

# **IRB SEVENS WORLD SERIES 2009/10**



## **STATISTICAL REVIEW ENGLAND 2010**

**IRB GAME ANALYSIS**

This is a report on the **LONDON** leg of the IRB Sevens World Series 2009/10.

It comprises a quantitative analysis of all elements of play together with the approach to, and performance of, all participating teams in various aspects of the game.

The report looks, therefore, at such areas as:

- *Scoring and the effectiveness of each team in attack and defence*
- *The source, origin and build up of tries*
- *Each team's possession times and percentages*
- *Each team's passes and rate of passing*
- *Each team's rucks and rate of rucking*
- *Each team's success and approach at rucks*
- *Each team's performance at Set Piece - Restarts, Scrums and Lineouts*
- *Plus data on Penalties, Free Kicks and Cards*

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2010 London Cup Winners, **Australia**, produced the following statistics:

- **Australia's** average match score was 34 pts to 13 pts
- **Australia** had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best scoring rate with a try scored every 50 secs of possession and the 4<sup>th</sup> best defence - it took opposition 88 secs to score against them.
- **Australia** scored 32 tries and conceded 12 tries in 6 matches.
- **James Stannard** scored 67 points and **Clinton Sills** scored 9 tries.
- **Australia** scored tries from anywhere with 50% of their tries originating in their own half.
- **Australia** had the best restart retention rate – winning 1 in 1.8 contestable restarts, with over 40% of their tries originating from restart possession.
- Possession can be vital in sevens. **Australia** kicked little possession away and dominated possession in their matches, averaging 60% of total possession.
- **Australia** constantly moved the ball as they achieved a high passing rate – passing 11.3 passes per minute's possession and made 5+ passing movements 1 in every 5.4 passing movements.
- **Australia** avoided physical contact as they only had 2.2 rucks per minutes possession, but when they went into contact they retained the possession winning 95% of their own rucks.
- **Australia** were the more discipline than their opponents as were awarded proportionally more penalties and free kicks.





## 2009/10 IRB SEVENS CURRENT STANDINGS

	DUB	RSA	NZL	USA	AUS	HKG	ENG	SCO	TOT
 SAM	20	6	20	24	24	30	16		140
 NZL	24	24	16	20	12	25	12		133
 AUS	12	6	12	16	16	16	24		102
 FIJ	16	20	24	8	6	20	8		102
 ENG	16	12	16	6	4	20	6		80
 RSA	8	8	8	12	8	10	20		74
 ARG	6	16	0	0	16	0	16		54
 KEN	6	16	6	16	0	8	0		52
 USA	0	0	0	4	20	8	0		32
 WAL	4	4	4	6	6	0	6		30
 CAN	0	0	6	0	0	5	4		15













## ENGLAND 2010 MATCH RESULTS

POOL	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM	KNOCKOUT	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM
Pool	ENGLAND	5 - 38	AUSTRALIA	Cup Final	AUSTRALIA	19 - 14	SOUTH AFRICA
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	19 - 19	KENYA	Plate Final	FIJI	24 - 26	NEW ZEALAND
Pool	FIJI	21 - 21	SOUTH AFRICA	Bowl Final	PORTUGAL	17 - 19	CANADA
Pool	SAMOA	10 - 14	ARGENTINA	Shield Final	FRANCE	21 - 24	KENYA
Pool	SCOTLAND	24 - 7	RUSSIA	Cup S/F	SOUTH AFRICA	24 - 12	SAMOA
Pool	WALES	14 - 12	PORTUGAL	Cup S/F	ARGENTINA	14 - 26	AUSTRALIA
Pool	CANADA	26 - 5	FRANCE	Plate S/F	ENGLAND	19 - 22	NEW ZEALAND
Pool	USA	14 - 17	ITALY	Plate S/F	WALES	10 - 22	FIJI
Pool	ENGLAND	36 - 10	SCOTLAND	Bowl S/F	CANADA	22 - 17	USA
Pool	AUSTRALIA	47 - 0	RUSSIA	Bowl S/F	PORTUGAL	24 - 19	SCOTLAND
Pool	KENYA	17 - 22	WALES	Shield S/F	RUSSIA	17 - 21	KENYA
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	35 - 12	PORTUGAL	Shield S/F	ITALY	7 - 29	FRANCE
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	43 - 0	CANADA	Cup Q/F	NEW ZEALAND	10 - 19	SAMOA
Pool	FIJI	29 - 14	FRANCE	Cup Q/F	SOUTH AFRICA	17 - 12	ENGLAND
Pool	ARGENTINA	12 - 14	USA	Cup Q/F	AUSTRALIA	29 - 28	FIJI
Pool	SAMOA	41 - 0	ITALY	Cup Q/F	ARGENTINA	27 - 14	WALES
Pool	ENGLAND	29 - 5	RUSSIA	Bowl Q/F	KENYA	10 - 19	USA
Pool	AUSTRALIA	43 - 17	SCOTLAND	Bowl Q/F	CANADA	21 - 12	RUSSIA
Pool	KENYA	17 - 15	PORTUGAL	Bowl Q/F	SCOTLAND	21 - 12	FRANCE
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	43 - 5	WALES	Bowl Q/F	ITALY	0 - 41	PORTUGAL
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	19 - 12	FRANCE				
Pool	FIJI	28 - 19	CANADA				
Pool	ARGENTINA	29 - 0	ITALY				
Pool	SAMOA	38 - 14	USA				









