



## **WORLD RUGBY SANCTIONS FOR FOUL PLAY (REGULATION 17) ADJUSTED FOR UNDERAGE RUGBY**

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**Note: Any act of foul play which results in contact with the head and/or the neck shall result in at least a mid-range sanction<sup>1</sup>.**

**9.11 Players must not do anything that is reckless or dangerous to others including leading with the elbow or forearm, or jumping into, or over, a tackler.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks

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<sup>1</sup> The note does not apply to the following:

- (i) Laws whose low-end entry points already take into account head contact being a potential feature or consequence of such breach reaching the red-card threshold: 9.12 (biting, contact with eye(s)/eye area and striking with head), 9.18 and 9.27 (hair pulling).
- (ii) Where the Disciplinary Committee or Judicial Officer having completed the necessary steps under Regulations 8.8 – 8.14 inclusive and considers that the sanction would be wholly disproportionate to the offending player's fault and the consequences thereof.

**9.12 A player must not physically abuse anyone. Physical abuse includes, but is not limited to:**

<b>Biting</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12 + weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 8 weeks	Mid-range: 10 weeks	Top-end: 14+ weeks
<b>Intentional contact with Eye(s)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 8 weeks	Mid-range: 10 weeks	Top-end: 14+ weeks
<b>Reckless contact with Eye(s)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks
<b>Contact with Eye Area<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks
<b>Punching or striking with hand, arm (including stiff-arm tackle), elbow or shoulder</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 week	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
<b>Leading with the forearm</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 weeks	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks
<b>Striking with head<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks
<b>Striking with knee</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks
<b>Stamping or Trampling</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks
<b>Tripping</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 week	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
<b>Kicking</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> Head-on-head contact arising out of a tackle situation should ordinarily be sanctioned under Law 9.13 below.

**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.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks

**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.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks

**9.14 A player must not tackle an opponent who is not in possession of the ball.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 8+ 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.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks

**9.16 A player must not charge or knock down an opponent carrying the ball without attempting to grasp that player.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks

**9.17 A player must not tackle, charge, pull, push or grasp an opponent whose feet are off the ground.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ 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.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks

**9.19 Dangerous play in a scrum.**

- a. The front row of a scrum must not form at a distance from its opponents and rush against them.
- b. A front-row player must not pull an opponent.
- c. A front-row player must not intentionally lift an opponent off their feet or force the opponent upwards out of the scrum.
- d. A front-row player must not intentionally collapse a scrum.

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: warning <sup>6</sup>	Mid-range: 1 week	Top-end: 2+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks

**9.20 Dangerous play in a ruck or maul.**

- a. 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.

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks

- b. A player must not make contact with an opponent above the line of the shoulders.
- c. A player must not intentionally collapse a ruck or a maul

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 week	Top-end: 4+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 week	Mid-range: 4 week	Top-end: 6+ weeks

**9.25. A player must not intentionally charge or obstruct an opponent who has just kicked the ball.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks

**9.27 A player must not do anything that is against the spirit of good sportsmanship including but not limited to:**

<b>Hair pulling or grabbing</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks

<sup>6</sup> A Warning shall form part of the Players disciplinary record while at Underage level but not extend into their senior disciplinary record.

<b>Spitting at anyone</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks
<b>Grabbing, twisting or squeezing the genitals (and/or breasts in the case of female players)</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 6 weeks	Mid-range: 12 weeks	Top-end: 18+ weeks
<b>Other</b>	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks

### **9.28 A player must not disrespect the authority of a Match Official**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 week	Mid-range: 2 weeks	Top-end: 4+ weeks

### **9.2.8 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.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks

### **9.28 A player must not make physical contact with Match Officials.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks

### **9.28 A player must not use threatening actions or words towards Match Officials.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 6 weeks	Mid-range: 12 weeks	Top-end: 24+ weeks

### **9.28 A player must not physically abuse Match Officials.**

<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 6 weeks	Mid-range: 12 weeks	Top-end: 24+ weeks
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 12 weeks	Mid-range: 24 weeks	Top-end: 48+ weeks

In respect of offences not referred to in Appendix 2 above, appropriate sanctions may be imposed at the discretion of the relevant WRU Age Grade Disciplinary Panel and Appeal Panel (as the case may be).

Notwithstanding the Sanctions in Appendix 2 and/or the provisions of Discipline Regulations 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 WRU Age Grade Disciplinary Panel and/or Appeal Panel may impose any period of suspension including a suspension for life (as provided within the Disciplinary Regulation 8.16).