



**20 May 2024**

## **FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE NEWS RELEASE**

**Player:** Suliasi Vunivalu

**Team:** Queensland Reds

**Position:** Winger

**Date of Incident:** 18 May 2024

**Nature of Offence:** Law 9.12 "A player must not physically abuse anyone. Physical abuse includes, but is not limited to, tripping".

**Elapsed time in the match when the incident occurred:** 45:39.

### **Suliasi Vunivalu suspended for 1 week**

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee (FPRC) has found Suliasi Vunivalu of the Queensland Reds team guilty of contravening Law 9.12 - "A player must not physically abuse anyone. Physical abuse includes, but is not limited to, tripping".

Suliasi Vunivalu has been suspended from all forms of the game up to and including 25 May 2024.

The incident occurred in the 45th minute of the Super Rugby Pacific match between Fijian Drua and Queensland Reds at the HFC Bank Stadium, Suva, on 18 May 2024.

The FPRC, comprised of Stephen Hardy (Chairman), Ofisa Tonu'u, and Stefan Terblanche, assessed the incident.

In his finding, FPRC Chairman Stephen Hardy ruled as follows:

"Having conducted a detailed review of all the available evidence, including all camera angles and additional evidence, including submissions by the player, the Foul Play Review Committee upheld the Red Card and found the Player to have contravened Law 9.12."

"The FPRC assessed the Player's actions as including two separate foul play actions of tripping."

"The FPRC have found these actions as amounting to persistent offending under law 9.12, which warrants an entry point suspension of 2 weeks."

"The Player was given a 50% discount for entering an early guilty plea (and other relevant mitigating factors including remorse and prior disciplinary record), reducing the suspension

from 2 weeks to 1 week. The Player is therefore suspended up to and including 25 May 2024.”

ENDS