## 2009/10 IRB SEVENS CURRENT PLAYER STATISTICS

			POINTS SCORED OVERALL 2009/10				TRIES SCORED OVERALL 2009/10
	Ben Gollings	ENG	309		Mikaele Pesamino	SAM	50
	Mikaele Pesamino	SAM	252		Kurt Baker	NZL	31
	Lolo Lui	SAM	231		Collins Injera	KEN	31
	James Stannard	AUS	214		Humphrey Kayange	KEN	29
	Tomasi Cama	NZL	210		Ryno Benjamin	RSA	28



## ENGLAND 2010 PLAYER STATISTICS

			POINTS SCORED ENGLAND 2010				TRIES SCORED ENGLAND 2010
	James Stannard	AUS	67		Kurt Baker	NZL	11
	Kurt Baker	NZL	55		Clinton Sills	AUS	9
	Clinton Sills	AUS	45		Ryno Benjamin	RSA	7



## IRB SEVENS 2009/10 - STATISTICAL SUMMARY

	DUB 2009	RSA 2009	NZL 2010	USA 2010	AUS 2010	HKG 2010	ENG 2010
<b>MATCHES SCORING</b>	44	44	44	44	44	60	44
POINTS (average per game)	37	36	36	32	37	41	39
TRIES (average per game)	6.0	5.7	5.8	5.2	6.0	6.5	6.3
CONVERSION SUCCESS (%)	63%	62%	58%	62%	60%	67%	57%
PENALTY GOALS (total)	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 1	1 / 1
DROP GOALS (total)	0 / 0	1 / 2	0 / 0	0 / 2	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
MATCHES WON by team scoring most tries (%)	91%	91%	91%	89%	86%	85%	81%
SOURCE OF TRIES - pens/fks (%)	29%	27%	38%	27%	34%	28%	27%
ORIGIN OF TRIES - own Half (%)	42%	44%	45%	40%	37%	45%	46%
BUILD UP TO TRIES – no rucks/mauls (%)	61%	69%	69%	58%	60%	62%	57%
BUILD UP TO TRIES - 3 Or fewer passes (%)	57%	58%	56%	54%	56%	55%	52%
<b>ACTIVITY</b>							
BALL IN PLAY (%)	51%	52%	49%	49%	49%	50%	50%
PASSES (average per game)	68	72	67	68	68	71	71
5+ PASSING MOVEMENTS (rate)	1 in 7.2	1 in 8.0	1 in 7.5	1 in 9.7	1 in 8.0	1 in 7.4	1 in 6.5
RUCKS/MAULS (average per game)	17	18	15	17	16	17	17
RUCK/MAUL RETENTION (%)	79%	80%	83%	82%	86%	85%	87%
KICKS (average per game)	3.7	3.8	3.5	4.8	3.0	2.9	3.5
<b>SET PIECE</b>							
CONTESTABLE RESTARTS (%)	75%	79%	72%	38%	85%	85%	86%
CONTESTABLE RESTARTS REGAINED (%)	37% or 1 in 2.7	31% or 1 in 3.2	38% or 1 in 2.7	39% or 1 in 2.6	43% or 1 in 2.3	38% or 1 in 2.7	37% or 1 in 2.7
RESTART ERRORS (total)	17 or 1 in 19	17 or 1 in 18	27 or 1 in 11	19 or 1 in 15	10 or 1 in 30	16 or 1 in 27	16 or 1 in 20
SCRUMS (average per game)	4	4	4	4	5	4	3
SCRUMS possession retained (%)	79%	85%	84%	82%	81%	89%	87%
LINEOUTS (average per game)	2	3	2	4	2	2	2
LINEOUTS possession retained (%)	82%	76%	72%	80%	71%	80%	80%
QUICK THROWS (total)	12 or 1 in 8	9 or 1 in 8	12 or 1 in 7	18 or 1 in 10	11 or 1 in 9	14 or 1 in 9.5	9 or 1 in 10.6
<b>PENALTIES/FREE KICKS &amp; CARDS</b>							
PENALTIES (average per game)	5.0	5.3	6.6	5.6	6.2	5.5	4.8
CARDS (total)	3 + 0	16 + 1	12 + 0	8 + 1	17 + 0	25 + 0	12 + 0

## 1. SCORING & CONCEDED

















































The average number of points scored in a game was **39**. The average number of points scored/conceded by a team was **19.5** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average. The Cup winners **Australia** scored an average of **34** points per game while **Italy** managed just **5**. With regard to points conceded, **Samoa** only conceded an average of **12** points per game while **Russia** conceded **28**. **Australia's** average score was 34 points to 13.

The figures do not show, however, how effective each team was in scoring points in relation to the possession that it obtained and also, the figures do not show, how effective each team was in restricting points in relation to the possession that their opponents obtained. A team may, for example, obtain little possession but still manage to score a significant number of tries conversely a team may concede very few tries in the face of considerable opposition possession.

