



CRDA – 2

**MODULE 1 -
LAWS &
PRINCIPLES
OF REFEREEING**

Funded by



**RUGBY FOOTBALL
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MODULE 1 – LAWS AND PRINCIPLES OF REFEREEING

1.1 Principles of Refereeing - SEL

1st – Safety then, 2nd – Enjoyment then, 3rd - Law

How can a referee help the players to experience as safe a game as possible?

How can a referee help the players experience as enjoyable a game as possible?

When you walk onto the pitch as a referee what are you trying to do? Write ONE sentence only.

How do you see the importance of the application of the “letter of the Law”?



1.2 Basics of refereeing

1.2.1 An Adviser said to a Level 10 referee *"You should try to referee so that the players want to play next week. They struggle to get 15 players out each week at this level so they have all got to get something out of the game. You have to referee to aid player retention"*

How do you react to these comments?

1.2.2 An ex-International referee told a referee conference *"Refereeing isn't about giving the right decision, it is about giving the decision they think is right"*

How do you react to this comment?

1.2.3 An Assessor told a Level 7 referee *"If you had set your stall out and used your Yellow Card earlier then you would have avoided the problems later"*

How do you react to this comment?

1.2.4 A Club Coach told a referee conference *"All I am looking for from the referee is Consistency"*

How do you react to this comment?

1.2.5 A level 6 referee told a group of newly qualified ELRA referees *"After 3 Penalty Kicks against the one side I am beginning to think Yellow Card"*

How do you react to this comment?



1.3 Materiality

1.3.1 What do you understand by this term?

1.3.2 Red 10 drops for goal from the Blue 22 line. Red 12 is in front of Red 10 and continues to run forward as the ball sails over the bar between the posts.

Is Red 12 offside?

Would you penalise Red 12? Explain your answer.

1.3.3 Blue wins a ruck in midfield. Red 12 is a metre in front of the back feet.

(a) Under what circumstances would you consider Red 12's position to be **immaterial**?

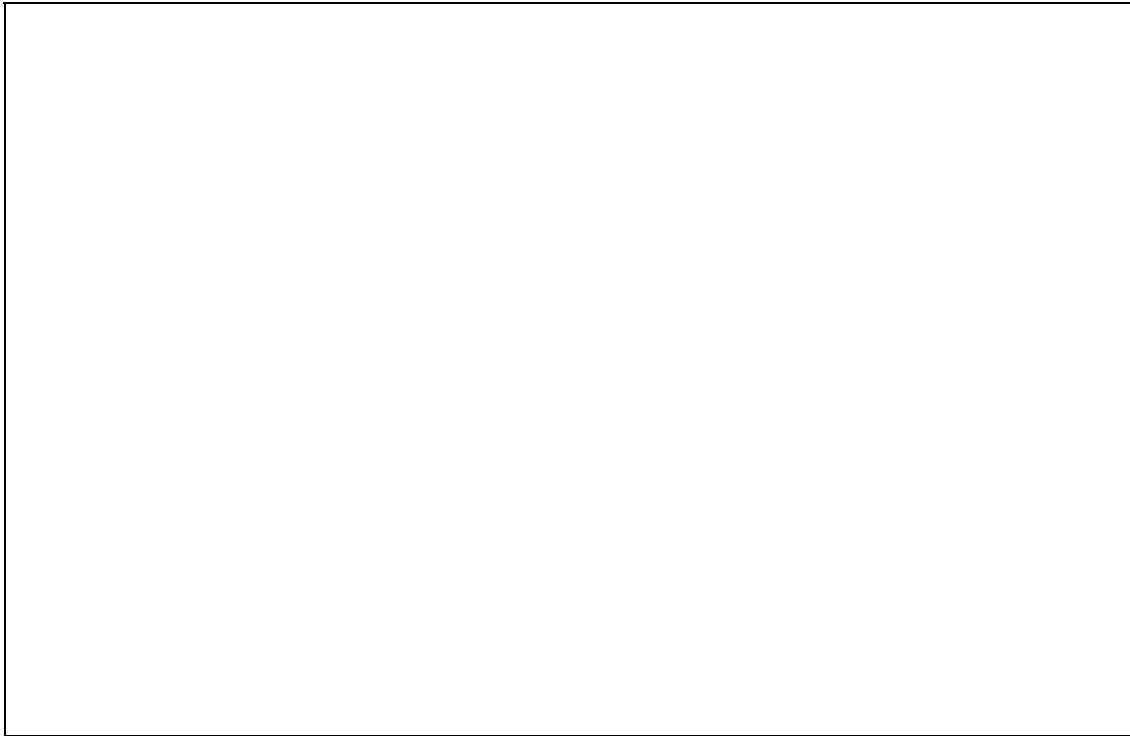
(b) Under what circumstances would you consider Red 12's position to be **material**?

