

World Rugby Sanctions for Foul Play (Regulation 17)

Law No.	Description	Entry Point Based on Scale of Seriousness of the Player's conduct, which constitutes the offending – Lower End (LE), Mid Range (MR), Top End (TE)	Maximum Sanction
10.4(s) 10.4(m)	Verbal Abuse of Match Officials	LE – 6 weeks MR – 12 weeks TE – 18+weeks	52 weeks
10.4(s) 10.4(m)	Threatening Actions or Words at Match Officials	LE – 12 weeks MR – 24 weeks TE – 48+ weeks	260 weeks
10.4(s) 10.4(m)	Physical Abuse of Match Officials	LE – 24 weeks MR – 48 weeks TE – 96+ weeks	Life
10.4(s) 10.4(m)	Incidental Physical Contact with Match Official	LE – 6 weeks MR – 12 weeks TE – 18+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(a)	Striking another Player with a hand, arm or fist	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 8+ weeks A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction.	52 weeks
10.4(a)	Striking another Player with the elbow	LE – 2 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction.	52 weeks
10.4(a)	Striking with knee	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks A strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-range entry point sanction.	52 weeks
10.4(a)	Striking with head	LE – 4 weeks MR – 10 weeks TE – 16+ weeks	104 weeks
10.4(b)	Stamping/Trampling on an Opponent	LE – 2 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 12+ weeks Stamping/trampling on the head shall result in a top-end entry point sanction	52 weeks

Law No.	Description	Entry Point Based on Scale of Seriousness of the Player's conduct, which constitutes the offending – Lower End (LE), Mid Range (MR), Top End (TE)	Maximum Sanction
10.4(c)	Kicking an Opponent	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks A kick to the head shall result in a top-end entry point sanction	52 weeks
10.4(d)	Tripping an Opponent with the foot/leg	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 8+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(e)	Dangerous tackling of an Opponent including early or late and including the action known as the “stiff arm tackle”	LE – 2 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(e)	Dangerous tackling of an Opponent including: (i) a tackle or attempted tackle above the line of the shoulders even if the tackle starts below the line of the shoulders; (ii) grabbing and rolling/twisting around the head/neck area even if the contact starts below the line of the shoulders.	LE – 2 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks A dangerous tackle which results in a strike to the head shall result in at least a mid-end entry point sanction	52 weeks
10.4(f)	Holding, pushing or obstructing an Opponent not holding the ball, by a Player who is not in possession of the ball, except in a scrum, ruck or maul	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 6+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(f) 10.4(k)	Dangerous charging or obstructing or grabbing of Opponent with or without the ball, including shouldering	LE – 2 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(h)	A player must not charge into a ruck or maul. Charging includes any contact made without use of the arms, or without grasping a player	LE – 2 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(i)	Tackling, pushing, pulling, colliding with or otherwise making contact with an Opponent who is jumping for the ball in a lineout or in open play where there is no realistic prospect of the player competing for the ball	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(j)	Lifting a Player from the ground and either dropping or driving that Player's head and/or upper body into the ground whilst the Player's feet are off the ground	LE – 6 weeks MR – 10 weeks TE – 14+ weeks	52 weeks

Law No.	Description	Entry Point Based on Scale of Seriousness of the Player's conduct, which constitutes the offending – Lower End (LE), Mid Range (MR), Top End (TE)	Maximum Sanction
10.4(k)	Causing a scrum, ruck or maul to collapse	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 8+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(m)	A player must not grab, twist, squeeze or strike an opponent in the genital area (male or female) or, in the case of female players, the breast area.	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
10.4(m)	Biting	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
10.4(m)	Contact with the Eye(s)	LE – 12 weeks MR – 18 weeks TE – 24+ weeks	208 weeks
10.4(m)	Contact with the Eye Area ¹	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(m)	Spitting at Players	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(m)	Verbal abuse of Players, Match Officials, spectators, coaches or support staff based on Religion, Race, Colour, or National or Ethnic Origin, sexual orientation or otherwise	LE – 6 weeks MR – 12 weeks TE – 18+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(m)	Any other acts (not previously referred to) which are contrary to good sportsmanship	LE – 4 weeks MR – 8 weeks TE – 12 weeks	52 weeks
10.4(m)	Hair pulling or grabbing	LE – 2 weeks MR – 4 weeks TE – 6+ weeks	52 weeks
10.4(o)	Late charging the kicker	LE – 2 weeks MR – 6 weeks TE – 10+ weeks	52 weeks

In respect of offences not referred to in Appendix 1 above, appropriate sanctions may be imposed at the discretion of the relevant Judicial Officer, Disciplinary Committee, Appeal Officer and/or Appeal Committee (as the case may be).

Notwithstanding the Sanctions in Appendix 1 and/or the provisions of Regulation 17.19 in cases where the player's actions constitute mid-range or top end offending for any type of offence which had the potential to result and, in fact, did result in serious/gross

¹ The "eye area" is as defined by the World Rugby Chief Medical Officer and circulated to Unions.

consequences to the health of the victim, the Judicial Officers and/or Disciplinary Committees may impose any period of suspension including a suspension for life.