



## Hot Gossip

May 2011 edition

<http://www.wrra.org.nz/>

Please contact John Ballingall with any news stories, anecdotes, questions, random abuse and photos.

Email me at [john.ballingall@nzier.org.nz](mailto:john.ballingall@nzier.org.nz) or phone 470 1804 or 021 606 477

### **Law corner part 1: Wearing 'Skins' - illegal**

We have recently received some enquiries re the legality of players wearing long 'Skins' i.e. covering the knees and below. Accordingly we sought clarification from the IRB who have ruled that skins are deemed to be underwear. Accordingly, as per IRB Ruling 5-2006 the wearing of long skins covering the knee and below is not permitted. A player may not take the field wearing Skins. If one slips on without you noticing, then stop the game and ask them to remove the offending garments.

For your information IRB Ruling 5-2006 appears below:

#### ***Ruling of the Designated Members of the Rugby Committee***

1. Jersey: a close fitting shirt worn on the upper half of the body which is not attached to shorts or underwear.
2. Shorts: trousers that start at the waist and end above the knees, have an elasticised waist band and/or draw string, and are not attached to the jersey or underwear.
3. Underwear: an undergarment, that covers the body from the waist, having short or no legs but does end above the knees, and worn next to the skin or under clothing, and not attached to the jersey or shorts



### Law corner part 2: Receiver coming into the lineout

There has been a common rugby practice of setting up a lineout with a receiver in position (usually the halfback) and then having the receiver run into the lineout to win the ball, either on his own or by being lifted. For instance, up until last year, this was how most lineouts operated in Sevens rugby.

This link <http://www.irblaws.com/EN/clarificationdetail/law/19/4> directs you to an IRB Ruling which explains that **this practice is illegal**.

The receiver at the lineout must remain at least 2 metres from the lineout players *until the ball leaves the hands of the player throwing it in*.

This definitely outlaws the occasion where the receiver moves into the lineout and then the ball is thrown. With the correct timing, the throw can be made and then the receiver can move into the lineout to win the ball.

### Law corner part 3: sin-binning process

Just a reminder that a sin-binned player should be directed to stand under the goalposts (either end is permitted) for his/her 10 minute 'rest'. Going to the sideline is not OK in club or school rugby.

The process should not be rushed – take the time to let tempers settle down and for you to gain your composure, take a breath and re-focus on the game.

### Cancellations and transfers

Below is a table outlining the details of when and what category cancellations are broadcast. (This is the Newstalk ZB schedule broadcasting on 1035 AM and 89.3 FM in Wellington).

7am	Full list of Junior Cancellations/Transfers
7.30am	Update on 7am list with any additions
8am	Full list of Junior and Senior Cancellations/Transfers
8.30am	Update on 8am list with any additions
9am	Full list of Senior Cancellations/Transfers



Secondary school transfers are broadcast in either the 7am or 8am transfers.

If your game has been **transferred** on Friday afternoon either Richard Gordon or Benji Crossley will make contact with you. If your game has been **cancelled** by Friday we will attempt to let you know. If we have mass cancellations we simply do not have the resources to let everybody know, so you should always check the websites or listen to the cancellations when broadcast.

The relevant websites for checking transfers and cancellations are:

*Senior Club matches:* <http://www.wrfu.co.nz/draws-fixtures>

*College Matches:* <http://collegesport.org.nz/new/cancellations.aspx>

### **Law books**

Everyone should have a 2011 copy of the IRB Laws of the Game Rugby Union (the Law Book). Please get in touch with David Walsh if you do not have a copy of this year's Law Book.

2011 NZRU Domestic Safety Law Variations: We have received this year's DSLV publication. These will be available from the Petone Working Men's Club at Monday night meetings.

### **Promotions**

- Chris Graham (confirmed as Level 2).
- Promoted to Level 2: Cameron Heka, Scott Kennedy, Rob Neru, Duane McDougall
- Promoted to Level 1: Muneya Shino, John Ballingall

### **Teamsheets**

#### WRFU grades

All teams should be using duplicate carbon copy teamsheets.

- the referee needs to sight a teamsheet (with all the players listed) prior to the match
- at the end of the match the referee needs to complete the Griffiths Memorial scoring in the bottom lefthand corner of the teamsheet



- the referee needs to sign the teamsheet as a correct record of the result, sin-binnings, orderings-off, etc.

