



28 May 2018

FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE NEWS RELEASE

Foul Play Review Committee: Nigel Hampton QC (Chairman), Stephen Hardy and Stefan Terblanche

Player: Ruan Botha

Team: Sharks

Position: Lock

Date of Incident: 25 May 2018

Nature of Offence: Law 9.12: Striking with hand or arm

Elapsed time in match when offence occurred: 72:37

SANZAAR NEWS RELEASE

Ruan Botha suspended for 4 weeks

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee has accepted a guilty plea from Ruan Botha of the Sharks for contravening Law 9.12: Striking with hand or arm, after he was Red Carded during a Super Rugby Match at the Weekend.

Botha has been suspended from all forms of the game for 4 weeks, up to and including 23 June 2018.

The incident occurred in the 72nd minute of the match between the Jaguares and Sharks played at Vélez Sarsfield in Buenos Aires on 25 May 2018.

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee of Nigel Hampton QC (Chairman), Stefan Terblanche and Stephen Hardy 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 from the player and submissions from his legal representative, Adrian Montzinger, the Foul Play Review Committee upheld the Red Card under Law 9.12"

"With respect to sanction the Foul Play Review Committee deemed the act of foul play merited a mid range entry point of 4 weeks due to the contact with the opposing Player's head."

"The Foul Play Review Committee added 1 week to the initial sanction as aggravation for the fact the Player was suspended for a similar incident less than 12 months prior. However, taking into account the mitigating factor of the Player's guilty plea 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 23 June 2018."

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