



SUOMEN RUGBYLIITTO
FINNISH RUGBY FEDERATION

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DISCIPLINARY PANEL REPORT

Match: OYUS – Joensuu

Competition: Division 1

Date: 14.06.2014

Player/club: Bruce Zembe, Joensuu

Reason for hearing

The player received two yellow cards in the game. The first for a deliberate knock forward and the second for a tip tackle.

Panel composition

George Mossford, Steve Thorne, Chris Gibbons

Evidence submitted

Written reports by the match referee, Joensuu and OYUS (on behalf of Mr Zembe). No video of the game was taken.

Outcome

The disciplinary panel considers that both yellow cards were justified. The first was for a cynical act and the second was for a dangerous tackle. The fact that the tackle was not serious enough to warrant an outright red card and reports from both teams that the ball carrier jumped into the tackle add significant mitigating circumstances however. In addition, there is the strong possibility that the presence of an assistant tackle took away a degree of control from the tackler during execution. As such, the panel has decided to impose no period of suspension on Mr Zembe.

Two comments must be appended to this decision however. The first is that the red card has not been rescinded and will be considered in future disciplinary hearings involving Mr Zembe. The second is that this decision should not be interpreted to mean that future instances involving a player receiving two yellow cards would not result in a suspension. The panel reserves the right to enforce that option in the future.

