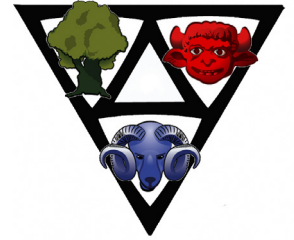


The Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire & Derbyshire RFU Society of Referees



Law Changes/Interpretations/Directives – 2009/2010 Season

2008/09 ELVs to be adopted into Law

Law 6

- Assistant Referees able to assist Referees in any way the Referee requires.

Law 19

- If a team puts the ball back in their own 22 & the ball is subsequently kicked directly into touch there is no gain in ground
- A quick throw may be thrown straight or towards the throwing team's goal line
- The receiver at the lineout must be 2m back away from the lineout
- The team not throwing in must have a player standing between the touchline and the 5-metre line when the lineout is formed. That player must stand two metres from the line of touch and two metres from the five metres line.
- Lineout players may pre-grip a jumper before the ball is thrown in
- The lifting of lineout jumpers is permitted

Law 20

- Introduction of an offside line five metres behind the hindmost feet of the Scrum
- Scrum half offside line at the Scrum

Law 22.12

- The corner posts are no longer considered to be touch in goal except when the ball is grounded against the post

ELVs that HAVE NOT BEEN adopted

Law 17

- Maul, head & shoulders not to be lower than hips
- Maul, allowed to pull down the maul

Law 19

- Freedom for each team to determine lineout numbers (Throwing-in team dictates maximum numbers in the line)

IRB Directives

Laws 15 & 16 – Tackle & Ruck+

- Providing a player from either side on their feet after a tackle comply with all aspects of Law 15 and have the ball in their hands prior to contact with an opposition player on his feet those players may continue with possession of the ball even if a player from the opposition makes contact with those players in possession of the ball.
- Any other players joining the two players contesting the ball must not handle the ball in accordance with Law 16.4 (b). If the ball is not in possession of any player after a tackle and a ruck is formed players may not use their hands in accordance with Law 16.4 (b).

Key Messages for Tackle & Ruck

- Don't over complicate
- Priorities remain the same (Tackler/Tackled/Arriving)
- Accurately identify...
 - Tackler
 - Tackled player
 - Arriving players
- Reward players on their feet
- Referee needs to get there

Laws 10.1 Obstruction (Lineout/Kick-off/Kick restart)

- Blocking the tackler. A player must not intentionally move or stand in a position that prevents an opponent from tackling a ball carrier.
- Blocking the ball. A player must not intentionally move or stand in a position that prevents an opponent from playing the ball.

Law 10 - Dangerous Tackle Sanctions

To summarise, the possible scenarios when a tackler horizontally lifts a player off the ground:

The player is lifted and then forced or “speared” into the ground. **A red card should be issued for this type of tackle.**

The lifted player is dropped to the ground from a height with no regard to the player's safety. **A red card should be issued for this type of tackle.**

For all other types of dangerous lifting tackles, it may be considered **a penalty or yellow card is sufficient.**