**Referees do NOT have to collect teamsheets for WRFU grade matches.** It is the responsibility of the clubs to get the teamsheets to the WRFU. The only time you are likely to need to retain one of the copies of the teamsheet is when you require it to identify players who have been sin-binned or ordered-off or who have suffered a serious injury that needs to be reported. If you do retain a copy of the teamsheet, it then becomes your responsibility to get it to the WRFU.

#### Wellington Secondary School grades

College Sport Wellington has decided that they will adopt the same Team Card collection procedure that is now operating in Wellington RFU Club Rugby.

Therefore, **referees do NOT have to retain the Team Cards at the end of the match any more.** Schools, not referees, will be responsible for returning Team Cards to College Sport Wellington from now on.

All school teams should now be using the new 2011 version of the Wellington Secondary Schools Team Card (this is the DLE (envelope) sized card). Referees need to complete all the relevant details (date, venue, REFEREE NAME, yellow/red card incidents, SCORE, Ground issues, conduct, etc), and then the team manager/coach will keep the card.

If you issue a red or yellow card, you may have reason to keep the team-card yourself for the purposes of accurately identifying the player(s) concerned.

Please remember to bring any Team Cards that you may have from the first 3 weekends of school rugby to the WRRRA Monday night meeting OR send them directly to the WRFU or College Sport Wellington.



## **Non-availability process**

Please remember to advise the WRRRA of your non availability well in advance throughout the season.

For those that are new to Wellington, if you send an email to [notavail@wrra.org.nz](mailto:notavail@wrra.org.nz) your message will be rerouted to several people who need that information (eg: Standards and Promotions Committee, Appointments Committee, Benji Crossley, etc).

Please specify the day and date of your unavailability in the subject line of the email message. Further information can obviously be provided in the body of the email message.

## **Law exams**

### Level 2

The Level II Law Exam Team met last weekend to compile the 2011 Level II Law Exam. In developing this year's Exam the Exam Team were conscious of the feedback on last year's Exam and in particular the views expressed that the Exam needs to comprise of less questions.

As a result the 2011 Exam will comprise of only 56 questions (98 in 2010) with a total of 75 marks (100 in 2010) being available. Accordingly the following marking scale will apply:

- 67 – 75 = Honours Pass
- 60 – 66 = Pass
- 59 or less = Pass not achieved

It is hoped this structural change to the Exam will encourage more of our referees to participate in the Exam. Please remind Unions that in order for candidates papers to be submitted to the NZRU Examiners for marking and be eligible for the NZRU certificate, they must comply with the eligibility criteria i.e.

- Must have passed Level I in last 2 years  
or
- Must have passed Level II in last 5 years



For planning purposes the Level II papers will be distributed to Provincial Unions by 30 June 2011. Papers must be returned to NZRU for marking by no later than Friday 15 July 2011.

### **Fitness test**

A fitness test will be held on Sunday 5th May (am) for those wishing to be considered for Jubilee Cup appointments. The test will also be open to all referees who wish to gauge their fitness level at this time of the season. The time and venue will be confirmed shortly and emailed.

### **Dispensations for Monday night instruction meetings**

If a member can not attend meetings for a period of time then you must ask for "dispensation" from the Executive stating your reason – this can then be taken into account and the appropriate persons notified so that appointments, etc, will not be affected unnecessarily. An email to the chairman is acceptable ([chairman@wrra.org.nz](mailto:chairman@wrra.org.nz))

### **A milestone approaches**

Wayne Dickson has now refereed 99 Premier games in Wellington. All the best for the century on Saturday at Lyndhurst Park Wayne. Let's hope you keep a better eye on the ball than you did in the game where you got 'falconed' from the kick off...

### **NZRU Coaching Toolbox - access**

NZRU has recently upgraded its Coaching Toolbox website and we have received some feedback that this has caused some difficulty for referees in accessing the website and that they are being asked to pay a fee.

Please note **the website remains free** to Rugby Smarted Coaches and Referees. In order to access the website follow the following instructions:

- See David Walsh for an access code/voucher that allows free access
- When you sign in you will be asked to fill in some details, including your OWN USERNAME and PASSWORD
- You will then get an email to verify and it will give you a link to click that will send you back to the site
- And then HOPEFULLY you have a 1 year subscription for nothing.



### **Only in the provinces...**

Overheard in a Hawke's Bay clubrooms during the post-match speeches (the weekend after the floods and electricity outages in the region)....

*"The Senior 3rds' game in Wairoa was cancelled today because there was no power in the clubrooms. Well, apart from Black Power, of course!"*