry Point
9.19	Dangerous play in a scrum. i. The front row of a scrum must not form at a distance from its opponents and rush against them. ii. A front-row player must not pull an opponent. iii. A front-row player must not intentionally lift an opponent off their feet or force the opponent upwards out of the scrum. iv. A front-row player must not intentionally collapse a scrum.	LE - 2 weeks MR - 4 week TE - 8+ weeks	52 weeks
9.20	Dangerous play in a ruck or maul. i. A player must not charge into a ruck or maul. Charging includes any contact made without binding onto another player in the ruck or maul. ii. A player must not make contact with an opponent above the line of the shoulders. iii. A player must not intentionally collapse a ruck or a maul.	LE - 2 weeks MR - 4 weeks TE - 8+ weeks	52 weeks
9.25	A player must not intentionally charge or obstruct an opponent who has just kicked the ball.	LE - 2 weeks MR - 6 weeks TE - 10+ weeks	52 weeks
9.26	A player must not do anything that is against the spirit of good sportsmanship including but not limited to: Hair pulling or grabbing	LE - 2 weeks MR - 4 weeks TE - 6+ 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 Entry Point
	Spitting at anyone	LE - 4 weeks MR - 8 weeks TE - 12+ weeks	52 weeks
	Grabbing, twisting or squeezing the genitals (and/or breasts in the case of female players)	LE - 12 weeks MR - 18 weeks TE - 24+ weeks	208 weeks
	Other	LE - 4 weeks MR - 8 weeks TE - 12+ weeks	52 weeks
9.27	A player must not physically abuse Match Officials.	LE - 24 weeks MR - 48 weeks TE - 96+ weeks	Life
9.27	A player must not use threatening actions or words towards Match Officials.	LE - 12 weeks MR - 24 weeks TE - 48+ weeks	260 weeks
9.27	A player must not make incidental physical contact with Match Officials.	LE - 6 weeks MR - 12 weeks TE - 18+ weeks	52 weeks

In respect of offences not referred to in Appendix 1 above, appropriate sanctions may be imposed at the discretion of the relevant Judicial Officer, Disciplinary Committee, Appeal Officer and/or Appeal Committee (as the case may be).

Notwithstanding the Sanctions in Appendix 1 and/or the provisions of Regulation 17.19 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 Judicial Officers and/or Disciplinary Committees may impose any period of suspension including a suspension for life.

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.

Under Age Players who train/play in Adult Rugby

This recommended sanctions table relates to an entry point for a first breach of RFU Regulation 15. The sanction may be increased to reflect aggravating features or reduced to reflect mitigating factors (see below). A second breach is likely to incur a significantly higher sanction.

Classification of Breach	Description of Classification	Entry Point for Sanction
Low level breach	A player under the age of 18 trains with adults without required 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 plays with adults without required permission. No injury A player under the age of 18 trains with adults without required permission. Injury occurs	Suspension of coach/person responsible for team selection for 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 plays with adults without required 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 may include:

- Intentional breach of regulations
- Club failure to warn teams of regulation and consequences of breach
- Very young player
- Serious injury

Mitigating factors may include:

- Unintentional breach - Club did not know player was under 18 and it was reasonable to assume he was under 18
- Player nearly 18 years old
- Player capable of playing adult rugby and permission would have been granted had it been requested
- Injury not serious