



**RUGBY AUSTRALIA  
DISCIPLINARY RULES 2018**

## APPENDIX 1. WORLD RUGBY SANCTIONS FOR FOUL PLAY (REGULATION 17)

9.11 Players must not do anything that is reckless or dangerous to others

Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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9.12 A player must not physically abuse anyone. Physical abuse includes, but is not limited to:

Biting	Low-end: 12 weeks	Mid-range: 18 weeks	Top-end: 24+ weeks	Max: 208 weeks	
Punching	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A punch to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
Contact with Eye(s)*	Low-end: 12 weeks	Mid-range: 18 weeks	Top-end: 24+ weeks	Max: 208 weeks	
Contact with Eye Area**	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	
Striking with hand or arm (including stiff-arm tackle)	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
Striking with the elbow	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
Striking with shoulder	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
Striking with head	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 10 weeks	Top-end: 16+ weeks	Max: 104 weeks	
Striking with knee	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
Stamping or Trampling	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	Stamping/trampling on the head shall result in a top-end entry point sanction
Tripping	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	
Kicking	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	Kicking the head shall result in a top-end entry point sanction

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.

Low-end: 6 weeks	Mid-range: 12 weeks	Top-end: 18+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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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.

Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A dangerous tackle which results in a strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
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\*The “eye” involves all tissues, including the eye lids within and covering the orbital cavity  
 \*\*The “eye area” is anywhere in close proximity to the eye.

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

Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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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.

Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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9.16 A player must not charge or knock down an opponent carrying the ball without attempting to grasp that player.

Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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9.17 A player must not tackle, charge, pull, push or grasp an opponent whose feet are off the ground.

Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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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.

Low-end: 6 weeks	Mid-range: 10 weeks	Top-end: 14+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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9.19 Dangerous play in a scrum.

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

Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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9.20 Dangerous play in a ruck or maul.

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.

A player must not make contact with an opponent above the line of the shoulders.

A player must not intentionally collapse a ruck or a maul.

Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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9.25 A player must not intentionally charge or obstruct an opponent who has just kicked the ball.

Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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9.26 A player must not do anything that is against the spirit of good sportsmanship including but not limited to:

Hair pulling or grabbing	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
Spitting at anyone	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
Grabbing, twisting or squeezing the genitals (and/or breasts in the case of female players)	Low-end: 12 weeks	Mid-range: 18 weeks	Top-end: 24+ weeks	Max: 208 weeks
Other	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks

9.27 A player must not physically abuse Match Officials.

Low-end: 24 weeks	Mid-range: 48 weeks	Top-end: 96+ weeks	Max: Life
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9.27 A player must not use threatening actions or words towards Match Officials.

Low-end: 12 weeks	Mid-range: 24 weeks	Top-end: 48+ weeks	Max: 260 weeks
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9.27 A player must not make incidental physical contact with Match Officials.

Low-end: 6 weeks	Mid-range: 12 weeks	Top-end: 18+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
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**In respect of offences not referred to in Appendix 1 above, appropriate sanctions may be imposed at the discretion of the relevant Judicial Officer, Disciplinary Committee, Appeal Officer and/or Appeal Committee (as the case may be).**

**Notwithstanding the Sanctions in Appendix 1 and/or the provisions of Regulation 17.19 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 Judicial Officers and/or Disciplinary Committees may impose any period of suspension including a suspension for life.**

**ADJUSTED FOR UNDERAGE RUGBY**

**9.11 Players must not do anything that is reckless or dangerous to others.**

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 3+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 3 matches	Top-end: 5+ matches	

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

<b>Biting</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 12 weeks	Mid-range: 18 weeks	Top-end: 24+ weeks	Max: 208 weeks	
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 3 matches	Mid-range: 6 matches	Top-end: 12 + matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 6 matches	Mid-range: 12 matches	Top-end: 18+ matches		
<b>Punching</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A punch to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 3+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 3 matches	Top-end: 5+ matches		
<b>Contact with Eye(s)*</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 12 weeks	Mid-range: 18 weeks	Top-end: 24+ weeks	Max: 208 weeks	

	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 3 matches	Mid-range: 6 matches	Top-end: 12+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 6 matches	Mid-range: 12 matches	Top-end: 18+ matches		
<b>Contact with Eye Area*</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 4 matches	Top-end: 6+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 matches	Mid-range: 6 matches	Top-end: 10+ matches		
<b>Striking with hand or arm (including stiff-arm tackle)</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 3+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 3 matches	Top-end: 5+ matches		
<b>Striking with the elbow</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 4+ matches		

