



SUOMEN RUGBYLIITTO
FINNISH RUGBY FEDERATION

Member of International Rugby Board (IRB)
Member of European Rugby Association (FIRA-AER)
Member of Finnish Olympic Committee (NOC)
Member of Suomen liikunta ja urheilu (SLU)

DISCIPLINARY PANEL REPORT

Match: Helsinki RFC – Turku Eagles RC

Competition: Championship

Date: 23.08.2014

Player/club: Kevin McCarthy, HRFC

Reason for hearing

The player was dismissed with a straight red card for making contact with the face of a player on the ground with the boot.

Panel composition

George Mossford, Chris Gibbons, Steve Whittaker

Evidence submitted

Written reports by the match referee and HRFC.

Outcome

The disciplinary panel considers that the player was in breach of Law 10.4(b) ("trampling an opponent") and that the issuing of a red card was justified. In Finland, the low-end entry point for this offence is a 1-week suspension, midrange is 2 weeks, and high-end is 3 weeks.

In considering the evidence submitted, the panel is willing to accept the contention that the contact was not deliberate although it must be asserted that all players have a duty of care toward their opponents. In this instance, this duty of care was not fully met.

The panel however deemed the action to be a low-end offense given the lack of intent, which carries a 1-week suspension that will begin on 29th August 2014 and end on 5th September 2014. The player will therefore be unavailable for selection for the game Helsinki – Kuopio on 30th August 2014. Additionally, the player will not be eligible to play for any club in any competition during this suspension period.

It should be noted however that the panel was concerned about the player's involvement in two more minor matches instances shortly before the sending off. The player is therefore encouraged to ensure that his discipline improves in the future.

