

SUPER S RUGBY

JUDICIAL RELEASE

7 August 2017

FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE NEWS RELEASE

Foul Play Review Committee: Nigel Hampton QC (Chairman), Stefan Terblanche, John Langford

Player: Kwagga Smith

Team: Lions

Position: Flanker

Date of Incident: 5 August 2017

Nature of Offence: Law 10.4(e) Dangerous tackling of an Opponent amended to Law 10.4(i) Tackling, pushing, pulling, colliding with or otherwise making contact with an Opponent who is jumping for the ball in a line out or in open play where there is no realistic prospect of the player competing for the ball.

Elapsed time in match when offence occurred: 38th min

SANZAAR NEWS RELEASE

Kwagga Smith suspended for 4 weeks.

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee has accepted a guilty plea from Kwagga Smith of the Lions for contravening Law 10.4(i) Tackling, pushing, pulling, colliding with or otherwise making contact with an Opponent who is jumping for the ball in a line out or in open play where there is no realistic prospect of the player competing for the ball, after he was Red Carded during the Super Rugby Final at the Weekend.

Smith has been suspended from all forms of the game for 4 weeks, up to and including 2 September 2017.

The incident occurred in the 38th minute of the match between the Lions and Crusaders played at Emirates Airlines Park, Johannesburg on 5 August 2017.

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee of Nigel Hampton QC (Chairman), Stefan Terblanche and John Langford assessed the case.

In his finding, Foul Play Review Committee Chairman Nigel Hampton QC ruled the following:

"Having conducted a detailed review of all the available evidence, including all camera angles and additional evidence, including a statement from the player and submissions from his legal representative, Attie Heyns, the Foul Play Review Committee upheld the ordering off and amended the charge from Law 10.4(e) to Law 10.4(i)."

"With respect to sanction the Foul Play Review Committee deemed the act of foul play merited a mid-range entry point of 8 weeks. However, taking into account mitigating factors including the Player's good Judicial record and the Player's admission of guilt at the first available opportunity the Foul Play Review Committee reduced the suspension to 4 weeks."

"The player is therefore suspended for 4 weeks, up to and including the 2 September 2017."

All SANZAAR disciplinary matters are in the first instance referred to the Foul Play Review Committee to provide the option of expediting the judicial process.

For a matter to be dispensed with at this hearing, the person appearing must plead guilty and accept the penalty offered by the Foul Play Review Committee.

ENDS

ISSUED BY SANZAAR

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