



England  
Rugby

SCHOOLS

Dear Colleagues,

6 November 2018

Reference: Rugby Red Cards (Important Changes to Regulations)

There have been a few incidents this season that would suggest some schools are uncertain about what to do when a school player is shown a red card during a game. It is essential that any player who is sent off received the appropriate match ban that is stipulated in the updated sanction table. (Any further disciplinary process that a School/ College or Club decides to take must be in ADDITION to the ban from the sanction table and NOT instead of.

The new regulations and sanctions table are linked for your information. We would like to point out the main changes are as follows:

*RFU Regulation 19 – Discipline (Appendix 6)*

*2.1 Age Grade Rugby disciplinary issues in schools and colleges shall be dealt with by the head teachers and principals respectively (or by a person(s) with delegated authority) as per the school or college's internal disciplinary process and in **accordance with these procedures and sanctions table**. Any school or college may seek additional advice from the ERFSU Disciplinary Secretary.*

*7.2 Any rugby disciplinary incident that arises in a School, College or Club match shall be reported to the Constituent Body Youth Disciplinary Secretary (CBYDS) within 48 hours by the school, college, Club disciplinary officer or person(s) with delegated authority.*

*7.3 Thereafter, any finding and/or sanction imposed in relation to the disciplinary incident shall be reported to the CBYDS within 48 hours in accordance with paragraph 7.2.*

*7.4 The CBYDS or the ERFSU Discipline Secretary or the RFU Head of Discipline shall have the power to review any finding and/or sanction imposed by a Club, College or School or coach and, if he/she is of the view that the finding and/or sanction imposed was unreasonable in all the circumstances, may refer the matter to the National Age Grade Discipline Secretary (NAGDS) for consideration. The NAGDS may direct that the school, college or club review the matter and report back to the NAGDS, who, if it is still necessary may convene a suitably qualified disciplinary panel to deal with the matter and it may vary the sanction imposed if considered appropriate to do so.*

The reason for the change to regulations is to more closely align the procedures in schools, colleges and clubs. Finally, please would you bring these changes to the attention of your Head Teacher or Principal, so that they are aware, should they ever need to become involved.

Kind regards,

Ian Skillen  
(National Age Grade Discipline Secretary)

Key Contacts:

Ian Skillen (NAGDS) [IanSkillen@rfu.com](mailto:IanSkillen@rfu.com)

Chris Davy (England Rugby Football Schools' Union Disciplinary Secretary)

[Discipline@EnglandRugby-Schools.com](mailto:Discipline@EnglandRugby-Schools.com)

CBYDS – If you are unsure of your local Discipline contact please contact Ian Skillen