



28 May 2018

FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE NEWS RELEASE

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

Player: Folau Fainga'a

Team: Brumbies

Position: Hooker

Date of Incident: 26 May 2018

Nature of Offence: Law 9.12: Striking with head

Elapsed time in match when offence occurred: 62 min

SANZAAR NEWS RELEASE

Folau Fainga'a suspended for 1 week

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee has accepted a guilty plea from Folau Fainga'a of the Brumbies for contravening Law 9.12: Striking with head, after he was Red Carded during a Super Rugby Match at the Weekend.

Fainga'a has been suspended from all forms of the game for 1 week, up to and including 3 June 2018.

The incident occurred in the 62nd minute of the match between the Bulls and Brumbies played at Loftus Versfeld in Pretoria on 26 May 2018.

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 from the Player and submissions on his behalf, 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 low end entry point of 4 weeks, given some degree of provocation before the incident and the relative lack of force in the contact between the 2 players."

"Taking into account mitigating factors including the Player's excellent Judicial record, his youth and inexperience and his pleading guilty at the first available opportunity, the Foul Play Review Committee reduced the suspension to 2 weeks. In addition, given the Player's good character and the fact that, in the Committee's view, 2 weeks was a wholly disproportionate sanction for an offence that only related to comparatively minor contact, the sanction was further reduced by an extra week."

"The Player is therefore suspended for 1 week, up to and including 3 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