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SUPER RYGBI CYMRU

SUPER RYGBI CYMRU COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

Season 2024 – 2025



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These Rules and Regulations form part of the terms and conditions of participation in Super Rygbi Cymru. They regulate the format and playing aspects of the Super Rygbi Cymru. No Club or Person may participate in Super Rygbi Cymru unless it/they has accepted these Rules and Regulations and agreed (in the case of a Club, on its own behalf and on behalf of each of its Persons) to be bound and to abide by them. Participation in Super Rygbi Cymru will be deemed to signify such acceptance and agreement (irrespective of whether or not - in the case of a Person - such Person has executed and returned an SRC Licence Agreement).

1. General

1.1. Description

Nested within the broader WRU Player Development strategy's mission of *"producing more and better players for the professional regions and for Wales through life enriching experiences"*, the purpose of **Super Rygbi Cymru** (hereinafter "SRC") is *'to provide high quality playing and club-based development opportunities for those in Wales below the fully professional game (the 'Performance Development Phase') in a competition environment that more closely replicates the demands and goals of professional rugby.*

Specifically, this purpose speaks to enabling and recognising great development provision in the **Performance Development phase (18 – 24)** of the **Player Journey** (see (b) below). Great development in this phase better prepares players for the demands of professional rugby (on and off the field) and therefore better enables the transition from age-grade rugby to the senior adult professional game. Underpinned by central provision in Regional Academies, the SRC as well as BUCS Super Rugby will provide integral playing opportunities and additional development environments for players in Wales below the professional game.

This document outlines the format, structure, calendar, and rules and regulations for SRC ("SRC Regulations").

1.2. Objectives of the Competition

To fulfil the principal purpose of SRC, the SRC Licence and the SRC Minimum Operating Expectations (SRC MoE), SRC will be operated by the WRU and the SRC's constituent stakeholders (Clubs and Regions) on the basis of the following objectives:

- a) To develop (and identify) players with the ability to play Regional rugby;
- b) To provide appropriate playing opportunities for nominated Regional Academy Players with the potential to play Regional rugby;
- c) To support the delivery of Regional Academy Player Plans that will form the foundations for the development of the next generation of talent for the Professional game and for Wales;
- d) To provide playing opportunities for professional players returning from injury, aspiring to regain a regular place within the Region's team, or preparing to retire;
- e) To enhance development by integrating with and complementing the player development environments provided through Regional Academies, schools, colleges, universities, and community clubs in a Region;
- f) To develop a positive representation of the Region and the Club as rugby teams playing modern and successful rugby at the highest level; and,
- g) To achieve the above through the provision of high-quality coaching and backroom resources in a supportive environment.

(Paragraphs a) through g), inclusive, together "**SRC Objectives**")

The structure of this competition and as such these SCR Regulations, and other associated Regulations are a framework to support the delivery of the SRC Objectives.

1.3. Definitions and Interpretations

Capitalised terms used in these SRC Regulations shall, unless defined elsewhere SRC Licence Agreement (including Schedules and Appendices), have the following meanings given to them:

“Allocated Regional Player”	means a Player allocated to a SRC Club by their Affiliate Professional Region pursuant to obligations within both the SRC MoE and Regional Academy Licence. These will typically be a Regional Academy Player, however, may in some instances be a Regional Senior Player. For the avoidance of doubt, a Regional Academy Player will not include a member of a WRU licenced Regional Academy whose name is not on the list of Regional Academy Players held and approved by the WRU;
“Assistant Referee”	means a person appointed to act as an Assistant Referee in a Match;
“Broadcasting”	means the transmission and/or recording and/or otherwise storing of coverage of or other reproduction of anu Match or Matches in any medium and in any use or exploitation of the same by any means in any electronic media now known or at any time in the future developed, including, but not limited to, all forms of television (which will include, without limitation, all forms of analogue, digital, free, pay, pay per view and on-demand systems) and all other audio-visual recorded viewing media and all forms of interactive and/or on-line transmissions via the Internet or broadband networks or any other system, radio and all other audio only media (which will include all forms of recording and/or interactive and/or on-line audio transmissions via the Internet or any other system) whether live or deferred and whether in whole or in part throughout the world or any part thereof;
“Broadcasting Rights”	has all television and/or other broadcasting, media, internet, website and mobile rights (whether live, as live, delayed, highlights or clips and whether such rights are on a free, pay, pay-per-view, video on demand and/or near video on demand and whether they are exercised by a means that is now known or developed in the future), relating to SRC and any advertising, publicity and promotion rights of any and every description in and relating to SRC;
“Challenger Shield”	means the challenge-based shield competition within SRC as provided for under these SRC Regulations;
“Club”	means any rugby union club who holds an SRC Licence, as a such, for the time being, are authorised to participate in SRC, pursuant to the Conditions of Participation;
“Competition Manager”	means the individual appointed by the WRU from time to time, responsible by delegated authority to organize and administer the SRC;
“Competition Points”	has the meaning given in Regulation 3.1;

“Disciplinary Panel”	means any disciplinary panel or judicial officer appointed by the WRU;
“Disciplinary Regulations”	means those disciplinary rules, regulations and procedures adopted by the WRU;
“Disputes Panel”	means the Panel appointed by the WRU and constituted to consider any dispute arising out of these Regulations;
“Effective Registration”	means a Player is registered with a Club with and pursuant to SRC Regulations. A player can only hold Effective Registration with one club at a given time;
“First Registration Date”	means the deadline by which a Club’s squad for the forthcoming SRC season is confirmed by the WRU and includes all Players holding active Effective Registration with the Club. This date may be varied from time to time with the approval of the SRC Governance Committee and with the provision of reasonable notice to Clubs;
“Home Team”	means in relation to a Match, the Team on whose premises (or sub-contracted premises) such Match is played or is to be played or (where such Match is not played) should have been played;
“Laws of the Game”	means the laws promulgated from time to time by World Rugby according to which the game of rugby football union is played throughout the world (including such law variations and trials that may be adopted by the WRU);
“Match”	means any match forming part of the SRC to which these Regulations will apply;
“Match Day”	means the Saturday set by the WRU on which the Match is to be played, or by exception resulting from an unplayable Match or Broadcast requirement, any other day in that same week as agree by both Clubs and WRU;
“Match Day Squad”	means the 23 Players selected to represent the Club in Match;
“Match Official”	means any person appointed by the relevant authority to officiate upon a match including a referee, assistant referee, timekeeper, and where appointed, a television match official, and any others appointed by the WRU to assist with the management of a Match;
“Match Result Card”	means the official record of an Match;
“Person”	means (i) a Player, trainer, coach, selector, medical officer, physiotherapist, (ii) any other individual who is or has been at any time involved in the Game (including a WRU Representative) or in the organisation, administration or promotion of the Game, or (iii) any supporter or spectator of the Game;
“Permit”	means a grant of special dispensation to a Player who does not hold Effective Registration with the Club or meet the other eligibility criteria as outlined in Regulations 3.5 to enable them to be selected and play for Team in a Match;

“Player”	means any person eligible to participate within the SRC Competition pursuant to the Eligibility Criteria;
“Post-Season Finals”	means the part of the Season following the conclusion of the Regular Season that includes the SRC playoffs, including, without limitation, any knockout Match.
“Regular Season”	means the period between the date on which the first Competition Match is played each year and the date on which the last Competition Match is played, excluding Post-Season Finals;
“Referee”	means the person appointed by the WRU to act as the referee in a Match;
“Season Schedule”	means the playing & preparation dates of the SRC fixtures referred to in these regulations and produced by WRU;
“Sponsorship Agreement”	means any sponsorship agreement entered into by the WRU with a sponsor in relation to that sponsor’s sponsorship of SRC under its brand, which is notified to a Club;
“SRC”	means Super Rygbi Cymru, the competition between 10 Clubs referred to Schedule One played in accordance with these SRC Regulations and the SRC MoE;
“SRC Governance Committee”	means sub-committee of the Rugby Management Board (RMB), which is a sub-board of the Professional Rugby Board and consists of the group of individuals representing WRU, Regions, and SRC Clubs tasked with considering matters of policy and settling disputes relating to these Regulations as outlined in the SRC Governance Committee Terms of Reference;
“SRC MoE”	means the base standards of rugby provision and programmes that any Licensed Club must adhere to for the duration of the Term of the SRC in addition to other relevant SRC Regulations and SRC specific regulations (such regulations as shall be determined by the WRU at its sole discretion); and,
“SRC Regulations”	means these Regulations and any future variation as provided thereof.
“SRC Salary Cap Regulations”	means these Salary Cap Regulations as amended from time to time by the SRC Governance Committee and approved by the Professional Rugby Board.
“Team”	means the XV-a side team of any Club rugby union team which holds a SRC Licence, and as such, for the time being, is a participant in the SRC as determined by WRU;
“Team Sheets”	means the official Match Day Squad for a SRC Competition Match submitted via the online, digital system in accordance with Regulation 3.6, consisting of only Players who are properly registered and/or who satisfy the relevant eligibility criteria set out in under this Regulation 3.5;

“Technical Zone”	means the area of the field of play as outlined in Schedule Four;
“Technical Zone Manager”	means the person appointed by a Club to perform the duties, and comply with the obligations, set out in Regulation 3.7 of, and Schedules Four and Five to these SRC Regulations;
“The Appeal Panel”	means a Panel appointed to hear an appeal in accordance with Regulation 12 of the WRU Disciplinary Regulations;
“Visiting Team”	means in relation to a Match the Team which plays or is to play or (where such Match is not played) should have played such Match at the ground of a Home Team but is not the Home Team for such Match;
“WRU”	means the Welsh Rugby Union the sole governing body of the game in Wales;
“WRU Disciplinary Officer”	means a person appointed by the WRU to act on its behalf in matters arising under these Regulations;

Any terms not defined in these Regulations shall have the meanings set out in the WRU Rules (as applicable).

1.4. Application and Variations to the SRC Regulations

- a) This competition shall be played in accordance with these SRC Regulations, other SRC Regulations and the World Rugby Laws of the Game, save as varied below.
- b) These SRC Regulations may be varied from time to time (whether by way of alteration, addition, deletion or otherwise) with the approval of the SRC Governance Committee. No changes may be proposed by the WRU unless it shall have first consulted with the Clubs.
- c) WRU shall give not less than thirty clear days’ notice to each Club of any changes to these Regulations before they are effective unless exceptional circumstances apply and in which case as much notice as is reasonably practicable shall be given.
- d) The Rugby Management Board shall have the absolute discretion to decide on matters not provided for in these SRC Regulations, and/or adapt any area contained within these regulations to ensure the integrity of the competition is maintained and concluded in a clear, fair, and equitable manner. The RMB has the absolute discretion to suspend any sanction contained within these League rules should they deem it necessary and appropriate. RMB’s decision(s) in respect of those matters shall be final and binding save for any right of appeal to review as may be specifically reserved under these SRC Regulations.
- e) Each participating Club has indicated, by executing their SRC Licence, its wish to participate in SRC and adheres to and be bound by this and any other Regulations which govern the Competition.

1.5. Severability

If any of the provisions of these SRC Regulations shall be found to be void or unenforceable, such provisions shall be deemed to be deleted from these SRC Regulations and the remaining provisions of these SRC Regulations shall continue in full force and effect and the WRU shall use its reasonable endeavours to procure following the procedures laid down by regulation 1.4 that such provision is replaced by a provision which is valid and enforceable and which gives effect to the spirit of these SRC Regulations.

1.6. WRU Regulations

Both these SRC Regulations and SRC Salary Cap Regulations are supplemental to the WRU Regulations which, for the avoidance of doubt, shall have full force and effect save that in the event of conflict between these SRC Regulations and the WRU Regulations, the WRU Regulations (to the extent that they affect the Clubs) are deemed varied by these SRC Regulations. In the event of conflict between these SRC Regulations and the SRC Salary Cap Regulations, these Regulations shall prevail.

1.7. SRC Salary Cap Regulations

WRU shall provide a copy of the SRC Salary Cap Regulations to the Clubs as soon as practicable upon approval of those Regulations (or any amendments) by the SRC Governance Committee (and where necessary Rugby Management Board). In addition, SRC Governance Committee shall report to the PRB on its work to enforce the SRC Salary Cap Regulations at least once per season.

1.8. Management of the Competition

- a) The WRU shall have overall responsibility for the organisation, administration, and regulation of the SRC.
- b) The administration and organisational aspects shall be the responsibility of the SRC Governance Committee, which, as a sub-committee of the Rugby Management Board (which is a sub-board of the Professional Rugby Board) shall serve as the overseeing body responsible for ensuring the effective management, integrity, and adherence to established regulations of the SRC as well as considering matters of policy and settling disputes relating to the rules contained herein as they arise.
- c) The SRC Governance Committee shall operate and report to the Rugby Management Board in accordance with its Terms of Reference.
- d) The WRU shall have the power to delegate any of its powers, duties or obligations under these Regulations to a Disputes Panel, who in turn may delegate as it so determines to the WRU Performance and/or Competitions departments.
- e) The WRU shall carry out the day-to-day organisation and administration of the SRC through the appointment of a Competition Manager. Club's will be informed of the Competition Manager for each season by no later than July 1 prior to new season start.
- f) When cases of an urgent nature occur, the SRC Governance Committee Chair, in consultation with the Competition Manager, one elected representative of the Clubs and Professional Regions from the SRC Governance Committee, and WRU representative shall have absolute discretion to deal with these cases whether provided for herein or not. Decisions made by the SRC Governance Committee Chair and the Competition Manager in such cases shall be binding.
- g) In the event a Club is dissatisfied with any adjudication of the WRU or the Competition Manager pursuant to these SRC Regulations, it shall have the right to appeal to a Sub Committee appointed by the SRC Governance Committee against a decision, pursuant with Regulation 13.4 , provided that the appeal is made in writing, addressed to the Competition Manager, and received no more than 24hrs after the decision made by the SRC Governance Committee is delivered to a Club.

2. The Competition

2.1. Name

The name of the competition is "Super Rygbi Cymru" or such other name as is approved by the WRU which may include the name of sponsor and shall be between those Clubs as are specified in regulation 2.2 below. All matches in the Competition shall be played under the Laws of the Game published by World Rugby and in compliance with

these SRC Regulations and with the WRU Regulations insofar as the latter are not at variance with these SRC Regulations.

2.2. Structure

- a) The SRC will include **ten [10]** Clubs as competition participants as listed in Schedule One. WRU reserves the right to expand this number should new Clubs become eligible for an SRC Licence.
- b) SRC will be aligned to the professional game calendar and the United Rugby Championship to facilitate a collaborative working relationship between SRC Clubs and the Professional Regions. This will include breaks in the competition during the Autumn and 6 Nation international windows.
- c) The SRC will take the following format, played in three blocks (September and October, December, April and May):
 - (i) **Regular Season:** 18 Rounds where all 10 Club Teams will play each other in a home and away format to determine final league standings (and minor premiers i.e. league winners)
 - (ii) **Post-Season Finals:** The post-regular season finals will consist of 4 stages. The specific play off draw structure is set out in Schedule Two of these WRU SRC Regulations. The specific play off draw structure is set out in Schedule Two of these SRC Regulations.
- d) **Challenger Shield:** The Challenger Shield (“Shield”) will take the form of the following:
 - (i) The Challenger Shield (the “Shield”) shall be a challenge open to all SRC Clubs.
 - (ii) The Club from time to time holding the Shield (the “Holder”) shall hold it subject to the rights of challenge (“Challenge”) by a Club in accordance with these Regulations.
 - (iii) Conditions for all Challenge Matches
 - No Challenge Match shall be played after the last day of the Regular Season.
 - All Home Matches in the Regular Season of the SRC played by the Holder shall be Challenge Matches (“Mandatory Challenges”).
 - All Challenge Matches shall be played at the ground of the Holder unless the Holder, at its option, agrees to play a Challenge Match at either the ground of the challenging Club or a neutral venue.
 - The WRU shall appoint the Match Officials team for all Challenge Matches.
 - If a Challenge Match is drawn at full time, the Holder shall retain the Shield.
 - In the instance the Holder is defeated, the winner of said Match shall become the new Holder, and all remaining Regular Season Home Matches to be played by the new Holder are Challenge Matches.
- e) **Cup:** While sitting outside the SRC, playing opportunities during the international breaks are permitted, subject to sanction and ratification by the SRC Governance Committee. Details and format of these playing opportunities can be found in Schedule Three. For the avoidance of doubt, these Regulations shall have

full force for all forms of competition under the SRC, unless a specific Competition form is referenced explicitly in relation to a given regulation.

