

RNC Coach & Referee Reference Sheet

Please reference this guide when exchanging rosters pre-game

**Principles:**

Coaches and referees should manage their teams according to the most current [Game Management Guideline \(GMG\)](#). **The GMG calls out specific variations for U/19s. The variations are:** 1/ Tackle height variations, 2/ no fending (stiff arm) to the face, head or neck, 3/ scrums can only be pushed 1.5m (EK), and /4 reset scrums when it wheels 45° without illegal action. Our priority for RNC Youth rugby is to promote and incentivize a free-flowing game. However, we will take a zero tolerance approach to player safety.

**Prioritized Officiating Points of Emphasis for the Youth Game for RNC matches:**

1. Ensure that we disincentivize dangerous play, as described in the GMG. We expect referees and coaches to implement the guidelines below for all age levels - as is. Yellow card duration - HS 10m, MS 8m, Youth 5m. Sevens: 2m. All red card offenses will be reported to the RNC for disciplinary action.

**DANGEROUS PLAY**

- Players must not engage in reckless or dangerous play.
- Dangerous tackling: Late, high, in the air, no arms, dump/spear tackle.
- Ball carrier must not lead with the forearm to the neck/head.
- U19: Players may not fend to the face, head or neck.

FOUL PLAY	SANCTION FRAMEWORK			RC	YC	PK	FOUL PLAY	MINIMUM SANCTION			RC	YC	PK
HEAD/NECK CONTACT	DIRECT HIGH FORCE	DIRECT LOW FORCE INDIRECT HIGH FORCE	INDIRECT LOW FORCE				LATE, HIGH, or SHOULDER CHARGE	ALL THREE PRESENT	TWO of THREE PRESENT	ANY ONE PRESENT			
							NO ARMS CHOPPING TACKLE	DIRECT JOINT CONTACT LAUNCH AT LEGS	LOW FORCE				
							HEAD or NECK: CHOKE, GRAB, or ROLL	CHOKING NECK ROLL & FOLLOW THROUGH	CHOKE & RELEASE NECK ROLL & RELEASE	ACCIDENTAL WITH IMMEDIATE RELEASE			
							LIFTING DUMP/SPEAR TACKLE	LIFTING PAST HORIZONTAL & LANDS ON HEAD/NECK	LIFTING PAST HORIZONTAL & LANDS ON BACK/SIDE	LIFTING PAST HORIZONTAL & BRINGING DOWN SAFELY			
							CHALLENGE IN THE AIR	NOT FAIR CHALLENGE & LANDS ON HEAD/NECK	NOT FAIR CHALLENGE & LANDS ON BACK/SIDE	NOT FAIR CHALLENGE WRONG TIMING			
							OVER THE SHOULDER SEATBELT TACKLE						LOW FORCE

**WAS THERE FOUL PLAY?**

- Intentional, Reckless, and/or Avoidable

**DEGREE OF DANGER**

- Direct/Indirect Contact
- High Force/Low Force

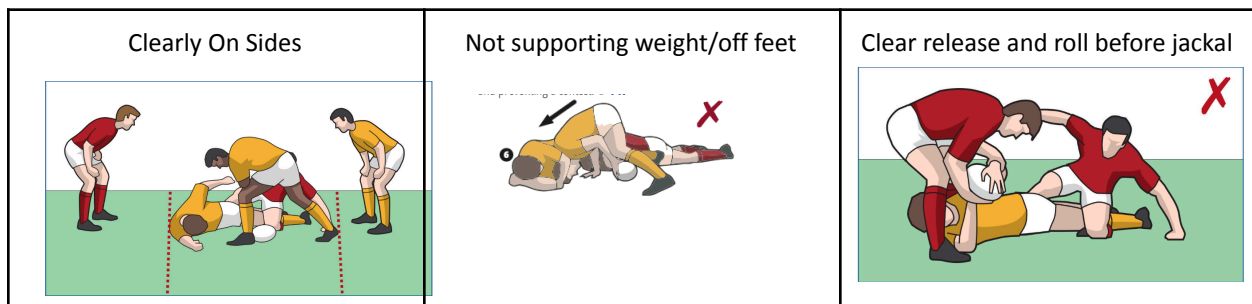
**IS THERE MITIGATION?**

- Sudden / significant drop in height or change in direction from ball carrier
- A late change in dynamics due to another player in the contact
- An effort to wrap / bind and having no time to adjust
- Passive tackler: Feet planted, zero forward movement, falls backwards

**FACTORS AGAINST MITIGATION**

- Mitigation will not apply for intentional or highly reckless acts of foul play
- Open space and time to make a decision

2. **Disincentivize negative play.** Our priorities are to ensure that players are 1/ clearly on-sides, 2/ attack and defense stay on their feet at the breakdown and ruck area, and 3/ ensure a fair contest. YC for repeated infringements.



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