



**17 MAY 2022**

## **JUDICIAL COMMITTEE HEARING NEWS RELEASE**

**Hearing Details (date, time and venue):** Tuesday 17 May, 5:00pm(AWST), 7:00pm(AEST), 9:00pm(NZST) via video-conference

**Judicial Committee Chair:** Mike Mika

**Judicial Committee Members:** David Croft & Chris Smith

**Player:** Richard Kahui

**Team:** Western Force

**Position:** Centre

**Date of Incident:** 14 May 2022

**Nature of Offence:** Law 9.13 – A player must not tackle an opponent early late or dangerously.

**Elapsed time in match when incident occurred:** 73:40

### **SANZAAR NEWS RELEASE**

#### **Richard Kahui Red Card dismissed**

A SANZAAR Judicial Committee Hearing has found Richard Kahui of the Western Force not guilty of contravening Law 9.13 - A player must not tackle an opponent early late or dangerously, after he was issued with a Red Card during a Super Rugby Pacific match at the weekend.

No further sanction has been imposed on Kahui and he is free to play.

The incident occurred in the match between the Highlanders and Western Force at Forsyth Barr Stadium in Dunedin on Saturday, 14 May 2022.

The SANZAAR Judicial Committee Hearing held via video conference on Tuesday 17 May, 5:00pm(AWST), 7:00pm(AEST), 9:00pm(NZST) was heard by Mike Mika (Chair), David Croft and Chris Smith.

In his finding, the Judicial Committee Chair Mike Mika ruled the following:

"Having conducted a detailed review of all the available evidence, including all camera angles and additional evidence, including from the Player, a medical report on the opposition player involved, and having considered the submissions from his legal representative, Michael Tudori.

The Judicial Committee found that the Player had not committed an act of foul play worthy of the red card threshold."

"The Judicial Committee reviewed the case in accordance with Reg 17.16.1 of World Rugby's regulations and the World Rugby Head Contact Process."

"The evidence and submissions on behalf of the Player, together with surrounding circumstances, satisfied the Committee that there was mitigation to lower the incident from Red Card to a Yellow Card. Whilst the incident is dangerous, the contact with the head was not intentional or highly reckless. Kahui was shown to be lowering himself for the tackle on the right-hand side of the opposing Player when a significant movement from the ball carrier meant that the late change in direction contributed to head contact."

"For those reasons, the Committee was satisfied that there was reasonable mitigation and at least warranted a yellow card in the circumstances."

"Mr Kahui is therefore free to play in the upcoming matches."

**ISSUED BY SANZAAR**