**Overall, in London a try was scored every 67 seconds of play**

(Dubai every 72 secs, George every 77 secs, Wellington every 71 secs, Las Vegas every 79 secs, Adelaide every 67 secs and Hong Kong every 64 secs).

Scoring rates are calculated (a) by dividing the total possession obtained by a team by the number of tries scored (b) by dividing the total possession obtained by a team opponents by the total number of tries conceded. The following table gives the relevant figures for each participating team. **New Zealand** had the best try scoring rate, scoring a try every **43** seconds in attack and **South Africa** had the best try conceding rate, conceding a try every **115** seconds in defence.

		Av POINTS SCORED	Av POINTS CONCEDED			TRY SCORING RATE		TRY CONCEDED RATE	
	AUS	34	13		NZL	43 secs		RSA	115 secs
	NZL	26	17		AUS	50 secs		ARG	98 secs
	FJI	25	20		FJI	53 secs		POR	92 secs
	SAM	24	12		SAM	53 secs		AUS	88 secs
	RSA	23	13		ARG	56 secs		NZL	87 secs
	POR	21	17		ENG	59 secs		SAM	80 secs
	ENG	20	18		POR	60 secs		FJI	70 secs
	ARG	19	13		RSA	60 secs		ENG	68 secs
	KEN	18	19		KEN	72 secs		CAN	67 secs
	CAN	18	20		CAN	75 secs		KEN	64 secs
	SCO	18	24		SCO	79 secs		USA	60 secs
	USA	16	20		USA	94 secs		RUS	59 secs
	FRA	16	21		FRA	96 secs		FRA	57 secs
	WAL	13	24		WAL	96 secs		SCO	54 secs
	RUS	8	28		RUS	136 secs		WAL	45 secs
	ITA	5	31		ITA	185 secs		ITA	41 secs

There was 1 penalty goal and 0 drop goals.

The overall conversion success rate was **57%**.

There were noticeable variations in the percentage success rates as seen in the attached table:

Because of the relatively few tries scored, applying percentages can, at this stage, only be regarded as indicative. In addition, the location of the score can be a significant factor in achieving a successful conversion. This is the reason that the attached table has assigned a percentage success rate only to those teams that scored 16 tries or more. **USA** had the highest success rate - **75%**

	CONVERSION SUCCESS %		CONVERSION SUCCESS %
USA	75%	ENG	47%
CAN	69%	POR	43%
FJI	67%	ARG	9/15
AUS	66%	FRA	9/15
RSA	64%	SCO	8/15
NZL	60%	WAL	5/11
KEN	50%	RUS	3/7
SAM	50%	ITA	2/4

## 2. TRY SCORING

There were **275** tries scored in London giving an average of **6.3** per game. (*Dubai = 6.0 tries, George = 5.7 tries, Wellington = 5.8 tries, Las Vegas = 5.2, Adelaide 6.0 and Hong Kong 6.5*)

On Day 1 there were **151** tries scored (average – 6.3) and on Day 2 there were **124** tries scored (average – 6.2)

### 2.1 IMPACT OF TRIES

With only 1 penalty goal, 0 drop goals and a conversion success rate of 57%, it was inevitable that tries would determine the winning team in the vast majority of cases – and this proved to be the case.

Of the 44 matches, **36 (or 81%)** were won by the team scoring the most tries. There were **6** matches won because of conversions and there were 2 Draws.








### 2.2 POSSESSION SOURCE OF TRIES

The teams scoring the tries obtained possession of the ball prior to the scoring of the try from a variety of sources. This is shown:

It can be seen that the most fruitful source of tries is **penalties/free kicks (27%)**. Also the table shows how important restart possession can be as 26% of all tries scored originated at restarts. **Australia** scored nearly over 40% of their tries from restart possession.

	ENGLAND 2010	OVERALL 2008/09
PENALTY/FREE KICK	27%	29%
TURNOVER & ERROR	20%	18%
RESTART	26%	22%
SCRUM	14%	14%
LINEOUT	10%	11%
KICK RECEIPT	4%	6%

The following table on the next page shows the possession source of tries scored (own) and tries conceded (opp) by each team:

	PEN & FK		T/OVER & ERROR		RESTART		SCRUM		LINEOUT		KICK		TOTAL	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 AUS	6	1	3	4	14	1	5	3	3	2	1	1	32	12
 NZL	7	6	6	4	5	3	4	1	1	2	2		25	16
 FJI	9	7	2	3	9	6	2		1	2	1	1	24	19
 RSA	5	3	9	1	3	2	4	3	1	2		1	22	12
 POR	7	4	3	3	5	4	4	3		2	2		21	16
 SAM	1	1	4	4	8	2	5	2	2	1			20	10
 KEN	6	3	4	8	4	4	3	1	1	1		2	18	19
 CAN	4	9	5	2	3	5	3	2	2	1		1	17	20
 ENG	4	6	2	3	4	4	2	1	5	0		2	17	16
 UAR	4	5	3		4	3		1	4	1			15	10
 FRA	8	5	2	4		4	2	5	2	2	1		15	20
 SCO	3	3	2	4	4	11	2	2	2		2	1	15	20
 USA	5	4	4	7	3	3		1		1		1	12	17
 WAL	1	6	2	6	4	4	1	3	3	1			11	20
 RUS	1	2	5			7	1	5		7			7	22
 ITA	2	8		3	1	8		5		2	1		4	26

### 2.3 ORIGIN & LOCATION OF TRIES

















Tries originate from various parts of the pitch and are scored all across the try line.

