



## CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

# JUDICIARY PROCEDURES

### 1. Players Sent From the Field of Play

- 1.1 Any player who has been ordered from the field of play shall vacate the playing enclosure, and will resume ordinary attire, and shall be suspended from playing until the case shall have been duly dealt with by the Judiciary Sub Committee (unless otherwise indicated in these rules).
- 1.2 Referees shall obtain the name of any offending player from the Club Official responsible for the team. Failure of the Club Official to supply each player's correct name shall be deemed misconduct, for which the person or persons concerned shall be reported by the referee in writing to the Executive Officer of the League.
- 1.3 When a player has been ordered from the field of play by the Referee, the Referee is obliged to complete a Report On Player Sent From Field. Such report shall be countersigned by an Official of the offending player's club, who shall retain the duplicate copy. This report must be completed after the completion of the game where the Referee is officiating at the time of such dismissal.  
Any failure by the Player's Club to countersign the Report On Player Sent From Field shall not invalidate the send off in any way.
- 1.4 The Referee shall also complete a Referee's Judiciary Report containing details of the incident which lead to the Player being sent from the field.
- 1.5 Referees who send off a player/s are to notify the CRJRL office by phone prior to 10:00am on Monday morning. Details of the send off should be faxed or delivered to the League Office by 12 noon on Monday following the match on the designated form which is to be completed in full.
- 1.6 The Report On Player Sent From Field and the Referee's Judiciary Report should be provided to the CRJRL office by 12 noon on the Monday following the match.
- 1.7 Judiciary Hearings will normally be held on Wednesday evening of each week, unless notified otherwise.
- 1.8 The League will make available to the Player's Club, a copy of the Referee's Judiciary Report by 5:00pm Monday. The Player shall be given the opportunity to plead Guilty or Not Guilty by 12 noon on the Tuesday. If the Referee's Judiciary Report is not made available to the Club by the above deadline, then the player shall still be required to attend a Judiciary hearing but will not be required to enter his plea prior to the hearing. .

## **2. Players Cited From DVD Evidence**

- 2.1 If a member Club wishes to cite an opposition player from DVD evidence, any such DVD containing the alleged misconduct, accompanied by written details of the incident and the player involved, must be delivered, by the member club, to the office of the CRJRL by 10:00am on the second working day following the match in which the alleged misconduct occurred. If the CRJRL is already in possession of a DVD copy of the game, then the citing Club will not be required to deliver the DVD.
- 2.2 The League shall arrange for the DVD evidence to be reviewed by an appropriate person, and if that reviewer is satisfied that there is evidence of misconduct by a registered player, the League shall give notice to any registered player concerned and his Club to appear before the Judiciary Sub-Committee. This notice may not be given until after 5:00pm on the second working day following the match in question. This notice will include details of the charge/s the player will face.
- 2.3 The Player shall be given the opportunity to plead Guilty or Not Guilty by 12 noon on the day following the notice being received.
- 2.2 Only players participating in the Senior Competition (Under 18s and above) are subject to the above Citing Procedures.

### **3. If a Plea of Guilty is Entered**

- 3.1 The Executive Officer shall notify the Player's Club of the day and time of the Judiciary Hearing. Normally, the Referee/Touch Judge will not be required to attend the Judiciary Hearing, however if the Player and/or his Advocate wishes to question the Referee/Touch Judge then they should inform the Executive Officer at the time the Guilty plea is given. The Club is to ensure that the Player has been given a copy of the "Recent Sentencing History" document.
- 3.2 Should the Player be unable to attend Judiciary on the set night, the Executive Officer shall make a decision on whether his evidence can be heard via telephone. The Player must be represented by an Advocate from his Club.
- 3.3 Should the player not be available to give his evidence by phone, his Advocate may submit a signed statement saying that he pleads guilty, and that he is agreeable to the Advocate representing him at the hearing, and that he has been given a copy of the "Recent Sentencing History" document.
- 3.4 Should the Player fail to appear (or to make any of the arrangements in paragraphs 3.2 or 3.3), he will not be able to play until the matter has been heard by the Judiciary. When this Player then is available to appear, the Club must advise the Executive Officer by 12 noon on the Monday prior to the next hearing date. Failure to notify by the above date and time will mean that the case will not be heard until the following hearing date and the player will not be able to play until after that hearing.
- 3.5 The Player and/or his Advocate shall appear before the Judiciary, with the Report On Player Sent From the Field, the Referee's Judiciary Report and any available footage of the incident to be tendered as evidence. The Judiciary Chairman shall confirm that the player is pleading Guilty and ask him if to confirm that he has been given a copy of the "Recent Sentencing History" document.
- 3.6 The Player or his Advocate may present additional evidence, such as mitigating circumstances, Player's past record, etc. Any witnesses must remain outside the room until called, and must leave the room when the evidence (and any questioning by the Judiciary) is completed.
- 3.7 When all of the evidence has been presented, the Player and/or his Advocate (and any witnesses) shall be asked to leave the room, while the Judiciary determine the penalty to be imposed.
- 3.8 The Player and/or his Advocate shall then return to the room to be advised of the penalty, and any Appeal rights.

