

DECISION FORM

To be sent to discipline@rugbyeurope.eu.



Particulars of offence	
Player's Name: Anezka-Marta Sládkova	
Player's number: 7	
Player's union: Czech Republic	
Competition: Rugby Europe 7's Championship Leg 1 – Algarve	
Host Team (T1): Czech Republic	Visiting Team (T2): Romania
Venue: VRSA Stadium – Algarve – Main Pitch	
Date of match: 10/06/2023	
Rules to apply: Regulation 17 World Rugby Handbook; or Tournament Disciplinary Program; or Other	
Referee Name: Nino Eloshvili	
Plea: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Admitted <input type="checkbox"/> Not admitted	
Offence: <input type="checkbox"/> Red card <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Citing <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>If "Other" selected, please specify:</i>	
Hearing details	
Chairperson / JO: Marcello d'Orey	
Other Members of the Disciplinary Panel: - None	
Hearing date: 10-06-2023	
Hearing venue: VRSA Stadium	
Appearance Player: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Appearance Union: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Player's Representative(s): Team Manager – Zuzana Stepanova and the Head Coach – Barbora Starkova	
Other attendees: None	
List of documents/ materials considered by the Panel: Notice of Hearing, Video Footage of the incident Citing Commissioner report.	
Summary of essential elements of citing / Referee's report / Incident footage	
<p>The Citing Commissioner stated in his report that «Romania 7 receives the ball from a tackle situation about 10m infield from the near touch line, 18m from her own try line. She runs infield perpendicular to the touchlines. Czech 7 has rushed up out of her line directly toward the Romanian try line to make an upright tackle on the ball carrier 16 meters in from the near side touchline just after the Ball Carrier passes the ball. Direct head contact is made on the Romanian player as a consequence of CZE 7s tackle.</p> <p>Play continued, during which CZE 7 received medical attention although she continued to play until being tactically substituted in the second half. On interviewing CZE 7 in the second half, she stated that contact was directly to the chin which correlates to the video clip.</p> <p>With the benefit of being able to review the video footage, and with the additional time available to me, I followed World Rugby's Head Contact Process issued 9 March 2023. I deem that Head Contact occurred and Foul Play was committed by Romania 7 in that she had the power of choice to lower her tackle height. The degree of danger was high as it was direct to the chin of the ball carrier with force and was a dynamic tackle.</p> <p>No grounds of mitigation are available as the tackler had a clear line of sight of the BC, and there was no sudden or significant change to the ball carrier's position.</p>	

Therefore I consider this action to be worthy of a red card and cite The Player in contravention of Law 9.13 in that she committed a dangerous tackle.

Video clip is available for review. »

There was video footage of the incident.

The footage is consistent with the reports from the citing commissioner.

Essential elements of other evidence (e.g. medical reports)

N/A

Summary of player's evidence

The player accepted that there was foul play, and that it was worth a Red Card.

She wanted to say that she never intended to hurt or injured the Romanian player and that it was a reckless tackle, that unfortunately resulted in a contact to the head of the Romanian player. The player showed remorse and wanted to apology for her behaviour. She also talked to the Romanian player after the incident in order to see if she was ok, and to show her remorse.

The player stated that she was never shown a red card before, and that she is 22 years old and play rugby since 2012. The Manager also informed that the Czech team still have 3 matches in the present tournament.

Findings of fact

As the manager and the player did not knew how the disciplinary process was run, the JO explained it to them. No preliminary points arose.

The Manager and the Player accepted that the Player was the player involved in the alleged foul play.

The manager and the player did accept that there was foul play. The manager and the player did accept that the incident was worth of a red card.

The video images were clear and show that the Czech player made a dangerous tackle to the Romanian player, in which the Czech player did a high tackle, that resulted in contact of the Czech player head with the head (chin) of the Romanian player. The player was high, she was running fast in front, has a clear view of her opponent, and the contact was direct, and with a high degree of force. There was no mitigation factor to be considered. The Romanian player did not get injured and was able to keep playing the game without any consequence.

The contact was made with high degree of force. There was no mitigation factor.

The manager stated that the player did not have a previous disciplinary record.

The player behaviour was unblemished in the hearing and previous to that, and she showed remorse for her actions.

