

DISCIPLINARY DECISION



Match	USA vs Canada		
Competition	Women's Fast 4 Tournament		
Date of match	September 19, 2021	Match venue	BC Place Vancouver BC
Rules to apply	Regulation 17 World Rugby Handbook		

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

Player's surname	Hogan-Rochester	Date of birth	April 20, 1999
Forename(s)	Asia		
Player's Union	Canada		
Referee Name	Ritchie	Plea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Admitted <input type="checkbox"/> Not admitted
Offence	Law 9.13 – Dangerous Tackling	SELECT:	Red card <input type="checkbox"/> Citing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If "Other" selected, please specify:
Summary of Sanction	3 weeks/matches (6 matches reduced to 3 matches as a result of mitigating factors)		

HEARING DETAILS

Hearing date	September 19, 2021	Hearing venue	BC Place Vancouver BC
Chairman/JO	Alan Hudson		
Other Members of Disciplinary Committee			
Appearance Player	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Appearance Union	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Player's Representative(s)	Jack Hanratty – Canada Coach	Disciplinary Officer and/or other attendees	Jennifer Gray World Rugby
List of documents/materials provided to Player in advance of hearing	Citing Report Incident Video Clips		

SUMMARY OF ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF CITING/REFEREE'S REPORT/INCIDENT FOOTAGE

The Citing Commissioner Report states:

"White (USA) 7 has the ball and runs into the back of the in-goal and as she slides to place the ball to the ground, Red (Canada) 11 with her right arm out makes direct contact with white 7 head and then slides over white 7 pushing white 7 head away. Red 11 actions are contrary to Law 9.13 – a player must not tackle an opponent late or dangerously. Red 11 arrives at speed and makes direct head contact and meets the threshold for illegal contact

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF OTHER EVIDENCE (e.g. medical reports)

The USA team reports no injury to the Victim Player as a result of the incident.

SUMMARY OF PLAYER'S EVIDENCE

The Player accepted the description of the incident in the Citing Commissioner's report. The Player admitted that there was high speed contact between the Player's right arm and the head of the Victim Player. The Player said she was "going for the ball" with the intent to try to prevent the Victim Player from grounding the ball in the in-goal area. The Player said the actions were reckless in the circumstances and the Player recognizes a need to be better aware of all actions and will change behaviour on the field in the future.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Player admitted the act of foul play alleged in the Citing Commissioner Report and that the actions reached the red card threshold. The Player acknowledged that the actions of trying to prevent a grounding of the ball in-goal were reckless and deserving of significant rebuke. In specific reference to World Rugby's Head Contact Process, there was significant contact between the Player's right arm and the head of the Victim Player which was reckless and avoidable in the circumstances. The contact was direct to the Victim Player's head with substantial force. There are no mitigating factors that apply in this case.

The Citing commissioner report is upheld.

DECISION

Breach admitted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proven <input type="checkbox"/>	Not proven <input type="checkbox"/>	Other disposal (please state) <input type="checkbox"/>
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SANCTIONING PROCESS

ASSESSMENT OF SERIOUSNESS

Assessment of Intent – R 17.18.1(a)-(b) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
Intentional <input type="checkbox"/> Reckless <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State Reasons
The actions of the Player in this case were not deliberate but were a clumsy and ill-advised attempt to prevent a try being scored. The outcome of this situation was avoidable and the Player knew or should have known that there was a risk of committing an act of foul play in the circumstances.
Nature of actions – R 17.18.1(c) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
This was a high-speed event with significant contact to the Victim Player's head
Existence of provocation – R 17.18.1(d) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
None

