**January discipline report**

The RFU have brought in a national aggravation sanction for cases of Match Official Abuse.

Proven cases will see sanctions increased by 2 weeks for Low-range offence, 3 weeks for a Mid-range offence and 4 weeks for a Top-end offence. This is for adult rugby only.

Age grade offences are currently increased by 1 week by the CRFU.

The citing case brought by Helston RFC against a player from St. Just RFC from their game on 30th September remains on-hold, pending the conclusion of any police investigation. The case is being handled by the RFU. Both myself and Angus Hetherington, RFU Legal Counsel have been chasing Helston RFC for an update.

The Match Official abuse incident from the CRFU Cup Final in August was finally heard. The case was unproven and therefore dismissed.

A citing by St. Ives RFC against a player from Truro RFC brought under Reg 9:12, strike was found proven. The Truro player was handed a 7 match ban.

The St. Agnes player sent off for a Reg 9:12 strike against a player from Hayle RFC was given a 3 match ban.

Another Truro player was dismissed for a Reg 9:12 strike offence in their game against Wadebridge Camels on 11th November resulted in a 5 match ban. This player had a red card for a similar offence last season.

A player from Wadebridge Camels was shown a red card in their game at Wellington on 18th November for a Reg 9:13 Dangerous Play. The referee, on reflection, admitted he had got it wrong. The incident was downgraded to a yellow card.

A player from each side was dismissed during the same incident in the Liskeard-Looe v Perranporth game on 2nd December. Both red cards were for Reg 9:12 offences. The Liskeard-Looe player was found guilty of striking the Perranporth player and given a 3 match ban.

The Perranporth player, admitted at his hearing that he had attempted to head-butt the Liskeard-Looe player as well as punch him. The club gave their player a 3 match ban. Upon review by the CRFU panel this was revised to a 5 match ban as it was a mid-range offence, not a low-end offence as Perranporth believed.

Truro Women’s league match against Paignton Ladies on 17th December was abandoned by the CRRS referee in charge. At present, I am still awaiting both a March Abandonment Report and a Match Official Abuse report from the referee. Any further information on this incident will be covered under item 7.

I will shortly be completing the RFU annual audit on CB Discipline which is on a self-reflection/audit. I am looking to holding a Zoom meeting with both the Chair of Discipline and the Chair of Governance to formulate our reply. When this is complete and reviewed I will be able to share the findings with the MB.

A Camborne player was shown a red card in their National League 2 match against Clifton for a Reg: 9:12 offence. The player received a 3 match ban.

At present we as a CB disciplinary panel stand at 17 cases for the season.

Bill Hooper

CRFU Discipline Secretary January 2024