



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY
RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Please reply to:

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Adult / Age Grade / Schools
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AGM Discipline Report season 2024/25

Bucks Discipline Committee had another busy season. The disappointing issue is the poor behaviour towards match officials continues to be an issue, disrespect and abuse of match officials is not acceptable behaviour.

Bucks Discipline Panel dealt with the below cases involving Bucks Clubs.

Bucks Discipline Panel had a couple of cases that resulted in substantial match bans for players.

Match Official Abuse, unacceptable behaviour by players, coaches, spectators plus entering the field of play without referee permission & getting involved in incidents will not be tolerated by RFU & Bucks Discipline. Hearings could result in substantial sanctions being issued to players, coaches or the club & could result in point deductions to 1st XV, if implemented by discipline panels.

In my role as Bucks Age Grade Discipline Sec (CBAG), had 3 club & 1 school sending offs, these were dealt with internally by clubs or Schools, with sanctions issued by both clubs & schools, see below in blue. All AGR sanctions were ratified by RFU AGR Discipline Officer.

I would like to thank Bucks Discipline Chair Michael Spencer KC, and the discipline panel members for their help and support this season, it's been a busy and challenging season for the panels dealing with some difficult discipline cases. We will be recruiting new panel members, if interested please contact me.

Also thank you to Aylesbury RFC for the use of their facilities, to run our discipline hearings.

There will be an RFU Discipline Conference in the 2025/26 season. I will be attending with other panel members. There are some changes to sanctions etc, I will feed back to CB & Clubs re changes once known.

Please take note of the bottom of this report regarding the RFU regulations concerning clubs officers responsibilities, entering the playing area without the referee's permission, speaking with referee at the half-time interval, within a 30-minute period after the game & enter the Referee's changing room unless invited to do so by the Referee (I suggest this should be discussed in the referees pre match briefing where approval maybe approved)

If any club would like a visit, presentation, or discussion re Discipline, please contact me to discuss &/or arrange.

Many thanks

Bob Hardman

Discipline Secretary

CB (Adult) / CBAG (Age Grade) / CBS (Schools)

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CLUB	GAME	OFFENCE	LAW	STARTING SANCTION	FINAL SANCTION OUTCOME
Amersham & Chiltern	Hertford v Amersham & Chiltern	Abuse (discriminatory comment - homophobic) RFU HEARING	9.12	12 Match Ban	8 Match Ban
Amersham & Chiltern	Oundle v Amersham & Chiltern	Match Official Abuse	9.28	6 Match Ban	4 Match Ban + 2 matches suspended for season 2024/25
Amersham & Chiltern	Amersham & Chiltern v Bedford Athletic	2 Yellow Cards (1 FOUL PLAY)	9.27	SOS	SOS
Amersham & Chiltern	Shelford v Amersham & Chiltern	A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously. Dangerous tackling includes, but is not limited to, tackling or attempting to tackle an opponent above the line of the shoulders even if the tackle starts below the line of the shoulders.	9.13	6 Match Ban	3 Match Ban - 2 to be served and 1 education program "tackle safety"
Aylesbury	Aylesbury v Littlemore	Punching or striking with hand, arm (including stiff-arm tackle), elbow or shoulder	9.12	6 Match Ban	3 Match Ban - (2 to be served and 1 Suspended to end of 2024/25 season)