Whether player retaliated – R 17.18.1(e) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
No
Self-defence – R 17.18.1(f) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
N/A
Effect on victim – R 17.18.1(g) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
The Victim Player was not injured and required no medical attention on the field.
Effect on match – R 17.18.1(h) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
None
Vulnerability of victim – R 17.18.1(i) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
The Victim Player was in the act of scoring a try and was in a vulnerable position and could not have anticipated the actions of the Player in this situation
Level of participation/premeditation – R 17.18.1(j) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
The Player fully participated, there was no other player involved, and there was no premeditation.
Conduct completed/attempted – R 17.18.1(k) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
The conduct was completed
Other features of player’s conduct – R 17.18.1(l) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
None

ASSESSMENT OF SERIOUSNESS CONTINUED

Entry point					
<u>Top end*</u>	<u>Weeks/Matches</u>	<u>Mid-range</u>	<u>Weeks/Matches</u>	<u>Low-end</u>	<u>Weeks/Matches</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	

*If Top End, the JO or Panel should identify, if appropriate, an entry point between the Top End and the maximum sanction and provide the reasons for selecting this entry point, below.

In making this assessment, the JO/Committee should consider World Rugby Regulations 17.18.1(a), 17.18.1(g), and 17.18.1(h) or the equivalent provisions within the Tournament Rules referred to above.

Reasons for selecting Entry Point above Top End
N/A

RELEVANT OFF-FIELD MITIGATING FACTORS

Acknowledgement of guilt and timing – R 17.19.1(a) (or equivalent Tournament rule)	Player’s disciplinary record/good character – R 17.19.1(b) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
The Player admitted at the outset of the hearing that the actions in question constituted foul play that reached the red card threshold.	The Player’s disciplinary record is clear.
Youth and inexperience of player – R 17.19.1(c) (or equivalent Tournament rule)	Conduct prior to and at hearing – R 17.19.1(d) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
The Player is 22 years old and this is the first senior tournament in which the Player has been involved.	The Player’s conduct throughout the hearing was good. The Player was quick to recognize a need to change behaviour on the field in the future.
Remorse and timing of remorse – R 17.19.1(e) (or equivalent Tournament rule)	Other off-field mitigation – R 17.19.1(f) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
The Player was very distraught during the hearing and is clearly remorseful.	None

Number of weeks/matches deducted:

3

Summary of reason for number of weeks/matches deducted:

The Player was demonstrably upset by the actions giving rise to the hearing. The Player made an early and complete admission of culpability and recognizes a need to change behaviour in the future. This is a young and relatively inexperienced player with a clear disciplinary record. A 50% reduction is warranted giving a final sanction of 3 weeks.

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT OFF-FIELD AGGRAVATING FACTORS

Player’s status as an offender of the Laws of the Game – R 17.20.1(a) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
The Player has a clear disciplinary record.
Need for deterrence – R 17.20.1(b) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
N/A
Any other off-field aggravating factors – R 17.20.1(c) (or equivalent Tournament rule)
None

Number of additional weeks/matches:

0

SANCTION

NOTE: PLAYERS ORDERED OFF OR CITED BY A CITING COMMISSIONER ARE PROVISIONALLY SUSPENDED PENDING THE HEARING OF THEIR CASE, SUCH SUSPENSION SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN SANCTIONING – R 17.12.5(f) / 17.13.7 (or equivalent Tournament rule)

Total sanction	3 weeks/matches	Sending off sufficient <input type="checkbox"/>	
Sanction commences	At the conclusion of the hearing		
Sanction concludes	After the 2 nd game Canada plays in Edmonton on September 25, 2021.		
Matches/tournaments included in sanction	Last game Canada plays in the Vancouver Fast Four Tournament and the 1 st 2 games Canada will play Saturday, September 25, 2021 at the Fast Four Tournament in Edmonton		

Costs	No Order as to costs
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Signature (JO or Chairman)	Alan Hudson	Date	September 20, 2021
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NOTE: YOU HAVE 48 HOURS FROM NOTIFICATION OF THE DECISION OF THE CHAIRMAN/JO TO LODGE AN APPEAL WITH THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR – R 17.24.2(a) (or equivalent Tournament rule)

[Standard Appeal Directions to appear on this page]