



9 November 2020

FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE NEWS RELEASE

FPRC Hearing Details (date, time and venue): Monday 9 November 2020, 5pm(AEDT) via video-conference.

Player: Lachlan Swinton

Team: Australia

Position: Flanker

Date of Incident: 7 November 2020

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 even if the tackle starts below the line of the shoulders.

Elapsed time in match when offence occurred: 34:21

SANZAAR NEWS RELEASE

Lachlan Swinton suspended for 4 weeks

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee has accepted a guilty plea from Lachlan Swinton of Australia for contravening Law 9.13: A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously, when he made high contact with New Zealand #5 Sam Whitelock during the match between Australia and New Zealand at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane on Saturday 7 November 2020.

Swinton has been suspended from all forms of the game for 4 weeks, up to and including Saturday 6 February 2021.

The SANZAAR Foul Play Review Committee of Adam Casselden SC (Chairman), Stefan Terblanche and Mike Mika assessed the case.

In his finding, Foul Play Review Committee Chairman Adam Casselden SC ruled the following:

"Having conducted a detailed review of all the available evidence, including all camera angles and additional evidence, including submissions from his legal representative, Maryjane Crabtree, the Foul Play Review Committee upheld the Red Card under Law 9.13.

With respect to sanction the Foul Play Review Committee deemed the act of foul play merited a mid-range entry point of 6 weeks due to the World Rugby instructions that dictate any incident of foul play involving contact with the head must start at a mid-range level. However, taking into account mitigating factors including the fact the Player has pleaded guilty at the first available opportunity, the Foul Play Review Committee reduced the suspension to 4 weeks. The Player was not entitled to a full 50% reduction due to the presence of two prior offences on his record.

The player is therefore suspended for 4 weeks, up to and including Saturday 6 February 2021."

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