Of all the tries scored, **46%** originated in the try scoring team's own half and **54%** originated in the try conceding team's half. **30%** were scored to the left of the posts, **36%** were scored under the posts and **34%** were scored to the right of the posts.





The following table shows the origin of tries scored (own) and tries conceded (opp) by each team. The teams which scored a high percentage of their tries from their own half were **New Zealand, Fiji** and **Australia**. The teams which had a low percentage of their tries from their own half were **England** and **Argentina**.

	OWN HALF		HW – 10m		10m – 22m		22m - TRY		TOT	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 AUS	16	6	4	1	11	2	1	3	32	12
 NZL	15	7	1	2	6	4	3	3	25	16
 FJI	13	12	2	1	6	4	3	2	24	19
 RSA	9	6	2	2	9	2	2	2	22	12
 POR	10	9	3	2	5	3	3	2	21	16
 SAM	9	7			7	3	4		20	10
 KEN	8	5	2	1	5	9	3	4	18	19
 CAN	7	10	1		6	7	3	3	17	20
 ENG	6	5	4	1	3	8	4	2	17	16
 ARG	5	6	1	2	5	2	4		15	10
 FRA	7	8	1	3	4	7	3	2	15	20
 SCO	9	8	2	4	3	8	1		15	20
 USA	5	8		1	5	3	2	5	12	17
 WAL	4	10	1		6	6		4	11	20
 RUS	3	11	1	3	1	4	2	4	7	22
 ITA	2	10		2		10	2	4	4	26

## 2.4 BUILD UP TO TRIES

The table shows how many **rucks/mauls** preceded each try scored in the tournament.

The table shows that **57%** of tries were preceded by **not one** ruck or maul.

	%	CUMULATIVE %	OVERALL 2008/09
None	<b>57%</b>	<b>57%</b>	63%
1 rucks/mauls	<b>26%</b>	<b>83%</b>	86%
2 rucks/mauls	<b>11%</b>	<b>94%</b>	95%
3 + rucks/mauls	<b>6%</b>	<b>100%</b>	100%

It shows the total number of **passes** that preceded each try scored in the tournament.

The table shows that **52%** of tries were preceded by **3 or fewer** passes.

































	%	CUMULATIVE %	OVERALL 2008/09
No passes	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>	12%
1 - 3 passes	<b>42%</b>	<b>52%</b>	58%
4 - 6 passes	<b>28%</b>	<b>80%</b>	83%
7 - 9 passes	<b>12%</b>	<b>92%</b>	94%
10+ passes	<b>8%</b>	<b>100%</b>	100%

When the build up to tries on day 1 is compared to day 2, the percentages show that tries with 3 or less passes and no rucks were more common on day 2.

Day 1: **56%** of tries had no r/m/s & **50%** < 3 passes  
Day 2: **60%** of tries had no r/m/s & **53%** < 3 passes

In the table below are the figures for each team. The figures in the table include the % of tries scored and conceded with no rucks in the build up and the % of tries scored with 3 or fewer passes. Because of the relatively few tries scored, applying percentages can, at this stage, only be regarded as indicative. This is the reason that the attached table has assigned a percentage success rate only to those teams that scored or conceded 16 tries or more.



		% OF TRIES WITH NO RUCKS				% OF TRIES WITH 3 OR FEWER PASSES	
		TRIES SCORED	TRIES CONCEDED			TRIES SCORED	
	POR	76%	44%		ARG	67%	
	SAM	70%	6/10		POR	67%	
	NZL	68%	63%		ENG	65%	
	CAN	59%	55%		RSA	64%	
	AUS	56%	8/12		SAM	50%	
	RSA	55%	2/12		KEN	50%	
	FJI	54%	53%		NZL	48%	
	ENG	47%	50%		CAN	47%	
	FRA	47%	60%		FJI	42%	
	KEN	44%	68%		AUS	31%	
	ARG	8/15	6/10		FRA	8/15	
	SCO	4/15	65%		SCO	3/15	
	USA	6/12	76%		USA	6/12	
	WAL	7/11	70%		WAL	7/11	
	RUS	7/7	36%		RUS	6/7	
	ITA	3/4	65%		ITA	3/4	

It can be seen that 76% of **Portugal's** tries scored contained no rucks in the build up and 67% of **Argentina's** tries scored contained 3 or fewer passes in the build up. Teams needed to work hard to score tries against South Africa - they only conceded 12 tries and only 2 contained 0 rucks in the build up.

### 3. BALL IN PLAY & POSSESSION

















	ENGLAND 2010	OVERALL 2008/09
AVERAGE B-I-P	7m 00s or 50%	6m 58s or 50%
HIGHEST B-I-P	8m 55s or 64%	9m 28s or 68%
LOWEST B-I-P	5m 02s or 36%	4m 53s or 35%
HIGHEST POSSESSION TIME	5m 17s	7m 18s
LOWEST POSSESSION TIME	1m 22s	1m 06s

There was a considerable variation between the ball in play figures achieved by the various teams. This is shown in the following table which gives the average possession times achieved by each team throughout the tournament in attack and defence:

As seen in the table, there were some noticeable differences. **Australia** averaged the highest, averaging over 4 minutes possession per game, with **Italy** only averaging 2m 28s.