2.3. Conditions of Participation

A rugby union club shall not be entitled to be or to remain a participant of the SRC unless it is a member Club of the WRU and licensed to play in the SRC by the WRU. Participation in the SRC and any funding (whether financial or value in kind) provided by or on behalf of the WRU or a third party for participation in the SRC shall be conditional upon the Club complying with:

- a) The rules contained herein;
- b) The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the WRU and the Regulations and Resolutions of the Board of the WRU Limited;
- c) The Bye Laws, Resolutions and Regulations relating to the Game by World Rugby;
- d) The Laws of the Game including World Rugby trials and WRU law variations;
- e) The meeting and maintaining compliance with the requirements of the SRC Licence Agreement, SRC Salary Cap Regulations, and the SRC Minimum Operating Expectations (MoE); and,
- f) Any commercial agreements entered into by the WRU in respect of the SRC, and such other agreements entered into of which the Clubs have notice and from which the Clubs derive financial benefit (including without prejudice to the generality of these SRC Regulations any agreement for Broadcast Rights).

2.4. Ceasing to participate

- a) The WRU, may, upon such terms and conditions as it may from time-to-time think fit, allow a Club to terminate its participation in the SRC.
- b) If the WRU considers that a Club shall be expelled or suspended from SRC, the WRU, may then, by resolution and upon such terms and conditions as it may specify in such resolution, expel or suspend a Club from participation in the SRC, subject to the Club's right of appeal pursuant to Regulation 13.4. In the case of expulsion, it is accepted that the WRU may but not be obliged to place such expelled Club in such league below the SRC as the WRU itself shall determine where the Club will be so placed in its absolute discretion. Such discretion shall include, but is not limited to, relegating the Club concerned to the lowest Division of the Community competition structure.
- c) In addition to provisions of paragraphs a) and b) of Regulation 2.4, a Club shall cease to participate in the SRC, in the event that it shall so cease to be a member of the WRU in accordance with the provisions of regulation 2.3.

3. Super Rygbi Cymru (Declaration of Winners)

3.1. Competition Points

The following points shall be awarded based on the results of each Match (such points to be referred to elsewhere in these Regulations as "Competition Points" to distinguish them from points scored on the field of play (points)):

- a) The winners of a match will be the team that has scored the greater number of points at the end of the match.
- b) The Team that wins the Match shall be awarded four [4] Competition Points, (if it scores four tries or more in the process) five [5] Competition Points, or (if it wins the game by 15 clear points or more) five [5]

Competition Points, or (if it wins the game by 15 clear points or more *and* scores four tries or more in the process) six [6] Competition Points.

- c) The Team that loses the Match shall be awarded no [0] Competition Points or (if it scores four tries or more in the process) one [1] Competition Point, or (if it loses by a margin of seven points or less) one [1] Competition Point, or (if it loses by a margin of seven points or less *and* scores four tries or more in the process), two [2] Competition Points
- d) Teams that draw a Match shall each be awarded two [2] Competition Points and any of them that scores four tries or more in the process shall also be awarded a further one [1] Competition Point.

3.2. League Placings

At the end of the Regular season rounds, League placings will be decided on the basis of Competition Points gained in the season. The rankings shall be determined in accordance with the following criteria and in the following order:

- a) The number of Competition Points awarded to each Club; or
- b) if unresolved, the number of Matches won by each Club in the Regular Season;
- c) if unresolved, the fewest losses in the Regular Season;
- d) if unresolved, the number of tries scored by each Club in all Matches in the Regular Season;
- e) if unresolved, the points 'for' shall be divided by the points 'against' and the team with the highest factor shall be declared to have the better record, and;
- f) if unresolved, the toss of a coin or as otherwise determined by RMB in its absolute discretion.

3.3. Post-Season Finals (including Grand Finals)

In the event of a tie at full-time of a Post-Season Finals Match, the winner of that Match shall be determined by reference to the following rules:

- a) Extra time will be played in accordance with the protocol set out at Appendix Two to these SRC Regulations and the Club that scores the most points in such extra time shall be deemed the winner of that Match.
- b) If the scores are tied after extra time, then the Club that has scored the most tries in that Match (including extra time) shall be deemed the winner of that Match.
- c) If the scores are tied after extra time and the Clubs have scored the same number of tries in that Match (including extra time), then the winner of the Match will be determined by a place-kick competition conducted in accordance with Appendix Three to these SRC Regulations.

3.4. Trophies

- a) The Club(s) declared the SRC winner and Challenger Shield Holder, in accordance with these Regulations, shall hold the trophy(s) until no later than 31 March of the following season whereupon it must be returned to the WRU in good order and condition. The WRU will aim to present the trophy at the winning club's last home match of the season each year.
- b) During such time as a Club shall hold the SRC trophy(s), it shall be responsible for the full replacement value thereof against loss or damage by such risks as WRU shall from time to time specify.

- c) For the avoidance of doubt, there shall be no other trophies for the SRC, save as agreed by the WRU

3.5. Eligibility and Restrictions

- a) A Club must make provision for the Effective Registration¹ of a squad of 'up to 32' Players to compete on its behalf in the SRC for an upcoming Season. This can be supplemented by a maximum of two (2) Dual-Contracted (Regional) Players (as defined in the SRC Salary Cap Regulations). To obtain Effective Registration, all Players must self-register using [MyWRU](#). This group can be further supplemented by an unlimited number of Regional Players allocated to the Club from their Affiliate Professional Region ("Allocated Regional Players") pursuant to obligations within both the SRC MoE and Regional Academy Licence. At least nine (9) of the Players registered by the Club must be capable of playing in front row forward positions and must be suitably trained and experienced for that role (a Player with such competence, training and experience is hereby referred to as a "Front Row Player"). Of the nine Front Row Players, a minimum of two must be designated loose head props, two designated hookers, and two designated as tight head props.
- b) Only those Players who are properly registered under this Regulation 3.5a, and/or who satisfy the relevant eligibility criteria set out below, may play for a Club in SRC.
- c) Each Club must have ensured the self-registration by each of their squad of 'up to 32' Players (and a further 'up to 2' Dual Contracted Players) on or before noon (UK time) on the September 1 ("First Registration Date"). The list of these Players will act as the accurate and comprehensive squad list for the forthcoming season; and
- d) A Club may only play or select in a Match Day Squad, Players who hold Effective Registration with that Club and as such be able to be selected as an active Player on the required WRU digital Team Sheet (submitted via RPMS). The Transfer Deadline for Clubs will be as set out in WRU Regulations.
- e) A Club may not in any Match have in the Match Day Squad at any one time more than two Non-Welsh Qualified Players (a Player who registered with a Professional Region is exempt from this Regulation).
- f) In addition to provisions of paragraph a) of this Regulation, a Club may play or select in a Match Day Squad an unlimited number of Allocated Regional Players. These may be Academy or Senior Players.
- g) In addition to provisions of paragraph a) of this Regulation, a Club may not in any Match have in the Match Day Squad at any one time more than eight (8) Permit Players (Players who hold Effective Registration with another Welsh Club either within or outside the SRC). Non-Welsh Qualified Players may play on Permit, but a Club must be compliant with Regulation 3.5e.
- h) A Club must seek a Permit for each Match for which a Permit Player is to be included in the Match Day Squad pursuant to this Regulation (for the avoidance of doubt, this includes Permits between SRC Clubs). Permits require approval from the Club who holds the Player's Effective Registration and the WRU in its absolute discretion, and the WRU reserves the right to refuse any Permit it feels necessary to maintain the integrity of the SRC.
- i) Requests for Permits must be made using [MyWRU](#) (or a suitable alternative template provided by), and in accordance with the instructions of the WRU (as communicated from time-to-time). To be eligible for selection (via the digital Team Sheets on RPMS), Permits must be submitted and approved (by the club who hold the Player's Effective Registration) by no later than 11am on the day immediately prior to the

¹ Warning: The computerised record held by the WRU is the only and conclusive evidence of a Player's Effective Registration save in the case of such registration having been made as a result of inaccurate, false or misleading information having been provided in which case the effective registration will be void and invalid from the date of initial registration. If a Player does not hold Effective Registration with a Club, they will not be able to be selected for a Match using the digital Team Sheet system.

Match in which the Club proposes the Permit Player(s) will participate, save exceptional circumstances which require notifying to and approval from the WRU directly.

3.6. Team Declarations

- a) Clubs agree to being on the WRU online registration system and ensuring Players are actively registered to take part in the SRC via [MyWRU](#). Only players who are registered will be eligible to play and selected to a digital Team Sheet on RPMS.
- b) Each Club must announce the Match Day Squad selected to represent it in a particular Match and numbered in accordance with World Rugby Regulations as if the Match were an international match (for the avoidance of doubt, this requires the selected Players to be named and numbered 1 to 23 and must include selected Players only rather than potential alternatives or substitutes) by using the digital Team Sheets, to the Competition Manager and/or its designee, and to broadcasters and all media no later than 12 noon the day immediately prior to such Match. Team sheets submitted prior to the start of a Match must identify Players on Permit and Allocated Regional Players.
- c) Subject to the provisions of Regulation 3.5 and SRC MoE Standards 66, 88, 89, 90, 94, and 95 (relating to the selection and playing time of allocated Regional Players), Clubs agree to play its strongest possible XV team in all Matches and shall not field an under-strength team without good cause such as allowance for player rotation requirements in the Teams' squads, the reasonable and customary need to rest players or the exigencies of injury. Clubs agree that they will act reasonably and in good faith in taking any decision which results in the playing of a Team other than its strongest possible first XV.
- d) Any changes to a Match Day squad due to a certified injury or illness (certification of which must be provided to the WRU upon the WRU's request) after the official announcement detailed in Regulation 3.6b must be communicated to the Competition Manager before or as soon as practicably possible after the Match and no later than 24 hours after the conclusion of the Match. Failure to announce the correct team or inform the Competition Manager of a change due to injury or illness will result in a penalty at the WRU's discretion.

3.7. Replacements

- a) Subject to 3.4 (b), in all Matches up to eight (8) replacements and substitutes are permitted in accordance with Law 3 and World Rugby resolutions/rulings/directives relating thereto and each Club shall comply with such Law and resolutions/rulings/directives.
- b) In the interests of safety each team must have at least six (6) fit and able Players in the squad who can play at hooker, tight head prop and loose head prop who are suitably trained and experienced to ensure that on the first occasion that a replacement in any front row position is required (whether due to injury or consequent to a Player(s) being temporarily suspended or ordered off) the team can continue to safely with contested scrums. In the event that a Club is unable to field those six players, the Match shall be referred to the SRC Governance Committee (or any such person or agency as may be determined and notified to the Clubs from time to time) to determine if the match can go ahead and/or such other consequence in accordance with these SRC Regulations.
- c) If on any occasion where uncontested scrums are ordered by the Referee as a result of there being no suitably trained and experienced replacement Front Row Players for any reason (which includes injury, temporary blood injury, temporary exclusion (i.e. following a yellow card) or permanent exclusion (i.e. following a sending off)), the Team concerned shall not be entitled to replace the Player whose departure caused the uncontested scrums. On return to the field of play of the Front Row Player who has been temporarily excluded or injured the Match shall continue with contested scrums.
- d) If a Match is completed with or contains uncontested scrums, the Club that was responsible for causing uncontested scrums must upon the request of the WRU provide to the WRU such information as it may

require including if requested a medical report identifying the injuries sustained by its Front Row Players which must be signed by the Club doctor. The WRU may take such action it deems appropriate in respect of any suspected, alleged, or actual breach of this Regulation 3.7 as it shall decide and shall notify all Clubs. Any Club may appeal against the decision of the WRU in accordance with Regulation 13.4.

- e) A substitution card issued by the WRU will be used for the management of replacements on and off the pitch.
- f) During and following a Match the following procedure will be utilised:
 - (i) On the day of the Match, the team's nominated person will be situated during the Match in the Technical Zone. The team's nominated person will have at their disposal as many replacement cards as they require.
 - (ii) When it is decided that a Player must be replaced, they then complete the details on the form, giving all the requested details (names, numbers, reasons, times, whether injury replacement (permanent or temporary) or tactical substitution).
 - (iii) Once this form is completed, it is handed to the Assistant Referee instructing him of the replacement at the next opportunity.
 - (iv) After the match, the Assistant Referee will digitally submit the forms used for the replacements to the WRU.

3.8. Match Result Card

- a) If a Player on the digital Team Sheet submitted in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 3.6 withdraw or sustain an injury before after such digital Team Sheet is submitted but before Kick Off of the Match, they may be replaced by another Player and the digital Team Sheet must be amended (this can be done online up to ten (10) minutes prior to kick off) and Referee informed of this immediately.
- b) Within 90 minutes of the end of the Match the Referee shall complete and submit the online Match Result Card (in accordance with Regulation 3.6), including the result of such Match, the number of tries, goals and penalty goals scored, and the timing of any replacements or substitutions during such Match.
- c) The Home Club shall also, within four hours after the end of the Match, complete the online Match Result Card on RPMS and submit it to the WRU and such person or agency as may be determined and notified to the Clubs from time to time.
- d) This online electronically generated Match Result Card² will be the only evidence acceptable of the names of the Players who played or were replacements for the Match and the result without prejudice to the right of either Team to produce supporting evidence in the event of a question being raised.
- e) The WRU shall hold the definitive table of results for SRC.

3.9. Match Footage

- a) The WRU (and its contracted third parties) will instruct the Clubs as to whether any Match will be filmed (whether for broadcast or non-broadcast purposes) and what requirements, assistance, facilities and equipment the Clubs need to provide, further to those outlined in the SRC MoE, in order to enable the WRU, the Clubs (and its contracted third parties) to film the Matches

² Note: Once the digital Team Sheet has been submitted it cannot be altered other than in the circumstances set out in Regulation **Error! Reference source not found.** The Club lays itself open to sanction under these regulations in the event the Referee reports non-compliance with Regulation **Error! Reference source not found.** or abuse of the Referee or Match Officials which is found to have been substantiated. Providing false information on Players or Replacements taking part in a Match shall be a serious offence.

- b) All Clubs agree to meet those requirements and to provide such assistance, facilities, and equipment as the WRU (and its contracted third parties) may request and to use of Match footage being utilised for officiating and discipline, coaching, player performance, injury surveillance and research, and game wide analysis projects agreed by the Rugby Management Board.

3.10. Clubs Ceasing to Play

If a Club ceases to participate in SRC during the Season for any reason and prior to the time when it has played all the Matches which it is scheduled to play during such Season, the WRU shall in its absolute discretion impose any such penalty as it deems appropriate which may include but not be limited to:

- a) variation or deduction of any SCR Competition Points from the Club concerned for the current season or following season, and/or;
- b) any SRC Competition Points allocated to any other Club as a result of a Match against the Club concerned being disregarded for the current Season, and/or;
- c) suspension of the Club concerned or one or more of its teams from playing one or more matches, and/or;
- d) imposition of a fine payable to whom the WRU directs or compensation payable to another Club or Clubs, and/or;
- e) revoking of the Club's SRC Licence and removal from the SRC.

In the event it is disputed by the Club concerned that it has ceased to participate in SRC the decision of the WRU, subject to the Club's right of appeal pursuant to Regulation 13.4, shall be final.

