



**SUOMEN RUGBYLIITTO**  
**FINNISH RUGBY FEDERATION**

Member of World Rugby (WR)  
Member of Rugby Europe (RE)  
Member of Finnish Olympic Committee (NOC)  
Member of Suomen liikunta ja urheilu (SLU)

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## **DISCIPLINARY PANEL REPORT**

**Match:** Kaisla Parkkinen

**Competition:** Women's Championship

**Date:** 21.08.2016

**Player/club:** Kaisla Parkkinen, Helsinki

### **Reason for hearing**

The player has cited for an alleged kick to the head of an opposition player. This incident was seen by the match referee and the player was awarded a yellow card, but was subsequently cited by Jyväskylä.

### **Panel composition**

George Mossford, Chris Gibbons, Steve Whittaker

### **Evidence submitted**

A verbal report by the match referee (at the request of the disciplinary panel), statements from several witnesses from Jyväskylä RC and a club statement from Helsinki RC (including a statement from Ms Parkkinen). No match video was taken.

### **Foreword**

The 2016 competition regulations do not explicitly state whether an incident can be cited if it was seen and dealt with during the match by the referee. Given several recent and prominent examples in the international game where this has occurred however, the decision was made that the panel should accept such a citation request. This clarification will be explicitly entered into the 2017 regulations.

### **Outcome**

The disciplinary panel considers that the player was in breach of law 10.4(c), kicking an opponent. In Finland, the low-end entry point for this offense is a two-week suspension, midrange is three weeks, and high-end is four+ weeks (to a ceiling of 52 weeks).

After considering the evidence submitted, the panel deemed that the kick was relatively unprovoked and was reasonably dangerous given that it was aimed at the opponent's head. As such, the panel deemed this to be a high-end offense. The player's previously unblemished disciplinary record and the subsequent apology, both in the written statement and to the opposition player involved, act in favour of the player. The panel therefore concluded that the four-week suspension associated with a high-end offense of this nature should be reduced by one week.

The player is therefore awarded a three-week suspension that will begin on 26<sup>th</sup>





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August 2016 and end on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016, rendering her unavailable for selection for Helsinki - Warriors on 27<sup>st</sup> August 2016 and the Swans – Helsinki match the following week. In addition, the player will not be eligible to play for any club in any competition during this period.



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