**Australia, Samoa, France** and **Wales** dominated possession in their matches, all averaging over 54% of total possession. **Russia** on average only had 43% of possession in their matches. **43%** of the teams spent more time attacking than defending.



	OWN AVERAGE POSSESSION	%	OPPONENTS AVERAGE POSSESSION	%
 AUS	4m 29s	60%	2m 56s	40%
 SAM	3m 31s	57%	2m 39s	43%
 FRA	3m 59s	56%	3m 08s	44%
 WAL	3m 32s	54%	2m 58s	46%
 KEN	3m 35s	52%	3m 21s	48%
 USA	3m 45s	52%	3m 25s	48%
 SCO	3m 55s	52%	3m 36s	48%
 RSA	3m 40s	49%	3m 50s	51%
 FIJ	3m 33s	49%	3m 41s	51%
 CAN	3m 33s	49%	3m 42s	51%
 ENG	3m 19s	48%	3m 37s	52%
 ARG	2m 47s	46%	3m 16s	54%
 POR	3m 29s	46%	4m 04s	54%
 NZL	2m 59s	44%	3m 51s	56%
 ITA	2m 28s	44%	3m 30s	56%
 RUS	3m 10s	43%	4m 17s	57%

## 4. ACTIVITY

### 4.1 PASSING

The average number of passes in a game was **71**. The average number of passes by a team was **35.5** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average.

	ENGLAND 2010	OVERALL 2008/09
AVERAGE PASSES	71	67
HIGHEST PASSING MATCH	100	115
LOWEST PASSING MATCH	48	35

### RATES & AVERAGES

The table shows major differences between the teams. Such differences can however partly be explained by the amount of possession obtained by each team – more possession means more passes. If possession is taken into account, therefore the **rate** at which each country passed the ball is far closer.

**Samoa, Russia** and **Fiji** had the highest passing rate and **Portugal, England** and **Canada** had the lowest. **Australia** on average passed 42% more than **South Africa**, but it can be seen that they passed at the same rate when possession is taken into account.

### PASSING MOVEMENTS

Passes came in passing movements of which there were just over 1000.

Of these passing movements:

- 23%** comprised 1 pass
- 27%** comprised 2 passes
- 20%** comprised 3 passes
- 15%** comprised 4 passes
- 15%** comprised 5+ passes

Most teams fell into this profile – ie around 50% of their passing movements contained 2 or fewer passes. Where major differences arose, these were seen in the more lengthy passing movements. Of all passing movements, **1 in 6.5** contained 5+ passes (*Dubai 1 in 7.2, George 1 in 8.0, Wellington 1 in 7.5, Las Vegas 1 in 9.7, Adelaide 1 in 8.0 and Hong Kong 1 in 7.4*)

Certain teams were far more inclined to continue passing than others. This is shown in the above table which notes the proportion of 5+ pass movements to total number of passing movements made by each country.

**Fiji** were the most likely to make a 5+ passing movement, they made 1 in every 3.7 passing movements, whereas **England** were least likely.

	PASSING RATE	AVERAGE PASSES		5+ PASSING
SAM	11.5	41	FJI	1 in 3.7
RUS	11.5	36	RUS	1 in 4.2
FJI	11.4	41	SCO	1 in 4.8
AUS	11.3	51	NZL	1 in 5.1
RSA	11.3	36	AUS	1 in 5.4
KEN	10.7	39	FRA	1 in 5.9
WAL	10.7	38	KEN	1 in 6.4
FRA	10.1	40	CAN	1 in 6.9
NZL	10.1	30	ARG	1 in 7.1
SCO	10.0	39	ITA	1 in 7.2
ITA	10.0	25	USA	1 in 7.4
USA	9.3	35	POR	1 in 8.3
ARG	9.3	26	RSA	1 in 9.2
CAN	8.6	31	SAM	1 in 9.9
ENG	8.7	29	WAL	1 in 10.7
POR	8.3	29	ENG	1 in 15.3



































#### 4.2 RUCKS & MAULS

The average number of passes in a game was **17**. The average number of passes by a team was **8.5** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average.

#### RATES & AVERAGES

The table below shows major differences in the average number of rucks/mauls created by each team. Some of this can be explained by the amount of possession obtained by each team. If this is taken into account, the rate at which each country rucked and mauled is far closer, as also shown in the table. This expresses rucks/mauls as 'rucks/mauls per minute possession'. **Canada** had the highest rucking rate and **Portugal** had the lowest. **Australia** on average rucked more than **Argentina**, but it can be seen that they rucked at the same rate when possession is taken into account.