4. Match and Fixture Management

4.1. Arrangement of Matches

- a) All Match Weekends to be played during a Season shall be arranged by the WRU as soon as reasonably practicable following the end of the immediately preceding Season and a list of such Matches ("Season Schedule") shall be sent to each of the Clubs.
- b) All Clubs shall confirm to the WRU the dates and kick off times of the fixtures on the Weekends as notified by the WRU on a date as determined by the WRU which upon agreement by the WRU shall become the final Season Schedule and fixture list for the Season. For each round the Home Club may select a Weekend date on the allocated round Weekend or a day in between such allocated round Weekends.
- a) All Competition fixtures must be played, and each Club must complete its programme of Competition Fixtures as outlined in the Season Schedule with Matches played on the designated weekends save where the WRU decides to rearrange a fixture date and/or time (including any fixture dates organised pursuant to regulation 4.1 (b) above) if deemed appropriate, having consulted with both Clubs. Such decision shall be binding on each Club and the WRU.
- b) A Match Kick Off must, so far as possible, adhere to the times outlined in Regulation 4.4.
- c) The Referee must report to the WRU a delay in Kick Off of more than ten minutes.

4.2. Designation of Match venues: Regular Season, Post-Season Finals, and Cup

- a) All Regular Season, Cup rounds, Wildcard Play Offs, quarterfinals and semi-finals shall ordinarily be played at a venue designated by the Home Club. However, if the Home Club wishes to designate a venue other than its normal home venue, it may do so only with the prior written consent of the WRU and in accordance with Regulation 5.1.
- b) The WRU, via the SRC Governance Committee, shall have the right to decide in its absolute discretion that any Match at any stage in SRC shall be played at a venue designated by the WRU.

4.3. Designation of Match venue: Grand Final

- a) The Grand Final shall be played at a venue designated by the WRU, in its absolute discretion.
- b) Unless the WRU agrees otherwise in writing, in respect of the Grand Final:
 - (i) The WRU or its designee shall be responsible for organising the logistics involved in staging the Match;
 - (ii) at the absolute discretion of the host venue, each participating Club shall hold a 'captain's run' on the Playing Area for up to one hour, to take place on the day before the Grand Final (with the timings to be arranged with the WRU); and
 - (iii) each Club participating in the Match shall ensure that its entire Match Day Squad (i.e. those Players who are named on the official Team Sheet submitted pursuant to Regulations 3.6 (plus at least one qualified and practising medical doctor) arrives at the Match venue no later than 75 minutes prior to the designated Kick Off time.

4.4. Kick Off Times

- a) In respect of Matches, except as provided in Regulation 4.4b) and c), the standard kick off time shall be:
 - (i) 2.30pm in each case for a Match played on a Saturday, Sunday, bank holiday or other public holiday; and
 - (ii) 7:30pm for a Match played on a Thursday, Friday, or on any other day as directed from time to time by the WRU.
- b) Subject to Regulation 4.4c), any variations to the timings referred to in Regulation 4.4a) shall only be made by the Home Club with agreement from the Visiting Team and the prior approval of the WRU or its delegated nominee. Such decision shall be binding on each Club and the WRU. In the event of a variation in the time fixed for the Kick Off of a Match, the WRU shall forthwith notify the Visiting Club, Referee, and Match Officials in writing of such variation.
- c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of these SRC Regulations, the WRU has the absolute right to select or alter the proposed Kick Off time when notified in advance of proposed changes.
- d) In relation to a Match televised or streamed live, the WRU shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, determine the day on the published weekend and time of Kick Off of such Match. For the avoidance of doubt the WRU may determine that a televised or streamed match may be scheduled for any day of the week or time. Such decision shall be binding on each Club and the WRU. The WRU shall notify each Club and the officials of the Kick Off times with which each Club will comply.
- e) The Home Team accepts responsibility for confirming to the Competition Manager in writing via email the exact intended kick off time no later than 48 hours prior to the Match. Once notified this will allow access for the Match digital Team Sheets to be completed.

4.5. Duration of Matches

- a) All Matches shall be of 80 minutes duration, divided into two halves of 40 minutes each in accordance with the Laws of the Game (Law 5.1). In all matches, the interval between each of the two halves shall not be more than 15 minutes (unless both Teams agree to a shorter interval and the broadcaster so agrees in respect of Matches which are being broadcast) during which time the Teams may leave the pitch. For televised or streamed Matches, the Broadcaster may determine the duration of the half-time interval.
- b) Any Match which from any cause whatsoever falls short of 80 minutes duration may be ordered to count as a completed fixture or to be replayed in full, as the Competition Manager may in their absolute discretion determine.

4.6. Postponed Matches

- a) If a fixture is in doubt due to the pitch being unplayable because of bad weather or the forecast of bad weather, the visiting team must be informed as soon as practicable. A suitably accredited independent WRU Referee (not a person, whether a Referee or not who is a member of the home club) must confirm the postponement after an inspection of the match pitch. Such a pitch inspection by an independent Referee must take place before the time the visiting team intend to travel to fulfil the fixture. Where a pitch inspection has taken place on the day prior to the day of the Match and it is decided that the match should not be postponed, a further pitch inspection must take place on the day of the Match by no later than 10am on that day or 3 hours prior to kick off of the Match (whichever is earlier).
- b) If the independent Referee having undertaken an inspection deems the pitch unplayable and/or likely to be unplayable the home club must act on that judgement and immediately postpone the fixture. If the independent Referee deems the pitch playable and/or likely to be playable the Home Club must act on that judgement and notify the visiting team accordingly.
- c) If this procedure is not followed and the fixture is postponed, because the pitch is unplayable, and if the visiting team have travelled to fulfil the fixture the Home Club may be responsible for 50% of the costs of travel and accommodation incurred by the visiting team or other sanction as deemed appropriate by the WRU. Such costs will be payable by the Home Club within 28 days from receipt of the relevant invoice and supporting copy invoices from the visiting team.
- d) When a late decision within 3 hours of Kick Off as to the fitness of the pitch for playing a match is necessary, the decision shall be made by the captains of the teams involved. If the captains are not able to agree, the decision as to the fitness of the pitch should be made by the appointed Referee in accordance with 4.6(a) above. If the match is postponed the Home Club must notify the WRU within 4 hours of the decision to postpone. If the Referee declines or fails to make a decision, and the captains disagree about the fitness of the pitch, the match shall be immediately postponed, and the circumstances notified to the WRU within 48 hours of the decision to postpone. Regulation 4.6(c) must be adhered to in addition to the provisions set out in any such related protocol that may be provided to the Clubs by the WRU.
- e) If the Match is postponed for any reason other than the weather, the home Club must follow the procedure outlined in (d) above.

4.7. Abandoned Matches

- a) All matches must be played to full time. The Referee is to be the sole judge of the amount of time played. If a Match is abandoned, then both Clubs must separately notify the WRU of the fact in writing no later than 48 hours following the abandonment. Should there be any disputes, the SRC Governance Committee shall have the discretion to confirm the result of the game regardless of score.

- (i) Points difference of 29 or less: If adverse Weather conditions (which shall be deemed to include bad light and pitch conditions in the sole opinion of the referee) solely prevent a Match being played or result in a Match being abandoned with a points difference of 29 or less, then the Match will be replayed in accordance with Regulation 4.9 unless the WRU exceptionally and in its absolute discretion agrees/specifies otherwise.
 - (ii) Points difference of 30 or greater: If a Match is abandoned solely because of Weather conditions when the points difference is 30 or greater, then the score at the moment of abandonment shall stand and be deemed the final score in the Match. The Referee's decision as to the necessity for abandonment and the number of minutes played at the moment of abandonment shall be final. For the avoidance of doubt, there will be no requirement for a rearrangement (regardless of whether both teams agree or not).
- b) Other Reasons: If the Referee finds it necessary to abandon a Match for any reason other than Weather conditions, then, irrespective of the number of minutes played, the result of that Match shall be reviewed and determined by the SRC Governance Committee (or its delegate). The SRC Governance Committee (or its delegate) may order the Match to be replayed in accordance with Regulation 4.9 and/or impose such other sanction and/or any other action as it deems appropriate.

4.8. Notification

- a) When a Match is abandoned, the Home Club must notify the WRU (or its delegate) in writing of the reason for non-completion of the Match as soon as possible but in any event within 24 hours of the Match.
- b) A digital Match Result Card (which has been submitted by the Referee) must also be submitted in accordance with Regulation 3.8 which, if appropriate, states the number of minutes played, the score, and the reason for the abandonment.

4.9. Re-scheduling or Re-arranging Matches

- a) A cancelled, postponed, or abandoned Match shall be played/replayed on a date specified by the WRU and at the original venue or at a venue determined by the Home Club. For the avoidance of doubt the WRU may specify the next available date, unless both Clubs are in mutual agreement regarding an alternative date which upon agreement by the WRU shall become the final. Therefore, all Clubs must have access to a ground which meets the required standards in accordance with Regulations 5.2 and has a Pitch which is suitably floodlit and meets the floodlight requirements as set out in the SRC MoE.
- b) Should there be no next available date, and the Visiting Team have the option to host the Match then the Home Team will be required to make arrangements to reverse the fixture. Exceptional travel circumstances dictate if the reversal of a fixture is applied and will be at the sole discretion of WRU.

4.10. Clubs unable to fulfil fixtures

- a) No Club shall, without just cause (it being for the WRU to determine whether or not just cause exists), fail to fulfil its fixture obligations³ in respect of a Match on the date and at the time appointed for such fixture.
- b) In the event that a Club shall so fail to fulfil a Match the WRU may, and subject to the Club's right of appeal pursuant to Regulation 13.4, in its absolute discretion in the case of Matches award the Competition Points to either side, divide the Competition Points between the sides or decide that no Competition Points shall be awarded. If the WRU is of the view that a Club has unjustifiably failed to fulfil its obligations in relation to any Match it may deduct Competition Points and/or make an order for a fine to be imposed and/or

³ Note: Subject to its right of appeal, a Club lays itself open to a penalty to be imposed (which may include the Club being deducted league points in the current season or the following season) if the WRU is of the view that a club has unjustifiably failed to fulfil its obligations to play a Match.

award compensation and/or award the result of the Match to the other Club. In addition, or instead it may order the Match to be postponed or re-arranged or replayed on a date specified by it or impose such other sanction as it considers appropriate. In each case the WRU shall have regard to the likely final League Placings of each Club at the end of the Season (including other Clubs) the commitments of each Club concerned and giving priority to arguments of the Club which was not at fault in the event of a dispute on any re-arranged Match date. All decisions of the WRU pursuant to this Regulation 4.10 shall be final subject only to the right of the affected Clubs to appeal the decision pursuant to Regulation 13.4.

- c) Lack of available Players whether through injury, illness, or because of other commitments is not a valid reason for failing to fulfil a fixture. The SRC Governance Committee (or its delegate) may order the Match to be replayed in accordance with Regulation 4.9 and/or impose a further sanction if determined (in their sole discretion) that the Club has unjustifiably failed to fulfil the Match.
- d) Any Club which is suspended from playing rugby union football for disciplinary reasons will not be permitted to re-arrange any Match falling to be played within the period of the suspension. The effects thereof on the non-offending Clubs in the SRC shall be dealt with by the WRU in its absolute discretion but subject to a right of appeal by any affected Club.
- e) In addition to and whether or not a penalty is imposed upon a Club by the WRU where in the opinion of the WRU the Club failed to honour its Match obligations a Club shall be liable to pay to any opposing Club compensation in respect of the losses, damages liabilities, costs or expenses suffered or incurred by such opposing Club as a result of such failure. The amount of such compensation will in default of agreement between the opposing Clubs be determined by the WRU.

4.11. Clubs Not To Arrange Matches Which Interfere With Fixtures

- a) Clubs shall not arrange other matches during a Season until after the Season Schedule for that Season has been sent to Clubs in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 4.1.
- b) Clubs desiring to arrange matches other than Matches must ensure that such matches do not interfere with Matches.

5. Grounds

5.1. Home Team venue

- a) Each Club shall by July 1 of each year register its principal pitch and pitch size at its home ground (together with, if it has one any temporary ground) with the WRU for the attention of the SRC Competition Manager.
- b) No Club shall move to another ground or pitch or play any home Matches during the Season on a ground or pitch other than the registered principal home pitch, the registered temporary ground or such other ground as may be pre-approved in writing by the WRU. If the home Club wishes to change the venue for the Match from the venue designated by the home Club pursuant to Regulation 5.1a), above, any such notification must provide the reasons for the request to change the venue, set out details of the proposed new venue, and confirm the venue's availability for the match in question and confirm that the home Club will not breach any of its obligations under its SRC Licence or these SRC Regulations by holding the Match at the new proposed venue. Save in exceptional circumstances, notification and confirmation must be provided to the WRU at least two weeks before the date of the Match. On receipt of such a request from a Club, it will be at the WRU's absolute discretion whether or not to agree to a change in the venue.

5.2. Facilities, equipment, the Pitch, and Safety

- a) All Clubs must ensure their playing Pitch and match day facilities at their Home ground meet the minimum match day facilities as set out in the SRC MoE, and as such complies with all applicable laws, bye laws rules and regulations applicable to its use for and the staging of a Match including health and safety laws

and regulations and is safe for the purpose of admitting persons to the venue to assist in the organisation of and/or to attend at the Match. The WRU shall be entitled to impose sanctions in respect of any non-compliance.

- b) All Clubs in the SRC shall be obliged to use a specified ball for all Matches as may be determined by the WRU from time to time.
- c) Each Club must make provision for:
 - (i) two Technical Zones as outlined in Schedule Four of these Regulations and shall comply and shall ensure that all coaching and Players comply with the requirements contained therein, and;
 - (ii) a 'sin bin' area, designated by the Home Club, not in the Technical Zones, but with a clear view of the Playing Area, where Players who have been Temporarily Suspended must stay, subject to instructions of the Match Officials, during the period of their Temporary Suspension.
- d) The WRU shall be entitled from time to time to require that:
 - (i) a pitch carries branding advertising SRC in such form and position as the WRU may from time to time require and in accordance with the Sponsorship Agreement;
 - (ii) no other pitch branding, including the Club's logo, shall be permitted without the prior consent of the WRU; and,
 - (iii) there be displayed such perimeter advertising and advertising in other areas of a ground provided for advertising, in each case advertising SRC in such form and position as the WRU may from time to time require and in accordance with the Sponsorship Agreement.
- e) All Clubs must have a valid health and safety certificate in respect of their ground at the time Matches are played at their grounds.

5.3. Home Team Responsibilities

In respect of each Match played at the Home Team venue designated by the home Club (i.e., ordinarily all Regular Season, Cup rounds, wildcard play offs, quarterfinals and semi-finals), the home Club accepts the responsibility for:

- a) organising the logistics involved in the staging of the Match, subject to any directions of the Competition Manager or SRC Governance Committee with respect thereto;
- b) making contact with the Visiting Team and advising it of the name of the Match Day Doctor (if appointed by the home Club) for the Match and of the details of any medical personnel or facilities;
- c) making available to the Match Officials separate suitable changing room facilities, which may need to include changing facilities for both male and female Match Officials;
- d) providing ball boys/girls who have sufficient experience to perform their duties properly;
- e) taking all necessary steps, including implementing appropriate operational policies and procedures (including appropriate safety measures and risk management policies), in relation to the staging of the Match at the designated venue to ensure that persons admitted to the venue for purposes relating to the Match (whether as spectators or for any other purpose), as well as persons adjacent to the venue, are safe and do not suffer injuries or losses as a result of the staging of the Match at the venue.

- f) using its reasonable endeavours to control the behaviour of its players and staff and of all Home Team spectators so as to ensure that Players and staff of the Visiting Team and other spectators are free from injury, provocation, or offence. This shall include (without limitation) taking all reasonable steps to ensure that no spectators or other unauthorised persons are permitted to encroach on the playing enclosure area (save for reasons of crowd safety) or to throw missiles, bottles, or other potentially harmful or dangerous objects at or on to the playing enclosure area. The home Club's responsibility pursuant to this Regulation applies before, during (including the half-time interval) and after a Match and extends to all areas of a venue and its vicinity, including, but not limited to, bars within a ground, clubhouses, or similar reception areas.