1.3.4 Come up with at 2 other scenarios where the referee can consider a player's action to be **immaterial**

1	
2	



1.3.5 What did you learn from the DVD clips?



1.4 Contextual Judgement

1.4.1 You are refereeing your first game at Level 7 and the fixture is not the easiest – an intense local derby where there are a number of individuals who have moved between the two clubs. The first 20 minutes have not been easy, the score is 0-0 but there have been no major issues and you are doing fine. The home 7, a well know volatile character, has conceded a couple of penalties which has not endeared you to him. However, he gains possession some 5 metres out and crashes over the line with a pile of defenders around him. You are well placed but cannot see the ball touched down. You suspect a try may have possibly been scored but correctly do not award it and give a 5 metre scrum to the attacking side. As the players unravel themselves 7 comes up fuming with the ball and is about to “have a go” at you. The home 8 and pack leader, grabs him and says to the 7 “Listen to him. There is no way he can give it. Shut up, it is our scrum”. The 8 then turns to you and says “Sorry, ref”. The ball is fed into the scrum and makes its way back to the 8’s feet. With the ball at his feet, the 8 breaks his binding momentarily to have a quick look at the defenders and then rebinds with the ball at his feet.

What does the Law say you should do regarding the 8 unbinding?

What would you do and why?

1.4.2 You are refereeing a Level 8 match between 2 local sides. The score is 18-3 to the Home (Red) team with 20 minutes of the 2nd half left. The game is competitive but played in good spirit. The Blue 7 heavily tackles Red 12 about 5 metres from the Blue line under the posts and makes no attempt to move. You blow for the penalty kick against him but as the players get up Blue 7 remains down. He is treated for concussion and has to leave the pitch after a 5 minute stoppage. There was no Foul Play.

What does the Law say you should do?

What would you do and why?

1.4.3 Write down a definition of Contextual Judgement



1.4.4 Describe a situation where you, or another referee, used good Contextual Judgement to manage a situation.

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1.5 Yellow Cards

Yellow Cards are a valuable asset in the referee's toolbox provided s/he knows how and when to use them.

By their very nature they draw the attention of the players and spectators to the referee so they have to be used correctly

There are 2 types

Technical

Foul Play

1.5.1 Give an example of each

Technical
Foul Play

1.5.2 **Technical** can be subdivide into 3 sub groups

- (i) the cynical one off
- (ii) the repeated team offence
- (iii) the repeated individual offence

Describe an example of each

The cynical one off
The repeated team offence
The repeated individual offence

NB not all offences are the same when considering repeat offences e.g. a FK for an early lift in the lineout is not the same as a PK for killing the ball on the ground.

1.5.3 **Foul Play** - consider the following

Not a cop out for a Red Card

If there is a major brawl with no Red Card then ideally one person (or more) form each side should get a Yellow Card

Do we want to card:-

The first two?

The last two?

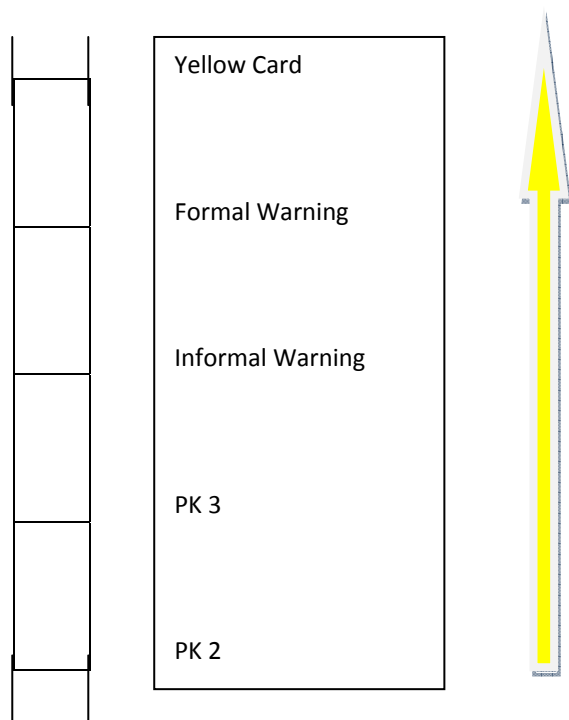
Anyone who runs in?

The worst two?



What are your views on the points above?

1.5.4 You might consider the use of Yellow Cards as being on a ladder



When might you follow each step precisely?

When might you omit up a step?

What might be the dangers associated with both strategies?

When you follow each step precisely
When you omit up a step

“If you have asked the captain to help and there is no response from him/her and or his/her team then don’t keep on asking or giving warnings”. Do you agree?



1.5.5 **Delivery** – consider the following advice given to a group of referees on the delivery of Yellow Cards

You may need to sell the decision

Think about your body language – head up, eye contact, don't wave the card in the offender's face

Speed – how quickly do you administer? Is there always a need to explain to (a) the perpetrator and/or (b) the captain? I would suggest you don't need him/her after you have given a formal warning.

What are your views?

1.5.6 **DVD Clips**

Make notes on the clips as they appear with timings and score. What is your view on the referee's use of use of Yellow Cards? Discuss then make notes on agreed points

Your notes on the referee's use of Yellow Cards

Notes on agreed points

1.6 Your Main Learning Points

Note down your 3 main Learning Points and describe what you will do differently in future

Learning Points	What you will do differently
1	
2	
3	