

SUPPLEMENTARY DECISION ON SANCTION

In the matter of the Disciplinary Decision regarding Paula Ngauamo (Tonga) arising from Rugby World Cup 2019

Introduction

On 16 October 2019, a Disciplinary Committee comprised of Alan Hudson – Chair (Canada), Stefan Terblanche, former international player (South Africa), and Valeriu Toma, former international assistant referee (Romania) determined that as a result of an admitted act of foul play reaching the red card threshold, namely kicking under Law 9.12 by Paula Ngauamo of Tonga (the Player) in the RWC 2019 match between Tonga and USA, a sanction of 7 weeks suspension from rugby was imposed (8 weeks reduced to 7 weeks as a result of mitigating factors).

At the original hearing on 15 October 2019 in Tokyo Japan, the Player did not attend and there was no satisfactory evidence available as to the Player's playing schedule. The issues of the list of matches to be included in the period of suspension and a conclusion date for the period of suspension were therefore deferred until satisfactory evidence was provided to enable the Disciplinary Committee to reach a final decision on these issues.

Evidence has now been provided by the Player and his Club, Sporting Union Agen of France (SAU L&G) on these outstanding matters.

Decision

The evidence from the player and SAU L&G discloses:

- that the Player is a member of SAU L&G;
- that following RWC 2019, he was not scheduled to return, and did not return, to France until 22 October 2019;
- that but for his suspension, he would have begun training on 28 October 2019 and would have played his first match after RWC 2019 for SAU L&G on 9 November 2019 and he would have played in a match for SAU L&G in each week thereafter up to and including 21 December 2019.

Pursuant to the provisions of Regulation 17.19.10, the matches to be included in the Player's period of suspension are as follows:

1. 9 November 2019 – Agen vs Bordeaux – Top 14
2. 15 November 2019 – Agen vs Edinburgh – Challenge Cup
3. 23 November 2019– Agen vs Wasps – Challenge Cup
4. 30 November 2019– Agen vs Clermont – Top 14
5. 6 December 2019– Agen vs Bordeaux – Challenge Cup
6. 14 December 2019– Agen vs Bordeaux – Challenge Cup

7. 21 December 2019– Agen vs Toulouse – Top 14

The Player's sanction will conclude following the 21 December 2019 match, Agen vs Toulouse. He is suspended from all rugby and may not play the game in any form or be involved in any on-field activities anywhere until such time as his suspension is concluded.

NB. The player has 48 hours from the notification of this Supplementary Decision to lodge an appeal.

Alan Hudson
Stefan Terblanche
Valeriu Toma

November 30, 2019