	ENGLAND 2010	OVERALL 2008/09
AVERAGE RUCKS	17	16
HIGHEST RUCKING MATCH	28	31
LOWEST RUCKING MATCH	7	4
SUCCESS %	87%	79%

	RUCKING RATE	AVERAGE RUCKS		SUCCESS % OWN RUCKS	SUCCESS % OPP RUCKS
 CAN	3.1	11	 AUS	95%	11%
 ENG	3.0	10	 SAM	95%	16%
 RSA	3.0	11	 KEN	94%	14%
 WAL	2.9	10	 NZL	94%	14%
 USA	2.9	11	 SCO	91%	20%
 FRA	2.8	11	 ENG	90%	7%
 SCO	2.7	11	 RSA	88%	13%
 KEN	2.5	9	 FRA	85%	16%
 RUS	2.5	8	 POR	85%	6%
 AUS	2.2	10	 USA	84%	14%
 SAM	2.2	8	 FJI	83%	14%
 ARG	2.1	6	 RUS	83%	8%
 ITA	2.0	5	 WAL	83%	23%
 NZL	2.0	6	 CAN	82%	7%
 FJI	1.7	6	 ITA	79%	19%
 POR	1.6	6	 ARG	77%	16%

#### RUCK SUCCESS

At the breakdown, the team taking in the ball retained possession by either winning the ball or being awarded a penalty on **87%** of occasions. The percentage success rate of each team in attack and defence are shown in the above table. In Attack, **Australia, Samoa, Kenya** and **New Zealand** had high success rates while **Canada, Italy** and **Argentina** had low success rates. In defence, **Wales** and **Scotland** won ruck possession from opponents on a number of occasions, while **England** and **Canada** won little possession at any opposition rucks.

































**NUMBER OF PLAYERS COMMITTED TO RUCKS – ATTACK & DEFENCE**

There are over 500 breakdowns in a tournament - and a breakdown occurs when at least one player from each side is on his feet at or over the ball. When the tackler is on his feet and an opponent joins in, then there is a breakdown. When the tackler is not on his feet, a breakdown occurs when at least one player from each side joins in.

What became immediately noticeable was that there were clear differences in the approach of the various countries in committing players to the breakdown. While certain teams frequently committed few additional players, other countries consistently committed more.

The extent of the differences between each team’s approach is illustrated by an exercise that looked at how many players were committed to the breakdown (1) in attack and (2) in defence. Overall on average, the attacking team committed only 1 extra player on 78% of occasions and defending teams committed only 1 extra player on 55% of occasions.

It can be seen that in the table below, in attack, **Samoa** committed only one player on 91% of occasions while **Italy** committed 2 or more players 50% of the time. In defence, **Scotland** committed no extra players on 52% of occasions, whereas **Samoa** and **South Africa** committed 2 or more players in defence frequently.

		(1) ATTACK				(2) DEFENCE		
		1 PLAYER	2+ PLAYERS			NO PLAYER	1 PLAYER	2+ PLAYERS
	SAM	90%	10%		SCO	52%	46%	2%
	NZL	89%	11%		AUS	43%	52%	5%
	POR	88%	12%		CAN	40%	54%	5%
	RUS	88%	13%		RSA	38%	40%	22%
	KEN	85%	15%		FJI	35%	54%	11%
	USA	84%	16%		NZL	35%	54%	12%
	FJI	83%	17%		RUS	35%	59%	6%
	AUS	81%	19%		USA	34%	57%	9%
	CAN	81%	19%		SAM	32%	45%	23%
	WAL	81%	19%		KEN	30%	55%	16%
	ARG	80%	20%		POR	30%	58%	13%
	SCO	76%	24%		FRA	26%	63%	12%
	RSA	73%	27%		ENG	20%	64%	16%
	ENG	68%	32%		ARG	19%	60%	21%
	FRA	60%	40%		ITA	19%	62%	19%
	ITA	50%	50%		WAL	19%	65%	15%

### 4.3 KICKS

















Kicks include all kicks made in general play inc. punts, chips, ground (i.e. football kick) and grubber kicks. The average number of kicks in a game was **3.5**. (*Dubai was 3.7, George was 3.8, Wellington was 3.5, Las Vegas was 4.8 and Adelaide was 3.0 and Hong Kong was 3.0*)

	ENGLAND 2010	OVERALL 2008/09
AVERAGE KICKS	3.5	4
HIGHEST KICKING MATCH	9	16
LOWEST KICKING MATCH	0	0
KICK REGAIN RATE	1 in 2.6	1 in 3

As can be seen in the table below that **South Africa, Italy** and **Argentina** kicked far more often than any other team while **New Zealand**, on the other hand, kicked very little.

Of the total kicks made by teams in open play, the attached table shows how many were regained. The overall kick regain rate was 1 in 2.6 – this was the highest regain rate so far this series. (*Dubai = 1 in 2.6, George = 1 in 3.0, Wellington = 1 in 3.4, Las Vegas = 1 in 6.1, Adelaide = 1 in 2.4 and Hong Kong = 1 in 3.1*)

There were a wide variety of kicks as of all the kicks, 36% were chip kicks, 24% were punt kicks, 21% were ground kicks and 20% were grubber kicks.