Therefore, the Citing Complaint was upheld and the Judicial Officer was required to consider what further action should be taken as a result of the player being cited in respect of a contravention of law 9.13.

Decision

Proven Not proven Other disposal (please state)

SANCTIONNING PROCESS

Assessment of seriousness

As per Article 4.5 of Rugby Europe Disciplinary Regulations and Regulations 17 of World Rugby

Assessment of intent:

Intentional/deliberate Reckless

Reasons for finding as to intend:

The dangerous Tackle was reckless, not intentional. There was no effect on the match. The Romanian player was able to resume playing after a small time being assisted by their medical team. There was direct contact to

the head (chin) of the Romanian player, and World Rugby states in regulation 17 that any act of foul play which results in contact with the head and/or the neck shall result in at least a mid-range sanction.

There was no evidence that the player wanted to harm or hit the Romanian player intentionally. This action was reckless and it carried the very clear risk that there would be contact between the head of the Czech player and the head of the Romanian player.

Whilst the Judicial Officer accepted the player did not intend to make a dangerous tackle, and hurt or to intentionally hit the head of the Romanian player, she had acted in a highly dangerous manner in relation to the risk of injury and in relation to potential to cause injury.

Nature of actions
Dangerous tackling
Existence of provocation:
No provocation
Whether player retaliated:
No retaliation
Self-defence:
No self defense
Effect on victim:
There was no injury, and the player didn't need any treatment.
Effect on match:
No effect
Vulnerability of victim:
The victim player was not in a vulnerable position
Level of participation / premeditation:
No premeditation found
Conduct completed / attempted:
Conduct completed
Other features of player's conduct:
None

Entry point					
Low-end	Weeks	Mid-range	Weeks	Top end	Weeks
<input type="checkbox"/>	[XX]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	[6]	<input type="checkbox"/>	[XX]
Reasons for selecting entry point:					
The dangerous Tackle was reckless, not intentional. There was no effect on the match. The Romanian player was able to resume playing after a small time being assisted by their medical team. There was direct contact to the head (chin) of the Romanian player, and World Rugby states in regulation 17 that any act of foul play which results in contact with the head and/or the neck shall result in at least a mid-range sanction.					

Relevant off-field mitigating factors	
<i>As per Article 4.5 of Rugby Europe Disciplinary Regulations and Regulations 17 of World Rugby</i>	
Acknowledgement of guilt and timing:	Player's disciplinary record / good character:
The player accepted that there was foul play and that it was worth of a red card	The player was never sent off before that incident.
Youth and inexperience of player:	Conduct prior to and at hearing:

The player is 22 years old, and play since 2012.	Very good
Remorse and timing of Remorse	Other off-field mitigation:
The player showed remorse, talked to the other player after the incident and apologised again in the hearing.	None


Number of weeks deducted: [3]
Summary of reason for number of weeks deducted:
The player had never been sent off before this incident, accepted that her action was foul play and worth of a red card, she also showed remorse and behaved himself prior and during the hearing in a very polite and respectful way, and is also a young player.

Additional relevant off-field aggravating factors <i>As per Article 4.5 of Rugby Europe Disciplinary Regulations and Regulations 17 of World Rugby</i>
Player's status as an offender of the Laws of the Game:
None
Need for deterrence:
None
Any other off-field aggravating factors:
None
Number of additional weeks: [XX]
Summary of reason for number of weeks added:
NA

SANCTION

NOTE: Players ordered off or cited by a citing commissioner are provisionally suspended pending the hearing of their case, such suspension should be taken into consideration when sanctioning – RE Discipline Regulations 4.1.4 / 4.4 (or equivalent Tournament rule)

Total sanction: 3 weeks/matches	<input type="checkbox"/> Sending off sufficient
Sanction commences: At the conclusion of the hearing	
Sanction concludes: after Czech Republic last game of the Algarve tournament	
Matches/ tournaments included in sanction: Quarter final, Semi final and final.	
Costs: None	

Signature
Name of the JO or Chairman: Marcello d'Orey
Date:10-06-2023
Signature (JO or Chairman): 

NOTE: You have 48 hours from notification of the decision of the chairman/jo to lodge an appeal with the tournament director – RE Discipline Regulations 4.6.2 (or equivalent Tournament rule)