	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 5 matches	Top-end: 8+ matches		
<b>Striking with shoulder</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 4+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 5 matches	Top-end: 8+ matches		
<b>Striking with head</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 10 weeks	Top-end: 16+ weeks	Max: 104 weeks	
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 4 matches	Top-end: 6+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 matches	Mid-range: 6 matches	Top-end: 10+ matches		
<b>Striking with knee</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 3 matches	Top-end: 5+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 3 matches	Mid-range: 4 matches	Top-end: 8+ matches		

<b>Stamping or Trampling</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	Stamping / trampling on the head shall result in a top-end entry point sanction
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 5+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 5 matches	Top-end: 10+ matches		
<b>Tripping</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 3+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 3 matches	Top-end: 5+ matches		
<b>Kicking</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	Kicking the head shall result in a top-end entry point sanction
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 4 matches	Top-end: 6+ matches		
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 matches	Mid-range: 6 matches	Top-end: 10+ matches		

**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>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end:	Mid-range:	Top-end:	Max: 52 weeks
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	6 weeks	12 weeks	18+ weeks	
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 4 matches	Top-end: 6+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 matches	Mid-range: 8 matches	Top-end: 12+ matches	

**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>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks	A dangerous tackle which results in a strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 4+ matches		
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 5 matches	Top-end: 8+ matches		

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

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 4+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 5 matches	Top-end: 8+ matches	

**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>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 3+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 3 matches	Top-end: 5+ matches	

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

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 4+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 5 matches	Top-end: 8+ matches	

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

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 4 matches	Top-end: 6+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 matches	Mid-range: 6 matches	Top-end: 10+ matches	

**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 makes contact with the ground.**

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 6 weeks	Mid-range: 10 weeks	Top-end: 14+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 4 matches	Top-end: 6+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 5 matches	Mid-range: 8 matches	Top-end: 14+ matches	

**9.19. Dangerous play in a scrum.**

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

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: Warning**	Mid-range: 1 match	Top-end: 2+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 3+ matches	

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

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

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 8+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 3+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end:	Mid-range:	Top-end:	

	2 matches	3 matches	5+ matches	
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**9.25 A player must not intentionally charge or obstruct an opponent who has just kicked the ball.**

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 6 weeks	Top-end: 10+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 4+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 5 matches	Top-end: 8+ matches	

**9.26. 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>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 2 weeks	Mid-range: 4 weeks	Top-end: 6+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 1 match	Mid-range: 2 matches	Top-end: 3+ matches	
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 3 matches	Top-end: 5+ matches	
<b>Spitting at anyone</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 4 matches	Top-end: 6+ matches	

	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 matches	Mid-range: 6 matches	Top-end: 10+ matches	
<b>Grabbing, twisting or squeezing the genitals (and/or breasts in the case of female players)</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 12 weeks	Mid-range: 18 weeks	Top-end: 24+ weeks	Max:208 weeks
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 3 matches	Mid-range: 6 matches	Top-end: 12+ matches	
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 6 matches	Mid-range: 12 matches	Top-end: 18+ matches	
<b>Other</b>	<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 4 weeks	Mid-range: 8 weeks	Top-end: 12+ weeks	Max: 52 weeks
	<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 2 matches	Mid-range: 4 matches	Top-end: 6+ matches	
	<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end: 4 matches	Mid-range: 6 matches	Top-end: 10+ matches	

**9.27. A player must not physically abuse Match Officials.**

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end: 24 weeks	Mid-range: 48 weeks	Top-end: 96+ weeks	Max: Life
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end: 6 matches	Mid-range: 12 matches	Top-end: 24+ matches	

<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end:	Mid-range:	Top-end:	
	12 matches	24 matches	48+ matches	

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

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end:	Mid-range:	Top-end:	Max: 260 weeks
	12 weeks	24 weeks	48+ weeks	
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end:	Mid-range:	Top-end:	
	3 matches	6 matches	12+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end:	Mid-range:	Top-end:	
	6 matches	12 matches	24+ matches	

**9.27. A player must not make incidental physical contact with Match Officials.**

<b>Adult Sanction (incl. U20s)</b>	Low-end:	Mid-range:	Top-end:	Max: 52 weeks
	6 weeks	12 weeks	18+ weeks	
<b>Up to U15s Sanction</b>	Low-end:	Mid-range:	Top-end:	
	2 matches	4 matches	6+ matches	
<b>U16 to U18 Sanction</b>	Low-end:	Mid-range:	Top-end:	
	3 matches	6 matches	9+ matches	

***(All other definitions in the Guidelines are as per Regulation 1 of the World Rugby Regulations Relating to the Game).***

*\* 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.*

*\*\* A Warning shall form part of the Players disciplinary record while at Underage level but not extend into their senior disciplinary record.*