#### **4 If a plea of Not Guilty is entered:**

- 4.1 The CRJRL Executive Officer shall notify the Referee and the player's Club of the day and time of the Judiciary Hearing.
- 4.2 Should the referee, touch judge or player be unable to attend Judiciary on the set night, the Executive Officer shall make a decision on whether their evidence can be heard via telephone.
- 4.3 Should the Player fail to appear, he will not be able to play until the matter has been heard by the Judiciary. When this Player then is available to appear, the Club must advise the Executive Officer by 12 noon on the Monday prior to the next hearing date. Failure to notify by the above date and time will mean that the case will not be heard until the following hearing date and the player will not be able to play until after that hearing.
- 4.4 If the referee fails to attend the hearing, having previously advised of his intention to attend, the case is to be dismissed.

## **5 The procedure when a plea of Not Guilty is entered shall be:**

- 5.1 The Judiciary Chairman reads out the charge and obtains the plea of Not Guilty from the Player
- 5.2 If any footage of the incident is available, it is played and the Referee reads out his Referee's Judiciary Report.
- 5.3 The Judiciary Chairman confirms with the Player that after hearing this evidence, he maintains his plea of Not Guilty.
- 5.4 The Judiciary Sub Committee members ask questions of the Referee.
- 5.5 When invited by the Judiciary Chairman, the Player or his Advocate may ask questions of the Referee. Questions can only be related to the incident, not other matters during the game.
- 5.6 The Judiciary Sub Committee members can clarify answers given by Referee to Player/Advocate.
- 5.7 The Player or his Advocate present their evidence.
- 5.8 The Judiciary Sub Committee members ask questions of the Player.
- 5.9 The Players Advocate asks questions of Player.
- 5.10 The Referee is offered the opportunity to comment on the Player's evidence.
- 5.11 Judiciary Sub Committee members can clarify any answers given by Player.
- 5.12 Any Witnesses (who must remain outside until required) are called in one at a time and procedure (5.7) to (5.11) is followed. Each witness must leave the room once their evidence is completed.
- 5.13 After all evidence is heard, all persons except Judiciary Panel leave the room, whilst they discuss whether the charge has been Proven or Not. The Referee is to be excused from further proceedings.
- 5.14 The Player and his Advocate return to the room to hear decision.
- 5.15 If the decision is Not Guilty, no further action – Dismissed.
- 5.16 If the decision is Guilty, Player or Players Advocate can address the Judiciary Sub Committee members on mitigating circumstances & penalty.
- 5.17 The Player his Advocate leave room whilst Judiciary Sub Committee members determine penalty to be imposed.
- 5.18 The Player and his Advocate return to the room to hear the penalty and be advised of any Appeal Rights

## **6 General**

- 6.1 A suspension or disqualification imposed on a Player is a suspension from all facets of the game which would bring such person within the playing area (eg Coach, Manager, Trainer and Administrator).
- 6.2 Referees under the age of 18 years should be accompanied by an Official of the Referees' Association at any hearing.
- 6.3 Players under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by a Parent or Legal Guardian. At the end of the hearing, the Parent/Guardian will be asked to give their verbal agreement that they were satisfied with the conduct of the hearing.
- 6.4 The Player's Club shall be advised in writing of the decision of the Judiciary Sub Committee.