	TOTAL KICKS	KICKS REGAINED	TOTAL CHIPS	TOTAL PUNTS	TOTAL GROUND	TOTAL GRUBBER
 RSA	16	9	10	2	3	1
 ARG	15	5	6	3	3	3
 ITA	15	3	3	6	1	5
 FIJ	14	7	7	1	3	3
 ENG	12	7	5	1	3	3
 POR	12	7	1	1	5	5
 FRA	11	6	4	1	3	3
 KEN	11	2	1	9		1
 CAN	10	7	2	2	5	1
 WAL	9	2	3	1	3	2
 RUS	8	1	3	1	1	3
 SAM	7	2	3	3	1	
 AUS	5		2	2	1	
 SCO	3	1	2	1		
 USA	3		2	1		
 NZL	1			1		

## 5. SET PIECE

	RESTARTS	SCRUMS	LINEOUTS	RESTARTS OVERALL 2008/09	SCRUMS OVERALL 2008/09	LINEOUTS OVERALL 2008/09
AVERAGE	7	3	2	7	4	3
HIGHEST IN A MATCH	10	6	6	11	10	7
LOWEST IN A MATCH	5	0	0	3	0 7 matches	0 30 matches
SUCCESS %	37%	87%	80%	35%	85%	75%

Restarts were classified into 2 types: **86%** of restarts were kicked **contestable**  
**14%** of restarts were kicked **non contestable**

(Dubai = 75%, George = 79%, Wellington = 72%, Las Vegas = 38%, Adelaide = 85% and Hong Kong = 85%)

Retention rates reflect the number of times that possession was retained at contestable restarts – they varied considerably. Of all contestable restarts, the kicking team regained **37%** or **1 in 2.7** (Dubai = 37%, George = 31%, Wellington = 38%, Las Vegas = 39%, Adelaide = 43% and Hong Kong = 38%)

		OWN RESTARTS REGAIN SUCCESS			OPP RESTARTS RECEIVE SUCCESS			OWN RESTARTS	
						CONTESTABLE	NON CONTESTABLE		
	AUS	1 in 1.8		FIJ	1 in 1.3		ARG	100%	0%
	ARG	1 in 2.0		FRA	1 in 1.4		CAN	100%	0%
	CAN	1 in 2.1		ENG	1 in 1.5		ENG	100%	0%
	SAM	1 in 2.1		WAL	1 in 1.5		AUS	97%	3%
	ENG	1 in 2.7		ARG	1 in 1.6		SAM	96%	4%
	RSA	1 in 2.9		CAN	1 in 1.8		WAL	93%	7%
	POR	1 in 3.1		KEN	1 in 1.8		KEN	90%	10%
	USA	1 in 3.8		RUS	1 in 1.8		SCO	89%	11%
	ITA	1 in 4.0		USA	1 in 1.8		FRA	87%	13%
	RUS	1 in 4.0		RSA	1 in 1.9		RSA	87%	13%
	KEN	1 in 4.2		ITA	1 in 2.2		USA	87%	13%
	NZL	1 in 5.0		SAM	1 in 2.2		RUS	75%	25%
	WAL	1 in 5.0		AUS	1 in 2.4		NZL	72%	28%
	FIJ	1 in 6.0		NZL	1 in 2.6		POR	68%	32%
	FRA	1 in 7.5		POR	1 in 2.6		ITA	63%	38%
	SCO	1 in 9.0		SCO	1 in 3.5		FIJ	58%	42%



**Australia** and **Argentina** were the most successful in regaining own short restarts and **Fiji** and **France** the most successful in receiving opposition short restarts. **Scotland** was the least successful at regaining own and receiving opposition contestable restarts. **Argentina, Canada** and **England** kicked contestable restarts everytime whereas **Fiji** and Italy kicked non contestable frequently.

There were only 16 restart errors or 1 in every 20 restarts. (*Dubai = 17 or 1 in 14.0, George = 17 or 1 in 17.7, Wellington = 27 or 1 in 11.4, Las Vegas = 19 or 1 in 14.6, Adelaide = 10 or 1 in 30 and Hong Kong = 1 in 27*)

Restarters were yet again the most frequent set piece, there was only an average of 5 scrums and lineouts per match. Overall Scrum success was **87%** and overall Lineout success was **80%**. The following table shows the success rate for each team on own put/throw in and opposition put/throw in:

		SCRUM				LINEOUT	
		OWN	OPP			OWN	OPP
	SAM	8/8	2/13		KEN	8/8	0/5
	FJI	8/8	1/4		FJI	7/7	0/4
	ENG	5/5	3/6		SCO	5/5	0/2
	SCO	5/5	2/6		FRA	2/2	1/4
	WAL	4/4	1/12		SAM	2/2	2/7
	RSA	15/16	0/6		ENG	2/2	5/8
	CAN	10/11	0/9		POR	7/8	3/8
	KEN	10/11	1/5		USA	6/7	2/8
	POR	10/11	1/10		NZL	4/5	0/6
	ARG	7/8	2/9		WAL	4/5	1/5
	AUS	5/6	1/8		CAN	3/4	0/7
	RUS	3/4	1/12		ARG	10/12	1/4
	FRA	9/11	1/13		AUS	5/7	2/6
	NZL	8/11	0/7		ITA	3/6	1/7
	ITA	7/10	1/9		RUS	3/6	0/9
	USA	6/9	1/9		RSA	5/9	1/6

**Samoa, England, Fiji** and **Scotland** won possession on everyone of their own scrum put in's and won everyone of their lineout throws. **USA** lost 3 own scrum put ins and **South Africa** lost 4 own lineout throws. **England** won 3 of the 6 opposition scrum put in's and managed to steal 5 of the 8 opposition lineouts.

