5.4. Public Liability Insurance

Each Club shall obtain and maintain in force at its expense at all relevant times appropriate insurance with a reputable insurer to cover its liabilities under these SRC Regulations, and in accordance with any insurance requirement under the Sponsorship Agreement. Each Club shall, upon request, provide to the SRC Governance Committee full written details of all policies taken out for this purpose. For the avoidance of doubt, liabilities include all activity at the Club's facility, as well as ensuring partners whose venues are used for rugby activity (training and/or Matches) also hold suitable public liability insurance. Each Club shall indemnify the WRU and their directors, officers, members, shareholders, employees and any engaged contractors against any and all liabilities, costs and expenses in respect of claims (including but not limited to claims in negligence or nuisance or claims arising under the Occupiers' Liability Act 1957) arising out of injuries or losses suffered by persons admitted to the venue for purposes relating to a Match or training, by persons adjacent to the venue, and/or by persons involved in any way in the organisation and staging of a Match or training, as a result of the Home Team's failure to perform the obligations set out in Regulation 5.3f, or imposed by any statute law, bye law or any statutory instrument regulation rule or order pursuant thereto. The SRC Governance Committee may at any point require a Team to increase the value and/or extend the scope of such cover as a condition of continued participation in the Competition.

5.5. Tickets for Administrators and Supporters

- a) In respect of each of its home Matches a Club shall:
- (i) provide at least six (6) best category tickets to the Visiting Club, free of charge for the use of the Visiting Club's directors and committee members; such tickets shall include the provision of hosted hospitality free of charge and the Visiting Club shall notify the Home Club as soon as reasonably practicable if the same are not required;
 - (ii) provide at least two (2) tickets, free of charge for the use of the WRU;
 - (iii) provide at least thirty (30) tickets (Main stand and under cover) to the Visiting Club, free of charge for the use of the Visiting Club's Players, Officials and/or other representatives, and the Visiting Club shall notify the Home Club as soon as reasonably practicable if the same are not required;
 - (iv) provide to any Sponsor the number of tickets required by the Sponsorship Agreement.
- b) No Home Club shall charge higher prices to supporters of the Visiting Club for admission comparable with that used by supporters of the Home Club (not being members of the Home Club) who arrive at its ground on the day of a Match seeking a ticket for admission.
- c) Payment for tickets sold in respect of a Match by the Visiting Club and for any tickets supplied to the Visiting Club but not returned to the Home Club shall be made by the Visiting Club to the Home Club no later than fourteen (14) days before the Match.

6. Playing Kit

6.1. Colours

- a) No later than July 1 of each Year immediately prior to the commencement of the following Season, each Club shall give to the WRU details in writing (including images front and back) of its first and second choice colours in relation to jerseys, shorts and socks and the first and second choice must be of distinctly different colours. For the avoidance of doubt, it is considered highly desirable that the first-choice kit (jerseys, shorts and socks) is predominantly one colour with the second kit a total contrast. The WRU shall approve such colours subject to the proviso that all potential colour clashes can be managed within these SRC Regulations and to the satisfaction of the SRC broadcasters. If the WRU has not indicated its approval or otherwise no later than July 15 prior to the commencement of the Season its approval shall be deemed to have been given. The colours so notified to and approved by the WRU by each Club shall be worn during the next following Season by such Club and no changes in such colours shall be permitted during the course of such Season, except with the prior written approval of the WRU.
- b) Each Club must have available for every Match two sets of kit in case a change of kit is required due to muddy conditions or colour clash.

6.2. Jersey to bear logo on sleeve

A space on the left sleeve of each Player's jersey, no smaller than 100mm x 50mm and placed between the triceps and bicep, is to be reserved for the SRC logo in a style and position designated by the WRU. If directed by the WRU, Clubs must ensure that the only sponsorship branding or logo on the left shoulder and left sleeve of each Player's jersey shall be a logo in a style and position designated by the WRU.

6.3. Jersey advertising

In Matches, Players' jerseys may carry advertising subject to:

- a) any requirement from time to time specified by the WRU and/or World Rugby;
- b) for televised matches, any terms and conditions for the time being laid down in any contracts in respect of broadcasting referred to in Regulations 11.1, and;
- c) any terms and conditions for the time being laid down in the Sponsorship Agreement and any contracts referred to in Regulations 11.2.

6.4. Numbering of jerseys

In Matches in each season, jerseys shall be numbered in accordance with SRC Regulations and correspond to the Team Sheets submitted to the WRU via the digital Team Sheet process.

7. Match Officials

7.1. Selection

The Referees for each Match shall be appointed by the WRU from a panel of appropriately experienced officials and their role will be to enforce the Laws of the Game. As soon as practicably possible, the WRU shall notify the Home Team of the Referee and Assistant Referees for such Match. There will be no Television Match Official (TMO) provision in the SRC, unless required as a provision of any Broadcast, in which case both Teams will be notified in writing by the Competition Manager as soon as is possible.

7.2. Uniforms

When on duty at a Match, the Referee and the Assistant Referees shall be required to wear such match kit (including footwear) as may from time to time be determined by the WRU.

8. Medical Matters

8.1. Attendance of a medical practitioner for the Players, Referee, and Assistant Referees

- a) Each Team must ensure the provision of a Match Day Trauma trained (Level 2) Lead Therapist with their team for 'in-game' player and trauma management, and post-game support in all Matches. For home games this would include the provision of a match day Dr (Level 2 trauma trained).
- b) While not compulsory, it is recommended that the Home Team should ensure that a paramedic ambulance (compliant with relevant UK law operated by an appropriately qualified driver and one HCPC paramedic) and a crew of two HCPC paramedics is assigned solely to the players of both teams. This is in addition to any paramedic ambulance crew assigned to the crowd as required in [DCMS Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds](#).
- c) Save for (a) communications between a Club's Technical Zone Manager and the Match Officials that take place pursuant to (and in accordance with) Regulation 3.7 and Schedule Four (Technical Zone Protocol) to these SRC Regulations, and (b) communications between a Club Medic and a Match Official that is strictly compliant with Law 6.30 of the Laws of the Game (in relation to the treatment of a Player), no Club Medic, Club Manager or Club Coach may communicate (or attempt to communicate) with any of the Match Officials (including any television match official) at any point during the Match, which will include stoppages in play and the half-time interval. The Captain may speak to the Referee when leaving the field for the half-time interval and when taking the field to begin the second half. No Player or other Person may enter, or attempt to enter, the Match Officials' changing room(s) at any relevant time before, during or after a Match (including at any time when one or more of the Match Officials are in the Match Officials' changing room(s)).

8.2. Head injuries

- a) Any Player who has suffered concussion or is suspected of having concussion in any Match or training session must be managed according to the SRC's Minimum Operating Expectations for managing Head Injuries, and World Rugby's Medical Regulation 10 and Concussion Guidelines.
- b) The SRC will utilise a 'Recognise and Remove' protocol in all Matches when dealing with Head Injuries.
- c) Any Player who has suffered a recognised and or diagnosed concussion shall not participate in **any** Match or training session for a minimum period of 21 days.
- d) Each Club must have in place a protocol to review head injuries incidents or suspected incidents, and each Club must comply with the review protocol set by the WRU.
- e) All players should be reviewed by a medical practitioner and should not return to training or playing until symptom free and having successfully completed the WRU graduated return to play programme. It is recommended that declarations of return to fitness to train and play be supported by a written medical practitioner's report. The WRU Concussion Guidance document is available online at www.wru.wales/medical.
- f) Professional Regions may utilise an advanced level of concussion care (as defined by World Rugby to complete an Enhanced Return to Play for Regional Academy or Dual Contracted Players over the age of 19 should they have the necessary facilities and Medical staff available and choose to opt in.

- g) In the event of the Teams failing to comply with the provisions of this Regulation, the matter will be referred to the SRC Governance Committee to investigate further and to determine in their discretion any sanction for noncompliance, which may include sanctioning one or both Teams as they consider appropriate.

8.3. Medical Standards and Insurance

- a) All Clubs must comply with the minimum medical standards and medical facilities as set out in the SRC MoE, and any such minimum medical standards issued by the WRU from time-to-time. The WRU Medical Minimum Standards Criteria document can be found [here](#). The WRU shall be entitled to impose sanctions in respect of any non-compliance.
- b) It shall be the responsibility of each Club to comply with medical record keeping and anti-doping regulations as set out in the SRC MoE.
- c) It shall be the responsibility of each Club to effect insurance, for the benefit of itself and its Players, against loss or damage arising from death or personal injury to its Players occurring at any time in relation to the Matches (whether playing in or training for a Match, travelling to or from a Match or otherwise) and the WRU shall have no liability in respect of any such loss or damage, whether in contract tort or otherwise.

9. Match Expenses & Receipts

- a) Gross Gate Receipts at Matches shall belong to the Home Club.
- b) The Home Club shall bear all match expenses. Subject to paragraph (d) of this regulation, the Visiting Club shall be responsible for its own travelling and accommodation expenses.
- c) When a Match is postponed or abandoned in circumstances where it is required to be replayed, the WRU shall determine whether the Visiting Club shall be entitled to receive from the Home Club out of the gate receipts, reasonable travelling and accommodation expenses caused solely by the postponement or abandonment, and if so, the amount of such expenses.
- d) At the sole discretion of the WRU, if a Visiting Team's travel distance for a Match is further than 60 miles (total), the Club is eligible for a travel grant from the WRU. The SRC travel grant policy will be communicated to Clubs by no later than the June 30 of each year for the following Season.

10. Other competitions

Each Club shall participate in the SRC and shall not participate in any other competition or tournament unless approval is given by the WRU.

11. Broadcasting and Sponsorship

11.1. Broadcasting contracts

As between the WRU and each Club:

- (a) The WRU shall have the exclusive rights to enter into or authorise the entry into contracts for the grant of Broadcasting Rights in respect of the Matches and to determine which Matches should be broadcast.
- (b) Clubs undertake to provide such rights, facilities, and other services and to do such acts and things as may be necessary to enable the WRU to fulfil or enable fulfilment of any contract referred to in paragraph (a) of this regulation, including (but without limitation):
 - (i) providing access to enable television companies to film Matches at the grounds of relevant Clubs, and;

- (ii) permitting television companies to the editorial access as agreed by the WRU to include half time access to the changing room, half time interviews and pre-match, and post-match interviews with coaching staff.
- (c) Subject to paragraph (a) above, no Matches shall be broadcast in any form or recorded without the prior written approval of the WRU, save in the case of closed-circuit television within the ground of the Home Club where a Match is being played. For all Matches the broadcast over the radio of such Match by a local radio station of the Home Club is permitted.
- (d) For the avoidance of doubt and except as otherwise agreed in writing by the WRU, Clubs shall have no rights or interests of whatsoever nature in any Broadcasting Rights in respect of the Matches or any material produced in connection therewith or as a consequence thereof.

11.2. Sponsorship and commercial exploitation

- (a) The WRU shall have the exclusive right to enter into, or authorise the entry into, Sponsorship Agreements for SRC.
- (b) Pursuant to the terms of the SRC Licence, any contract referred to in paragraph (a) of this regulation shall be binding upon each Club or the extent applicable to such Club and, subject to paragraph (c) of this regulation, whilst such Club remains a participant in SRC. Subject as aforesaid, each Club shall comply with the requirements of such contract of which it has notice.
- (c) By its participation in SRC, each Club confirms the right of the WRU in connection with sponsorship and other commercial exploitation of the Competition and the Matches to use any logos or other intellectual property rights of such Club having previously advised the Club of its intention so to do and the terms upon which such use will be undertaken the Club having the right to refuse such use and accordingly agreeing to waive any entitlement to the benefits that would have been derived from such use.

For the avoidance of doubt: Each Club shall have the right to enter into contracts in respect of the sponsorship and other commercial exploitation of Matches at its own ground provided such contracts are not in conflict with any Sponsorship Agreement any Broadcasting Agreement or any other contract relating to SRC and/or the Clubs entered into by the WRU of which the Club has written notice and to which no written objection has been given.

- (d) The copyright in the fixtures lists and draws together with the database and other rights of and in Competitions shall vest in the WRU and must not be reproduced either in whole or in part except with the written consent of the WRU.

11.3. Commercial Inventory

Without prejudice to these SRC Regulations and specifically Regulations 11.1 and 11.2, each Club shall make the commercial inventory (including provisions for hospitality and tickets) set out in Schedule Six (as may be amended by the WRU from time to time and with the provision of reasonable notice to Clubs) of these regulations available to enable the WRU to comply with any Sponsorship Agreement and any Broadcasting Agreement.

12. Player Contracts of Service

In accordance with the provisions set out in the SRC Salary Cap Regulations:

- a) Each Club shall only use the standard form player contract as notified to them and approved by the WRU from time to time for all new contracts with Players and any renewals of existing contracts with Players;

- b) Each Club shall ensure that all players comply with their obligations to the SRC arising under the standard form contract;
- c) Each Club shall execute their obligations in full as set out in the SRC Salary Cap Regulations.
- d) Approaches by Clubs: No party may directly or indirectly, approach (or accept an approach by or on behalf of) any Player, member of coaching staff or other person who is contracted to (or has entered into a Contract with) a Club to induce or attempt to induce or in any way facilitate such person to leave that Club unless such approach or inducement is made with the written consent of that Club or is made in the final four month period before the expiry of, or the next option/break clause in, the person's Contract. Any Club wishing to make such an approach may contact the WRU for details of when a particular Player's Contract is due to expire.
- e) Approaches by Players: No Player who has a written Contract with a Club shall approach or accept an approach (or allow any such approach to be made and/or accepted on their behalf) from another Club unless the prior written consent of the Club with whom they are contracted has been obtained or such approach is made in the final three month period before the expiry of, or the next option/break clause in the Player's Contract.
- f) Individual Debts: It shall be a disciplinary offence under these Regulations for any Club knowingly to play any Player who has previously been a member of another Club which they have left without paying their outstanding debts to their previous Club or without fulfilling their obligations to their previous Club under a Contract approved and registered with the WRU under World Rugby Regulations.

13. Disciplinary Matters

13.1. Discipline

- a) Any allegation of foul play on the pitch, breach of any WRU and/or World Rugby Regulations, or Misconduct either on or off the pitch, that may constitute a breach of the Laws of the Game or the WRU Codes of Conduct shall be investigated and dealt with in accordance with the provisions as set out within the WRU Disciplinary Regulations, save for the additional/alternative procedures amended specifically for the Competition and as set out within the SRC Disciplinary Arrangements. The WRU Codes of Conduct can be found at: <https://community.wru.wales/governance/policy-and-integrity/discipline/>
- b) For all games within SRC including Regular Season games and Play offs, yellow cards will last for a duration of 10 minutes. After 10 minutes has elapsed, the player will be permitted back onto the field at the next break in play.

13.2. Protests & Disputes

- a) A Club may make a complaint in relation to an alleged breach of this Regulation by any Club or in relation to any matter arising out of the administration or management of the Competition, which complaint shall be in writing and shall be received by the Disciplinary Officer not later than seven (7) days from midnight on the date of the event giving rise to the complaint.
- b) The WRU Disciplinary Officer may make a complaint in relation to an alleged breach of this Regulation by any Club or in relation to any matter arising out of the administration or management of the Competition, which complaint shall be in writing and shall be received by the Union not later than seven (7) days from midnight on the date of the event giving rise to the complaint.
- c) Pursuant to Regulation 13.2b above, any such Complaint must be accompanied with the full particulars of the complaint and supporting evidential material and must be lodged with the WRU Disciplinary Officer within seven (7) days of the complained of incident.

- d) The WRU Disciplinary Officer will also have the power to make such a complaint referral to the SRC Governance Committee, and where necessary and appropriate, they will review the Complaint and make any necessary referral to the Disputes Panel.
- e) The onus of proof shall be on the Club or the WRU Disciplinary Officer (where applicable) making the complaint to establish the breach or infringement of this Regulation. The standard of proof shall be on the balance of probability.
- f) The WRU Disciplinary Officer shall cause a copy of any valid complaint to be sent to any Club, or person directly affected as soon as is practicable after it has received the complaint.
- g) For the avoidance of doubt, the seven (7) day period runs from the date of the actual incident complained of and not from the date of the Club becoming aware of the event giving rise to the complaint.

