



Cheshire Rugby Football Union

(EST. 1875)

Discipline Start of Season Bulletin

Welcome

With the season starting this weekend, I felt it important to bring you upto date with the changes that have taken place in the administration of Discipline within the County in the close season.

- Peter Rhodes after many years of service has retired. He has been replaced by John Downham. Consequently, Clare Hayes has replaced John as the Cheshire East Disciplinary Secretary.
- 5.12 Administration – John Downham will prepare 5.12 charges, in a change to previous procedures – Graeme Roberts will now present 5.12 cases in the East and Adrian Senn will present 5.12 cases in the West.

Club Discipline/Reporting

- Every club is required to have a properly constituted Disciplinary Committee that is charged with maintaining the standards of discipline within the club. It is strongly recommended that this committee be pro-active rather than reactive. RFU Guidance on the administration of Adult and Age Grade discipline is attached.

- Adult Discipline

In all circumstances Club Disciplinary Secretaries **must report** red cards to either Clare Hayes (East) or Sarah Pratt (West) within 48 hours of the match with the following information. Failure to do so will incur a late fee £25 which will be added to the hearing costs.

Player's Full Name

Date of Birth

RFU No

What the player was sent off for (if known).

Please note the player is immediately suspended until the hearing.

- Age Grade Discipline

When a junior player playing in an Under 18 match sent off by a Society Referee, Association Referee or Club Referee the following information must be sent to the CB Age Grade Secretary John Downham.

Player's Full Name

Date of Birth

RFU No

What the player was sent off for (if known).

Please note the player is immediately suspended from all rugby until the club have held their hearing and the suspension has been acknowledged.

Regulation 19 and Appendices (Attached to this bulletin are the latest Regulation 19 and Appendices w.e.f. August 1st 2018)

Please note that a new sanction table for the adult game will be applied this season. This makes some significant changes. In particular, I would point out that any act of foul play which involves contact with the head shall result in a sanction with a mid-range entry level.

The remainder of the table includes:

Law Reference	Charge
9.11 Players must not do anything that is reckless or dangerous to others.	Mid-range entry point has increased from 4 weeks to 6 weeks Top end entry point has increased from 8+ weeks to 10+ weeks
9.12 A player must not physically abuse anyone.	Contact with the Eye(s) has been changed to 1. Intentional contact with the eye(s) and 2. Reckless contact with the eye(s) Punching and Striking with hand or arm have now been combined under the same entry points The entry points for punching/striking have increased Mid-range entry is now 6 weeks (formerly 4) Top end entry is now 10+ weeks (formerly 8+) The low end entry point for striking with the head has increased from 4 to 6 weeks
9.27 A player must not disrespect the authority of a Match Official. A player must not verbally abuse a Match Official. Verbal abuse includes, but is not limited to, abuse based on: religion, colour, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation. A player must not make physical contact with Match Officials.	This is a new category and the following entry points apply:- Low: 2 weeks Mid: 4 weeks Top: 6+ weeks This is a new category and the following entry points apply:- Low: 6 weeks Mid: 12 weeks Top: 18+ weeks This is a new category and the following entry points apply:- Low: 6 weeks Mid: 12 weeks Top: 18+ weeks

Citings

A reminder to all clubs that Citings must be made within fourteen days of the event.

It is advisable that a club contact John Downham as soon as possible if you anticipate making a citing.

Further Information

If you have any queries relating to general disciplinary procedures or if you need any advice on specific cases relating to your club, please contact one of the following:

Disciplinary Secretary: John Downham – johndownham57@sky.com or disciplinarysecretary@cheshirerfu.co.uk

Cheshire East Secretary – Clare Hayes - clareowensmith@gmail.com or cheshireeastsec@cheshirerfu.co.uk

Cheshire West Secretary – Sarah Pratt - spratt20@googlemail.com, or cheshirewestsec@cheshirerfu.co.uk