There were **9** quick throws or **1 in 11** lineouts.

## 6. PENALTIES & FREE KICKS

The average number of penalties and free kicks per game (not inc restart free kicks) was **4.8** (*Dubai 2009 = 5.0, George = 5.3, Wellington = 6.6, Las Vegas = 5.6, Adelaide = 6.2 and Hong Kong = 5.5*). What needs to be noted that absolute statistics and averages do not necessarily reflect the true degree of discipline or ill-discipline of a particular team.

	ENGLAND 2010	OVERALL 2008/09
AVERAGE PENS/FKS	4.8	6
HIGHEST IN A MATCH	10	14
LOWEST IN A MATCH	0	0 (2 matches)

The number of penalties can, for example, vary from match to match. Some referees penalise more than others. A better and probably more accurate indicator, therefore, is the proportion of penalties conceded by a team in all their matches compared with their opponents. Each team's proportion % for and against can be seen in the following table together with the totals and averages per game. It can be seen that **Kenya** were awarded more penalties than they conceded and **England** conceded more.

		PENS & FKS FOR			PENS & FKS AGAINST		
		TOTAL	AVERAGE	%	TOTAL	AVERAGE	%
	KEN	18	3.0	72%	7	1.2	28%
	SCO	12	2.4	71%	5	1.0	29%
	AUS	18	3.0	64%	10	1.7	36%
	FRA	19	3.2	54%	16	2.7	46%
	USA	15	3.0	54%	13	2.6	46%
	NZL	14	2.3	50%	14	2.3	50%
	ARG	14	2.8	48%	15	3.0	52%
	FJI	15	2.5	48%	16	2.7	52%
	RSA	16	2.7	48%	17	2.8	52%
	CAN	14	2.3	47%	16	2.7	53%
	ITA	14	2.8	47%	16	3.2	53%
	RUS	9	1.8	47%	10	2.0	53%
	POR	13	2.2	43%	17	2.8	57%
	SAM	5	1.0	42%	7	1.4	58%
	WAL	11	2.2	41%	16	3.2	59%
	ENG	7	1.4	27%	19	3.8	73%

Of the penalties awarded **59%** were awarded at the breakdown (*Dubai = 68%, George = 61%, Wellington = 56%, Las Vegas = 61% Adelaide = 54% and Hong Kong = 59%*) There were 126 breakdown penalties awarded, **70%** were **FOR** the attacking team and **30%** were **AGAINST** the attacking team (*Dubai = 57% & 43%, George = 55% & 45%, Wellington = 74% & 26%, Las Vegas = 63% & 37%, Adelaide = 68% & 32% and Hong Kong = 59% & 41%*).

Of all penalty decisions, **82%** of Penalties and Free kicks were tap kicks and **18%** were kicks to touch – there was **1** Penalty Goal attempt. (*Dubai = 83% & 17%, George = 84% & 16%, Wellington = 87% & 13%, Las Vegas = 71% & 29%, Adelaide 85% & 15% and Hong Kong 81% & 19%*)

The average number of penalties and the total number of cards awarded by the 8 participating referees was as follows:

BERRY  
CARDONA  
DOYLE  
HODGES  
McMENEMY  
RICHARDS  
STANLEY  
SMORTCHEVSKY

MATCHES	AVERAGE PENS & FKS PER GAME	TOTAL YELLOW/ RED CARDS
6	4.8	2
5	4.6	2
5 + 1	4.4 + 11	1
5	5.0	1
6	4.7	1
5	5.4	1
5	4.8	4
6	4.0	0

## 7. CARDS

There were **12** yellow cards and **0** red card issued.

This year, 8 of the 16 teams conceded at least one card, as seen in the table.

The offences for which yellow cards were awarded were as follows:

	ENGLAND 2010
Dangerous Tackle/Charge	4
General Play	3
Offside	2
Ruck Offence	2
Unsportsmanlike	1

The following table shows the number of yellow and red cards awarded at each leg of the IRB Sevens:

	YELLOW & RED CARDS 2009/10	CITING SUSPENSIONS 2009/10	CARDS OVERALL 2008/09
DUBAI	3 + 0	2	12 + 0
GEORGE	16 + 1	1	18 + 1
WELLINGTON	12 + 0	4	23 + 1
USA	8 + 1	3	15 + 0
ADELAIDE	17 + 0	1	9 + 0
HONG KONG	25 + 0	3	14 + 0
LONDON	12 + 0	0	6 + 0
SCOTLAND			11 + 1
OVERALL			108 + 3

-  CAN
-  FJI
-  RSA
-  AUS
-  ENG
-  POR
-  USA
-  WAL
-  ARG
-  FRA
-  ITA
-  KEN
-  NZL
-  RUS
-  SAM
-  SCO
- TOTAL

	ENGLAND 2010 YELLOW CARDS	ENGLAND 2010 RED CARDS
CAN	3	
FJI	2	
RSA	2	
AUS	1	
ENG	1	
POR	1	
USA	1	
WAL	1	
ARG		
FRA		
ITA		
KEN		
NZL		
RUS		
SAM		
SCO		
TOTAL	12	0