Adjudication of Disputes

- h) Any complaints and/or disputes pertaining to these Regulations must be notified to the WRU Disciplinary Officer and where appropriate, will be referred to the SRC Governance Committee or Disputes Committee and whether in their own discretion or as a result of a complaint referral, determine how such matter(s) shall be dealt with.
- i) Decisions of the SRC Governance Committee and/or Disputes Panel shall be final and binding subject to the right of appeal to The Appeal Panel, pursuant to Paragraph h.
- j) The Chairperson of the SRC Governance Committee and/or Disputes Panel shall be entitled to determine any pre-adjudication procedural or evidential issues or disputes, including whether or not to hold a hearing, without recourse to the other members of the SRC Governance Committee and/or Disputes Panel.
- k) The procedure for any complaint and/or dispute proceedings shall be determined by the SRC Governance Committee, who may give any directions necessary for the proper conduct of any proceedings.

13.3. Penalties & Sanctions

- a) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the SRC Governance Committee has power in any ruling pursuant to these SRC Regulations to deduct or award points in a Competition Match, alter the result of a Match, require a Match to be played or replayed, impose a penalty and/or disqualify a Team from a competition or impose any other such sanction as it deems appropriate.
- b) SRC Salary Cap Regulations: Without prejudice to other penalties that may be lawfully imposed under the SRC Salary Cap Regulations, the withdrawal of titles, points deductions or revoking of a Club's SRC Licence may be imposed on Clubs by an independent panel in respect of breaches of the SRC Salary Cap Regulations. In either case, any appeal to any such sanction shall be dealt with in accordance with the independent appeal process as set out in the SRC Salary Cap Regulations.
- c) The SRC Governance Committee shall therefore in cases where it finds a Club in default of the rules herein shall be entitled in its absolute discretion to impose sanctions or penalties, which may include but shall not be limited to:
 - (i) A caution, a warning as to future conduct, or a reprimand, and/or;
 - (ii) A fine, and/or;
 - (iii) The requirement to replay a match at such time and at such venue as is thought fit, or;
 - (iv) The forfeiture of, and/or the granting to another Club or Clubs, of the Competition Points for a Match which may include a Bonus Point;

- (v) The deduction of Competition points from a Club's total, the norm being the deduction of 4 points; or
 - (vi) Expunging a Club's playing record for the season, and/or;
 - (vii) The suspension of a Club, Player, or Person from the SRC for such period as may be deemed appropriate, or;
 - (viii) Revoking of a Club's SRC Licence, or;
 - (ix) Any such other penalty or sanction as may be deemed appropriate.
- d) The SRC Governance Committee also may decline to accept a protest validly made if it considers doing so to be in the interests of the game of rugby union or the SRC generally. Subject only to the provisions of Regulation 13.4 the decision of the SRC Governance Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

13.4. Appeals

- a) Any Appeal arising from decisions of the SRC Governance Committee shall be dealt with in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations. The decision of The Appeal Panel shall be final and binding on all Parties.
- b) Any notice of Appeal against the decision of the SRC Governance Committee must be served, in writing to the Competition Manager and received within 24 hours of receipt of the SRC Governance Committee's written decision being delivered to a Club. Appeals will be heard by The Appeal Panel as soon as practically possible.
- c) Where a decision is made pursuant to this Regulation by the SRC Governance and/or Disputes Panel which affects the Competition or Cup position of any Club, it shall not be permissible for any Club which was not involved in or did not participate in the match in respect of which the decision was made, to lodge an appeal against any such decision.

14. Miscellaneous

14.1. Good Faith and Confidentiality

- a) In all matters and transactions relating to SRC, and the Matches, each Club shall behave towards each other Club, and the WRU with the utmost good faith.
- b) No Club, either by itself, its servants or agents, shall by any means whatsoever unfairly criticise, disparage, belittle or discredit any other Club, SRC, the Matches, or the WRU or any of their respective directors, officers, employees or agents.
- c) A Club shall not, either during its participation in SRC at any time thereafter, disclose or divulge, either directly or indirectly, to any person whatsoever or otherwise make use of any confidential information as to the business or finances of the SRC or the WRU or any of its dealings, transactions or affairs or as to any other matters which may come to its knowledge by reason of its participation in the SRC, without the WRU's prior written consent, save to statutory and regulatory authorities and to such employees of a Club to whom such disclosure is strictly necessary for the purpose of their duties and only then to the extent so necessary.
- d) Each Club shall procure that each of its directors, officers, employees and agents are made aware of the provisions of paragraph (c) of this regulation and shall enter into a binding obligation to comply with the same, both during the period of their appointment or employment by the Club and at all times thereafter.

- e) The provisions of paragraph (c) of this regulation shall not apply to any information in the public domain otherwise than as a consequence of a breach by the relevant Club of the provisions of paragraphs (c) or (d) of this regulation.

14.2. Disclosure of Certain Agreements

- (a) The WRU aims to ensure there is no distortion of fairness and aims to promote an equal opportunity for success and a level playing field between Clubs in the SRC. To this end, every Club shall fully disclose to the WRU in the manner determined by the WRU with a copy of any documentation relating thereto, within 7 days of receipt of a written request from the WRU to do so, any written or verbal agreement, or document evidencing an agreement or arrangement, or understanding or board minute that relates to or which might affect:
- (i) the likely outcome of SRC; and/or
 - (ii) rest periods or welfare of Players; and/or
 - (iii) funding or funding arrangements between Clubs in SRC.

And if in the reasonable opinion of the WRU (or that of persons nominated by it as the case may be to approve such disclosure), the effect of such agreement, arrangement, understanding or document or committee minute is to create unfairness in SRC or adversely to prejudice or affect some Clubs in SRC or other competition more harshly than others, the Club or Clubs will take such action as required by the WRU that will eliminate, reduce and avoid the repetition of such unfairness.

- (b) Each Club shall advise the WRU in writing not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the proposed implementation or execution date whichever is the earlier, if it wishes to enter into any agreement or arrangement or understanding of the type referred to in regulation 14.2(a) above, and no such agreement or arrangement or understanding may be entered into without the prior written consent of the WRU (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed).

THIS IS OUR GAME. DYMA RYGBI CYMREIG.

Appendix One: Performance Pathway Season Structure (Performance Development Phase)

Week Number	Wales	Regional			Wales U20	SRC	
		URC	ECPR	Dev			
26							
27	Summer Tour				JWC		
28							
29							
30							
31							
32							
33							
34							
35							
36							
37							
38		URC Start				Block One	
39							
40							
41							
42							
43							
44	Autumn Internationals						
45				A			
46				A			
47							
48						Block Two	
49			Rnd 1				
50			Rnd 2				
51							
52							
1							
2			Rnd 3	A			
3			Rnd 4	A			
4							
5	6N				6N		
6	6N				6N		
7							
8	6N				6N		
9							
10	6N				6N		
11	6N				6N		
12							
13			QF			Block Three	
14			QF				
15							
16							
17			SF				
18							
19							
20			F				
21							
22							

Appendix Two: Extra time protocol

If the score is tied at the end of a Final Series Match, then extra time will be played, consisting of two periods, each of ten minutes plus any stoppage time in each period.

At the final whistle signalling the end of normal time in the Match, there will be a five-minute break. Neither the teams nor the Match Officials may leave the Playing Enclosure during this break, save for exceptional reasons. The coaching/management/medical staff of each Club shall be permitted onto the Playing Area during this break to bring water, nourishment and treatment to their Players, but they must leave the Playing Area before the end of the break.

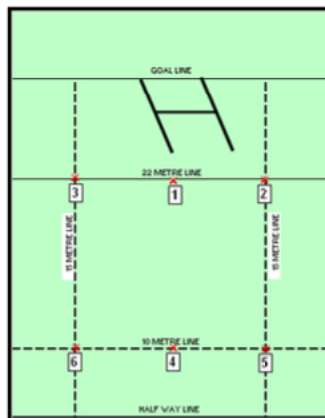
After the five-minute break, the teams will swap ends and the Club that kicked off the first half of the Match will kick off the first period of extra time. After ten minutes the referee will stop the Match, and the teams will swap ends again while there is a break of one minute. Neither the teams nor the Match Officials may leave the Playing Enclosure during this break, save for exceptional reasons. The coaching/management/medical staff of each Club shall be permitted onto the Playing Area during the break to bring water, nourishment and treatment to their Players, but they must leave the Playing Area before the end of the break.

After the one-minute break, the Club that kicked off the second half of the Match will kick off the second period of extra time. After ten minutes the referee will stop the Match. If at that point there is no winner of the Match according to the criteria set out in the SRC Regulations, then the referee will conduct a place-kick competition to determine the winner.

Appendix Three: Place-kick competition

If at the end of a Final Series Match, after extra time has been played, the scores remain equal and the number of tries scored in the Match (including extra time) is equal, then the Referee will conduct a place-kick competition to determine the winner of the Match, according to the following procedures:

1. All Players and Match Officials will remain on the Playing Area. The Referee will call the captains of the two teams together and will conduct two-coin tosses. The first toss of the coin will decide which team selects the end at which all place-kicks must be taken; the second toss of the coin will decide which team selects whether it wishes to kick first or second in sequence. For the avoidance of doubt, it may be that the same team wins both tosses, in which case it may select the end at which all place-kicks must be taken and whether it wishes to kick first or second in sequence. For the purposes of this Appendix Three, the team selected to kick first will be referred to as "Team A" and the team that kicks second will be referred to as "Team B".
2. Each team must nominate three Players to take part in the competition. For the purposes of this Appendix Three, each Player will be allocated a number: 1, 2 or 3, and will be referred to throughout the place-kick competition as "Kicker 1", "Kicker 2" or "Kicker 3", respectively. Only Players on the Playing Area at the final whistle of extra time may be nominated. No replaced Players or Players who have been shown a red card may take part at any time. Any Player who has been Temporarily Suspended and who remains in the 'sin bin' at the time of the final whistle of extra time may not take part in the place-kick competition. The order in which the nominated Players will kick is determined in accordance with paragraphs 5 to 10, below.
3. The Match Officials and the six nominated Players (three from each team) will assemble on the halfway line. Coaching/management/medical staff and Players not nominated must gather and remain in their respective Club's Technical Zone. No one other than the Match Officials and the participating Players is allowed in the part of the Playing Area being used for the competition (including around the Playing Area, behind the posts, etc).
4. The three Players from each team will kick in the order and from the positions set out in paragraphs 5 to 10, and the diagram, below.



5. The Referee starts the competition by calling Kicker 1 from Team A first to take his kick from position 1. Once Kicker 1 from Team A has taken his kick, the Referee calls Kicker 1 from Team B to take his kick from position 1.
6. The Referee then calls Kicker 2 from Team A to take his kick from position 2. Once Kicker 2 from Team A has taken his kick, the Referee calls Kicker 2 from Team B to take his kick from position 2.
7. The Referee then calls Kicker 3 from Team A to take his kick from position 3. Once Kicker 3 from Team A has taken his kick, the Referee calls Kicker 3 from Team B to take his kick from position 3.
8. The Referee then calls Kicker 1 from Team A to take his kick from position 4. Once Kicker 1 from Team A has taken his kick, the Referee calls Kicker 1 from Team B to take his kick from position.

9. The Referee then calls Kicker 2 from Team A to take his kick from position 5. Once Kicker 2 from Team A has taken his kick, the Referee calls Kicker 2 from Team B to take his kick from position 5.
10. The Referee then calls Kicker 3 from Team A to take his kick from position 6. Once Kicker 3 from Team A has taken his kick, the Referee calls Kicker 3 from Team B to take his kick from position 6.
11. After each of the three nominated Players from each team has taken his two kicks, the Referee will declare the winning team based on the number of successful kicks. If there is an equal number of successful kicks, the competition continues on a 'sudden death' basis. All kicks will take place from position 4 and will take place in the following order:
 - Kicker 1 from Team A and then Kicker 1 from Team B;
 - Kicker 2 from Team A and then Kicker 2 from Team B; and
 - Kicker 3 from Team A and then Kicker 3 from Team B.
12. The competition will continue two kicks at a time (one from each team in the order set out at paragraph 11 above) until one Player succeeds with a kick and the Player from the other team taking the corresponding kick misses it. Once that happens, the team of the Player who succeeded with the kick will be declared the winner.
13. Throughout the place-kick competition:
 - a. Once a Player has positioned the ball on the kicking tee, he must take the kick within one minute. Should he take longer, the Referee shall declare the kick unsuccessful.
 - b. After each kick, the Referee records the number of the Player and whether or not the attempt was successful.
 - c. Whether or not the kick is successful in each case is the sole decision of the Referee, who may at his sole discretion rely on the assistance of his assistant Referees. The Referee's decision shall be final and binding.
 - d. If a Player selected to be a kicker becomes injured, he may be replaced but only by a Player who was on the Playing Area at the final whistle of extra time in accordance with paragraph 2, above (and, for the avoidance of doubt, the replacement kicker must take the number of the kicker he is replacing, so that for example if Kicker 1 becomes injured and is replaced, the replacement becomes Kicker 1).
 - e. Subject to paragraph 13d, above, the kickers may not change numbers (so that, for example, Kicker 1 cannot swap with Kicker 2).

Schedule One: SRC Licenced Clubs

The participants of Super Rygbi Cymru will comprise in Season 2024 – 2025 of:

Aberavon (Wizards) RFC	Bridgend Ravens RFC
Cardiff RFC	Carmarthen Quins RFC
Ebbw Vale (Steelmen) RFC	Llandovery (Drovers) RFC
Newport RFC	Pontypool RFC
Swansea RFC	RGC1404

Schedule Two: SRC Draw Format

Regular Season: 18 Rounds where all 10 teams will play each other in a home and away format to determine final league standings (and minor premiers i.e. league winners)

Post-Season Finals: The post-regular season finals will consist of 4 stages:

- **Stage 1: Wildcard Play Offs**

The Wildcard Play Offs will determine which two Teams from the Teams placed 7 through 10 (inclusive) in the Regular Season will progress through the Stage 2 (Quarter Finals). The draw will consist of the following:

Wildcard Game (WG) 1	7th Placed Team (home)	Vs	10th Placed Team (Away)
Wildcard Game (WG) 2	8th Placed Team (home)	Vs	9th Placed Team (Away)

- **Stage 2: Quarter Finals**

The draw for the will consist of the following:

Quarter Final (QF) 1	1st Placed Team (home)	Vs	Winner of WG 1 (Away)
Quarter Final (QF) 2	4th Placed Team (home)	Vs	5th Placed Team (Away)
Quarter Final (QF) 3	2nd Placed Team (home)	Vs	Winner of WG 2 (Away)
Quarter Final (QF) 4	6th Placed Team (home)	Vs	7th Placed Team (Away)

- **Stage 3: Semi-Finals**

The draw for the will consist of the following:

Semi Final 1⁴	Winner of QF 1	Vs	Winner of QF 4
Semi Final 2⁵	Winner of QF 2	Vs	Winner of QF 3

- **Stage 4: Grand Final**

The draw for Grand Final will consist of the following:

Grand Final	Winner of SF 1	Vs	Winner of SF 2
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The final will be played at the Region's home ground of the Grand Final Club who finished highest in the regular season.

⁴ Home advantage granted to team with the highest Regular Season league placing.

⁵ Home advantage granted to team with the highest Regular Season league placing.

Schedule Three: Cup Format

For Season 2024/25, the SRC Cup will consist of the following:

- Two Pools of 5 drawing randomly in the Autumn of 2024
- Five Rounds of Games played in January, February, and March, where Clubs in each pool will play each other home or away (this will require one Club to have a bye weekend at some point during the 5 Rounds)
- Clubs will achieve Competition Points and Rankings pursuant to these SRC Regulations
- The 1st Ranked team in each pool will play each other in a final at a neutral venue

Schedule Four: Technical Zone Protocol

1. Location and dimensions

- a. Two Technical Zones (one for each Club) must be provided within the Playing Enclosure, on the same side of the Playing Area, one on either side of the half-way line and outside the Playing Area. Technical Zones must be the same dimensions.
- b. The Technical Zones must be marked on the ground and, in each case, the line nearest the touchline must be parallel to the touchline.
- c. Save where otherwise designated by the WRU, each of the Technical Zones must commence a minimum of five metres from the half-way line, must not exceed ten metres in length and three metres in width, and where practically possible, must not be less than two metres from the touchline and must be behind the perimeter advertising boards, with easy access to the Playing Area (see diagram, below).

