



22 March 2023

FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE NEWS RELEASE

Foul Play Review Committee: Michael Heron KC (Chairman), John Langford and Stefan Terblanche

Player: Sef Fa'agase

Team: Queensland Reds

Position: Prop

Date of Incident: 19 March 2023

Nature of Offence: Law 9.13: A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously. Dangerous tackling includes, but is not limited to, tackling or attempting to tackle an opponent above the line of the shoulders.

Elapsed time in the match when the offence occurred: 55:40

SANZAAR NEWS RELEASE

Sef Fa'agase suspended for 3 weeks

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee has accepted a guilty plea from Sef Fa'agase of the Queensland Reds for contravening Law 9.13: A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously, after he was Red Carded during a Super Rugby Pacific Match at the Weekend.

Fa'agase has been suspended for 3 weeks, up to and including 7 April 2023.

The incident occurred in the 55th minute of the match between Queensland Reds and Fijian Drua, played at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane on 19 March 2023.

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee of Michael Heron KC (Chairman), Stefan Terblanche and John Langford assessed the case.

In his finding, Foul Play Review Committee (FPRC) Chairman Michael Heron KC ruled the following:

"Having conducted a thorough review of all the available evidence, including all camera angles and additional evidence, including the player and submissions from his legal representative, Mark Martin KC, the Foul Play Review Committee determined the incident met the Red Card threshold and upheld the Citing in accordance with Law 9.13."

"With respect to sanction the Foul Play Review Committee considered the act of foul play was reckless, high in danger and had a considerable impact on the victim player. As part of the World Rugby Head Contact Process, the FPRC considered all relevant factors and determined that the foul play merited a mid-range entry point of 6 weeks. The Foul Play Review Committee reduced the suspension to 3 weeks based on mitigating factors, including the Player's judicial record and his acceptance of guilt at the first opportunity."

"The player is therefore suspended for 3 weeks, up to and including 7 April 2023."

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.

ISSUED BY SANZAAR