

ABBREVIATED PROCESS – JUDICIAL OFFICER DETERMINATION



Match	Cardiff Rugby v Connacht Rugby		
Player's Club	Cardiff Rugby	Competition	United Rugby Championship
Date of match	17 February 2024	Match venue	Cardiff Arms Park
Rules to apply	United Rugby Championship 2023/24 Disciplinary Rules		

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE			
Player's surname	Reynold (Rey)		
Player's forename	Lee –Lo	Referee's name	Andrea Piardi
Offence	RC: Law 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	SELECT: Red card <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Citing <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If "Other" selected, please specify:	

JUDICIAL OFFICER DETERMINATION			
Judicial Officer's name	Achille Reali	Date of appointment	20/02/2024
Information reviewed	Videos footage Referee's report on sending off – Andrea Piardi Assistant Referee's report on sending off – Craig Evans Assistant Referee 2's report on sending off – Gwyn Morris TMO's report on sending off – Stefano Penné Medical statement – David Hanly Connacht Rugby Head of Physioterapist Connacht Rugby Player's statement – Shayne Bolton Player's response to Standing Directions (with mitigation notes) Player's disciplinary record Cardiff Rugby's fixture remaining		
Application of Disciplinary Rule 7.6.30			
Assessment of intent – DR 7.6.30(a) and (b)			
intentional <input type="checkbox"/> reckless <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
State Reasons			
In the tackle there was a direct contact to the head, specifically to the chin of the victim Player, despite the Player had a clear line of sight before of impact; the degree of danger was high and there was no mitigation factor. The Judicial Officer accepts that in the offence the Player had not acted intentionally but, as written in the Player's mitigation notes, in the tackle the <i>"Rey's head is on the wrong side of the No. 14's body"</i> (the victim Player) and <i>"his technique is poor"</i>			

Nature of actions – DR 7.6.30(c)	
High tackle with the head	
Existence of provocation – DR 7.6.30(d)	
No provocation	
Whether the Player retaliated – DR 7.6.30(e)	
No retaliation	
Self-defence – DR 7.6.30(f)	
The Player was not acting in self-defence	
Effect on victim – DR 7.6.30(g)	
The victim Player of the high tackle had clear criteria-1 signs of concussion and did not return to play. He consequently entered in World Rugby concussion HIA process. Moreover, the victim Player had a secondary injury to his right ankle because of the same incident and it could require a surgical repair	
Effect on match – DR 7.6.30(h)	
The Red Card was at 14 minute of 1 st half on the score of 0 v 3. The effect on the match was that Cardiff Rugby was reduced to 14 players for rest of the match and was defeated 12 v 16	
Vulnerability of victim – DR 7.6.30(i)	
The victim player was not in a vulnerable position. He saw the arriving tackler	
Level of participation/premeditation – DR 7.6.30(j)	
The Player was a full participant in the tackle, but no premeditation	
Conduct completed/attempted – DR 7.6.30(k)	
The conduct was completed	
Other features of the Player's conduct – DR 7.6.30(l)	
There were no other relevant features	
Aggravating factors	The Player's status generally as an offender of the Laws of the Game
Mitigating factors	Acceptance of guilty; the Player immediately demonstrated remorse at the half time and after the match and apologized multiple times to the victim Player
Summary of Judicial Officer's sanctioning assessment	<p>In assessing the seriousness of the Player's conduct based on the features set out in DR 7.6.30 2023/24 and having regard to rule 7.6.36 and Appendix Nine the Judicial Officer, in the exercise of his discretion and by reference to the Methodology of World Rugby Regulation 17, considered that a mid-range entry point of six weeks was appropriate where the Player committed an act of foul play contrary to Law 9.13.</p> <p>In this regard, the Judicial Officer considered that the Player had recklessly carried out a high tackle with his head on the opponent's head. He caused a concussion and an injury at the right ankle to the opponent Player.</p> <p>There was off-field aggravating factor because the Player was an offender of the same Law 9.13 twice in the past, the last one in 2021, and it was appropriate in the circumstances of this case to apply an additional of one week.</p> <p>There were off-field mitigating factors and the Judicial Officer was satisfied that it was appropriate in the circumstances of this case to apply a reduction of three weeks.</p>
Proposed sanction	A playing suspension of 4 [four] weeks, based on

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a mid-range entry point of 6 [six] weeks; • increase of 1 [one] week for aggravating factors; and • a reduction of 3 [three] weeks for the off-field mitigating factors.
Matches / dates covered	2 March 2024 Cardiff Rugby v Leinster URC; 9 March 2024 Newport v Cardiff Welsh Premiership; 22 March 2024 Glasgow Warriors v Cardiff Rugby URC; 30 March 2024 Munster Rugby v Cardiff Rugby URC.

Signature (Judicial Officer)	Achille Reali	Date	22 February 2024
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