2. Personnel and conduct permitted in the Technical Zones

- a. The Club's two nominated water carriers and (notwithstanding Law 6 of the Laws of the Game) the Club's Technical Zone Manager may be present in the Club's Technical Zone during a Match, but no other persons may be present in the Club's Technical Zone during a Match.
- b. All personnel permitted to be present in the Technical Zones pursuant to paragraph 2a, above, and the medical personnel allowed to follow play pursuant to paragraph 3a below, must wear armbands and/or bibs, as supplied by the WRU, at all times during the Match.
- c. Subject to Appendix Three to these SRC Regulations (which requires coaching/management/medical staff and Players to gather and remain in their respective Technical Zones during a place-kick competition), aside from those persons referred to in paragraph 2a, above, no other person (including Club officials, coaching/management/medical staff and Players) may be present in the Technical Zones during a Match. And under no circumstances may any of the persons present in the Technical Zone pursuant to paragraph 2a, above, be a Player serving a suspension imposed under the Disciplinary Rules.
- d. Without prejudice to paragraph 12.3 of the SRC Regulations and the generality of the Disciplinary Rules, all persons present in the Technical Zone (a) must conduct themselves at all times in an orderly fashion in accordance with the highest standards of disciplined and sporting behaviour; and (b) must not obstruct, interfere with or direct any comments towards Match Officials, except for medics in relation to the treatment of a Player.

3. Medical personnel

- a. During a Match the Club Medics must comply with Law 6.28 of the Laws of the Game and must, where practically possible, stay behind the perimeter advertising and/or LED boards. They may move up and down the touchlines, keeping up with play, but must at all times pay due regard to the respective needs and rights of Players, Match Officials, spectators, Broadcast Partners and Commercial Partners.

4. Water carriers

- a. The water carriers referred to in 2a, above, must comply with Law 6.29 (including Law 6.29(a)(i)) of the Laws of the Game. For the avoidance of doubt, other than as provided for in Law 6.29(b) of the Laws of the Game, water carriers are not permitted in the Playing Area during penalty kicks at goal.
- b. At all times, in accordance with Law 6.7 of the Laws of the Game, Players may come to the touch-line adjacent to the Technical Zones or to the dead ball line at the end of the Playing Area that they are defending to receive water.
- c. Under no circumstances may water bottles or other containers be thrown onto the Playing Area.
- d. None of the water carriers referred to in paragraph 2a above, may be the Club's head coach.

5. Administration and enforcement of the Technical Zone protocol

- a. Subject to paragraph 2a, above, all Clubs and Persons must comply with Law 6 of the Laws of the Game. During a Match, the Assistant Referees enforce this Technical Zone protocol on behalf of the Match

Referee. If there is a breach of this Technical Zone protocol, the Assistant Referee(s) will report the matter to the Match referee, who may (in addition to any action he/she might take under Law 6 of the Laws of the Game) caution any person responsible for such a breach (which can include, for the avoidance of doubt, a member of a Club's coaching/management/medical staff) or, at his discretion, expel that person from the Technical Zone and the Playing Enclosure.

- b. Without prejudice to any action taken by the Match Officials pursuant to paragraph 5a, above, and/or under Law 6 of the Laws of the Game, any breach of this Technical Zone protocol (including those resulting in expulsions from the Technical Zone and the Playing Enclosure) may be reported to the Disciplinary Officer, who may investigate the matter and/or bring a Misconduct complaint pursuant to the Disciplinary Rules.

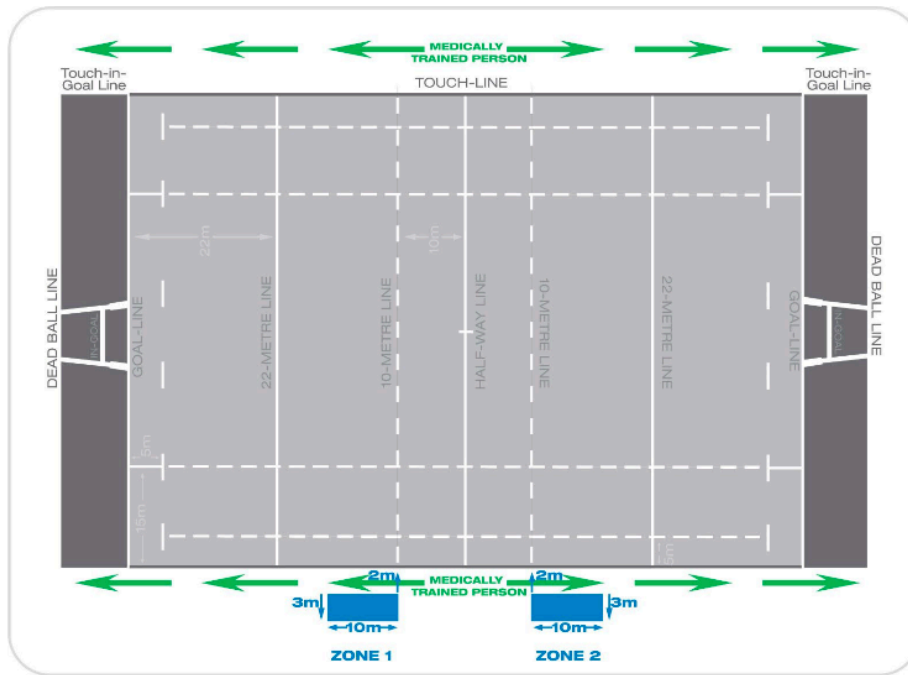
6. Personnel outside the Technical Zones and the Playing Enclosure

- a. Subject to paragraphs 3 and 4, above, and save where (a) replacements enter the Playing Area pursuant to the replacement protocol at Schedule Five to these SRC Regulations or warm up pursuant to paragraph 6b below and/or (b) the Club's coaching staff enter the Playing Area at the half time interval to attend to the Club's Players, each Club's replacements and coaching/management/medical staff must be located outside the Playing Enclosure throughout the Match.
- b. If replacements wish to warm up, they may do so either (a) in a designated warm-up area outside the Playing Area (where they may use balls, hit-shields and/or any other rugby equipment), or (b) in the opposition Club's in-goal area (where they may use balls and hit-shields only, which must be removed from the in-goal area immediately following the warm-up).

7. Players Temporarily Suspended

- a. When a Player is Temporarily Suspended, subject to paragraph 7c, below, that Player must remain in the 'sin bin' area (as designated pursuant to Regulation 5.2c of the SRC Regulations) for the duration of the Temporary Suspension.
- b. Temporarily Suspended Player may be given water and warm clothing while in the 'sin bin' area. If half-time occurs during the Temporary Suspension period, the Player may go to his Club's dressing room but must return directly to the designated 'sin bin' area for the remaining period of his Temporary Suspension when the second half begins.
- c. A one-minute warm-up period is permitted prior to the Temporarily Suspended Player returning to the Playing Area, in which the Player may leave the 'sin bin' area.

THIS IS OUR GAME. DYMA RYGBI CYMREIG.



Schedule Five: Substitutions Protocol

- a) Each Club's Technical Zone Manager is responsible for the Club's replacements during a Match, as well as the Club's compliance with the Technical Zone protocol at Appendix Seven to these SRC Rules.
- b) When a Club decides to replace a Player on the Playing Enclosure, the Club's Technical Zone Manager must make the submission by filling in the appropriate details on the replacement card and sign it). The respective names and numbers of the Player leaving the Playing Area and the Player replacing him must be submitted the appropriate box on the replacement card by the Technical Zone Manager indicating whether it is a replacement for tactical reasons or a replacement due to a Player's injury.
- c) When a Player leaves the field of play for a bleeding/open wound, the Technical Zone Manager must tick the blood box on the card) and enter in the appropriate box the respective numbers of the leaving Player and the replacement Player. This process must be repeated when the first Player returns to the field of play.
- d) When a Player leaves the field temporarily for an assessment under the HIA procedures, the Technical Zone Manager must tick the "HIA" box on the card) and enter in the appropriate box the respective numbers of the leaving Player and the replacement Player. This process must be repeated when the first Player returns to the field of play (as appropriate). If a Player leaves the field permanently, for example due to concussion or suspected concussion, pursuant to World Rugby Regulation 10, the Technical Zone Manager must tick the "concussion" box on the card.
- e) The 'sin bin' box must be ticked by the Technical Zone Manager when a Front Row Player has been 'sin-binned', and another Front Row Player has to enter the Playing Area in order to ensure uncontested scrums do not occur. The respective numbers of the Player leaving the Playing Area and the replacement Front Row Player must be submitted in the appropriate box on the replacement card by the Technical Zone Manager.
- f) Substitutions are confirmed once the request has been submitted and approved by the Sideline Officials. If supplying a written card, the card does not represent a valid request until it is signed by the Technical Zone Manager.
- g) The Assistant Referee(s) will check the details and proceed with the replacement if all in order.
- h) The Assistant Referee(s) will add the details on to the Replacement Form (attached hereto). The replacement form is to be completed and signed by the Assistant Referee(s) and given to the referee at the end of the Match.
- i) Once the card has been passed to the Assistant Referee(s) by way of the Clubs Technical Zone Manager, a replacement is effective only when the Match Referee has clearly signalled for the Player to be replaced. The Technical Zone Manager may amend details on card given to the Assistant Referee(s) at any time before the replacement takes place, but any such amendments to the card must be authorised by signature by the Technical Zone Manager. Where immediate amendments need to be made the Technical Zone Manager, should let the Assistant Referee(s) know verbally and then proceed to make the amendments on the Form.
- j) Once the Match Referee has clearly signalled for the Player to be replaced, the Assistant Referee(s) will escort the replacement Player to the touch-line at the halfway line and, subject to the following provision, that Player may enter the Playing Area only after the Player leaving the Playing Area has crossed the touch-line and is off the Playing Area, and the Assistant Referee(s) has signalled for the replacement Player to enter the Playing Area. A replacement Player may be allowed to enter the Playing Area before the Player leaving the Playing Area crosses the touchline if the Player leaving the Playing Area is injured to such an extent that it necessitates him being escorted from the Playing Area by medical personnel. In such a case, the Assistant Referee(s) will signal to the replacement Player when he is permitted to enter the Playing Area.

Schedule Six: Disciplinary Arrangements



SUPER RYGBI CYMRU – (“THE COMPETITION”)

DISCIPLINARY ARRANGEMENTS AND MANUAL – SEASON 2024/2025

INTRODUCTION

1. The Disciplinary Procedures as set out within the WRU Disciplinary Regulations (“The Regulations”) shall constitute the disciplinary rules for the Competition for Season 2024/2025, subject to the following additional/alternative procedures amended specifically for the Competition and as set out within this Manual.
2. The WRU Disciplinary Regulations are available here: <https://community.wru.wales/governance/policy-and-integrity/discipline/>
3. This Manual is intended to be a useful guide to assist the participating Teams through the disciplinary process in the event of a disciplinary matter arising from the Competition.

DEFINITIONS

4. The Definitions are as set out within the SRC Regulations.

RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

5. Each Person is responsible and accountable for his/her own conduct, and for the conduct of his/her agents and representatives, in connection with the Competition. He/she must conduct himself/herself and must procure that his/her representatives conduct themselves, at all times in accordance with the highest standards of disciplined and sporting behaviour.
6. Each Team is responsible and accountable for its own conduct and for the conduct of each of its Players, other Persons and supporters in connection with the Competition.
7. Each Participating Team must ensure that:
 - a) the Team and each of its Players, other Persons and spectators conducts it/him/herself at all times in accordance with the highest standards of disciplined and sporting behaviour;
 - b) neither the Team nor any of its Players, other Persons or supporters commits any act or acts of Misconduct pursuant to the published [WRU Codes of Conduct](#); and
 - c) none of its Players or other Persons commits any Anti-Corruption Offence(s) as outlined within World Rugby Regulation 6.

RED CARDS (ORDERING OFF)

8. The Red Card Procedures will remain as set out within the Regulations, save for the following alternative procedures:
- Where a Player is Ordered off the field of play and subsequently receives a Red Card Notice, that the Player is not eligible to play in any match anywhere in the world and shall be suspended from all on-field activities on Match days pending resolution of the case (when the matter is placed before a WRU Disciplinary Panel for resolution).
 - Where a Player in a match is Ordered Off, the Referee shall, ordinarily within **24 hours** of the completion of the Match or such further time as is necessary in the circumstances, upload its completed red card report via the WRU Referee Application.
 - Upon completion, an immediate and automatic Disciplinary Notice will be served/issued to the respective Player and Club.
 - A Case Management Timeline can be found at **Appendix 1**.

CITING COMPLAINTS

9. A citing may be initiated where there is an allegation that a Player committed an act of illegal/foul play but was not awarded a red card for that act. The citing must be in writing using the designated form.
10. The Citing Complaint Procedure is as follows:
- To be valid, a citing must be in writing using the template found in **Appendix 2** and must be lodged not later than close of business on the no **later than 48 hours immediately following the match** to the WRU Disciplinary Department and must be supported by the following:
 - the date, venue and teams participating in the match;
 - details of the alleged act(s) of Foul Play, including as accurately as possible, the point of time in the match, score at the time and position on the field when and where the incident is alleged to have occurred;
 - the identity of (or means of identifying) the Player(s) alleged to have committed the act(s);
 - sufficient evidence to establish a prima facie case, which should include a video recording of the relevant incident; and
 - All of the evidence which the citing party intends to adduce in support of the citing.
 - The citing Team may be required to present the case for the citing (for example, if the citing is contested) either by attending in person or by tele/video conference.
 - A Case Management Timeline can be found at **Appendix 3**.

CODES OF CONDUCT AND THE EDC BEHAVIOUR CHARTER

11. The Standards and Expectations as set out within the WRU Codes of Conduct and supporting Regulations, will be applicable to this Competition.
12. The WRU Codes of Conduct is available here: <https://community.wru.wales/governance/policy-and-integrity/discipline/>
13. Each Participating Team and Participating Persons agrees to be bound by and comply with the provisions and requirements of the Regulations and Codes of Conduct and any provisions as set out within the Competition Behaviour Charter.

14. Each Participating Team also acknowledges its vicarious responsibility and accountability for the acts and/or omissions of other Persons in attendance in an official capacity with the Team, as well as their respective Spectators.
15. Prior to the commencement of the Competition, each participating Team will be required to sign up and agree with the responsibilities, expectations and standards as set out within the Competition Behaviour Charter.

THE WRU AND COMPETITION JUDICIARY

16. In the event of a disciplinary matter arising from the Competition, an independent disciplinary panel ("The Panel") (made up of a Judicial Officer Chair and two panel members) will be appointed by the WRU. The Competition Judiciary can be found in **Appendix 4**.
17. The WRU may appoint a Single Judicial Officer to preside over a matter.

THE HEAD CONTACT PROCESS AND FRAMEWORK ("The HCP")

18. The World Rugby Head Contact Process will be applicable and is available at **Appendix 5** of this Manual.

The WRU EDUCATION INTERVENTION FOR SANCTION MITIGATION

19. Players participating within the Competition **may apply** for one match of the final sanction to be removed by the player successfully completing an educative sanction module.
20. This provision has been made available for this Competition only. This education provision will be reviewed on an annual basis.
21. The Educative Intervention only applies to sanctions awarded for foul play under **Laws 9.11** (including leading with forearm and/or elbow), **9.13 or 9.20(a) or 9.20(b)** which involve the Head Contact Process ("The HCP"). A player may only participate in the Education Intervention **on one occasion only**.

