



CALGARY RUGBY UNION

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MEMBER
Canadian Rugby Union
Alberta Rugby Union
Sports Alberta

June 22, 2023

All CRU Member Clubs

RE: Need for Specific Deterrence of Certain Acts of Foul Play

The purpose of this letter is to advise all CRU member clubs, and any other Rugby Alberta Member Club who may have matches scheduled in the CRU's Area of Responsibility (roughly put as all areas of the Province of Alberta South of and including Red Deer) of a requirement for specific deterrence for violations of Law 9.12 :

A Player must not physically abuse anyone. Physical abuse includes, but is not limited to:
Punching or striking with hand, arm, elbow or shoulder (hereinafter referred to as 'This Section').

10 of the last 15 Disciplinary hearings have dealt with This Section, and 7 of the 13 this year dealt with This Section notwithstanding at least two temporary suspensions (Yellow Card) for the same thing.

Simply put, non-compliance with This Section is a problem within the CRU and it cannot be tolerated. As a result, pursuant to World Rugby Regulation 17.20.1(b) All CRU Member Clubs are put "on notice" that a need for specific deterrence exists and that such notice will be considered an aggravating factor in future Disciplinary Hearings when a decider of fact is deliberating an appropriate sanction following a hearing where This Section has been contravened.

In Conclusion, dangerous play of any type has no place in the sport of rugby, such activity is damaging to continued growth of the sport which is just now seeing a post-covid resurgence in the number of young people playing our beloved sport. This lack of personal discipline cannot continue for the good of our game.

CALGARY RUGBY UNION

John C.W. McDonald, CD
Vice President – Discipline

cc. Rugby Alberta Discipline
Edmonton Rugby Discipline (for those AC Clubs who may play in the CRU AOR)
CRU Board of Directors