Beaconsfield	Beaconsfield v Belsize Park	Match Official Abuse	9.28	6 Match BAN	3 Match Ban + 2 Additional as per RFU Judicial Officer requirement - FINAL 5 MATCH BAN
Beaconsfield	Reading Rams 2's v Beaconsfield 2's	Punching or striking with hand, arm (including stiff-arm tackle), elbow or shoulder	9.12	6 Match Ban	3 Match Ban - (2 to be served and 1 Suspended to end of 2024/25 season)
Bletchley	Bletchley v Wallingford	2 Yellow Cards (2 x Technical)	9.27	SOS	SOS
Bletchley	Bletchley 1's v Reading	A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously. Dangerous tackling includes, but is not limited to, tackling or attempting to tackle an opponent above the line of the shoulders even if the tackle starts below the line of the shoulders.	9.13	6 Match Ban	3 Match Ban - Plus Tackle coaching session
Bletchley	Windsor v Bletchley	Punching or striking with hand, arm (including stiff-arm tackle), elbow or shoulder	9.12	6 Match Ban	3 Match Ban
Bletchley	Windsor v Bletchley	Stamping or Trampling	9.12	2 Match Ban	2 Match Ban - (1 to be served and 1 Suspended to end of 2024/25 season)
Bletchley	Bletchley v Biggleswade	2 Yellow Cards (1 FOUL PLAY)	9.27	1 Match Ban	1 Match Ban
Buckingham	Buckingham v High Wycombe	Punching or striking with hand, arm (including stiff-arm tackle), elbow or shoulder	9.12	2 Match Ban	2 Match Ban - (1 to be served and 1 Suspended to end of 2024/25 season)
Bucks New Uni	UCFB Rugby v Bucks New Uni	Strike with Head (headbutt)	9.12	10 Match Ban	5 Match Ban - (2 suspended to end of season 2024/25)
Chesham Ladies	Chesham Ladies v Wasps Ladies	Dangerous play in a ruck or maul. (b) A player must not make contact with an opponent above the line of the shoulders.	9.20(b)	Case Dismissed (reduced to Yellow Card)	Case Dismissed (reduced to Yellow Card)
High Wycombe	Oxford Harlequins 2s v High Wycombe	Punching or striking with hand, arm (including stiff-arm tackle), elbow or shoulder & Stamping or Trampling	9.12	CASE DISMISSED. (not proven)	CASE DISMISSED - (not proven)
Marlow	Grasshoppers v Marlow	Tripping	9.12	Citing dismissed / no foul play / failed red card test	Citing dismissed / no foul play / failed red card test
Milton Keynes (AGR)	Leighton Buzzard U15's v Milton Keynes U15's	A club shall be responsible for ensuring that all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that its players, coaches, members and spectators conduct themselves appropriately and do not behave in a way that is improper, offensive, abusive, threatening, indecent or insulting or enter the pitch without the authority of the referee.	5.12 19.4.8 / 19.4.9	See Judgement	See Judgement
Milton Keynes (AGR)	MK v Drifters U15's	2 Yellow Cards (2 FOUL PLAY)	9.27	1 Match Ban	1 MATCH
Olney (AGR)	Old Scouts U16's v Olney U16's	High Tackle	9.13	2 Match Ban	1 Match Ban
Olney	Olney v Rushden & Higham	2 Yellow Cards (2 FOUL PLAY)	9.27	1 Match Ban	1 MATCH

Risborough	Risborough v Oxford Quins 3's	Spectator entered pitch without referee permission	19.4.9	Club Warning	Club Warning
Slough	Thatcham v Slough	2 Yellow Cards (2 FOUL PLAY)	9.13	N/A	1 MATCH
Stowe School (AGR)	Solihull v Stowe	Disrespect of Match Official	9.28	2 Match Ban	3 Match Ban

Regulation 19.4.9: A club shall be responsible for ensuring that all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that its players, coaches, members and spectators conduct themselves appropriately and do not behave in a way that is improper, offensive, abusive, threatening, indecent or insulting or enter the pitch without the authority of the referee.

Regulation 19.5.5: Entering the playing area without referee permission.

Discipline has the power to provisionally suspend any individual for a period of up to four weeks/matches if such individual has entered the playing area without the permission of the Referee and is subject to a disciplinary or safeguarding investigation as a result. This does not apply to designated 1st aiders / physio.

Regulation 12.5: Approaches to Match Officials.

No person (other than the Match Officials team or Match Officials coach) shall approach the Match Officials at any time during the half-time interval and up to 30 minutes after the match to discuss any issue arising from the match nor enter the Referee's changing room unless invited to do so by the Referee.
