

ADDENDUM 1 MODIFIED CITING POLICY

BC Rugby Citing Addendum

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the process that Member Clubs must follow to pursue disciplinary action with respect to an incident that the Club believes to be worthy of a sending off during a match in a BC Rugby sanctioned league match or tournament.

Rationale

The Discipline Committee (DC) is charged with ruling on many sending off incidents throughout BC Rugby sanctioned leagues & tournaments. In the age of video evidence, it is becoming increasingly difficult for the DC to keep up with increasing demands of hearing cases. A Citing process will act to ensure that the DC only hears cases where a sending off should have occurred according to the opinion of a Citing Representative.

A Citing process in turn allows the DC to focus its time and energy on making informed decisions pertaining to acts of foul play. The decrease in total hearings will allow for more accurate precedents in the wake of decisions delivered by the DC.

Definitions

"Citing" means a request by a Member Club to have the DC formally review an incident believed to be worthy of a sending off. In addition, where the Citing Incident involves a player making physical contact with a match official, the request may be submitted by a match official or the referees' society.

"Citing Incident" means an alleged act of foul play occurring during a match that contravenes the Laws of the Game established by World Rugby.

"Citing Report" means a written report with respect to a Citing Incident that includes the following:

- declaration of intent to cite,
- a description of the incident,
- the law(s) alleged to have been offended,
- the date and time of the match, the minute of play and half when the incident occurred,
- a video clip or timestamp identifying when the incident can be seen on video, and
- any other relevant information pertaining to the incident, including description of any injury suffered or a third person account.

"Citing Representative" means a person appointed by the DC to review a cited act of foul play and to determine whether a sending off would have been warranted in the circumstances of the cited act of foul play. A Citing Representative will be appointed for a one-year term, commencing September 1 and ending August 31 of the following calendar year.

"**Member Clubs**" any registered society or other registered non-profit organization whose primary purpose is the delivery of rugby-related programs, or a post-secondary institution that delivers rugby-related programs.

"**Sending Off**" means a sanction where a player can take no further part in a match.

Process

1) Competitions where the Citing process is available

The availability of Citing must be equally applied throughout a competition. Citing under this Addendum will apply only for BC Rugby Divisions & Tournaments where video footage is required to be made for the entirety of that division or tournament. Citing does not replace decisions by match officials and cannot be applied without video evidence.

2) Establishing the intent to cite

Any Member Club wishing to cite an act of foul play occurring during a match in a BC Rugby sanctioned league match or tournament must produce a Citing Report and send it to BC Rugby's Officials Development Officer within 5 days from the conclusion of the match or tournament during which the Citing Incident occurred.

3) Administrative review of documents

The Citing Report must be sent to BC Rugby's Officials Development Officer, Chris Assmus, by e-mail to cassmus@bcrugby.com within 5 days of the incident referred to in the Citing Report.

4) Submission of citing to Citing Representative

The Officials Development Officer will promptly confirm receipt of the Citing Report to Member Club and forward the Citing Report to a Citing Representative.

5) Review of citing

The Citing Representative will review the Citing Report and determine whether in his opinion the Citing Incident should have warranted a Sending Off. The Citing Representative may seek additional information from the Member Club, the match officials or from any other person as determined by the Citing Representative. After a decision is made by the Citing Representative, the Officials Development Officer will communicate the decision to the Member Club who submitted the Citing Report.

6) Submission to Discipline Committee

If the Citing Representative determines in his opinion that the Citing Incident should have warranted a Sending Off, then the Officials Development Officer will provide the Citing Report, the Citing Representative's decision, and any other relevant information to the DC to arrange a player hearing in accordance with the Discipline Policy.

7) No suspension until a Discipline Committee Hearing

A player who is the subject of a Citing Report will not be suspended pending the completion of a hearing for a Citing Incident unless the DC determines that the player has unduly delayed the completion of the hearing.

8) No Appeal

A decision by a Citing Representative is final and cannot be appealed. The DC shall not make a finding contrary to the determination made by the Citing Representative unless the DC is satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that the Citing Representative's decision is incorrect.