SUSPENSIONS

22. In accordance with World Rugby Regulation 17 (World Rugby Table of Sanctions – **Appendix 6**), suspensions will be calculated in numbers of weeks and will be imposed until a stated date.
23. For the purposes of imposing a meaningful suspension, the WRU Disciplinary Panel shall take into account weeks in which there is a Match(es). The WRU Disciplinary Panel may use its discretion when determining and imposing a meaningful period of suspension. As such, the WRU Disciplinary Panel may determine that the period of sanction will be applied in Match(es).
24. In determining the length of any period of suspension, the Disciplinary Panel shall take into consideration all playing consequences of such a suspension and:
 - a) include those weeks in which the Player is (but for any suspension) fit, available and expected to play in a meaningful match, and;
 - b) exclude those weeks in which the Player is not fit, available and expected to play in a Meaningful Match.
25. In advance of any Disciplinary Hearing and/or Disciplinary Panel Meeting, the Club and Player will be required to provide the Panel with a playing fixture schedule.

RED CARD and YELLOW CARD TOTTING UP PROCESS AND TWO YELLOW CARDS APPLICATION

26. The red card and yellow card totting up process as set out within the WRU Disciplinary Regulations will apply.
27. The Process is available here: <https://d2cx26qpfwuhvu.cloudfront.net/wru/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/24143112/4.-Appenix-4-Totting-Up-Process-Red-Card-and-Yellow-Card.pdf>

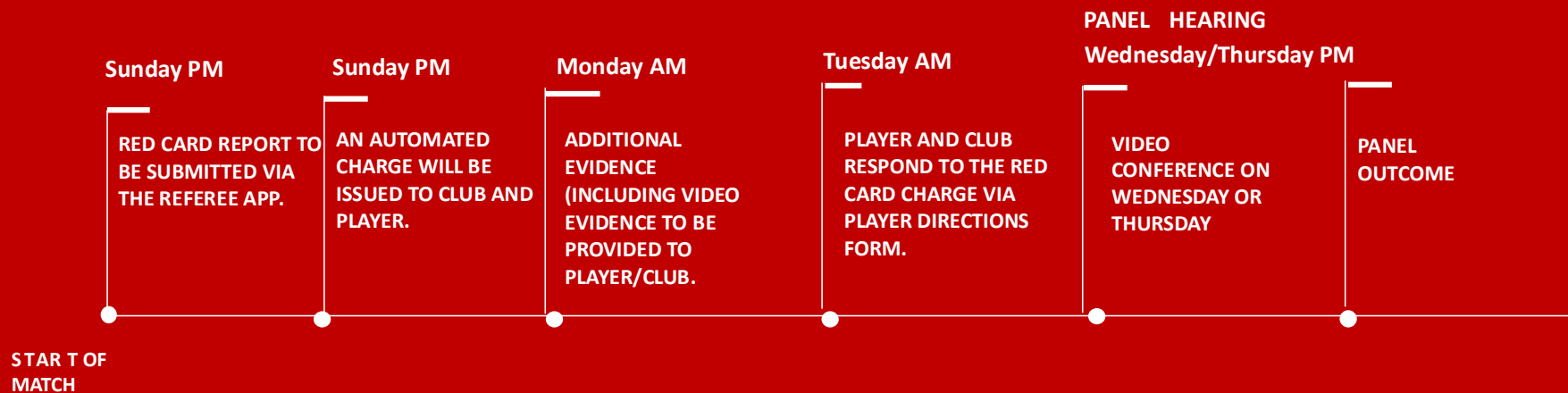
APPEALS

28. Any Appeal shall be dealt with in accordance with the Regulations. The decision of The Appeal Panel shall be final and binding on all Parties.

Appendix 1: Red Card - Case Management Timeline

RED CARD TIMELINE

Referee's will be required to submit red card reports by no later than Sunday following the Match.



Appendix 2: SRC – Official Citing Complaint Form



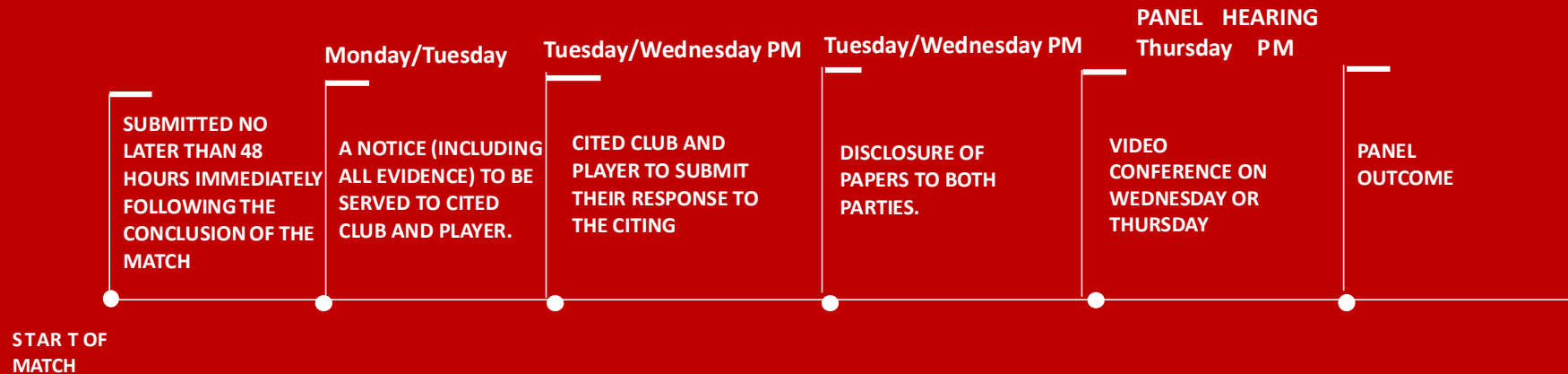
CITED TEAM	Player Number <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Full Name of CITED Player	Date of Incident <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Match <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 5%; text-align: center;" type="text"/> pts <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 5%; text-align: center;" type="text"/> pts	
Nature of Offence: (Please indicate appropriate offence)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 9.11 Players must not do anything that is reckless or dangerous to others. <input type="checkbox"/> Leading with the forearm <input type="checkbox"/> Leading with the elbow <input type="checkbox"/> Jumping into/over a tackle	<input type="checkbox"/> 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. <input type="checkbox"/> 9.19 Dangerous play in a scrum.
<input type="checkbox"/> 9.12 A player must not physically abuse anyone. <input type="checkbox"/> Biting <input type="checkbox"/> Intentional contact with eye(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reckless contact with eye(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Contact with eye area <input type="checkbox"/> Punching or striking with hand or arm <input type="checkbox"/> Striking with elbow <input type="checkbox"/> Striking with the shoulder <input type="checkbox"/> Striking with head <input type="checkbox"/> Striking with knee <input type="checkbox"/> Stamping or trampling <input type="checkbox"/> Tripping <input type="checkbox"/> Kicking	<input type="checkbox"/> 9.20 Dangerous play in a ruck or maul. <input type="checkbox"/> (a) A player must not charge into a ruck or maul <input type="checkbox"/> (b) A player must not make contact with an opponent above the line of the shoulders <input type="checkbox"/> (c) A player must not intentionally collapse a ruck or a maul <input type="checkbox"/> (d) A player may lever the jackler out of the contest at the ruck but must not drop their weight onto them or target the lower limbs <input type="checkbox"/> 9.25 A player must not intentionally charge or obstruct an opponent who has just kicked the ball.
<input type="checkbox"/> 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.	<input type="checkbox"/> 9.27 A player must not do anything that is against the spirit of good sportsmanship. <input type="checkbox"/> Hair pulling or grabbing <input type="checkbox"/> Spitting at anyone <input type="checkbox"/> Grabbing, twisting or squeezing the genitals (and/or breasts in the case of female players) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> 9.14 A player must not tackle an opponent who is not in possession of the ball.	<input type="checkbox"/> 9.28 A player must not disrespect the authority of a Match Official. <input type="checkbox"/> 9.28 A player must not verbally abuse a Match Official. <input type="checkbox"/> 9.28 A player must not make physical contact with Match Officials. <input type="checkbox"/> 9.28 A player must not use threatening actions or words towards Match Officials. <input type="checkbox"/> 9.28 A player must not physically abuse Match Officials.
<input type="checkbox"/> 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.	
<input type="checkbox"/> 9.16 A player must not charge or knock down an opponent carrying the ball without attempting to grasp that player.	
<input type="checkbox"/> 9.17 A player must not tackle, charge pull, push or grasp an opponent whose feet are off the ground.	
Period (of game when incident occurred) 1st Half <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Half <input type="checkbox"/> Extra time <input type="checkbox"/> Elapsed time in half <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	
Proximity of Official(s) to Incident <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/> Metres Min:Sec	
Score at the Time <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 5%; text-align: center;" type="text"/> pts <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 5%; text-align: center;" type="text"/> pts	
Was any action taken by an Official during the match?	



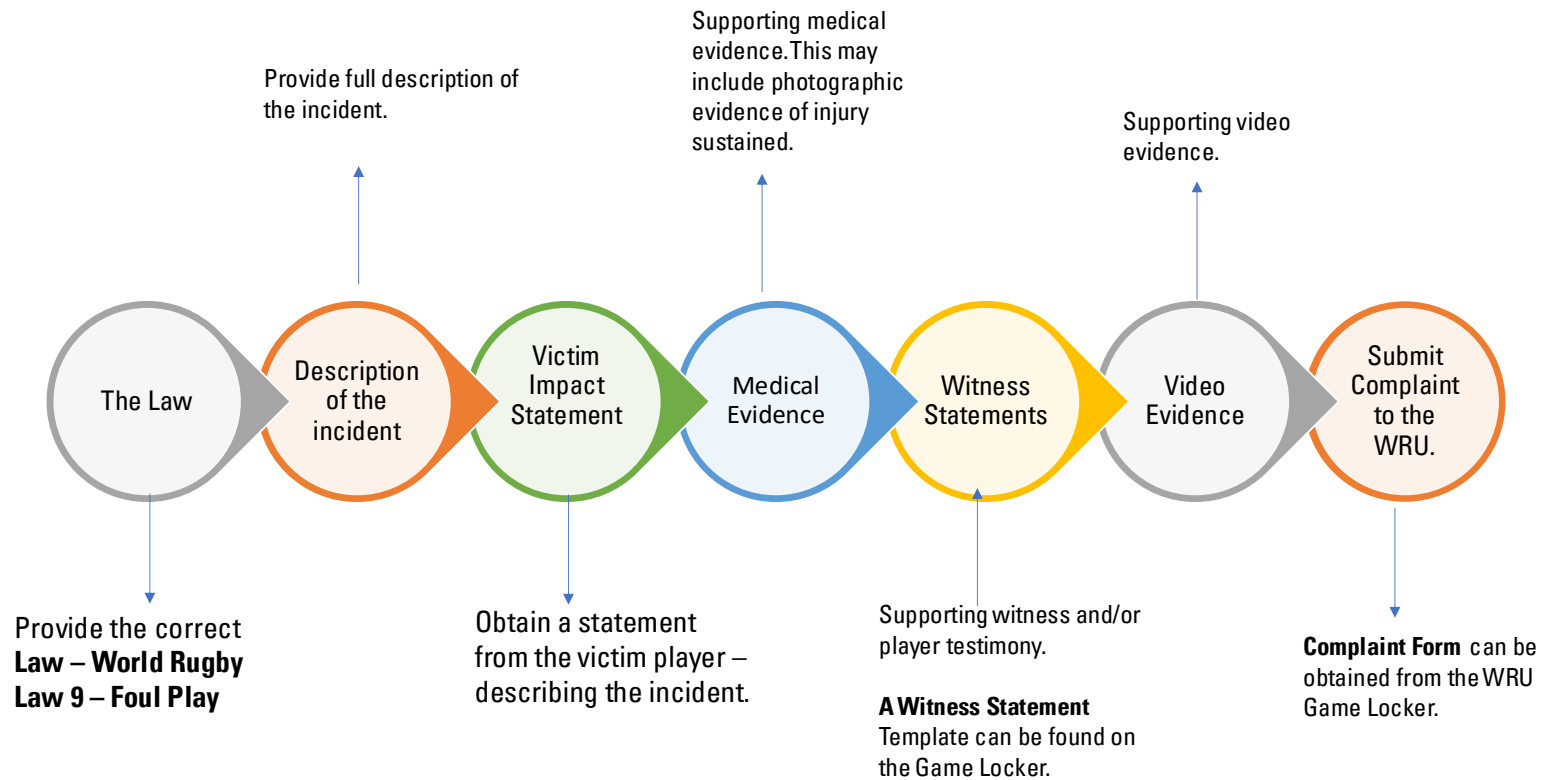
Appendix 3: Citing Complaint Timeline

CITING COMPLAINT TIMELINE

In light of the strict timescales involved, we will request that the Citing Club provide early notice of their *intention* to Cite, in order to place the Cited Club on early notice.



CITING COMPLAINTS – HOWTO REPORT



Appendix 4: Super Rygbi Cymru Competition Judiciary



THE SUPER RYGBI CYMRU COMPETITION JUDICIARY

<p>Simon Thomas</p>	<p>Educated at Cardiff University, College of Law Guildford and University de la Sorbonne, Paris.</p> <p>Partner with Hutchinson Thomas solicitors since 1998</p> <p>Has been involved in rugby discipline since 2002. Has acted as citing commissioner at senior Six Nations level and ERC Match Commissioner. Acts as a Judicial Officer chairman for WRU, Guinness Pro14, EPCR and World Rugby including 2015 Rugby World Cup.</p>
<p>Roger Morris</p>	<p>Partner with Hutchinson Thomas solicitors.</p> <p>First appointed as a Judicial Officer for European season 2006-2007. Since then, he regularly acted as Judicial Officer in disciplinary cases in all major Tournaments under the jurisdiction of all the World's major tournament organisers including: World Rugby, Six Nations, ERC/EPCR, Celtic League, WRU and RFU. Appointed as Judicial Officer to Rugby World Cup 2015, Women's Rugby World Cup 2017 and Rugby World Cup 2019. Currently Chair of the United Rugby Championship (successor to Guinness Pro14) independent disciplinary committee.</p>
<p>Rhian Williams</p>	<p>Rhian is a solicitor and a partner with Hutchinson Thomas Solicitors.</p> <p>She was first appointed as a Judicial Officer in 2013. Since then, she has been appointed to hear rugby disciplinary cases arising from matches under the jurisdiction of World Rugby, 6Nations, EPCR, URC and the WRU.</p> <p>She was accredited as a Judicial Officer by World Rugby in 2020 and appointed as a Judicial Officer to the Commonwealth Games Rugby Sevens 2022. She is now regularly appointed by World Rugby to chair at all major international tournaments.</p>
<p>Declan Goodwin</p>	<p>Declan has sat on rugby disciplinary panels since 2013. He is currently a Judicial Officer for the WRU, URC, EPCR, 6 Nations and World Rugby, and has sat on disciplinary panels for the RFU and Gloucestershire RFU. Born and raised in North Wales, Declan played for Rhyl & District RFC and Clwb Rygbi Dinbych, with a couple of years at Llandovery College also. He now enjoys watching his children play at Mumbles RFC. He is a solicitor in private practice, a Director of Wales Golf and Independent Appeals Panel Chairperson for the Football Association of Wales. Declan is a fluent Welsh speaker.</p>

Richard Cole	Richard was born and went to school in Neath. He read law at the University of Warwick and then completed professional examinations to become a barrister. He has practised in Chambers in Cardiff since 2002. He acts on behalf of Government departments in litigation across England and Wales. He has chaired a large number of Welsh Rugby Union disciplinary and administrative hearings. He has sat on regional and European disciplinary panels and has been appointed by World Rugby to chair international disciplinary hearings.
Owain Rhys James	Owain is a practising barrister in chambers in Cardiff. He has chaired a large number of Welsh Rugby Union disciplinary and administrative hearings and has been appointed by World Rugby to chair international disciplinary hearings.
Ken Owens	Ken is a former International and Professional Player (Scarlets, Wales and British and Irish Lions).
James Bater	James is a retired professional player, having played for the Scarlets and the Ospreys at Regional level.
Jamie Corsi	James is a retired professional rugby player and World Rugby accredited. James is regularly appointed at 6Nations level, as well as appointed by World Rugby to act in Rugby World Cups.
Claire Donovan	The WRU integrity champion and WRU Board Member. Ex International Player.
Howard Casey	Howard played first class rugby during the 1970's and 80's for SWP and Pontypridd. I was a member of the Welsh Youth Squad 1978/79. Howard began coaching Aberfan RFC in 1988 and was a qualified WRU coach. He joined Merthyr RFC in 1992 as coach and was instrumental in assisting them gain 5 successive promotions through the leagues as coach and team manager. He's also coached SWP RFC and Aberdare RFC. Howard is a retired detective constable and a former Discipline liaison officer for the SWP Federation. Howard was involved in over 300 Misconduct Hearings presenting to Panels which included Chief Constables and Barristers.
Les Peard	Les is a retired Referee. He started refereeing in 1971, progressing through the WRU grades and was appointed on the WRU International Panel. Les retired in 1993 after refereeing 9 internationals, including officiating in the 1991 World Cup and 2 WRU Cup Finals. Upon retirement, Les became a Referee Assessor and assessed 10 international until he retired in 2020. Les also coached many of the WRU top referees In 2012, Les formed part of the WRU Age Grade Disciplinary Committee and joined the WRU Disciplinary Panel in 2017.

