

RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

MATCH OFFICIAL ABUSE REPORT

2017-18

LEVELS 5 & BELOW

To be completed and returned to your Society Discipline Officer

Within 48 hours of the completion of the match

Please ensure **ALL** fields are completed

Please e-mail as an attachment

Person(s) responsible for abuse:	Joshua B Holmes
Club (if known):	Carlisle

Please indicate: **Player** Coach Club official Spectator

Fixture:

Home team	Carlisle	Team	2nds
Away team	Windermere	Team	1st

Date of incident:	Sat 6 th Jan 2016	Match venue:	Carlisle
Was a match video made?	No	Competition title:	Cumbria

Officials	Name	Email Address	Telephone	Society
Referee	Stephen Elliott	stemelliott@gmail.com	07734499213	Cumbria
A/R 1	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Enter tel.	Enter text.
A/R 2	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Enter tel.	Enter text.

List names and club of any witnesses to the incident who may be prepared to submit a statement and give evidence at any hearing if required:

No witnesses I know of

Nature of abuse: Physical **Verbal** Other (Please indicate):

The player implied I was a cheat during the game and I yellow carded him. After the game he approached me and threatened me

Detailed report of incident (continue on next page if necessary):

Situation. Carlisle were dominated in the scrum by Windermere, having lost many of their scrums against the head. The scrums were legally contested and didn't collapse. On a Carlisle scrum, the ball came out on the opposite side. This was recovered by Windermere and they managed to quickly score. At this point the Captain (No8 Josh) came up to me and started to argue the decision on the scrum. I informed him I could only play what I saw. At which point his response was "why do you only see in their favour" (I forget the exact words but they are close enough) I interpreted this as the Captain implying I was a cheat or biased and decided that a yellow card was warranted.

As I issued the Yellow card to the No 8, their No 17 (Tom Percival) walked passed and added the comment "you're a fucking joke". For that comment, I issued him a red card. I allowed Windermere to take the conversion and then ended the game.

Immediately after blowing my whistle the No 8 came up to me saying "I want your details as I'm going to put a complaint in". I responded by saying that's fine, we'll do it back at the club house and walked away. I was again approached by the No8 who said that he wanted my details as he was going to report me. I again replied, "that's fine but we should do that in the club house". From his manner and tone, this was clear intimidation. The No 8 then said I was a joke. I replied that there was an assessor here also, which got the response: "he was laughing at you as well". At which point I walked away. This was done in full view of the crowd.

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Detailed report of incident continued:

I add these notes to show my state of mind after this event and why I've decided to report this:
I attempted to shake hands with any players that would accept (some Carlisle players did). I didn't enter the tunnel as I felt intimidated and thought I would risk bringing referees into disrepute by any further escalation of his frustration... I haven't avoided the tunnel for a number of seasons.

I went into the changing rooms feeling flat and questioning my desire to continue. Luckily, I spoke with Tyrone who reminded me why we give up our time. It's to give back to a game, we enjoy, that couldn't happen if we didn't – and that there are many more people who appreciate that than do not.

In the club house I was approached by the No17 who apologised for his actions and behaviour which "was unacceptable", but I didn't see the no8.

I didn't complete detail notes on the night as I'd already given up 7 hours of my time away from the family on one of the few days in the week I am home and another 30 minutes completing the red card form so apologies if some of these are vague notes.

Signature of Referee (IN ALL CASES – DIGITAL SIGNATURE ACCEPTABLE)	Click here to enter Referee signature	Date	Click here to enter a date
Signature of Asst. Referee (WHERE APPLICABLE)	Click here to enter A/R signature	Date	Click here to enter a date



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