



Cheshire Rugby Football Union

(EST. 1875)

Age Grade Discipline Start of Season Bulletin

Welcome

With the season starting this weekend, I felt it important to remind you of the discipline regulations and procedures for the age grade game.

Important - Please only refer to the current Regulation 19 and its appendices as the format and content of Reg 19 has been completely reviewed by the RFU. Appendix 6 covers the Age Grade Disciplinary procedures. Click on the link below to access them, points to note

- 1) Each heading is a hyperlink to help you navigate each section.
- 2) Definitions section and explanatory notes have been added to assist your understanding.

[RFU Reg 19](#)

[Regulation 19 Appendix 6](#)

School Discipline/Reporting

- Every school 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. Invariably the chair of this committee is the headteacher or an individual they delegate that responsibility to.
- This season each school is responsible for the convening and administration of its Age Grade Player hearing. I will provide further guidance including alternative sanctions, once a red card is reported. RFU Guidance on the administration on the link below.

[RFU Age Grade Hearing Procedure Guidance](#)

- When a school player playing in an age grade match is sent off by a Society Referee, Association Referee or Club Referee the following information must be sent within 48 hrs to the CB Age Grade Secretary John Downham.
Player's Full Name
Date of Birth
RFU No (only needed if individual is a club player)
What the player was sent off for (if known).
Please note:
 - 1) **the player is immediately suspended from all rugby including club & representative rugby until the School Age Grade hearing has taken place.**
- **CB review of a school judgement – please note the following extract from Appendix 6.**

7.4. The CBAGDS (John Downham) or the RFU Head of Discipline (David Barnes) shall have the power to review any finding and/or sanction imposed by a Club, College, School, Regional Academy / Player Development Group (PDG) or Coach and, if they are of the view that the finding and/or sanction imposed was unreasonable in all the circumstances, will refer the matter to the NAGDS for consideration. The NAGDS (Ian Skillen) may direct that the Club, School, College, Regional Academy / Player Development Group (PDG) or Coach review the matter and report back to the NAGDS, who, if it is still necessary, may convene a suitably qualified Disciplinary Panel to deal with the matter and it may vary the sanction imposed if considered appropriate to do so.



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- **Video Conference Protocols** – Should the school find it necessary to use video conferencing in its administration this season, please find below a link below to the Video Conference Protocols we are putting in place in our adult administration this season, **please defer to your school protocols if they are in place.**

[Cheshire RFU Video Conference Protocols 20242025](#)

Citings

A reminder to all schools that Age Grade Citings must be made within **seven days** of the event. Regulation 19 Appendix 4 (12 to 15.8). It is advisable that a club contact John Downham as soon as possible if you anticipate making a citing.

5.12 Administration – John Downham will prepare 5.12 charges

Written Warnings

- **A formal warning as outlined below can be issued by the CB Age Grade Discipline Secretary to individuals and schools through the delegated authority of the RFU Head of Discipline.**
- **19.3.5** The RFU Head of Discipline or a CBDS has the power to issue a formal written warning to any person or Club for any alleged Misconduct, breach of World Rugby laws, RFU Rules or Regulations. Before doing so, the person or Club shall be given the opportunity to make representations.
- **19.3.6** Any warning given will be retained on the disciplinary record of the person or Club for a period of five years (or such other time as may be specified in the warning) and may be relied upon in future disciplinary proceedings as follows:
 - **a)** to establish a course of conduct of the person or Club concerned; and/or
 - **b)** for the purposes of consideration of sanction in the current disciplinary proceedings.

Explanatory note: All warnings must be entered on to the Game Management System (GMS) record for the Person or Club/school.

Further Information

If you have any queries relating to general disciplinary procedures or if you need any advice on specific cases relating to your school, please contact:

CB Age Grade Disciplinary Secretary: John Downham – johndownham57@sky.com