



Application for use of HIA and use of temporary substitutions/replacements

HIA

Temporary replacement for head injury assessment was introduced permanently into Law in August 2015. This application form should be completed after reading: World Rugby Head Injury Assessment (HIA) Protocol; Law 3.26 and Regulation 10.

Tournament / competition	
Name of applicant	
Applicant's role	
Date of application (dd/mm/yyyy)	
Tournament/competition dates	

Please answer sections 1, 2 and 3 by ticking the Yes or No column. Any further information can be provided on Page 4.

1. TOURNAMENT AND MATCH ORGANISERS PLAYER WELFARE STANDARDS

Tournament Organisers or Match Organisers wishing to access temporary replacement for head injury assessment (HIA) must apply to World Rugby for approval.

A Premium level of Mandatory Player Welfare Standards 1 - 5 will apply to the following competitions:

1. Rugby Championship
2. Six Nations
3. United Rugby Championship
4. Heineken Champions Cup
5. EPCR Challenge Cup
6. Gallagher Premiership
7. Top 14
8. Super Rugby
9. Japan Rugby League One
10. All World Rugby elite adult competitions

Mandatory Player Welfare Standards for Premium Competitions		YES	NO
1	They will implement mandatory injury surveillance programs compliant with Consensus Statement		
2	There will be mandatory presence of a MDD to access HIA		
3	Has the nominated competition defined 'independence' with respect to their MDD		
4	The following minimum game video standards will be adhered to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live and delayed (10 seconds) views • Minimum 4 views (broadcast + 3 others – ideally high wide view) • Ability to mark incident • Ability to stop / rewind / slow down / replay vision • Availability of sound or sports ears 		
5	There will be compulsory World Rugby representation on HIA Review Process		

For **ALL** competitions, Mandatory Player Welfare Standards 6 - 9 must be confirmed as being in place.

Mandatory Player Welfare Standards for all Competitions		YES	NO
6	The Tournament or Matches in question are elite adult tournament or matches.		
7	The Core (mandatory) Concussion Player Welfare Standards outlined at Section 2 have been included in Terms of Participation or Tours Agreement documents signed by all participating unions or teams.		
8	They have facilitated the establishment of an HIA REVIEW PROCESS (HRP) that is in line with the process recommended and outlined in HIA Protocol document and Appendices		
9	They have facilitated access to video to assist with the management of head impact events occurring during games.		

2. UNION AND TEAM PLAYER WELFARE STANDARDS

Tournament Terms of Participation or Tour Agreements must include the following union and team responsibilities. The Tournament Organiser is responsible for confirming that Union and teams are aware of these responsibilities and have agreed to adhere to these Player Welfare Standards.

Mandatory Player Welfare Standards - Union and Teams		YES	NO
1	<p>All on-field team medical staff and Tournament match day medical staff have completed the following World Rugby online education modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concussion Management for Elite Level Match Day Medical Staff • Medical Protocols for Match Day Medical Staff <p>They must also have completed the following face-to face course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 2 Immediate Care in Rugby or equivalent <p>All medical staff providing daily medical care to teams and players during the tournament must complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mindset - A Mental Health Resource <p>Confirmation of completion of education modules is available by contacting mark.harrington@world.rugby</p>		
2	<p>All players and team management have completed a concussion education session (delivered by the Union CMO or relevant team doctor) within the year prior to commencement of the Tournament. This education session as a minimum must cover the essential information outlined in the HIA Protocol and the Active Elite Player Head Impact Education Video (Link available HERE). To avoid doubt, this education should be delivered annually.</p>		
3	<p>Each player has completed a baseline concussion assessment in the year prior to commencement of the tournament and the results of this baseline are available to the team medical staff. As a minimum this baseline should be a SCAT 5 however it is recommended that teams also include a computer neurocognitive assessment as part of a player's annual baseline assessment.</p>		
4	<p>A concussion risk stratification (see HIA Protocol document and Appendices) has been completed on all players, at least annually, to support concussion management on an individual basis. This is now completed in the SCRM application.</p>		
5	<p>All team medical staff, coaches and team management will comply with the World Rugby permanent and temporary removal from field of play criteria for head impact events (available in HIA Protocol document and Appendices and in the HIA Form 1).</p>		
6	<p>All team medical staff, coaches and team management will comply with a Graduated Return to Play programme as approved by World Rugby and/or the union in accordance with medical practice in the relevant jurisdiction.</p>		
7	<p>All teams within the respective tournament will participate in World Rugby HIA research and will confirm player consent has been obtained (HIA Protocol document and Appendices)</p>		
8	<p>All team staff acknowledge that an HIA REVIEW PROCESS has been established to support team medical staff to optimize player welfare and safety for game head injuries. Specifically, for incidents where criteria, identified in the HIA, for permanent and temporary removal from play following a head injury are not enforced review and education will be applied. Also, all team staff acknowledge that they will participate if requested in any HIA REVIEW PROCESS or if appropriate any disciplinary proceeding that may arise following this HIA REVIEW PROCESS.</p>		
9	<p>All team staff acknowledge that the Match Day Doctor has the power under Regulation 15.2.1(c) to unilaterally remove an injured player from further game participation.</p>		
10	<p>All teams agree to use or enter HIA (1, 2 and 3) data into the World Rugby App (SCRM) unless exemption is provided by World Rugby</p>		

3. RECOMMENDED PLAYER WELFARE STANDARDS

The following union and team responsibilities are recommended and relate to concussion and other general medical issues and should be completed and included or referenced within each union's relevant medical policies, Tournament Terms of Participation or Tours Agreement and if included in these documents signed by participating unions and or teams.

Recommended standards - concussion		YES	NO
1	Unions should define within their Concussion Policy an "approved healthcare professional" as appropriate to their jurisdiction. This "approved healthcare professional" would be suitable for determining concussion return to play decisions.		
2	Unions should define, 'advanced level of concussion care', within their Concussion Policy. Advanced care allows for a more individualised management of concussion. This level of care is essential for all adult elite players wishing to start a return to play programme without a week of physical rest. A definition guide to this 'advanced level of concussion care' is provided in HIA Protocol document		
Recommended standards - general medical issues		YES	NO
3	Unions prior to all tournament or matches should confirm that all players have been assessed by appropriate medical staff as being medically, dentally and physically fit to attend and participate in a tournament or match.		
4	Unions should confirm that each player has completed the World Rugby cardiac screening questionnaire and cardiac examination as described in the World Rugby Cardiac Screening document. Each tournament is responsible for deciding if an ECG should be part of this cardiac screening process.		
5	Confirmation that all team medical staff have completed: Keep Rugby Clean or equivalent, anti-doping educational module Keep Rugby Onside or equivalent, anti-corruption educational module		

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have answered **NO** to any of the approval criteria or mandatory standards then please indicate why and any steps you will be taking. Please also note any other issues which World Rugby may need to consider.



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5. MEDICAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide main medical contact information of each of the participating teams in the application competition. This will allow World Rugby to follow up on any missing data and provide better support for teams and competitions.

Team	Union	Contact Name	Email

Please return to mark.harrington@world.rugby

This application will be reviewed by World Rugby Chief Medical Officer and Chief Player Welfare and Rugby Services Officer