



London Society of Rugby Football Union Referees

Process for schools following a red card

In most cases (see below**) the discipline process is handed over to the Head teacher of the school involved. The school should decide on any action within 72 hours of the incident, even if a referee's report has not been received. The school should receive the referee's report as soon as possible. The report should use the standard form and initially be sent to the LSRFUR Area Discipline Secretary who will do the necessary forwarding to the Schools and CB Schools Discipline Secretary & ERFU.

Ideally the team coach should get some idea from the ref, immediately after the game, as to the ref's perception of the severity of the offence. Action on the next morning in school, with the relevant information, will clear up the punishment promptly. This will let the player/coach know the length of any playing suspension before the next match, with the lesson learnt.

The Head Teacher may decide that the sending off is sufficient. Alternatively a reprimand laying down future expectations of good behaviour might be suitable, possibly coupled with school based non-rugby sanctions. Should a suspension from playing be decided then the Head Teacher will be encouraged to follow the RFU age a grade sanction table and process for deciding the entry level. The County Schools' Union (CSU) or ERFU's discipline officer can advise schools about the procedures. For more details the RFU Tariff is available at RFU.com (search for "Regulations").

In any event the Head Teacher must communicate the outcome of any disciplinary measures to the ERFU and CSU to which the school is affiliated. Some counties have a school-specific officer but the main county discipline officer will forward any information as required.

** For offences within the remit of RFU rule 5.12 (bringing the game into disrepute) the ERFU or RFU will take the matter to a specially constructed youth trained CB or RFU discipline panel. This would include incidents involving safeguarding, serious injury (requiring hospital treatment), racial abuse, police/civil action as well as serious cases of referee abuse from players or coaches/parents.

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January 2017