Jan Gedrych	Jan represented Richmond, Wales and Great Britain at women's rugby playing in the inaugural international match in 1987. Jan is a retired criminal Barrister. Jan joined the WRU Judicial Panel in 2019 and has adjudicated on various complex matters. Jan also acts as a Panel Member for United Rugby Championship and EPCR.
Kerry Hegarty	Kerry captained Merthyr First team in 1989/90 and after retiring from playing, had subsequently coached/managed the team from 1995 to 1998. Kerry also coached Gwent Police in season 1994/95 in which they won the British Police Cup Final. During his policing career, Kerry was heavily involved in creating policies and procedures especially around safeguarding children, young persons and vulnerable adults . Kerry is an experienced Panel Member, sitting on several Panels for all integrity matters, including safeguarding, Betting and Anti-Corruption and Discipline.
Chris Watts	Chris is a former police officer with the Gwent Force and is involved in coaching at club level. Chris has sat on many complex disciplinary matters and also acts as a professional judicial officer for URC and EPCR.
Russell Harris KC	Russell was educated at Heolddu Comprehensive Bargoed, St Johns College Cambridge, City University London and at Bar School. He was called to the Bar in 1986 by Gray's Inn and appointed QC in 2001. He is an Attorney General's Special Advocate dealing with terrorist matters or matters of national security and holds Developed Vetting (privy council level) security clearance. He has been a Trustee of Grays Inn and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. He played rugby for Bargoed, Cambridge University and London Welsh. He has coached age grade rugby at London Welsh for 13 years. He has sat on the board of London Welsh RFC. He is London Welsh Discipline Officer and has appeared at and adjudicated upon many RFU disciplinary matters in this role. At present he is secretary of the WRU Exiles programme in England.
William Tucker	William played rugby for Cardiff Harlequins RFC Youth team through to 1st xv until approximately 2010. Whilst at university in East Anglia, 2000 – 2003, William played for the University 2nd XV and appeared for Norwich RFC. He also Represented Wales at the Touch World Cup in Scotland in 2011 William is legally qualified and a partner at Nicol Denvir and Purnell Solicitors. William has recently been appointed to the EPCR judiciary.

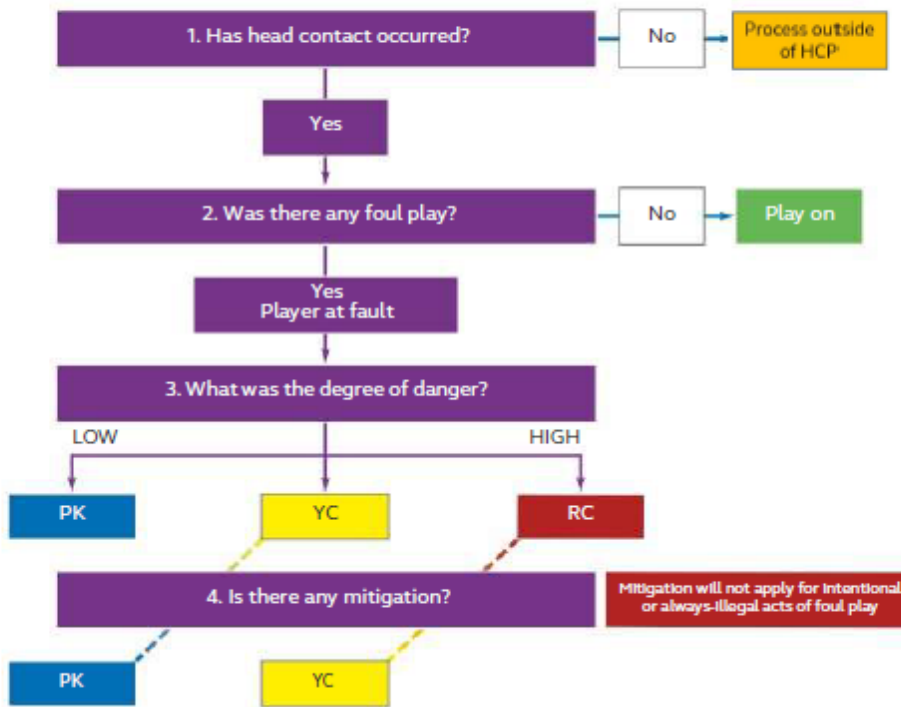
Appendix 5: World Rugby Head Contact Process



LAW APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Head Contact Process

In effect: 9 March 2023



Context

Player welfare drives World Rugby’s decision making for zero tolerance of foul play, especially where head contact occurs.

The focus must be on the actions of those involved, not the injury - the need for an HIA does not necessarily mean that there has been illegal head contact.

The ‘power of choice’ for tacklers is crucial, especially as 72% of head injuries occur in the tackle.

There needs to be an understanding that tacklers stay up to allow them to ‘adjust and react’ - dropping quickly into the low tackle entry position - using their ‘eyes and feet’ to get their timing right.

It is important that coaches and players continually develop safe tackling techniques in training.




Aims of the Head Contact Process

The process is designed to protect the head, neck and throat area of players.

The process can be applied to:

- High tackles
- Shoulder charges
- Dangerous cleanouts
- Head-to-head collisions
- Leading elbow / forearm

The Head Contact Process is a Law Application Guideline. Under 9.11, the referee is always entitled to issue a red or yellow card for anything deemed to be reckless or dangerous. However, this process is intended to aid consistency in the application of sanctions by providing guidance on how contact with the head should be approached by match officials and disciplinary personnel.



LAW 9 Foul play

DANGEROUS PLAY

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

This includes head-on-head

Process questions and considerations

1. Has head contact occurred?

Head contact includes neck and throat area

2. Was there foul play?

Considerations:

- Intentional
- Reckless
- Avoidable – e.g. the defender is always upright

3. What was the degree of danger?

Considerations include:

- Direct vs indirect contact
- High force vs low force
- Dynamic

4. Is there any mitigation?

Considerations include:

- Line of sight
- Sudden and significant drop or movement
- Clear attempt to reduce height
- Level of control
- Passive tackler

Mitigation will not apply for intentional or always-illegal acts of foul play

Trigger words for match officials

Match officials may wish to use the non-exhaustive list of trigger words below to help them identify whether a player is at fault, the degree of danger involved and whether any mitigation should be applied.

PLAY ON

No fault

- Sudden and significant drop in height by the ball carrier
- Player had no time to readjust
- Involuntary collision
- No leading arm when close to the body

PK

YC

Low danger

- Indirect contact
- Low force
- Low speed
- No leading head / shoulder / forearm / swinging arm

RC

High danger

- Direct contact
- Lack of control
- High speed
- Dynamic
- Leading head / shoulder / elbow / forearm
- Swinging arm
- Reckless
- Intentional or an always-illegal act of foul play

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 area
- An effort to wrap/bind and having
- No time to adjust
- Passive tackler (see below)

Passive

- Tackler feet planted and body absorbs/falls backwards
- Zero forward movement into the ball carrier

Dynamic

- Feet can be stationary or moving
- Body moves forwards or upwards with force through the hips/legs/shoulder

Appendix 6: World Rugby Table of Sanctions



WORLD RUGBY SANCTIONS FOR FOUL PLAY (REGULATION 17)

Note: Any act of foul play where the person committing the act of foul play makes contact with an opponent's head and/or the neck, and that contact with the head and/or neck warrants a red card, shall result in at least a mid-range sanction⁶

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.

Low-end: 2 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 6 weeks/matches	Top-end: 10+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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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/matches	Mid-range: 18 weeks/matches	Top-end: 24+ weeks/matches	Max: 208 weeks/matches
Intentional Contact with Eye(s) ⁷	Low-end: 12 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 18 weeks/matches	Top-end: 24+ weeks/matches	Max: 208 weeks/matches
Reckless Contact with Eye(s) ⁸	Low-end: 6 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 12 weeks/matches	Top-end: 18+ weeks/matches	Max: 208 weeks/matches
Contact with Eye Area ⁹	Low-end: 4 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 8 weeks/matches	Top-end: 12+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
Punching or striking with hand, arm, elbow or shoulder	Low-end: 2 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 6 weeks/matches	Top-end: 10+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
Striking with head ¹⁰	Low-end: 6 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 10 weeks/matches	Top-end: 16+ weeks/matches	Max: 104 weeks/matches
Striking with knee	Low-end: 4 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 8 weeks/matches	Top-end: 12+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
Stamping or Trampling	Low-end: 2 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 6 weeks/matches	Top-end: 12+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
Tripping	Low-end: 2 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 4 weeks/matches	Top-end: 8+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
Kicking	Low-end: 4 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 8 weeks/matches	Top-end: 12+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches

⁶ The note does not apply to:

- (i) Laws 9.12 (biting, contact with eye(s)/eye area and striking with head), 9.18 and 9.27 (hair pulling) where the relevant entry points reflect the specific nature of the foul play.
- (ii) Where the Disciplinary Committee or Judicial Officer having completed steps of Regulations 10.11 – 10.17 inclusive considers that the sanction would be wholly disproportionate to the offending player's fault and the consequences thereof.

⁷ 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.

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

⁵ 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.

Low-end: 6 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 12 weeks/matches	Top-end: 18+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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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/matches	Mid-range: 6 weeks/matches	Top-end: 10+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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9.14 A player must not tackle an opponent who is not in possession of the ball.

Low-end: 2 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 6 weeks/matches	Top-end: 10+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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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/matches	Mid-range: 4 weeks/matches	Top-end: 6+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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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/matches	Mid-range: 6 weeks/matches	Top-end: 10+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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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/matches	Mid-range: 8 weeks/matches	Top-end: 12+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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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 matches/matches	Mid-range: 10 weeks/matches	Top-end: 14+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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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.

Low-end: 2 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 4 weeks/matches	Top-end: 8+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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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.

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

Low-end: 2 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 4 weeks/matches	Top-end: 8+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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d. A player may lever the jackler out of the contest at the ruck but must not drop their weight onto them or target the lower limbs.

Low-end: 2 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 6 weeks/matches	Top-end: 10+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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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/matches	Mid-range: 6 weeks/matches	Top-end: 10+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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9.27 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/matches	Mid-range: 4 weeks/matches	Top-end: 6+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
Spitting at anyone	Low-end: 4 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 8 weeks/matches	Top-end: 12+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
Grabbing, twisting or squeezing the genitals (and/or breasts in the case of female players)	Low-end: 12 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 18 weeks/matches	Top-end: 24+ weeks/matches	Max: 208 weeks/matches
Other	Low-end: 4 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 8 weeks/matches	Top-end: 12+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches

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

Low-end: 2 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 4 weeks/matches	Top-end: 6+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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9.28 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.

Low-end: 6 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 12 weeks/matches	Top-end: 18+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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9.28 A player must not make physical contact with Match Officials.

Low-end: 6 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 12 weeks/matches	Top-end: 18+ weeks/matches	Max: 52 weeks/matches
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9.28 A player must not use threatening actions or words towards Match Officials.

Low-end: 12 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 24 weeks/matches	Top-end: 48+ weeks/matches	Max: 260 weeks/matches
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9.28 A player must not physically abuse Match Officials.

Low-end: 24 weeks/matches	Mid-range: 48 weeks/matches	Top-end: 96+ weeks/matches	Max: Life
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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 WRU Disciplinary Panel and Appeal Panel (as the case may be). Notwithstanding the Sanctions in Appendix 1 and/or the provisions of Discipline Regulations in cases where the player's actions constitute Mid-

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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 Disciplinary Panel and/or Appeal Panel may impose any period of suspension including a suspension for life (as provided within the Disciplinary Regulation 10.19).

Schedule Six: Commercial Inventory

RESERVED TITLE SPONSORSHIP RIGHTS	
Composite Logo	Creation of SRC logo incorporating title sponsor. The tournament will be referenced as [insert partner] Super Rygbi Cymru.
Shirt Branding	Composite logo patch to be incorporated onto the left sleeve of all clubs playing shirts. The patch will be 100mm x 50mm and placed between the triceps and bicep. SRC sponsor branded referee kits.
Ball Branding	Composite logo to feature on all match and training balls.
Pitch Branding	The right to brand the centre pitch and in-goal areas at any live televised and centrally streamed Match.
Stadium Branding	Two primary perimeter boards on the halfway line and two primary perimeter boards behind the posts at end of the group for all Matches, or such other number of boards that may be requested by the WRU by no later than September 1 of each Season. Post protectors, corner flags and corner flag protectors to feature the SRC Logo on which 100% of the available branding space will be exclusive to the Partner and feature the full SRC competition name. The right to run a sponsor competition at each Match. Composite logo to feature on club interview backdrops. Where applicable, Partner to have the option to three minutes of non-consecutive thirty second advertising clips on the big screens at each match. Where applicable, Partner to have the option to three minutes of non-consecutive thirty second advertising on LEDs at each match.
Tickets	10 FOC pairs of tickets for each Regular Season Match or by exception on occasion such other number that may be requested upon the provision of reasonable notice made available to the Club. Composite logo to feature on Club's season and match ticket stock and car park passes. The right to use any tickets as part of promotions or PR/social media activity.
Hospitality	The right to be provided with ten ticketed hospitality places free of charge at six Matches (food and beverage at cost price) as requested by the WRU.
Player / DOR Appearances	DOR & Club Captain to attend annual season launch press conference & event. 3 players together from each club for one appearance per season. (max 4 hours).

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	DOR coaching appearance on one occasion per season from each club (max 4 hours).
Programme	<p>**Full Page Colour advert in each match day programme - Inside front cover.</p> <p>SRC and if relevant the SRC Sponsor composite logo to feature on the front cover of each programme.</p> <p>Right to place an insert in each club's match day programme on one occasion**.</p>
Website	<p>Naming rights to SRC website and associated branding and advertising (including skyscraper, banners & MPU's).</p> <p>Sponsors of monthly podcast on SRC website.</p> <p>SRC composite logo to be displayed prominently on each Club's homepage with hyperlink (including in any dedicated SRC page).</p>
Communication	<p>Access to Club's databases on two occasions per season for sponsor mailings.</p> <p>Access to Club's e-zine / newsletters on three occasions per season for sponsors stories / offers.</p>
Footage	<p>Right to use footage of Matches.</p> <p>Right to have access to the photographic archive of the SRC.</p>
Awards	<p>Sponsors of the Player of the Month and Coach of the Month.</p> <p>Awards Access to the SRC trophy for promotional purposes.</p> <p>Branded ribbons to be attached to the SRC trophy.</p> <p>A branded podium and backdrop on the pitch for the trophy presentation at the final match of the season (with all associated costs to be met by the Partner).</p>
Training Days	4 x visit to each club's training ground to watch the team train.

Reserved for use of title partner