

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION POLICY

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| QRU Functional Area | Community Rugby |
| Policy Title | Exception to 1002 – SPSSTDTDC – Sanctions for Punching or striking; Stamping or trampling; Dangerous tackling; and Dangerous charging |
| Policy Reference | 1003 - ESPSSTDTDC – Exception to Policy 1002 – SPSSTDTDC – Sanctions for Punching or striking; Stamping or trampling; Dangerous tackling; and Dangerous charging Policy |
| Policy | That an exception to 1002 – SPSSTDTDC – Sanctions for Punching or striking; Stamping or trampling; Dangerous tackling; and Dangerous charging be approved by QRU’s Board (Board) to the effect that the minimum mandatory sanction for Punching or striking only , be changed from Send Off (Red Card) to Temporary Suspension (Yellow Card) be trialed in the 2010 Season for Premier (all season) and Brisbane Senior competitions (Finals Series only). |
| Policy Objective and Rationale | <p>Policy 1002 – SPSSTDTDC – Sanctions for Punching or striking; Stamping or trampling; Dangerous tackling; and Dangerous charging has in some ways taken away from the Referee any discretion that is available to the Referee under Law 6.A.4 for all other sections of Law 10 i.e. a) penalty; b) penalty and admonishment; c) penalty and Temporary Suspension (Yellow Card); and d) penalty and Send Off (Red Card).</p> <p>This is not an issue in lower grades and is actually a useful management tool for the Referees especially in the majority of lower grades where the Referee is invariably the only accredited Match Official and does not have the luxury of support from Assistant Referees.</p> <p>It is proposed that for Senior Competitions where a Referee and two (2) Assistant Referees are appointed by either QRU’s State Referees’ Committee</p> |

(SRC) or Queensland Rugby Referees' Association (Brisbane) Inc. that they be excepted so that for a transgression of Law 10(4)(a) – Punching or striking **ONLY** that the minimum mandatory sanction be a Temporary Suspension (Yellow Card).

The competitions concerned are:

- a) Premier – all season; and
 - b) Brisbane (Senior) – three (3) week finals series only
- This in no way effects any competition for Under 19 and downwards as ARU's Policy of 2007 is in place for all competition Under 19 and downwards in Australia
 - That invariably the Referee picks up the retaliatory action and not the original action that was done in "the dark" of a ruck / maul
 - Referees for the Competitions proposed are the most senior and experienced Match Officials in Queensland and additionally, have the assistance of two (2) Assistant Referees
 - There are "punches" and "punches" e.g. the action of knocking away an opponents arm grasping a jersey when being held back to a deliberate and intentional strike to the head
 - It allows the Referee to have some discretion in terms of Law 6.A.4 for the management of this area of the game
 - That this change does not in any way affect QRU's goal of eliminating foul play and sending a clear message to the community that Rugby is serious about countering this sort of behaviour

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRU's Citing Procedures in their current form cater for any instances that are missed / not deemed to have been dealt with appropriately by the Match Officials |
| Impacted Parties | <p>Affiliates who have Premier Rugby Teams</p> <p>Affiliates who have teams in the Brisbane Rugby Competition</p> <p>QSRU and its Affiliated Clubs</p> <p>QRRRA (Brisbane) Inc.</p> <p>QRU Judicial Committee</p> <p>QRU Judicial Appeals Committee</p> <p>QRU State Referees' Committee</p> |
| Contributors | <p>QRU Community Rugby</p> <p>QRU Judicial Committee</p> <p>QRU Judicial Appeals Committee</p> <p>QRU State Referees' Committee</p> |
| Communications Strategy Outline | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARU / QRU SmartRugby Course and Content • Community Rugby Manager to communicate to all affected affiliates |
| Related Policies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARU Safety Directives - "Punch or Stomp Send Offs" • iRB Regulation 3 Domestic Regulations • QRU Citing Procedures • 1002 - SPSSTDTDC - Sanctions for Punching or striking; Stamping or trampling; Dangerous tackling; and Dangerous charging |
| Approved By | QRU Board - 4 th February 2010 |