



DECISION FORM (FIRST INSTANCE)

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE			
Player's Name	Pavel Krivosheev		
Player's Union	Russia Rugby Union		
Match	Russia v Moldova		
Competition	Rugby Europe Beach Tour - Leg 1		
Date of match	July 25 th , 2021		
Match Venue	Chisinau, Moldova		
Rules to apply	Regulation 17 World Rugby Handbook; or Tournament Disciplinary Program.		
Referee Name	Boris Bovsunovskiy	Plea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Admitted <input type="checkbox"/> Not admitted
Offence	Physical and verbal abuse against match official Amended to physical contact with match official.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Red card <input type="checkbox"/> Citing <input type="checkbox"/> Other If "Other" selected, please specify:	

HEARING DETAILS			
Hearing date	August 4 th , 2021	Hearing venue	Microsoft Teams (on remote)
Chairperson/JO	Matthew O'Grady – Chairperson (RFU)		
Other Members of the Disciplinary Panel	Irina Roxana Petre – Wing (FRR) Dany Roelands – Wing (FBRB)		
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)	Pavel Fedorov (Acting CEO of Russia RFU) Yulia Vorona (General Secretary of Russia RFU)	Other attendees	David Baird-Smith (Rugby Europe)
List of documents / materials provided to Player in advance of hearing	1. Report from the Referee 2. Report from the Assistant Referee 3. Report from the Referees Manager 4. Video clip		

SUMMARY OF ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF CITING/REFEREE'S REPORT/INCIDENT FOOTAGE
<p>The Referee's report read:</p> <p>"After the game ended, player number 8 of Russia approached from behind to me, said: "You piece of shit, you cannot referee like this" !! and pushed me. I said to him, that he shouldn't talk like this, if he needs to ask anything or complain, he should talk to the referee manager. I gave him a red card and the player apologized afterwards."</p>

The Referee gave evidence at the hearing. He said that he was not pushed. He said the Player put his hand on the Referee's shoulder to get the Referee's attention. The Player was behind the Referee when he did that. The Referee said he was not pushed. The Referee was showed the report prepared in his name. He said he did not write the document. The Referee confirmed the Player apologised to him at the time.

The Referee said he was not particularly affected by the Player's actions.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF OTHER EVIDENCE (e.g. medical reports)

No medical evidence.

Reports by the AR and Referee Manager were consistent with the Referee's report.

SUMMARY OF PLAYER'S EVIDENCE

The Player accepted he was frustrated at the end of the game. He thought the referee made an incorrect decision at the end of the game. He said he went up to the referee, touched his shoulder and said the words reported in Russian. He said he apologised shortly afterwards.

The Player accepted his words were abusive to the Referee and unacceptable. He accepted he should have reacted much better by going away somewhere else. The Player did not accept touching the Referee's shoulder in this situation was physical abuse, but he did accept it was unacceptable physical contact.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Player touched the Referee's shoulder from behind.
2. The action amounted to physical contact with a match official, contrary to Law 9.28.
3. The Player said to the Referee, "You piece of shit, you cannot referee like this".
4. The words were obviously abusive and totally unacceptable in Rugby Union. They have no place in the game at all.

DECISION

Proven Not proven Other disposal (please state)

SANCTIONING PROCESS

ASSESSMENT OF SERIOUSNESS		
As per Article 4.5 of Rugby Europe Disciplinary Regulations and Regulations 17 of World Rugby		
Assessment of Intent		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intentional/deliberate <input type="checkbox"/> Reckless		
State Reasons		
The Player deliberate touched the Referee and spoke the abusive words because he was frustrated.		
Gravity of player's actions		
Abusive of Referee's completely unacceptable. It is inconsistent with the core values of Rugby Union.		
Nature of actions		
The Player touched the Referee's shoulder after the match and spoke a single abusive sentence to him.		
Existence of provocation		
None. The actions were completely unjustified.		
Whether player retaliated		
Not in retaliation.		
Self-defence		
Not in self-defence.		
Effect on victim		
It is fortunate that there was no significant impact on the Referee, however there easily could have been.		
Effect on match		
Occurred after the match finished.		
Vulnerability of victim		
Match officials are vulnerable. They have to be protected		
Level of participation/premeditation		
The Player had time to behave differently and avoid this situation.		
Conduct completed/attempted		
Completed.		
Other features of player's conduct		
No other features.		
Entry point		
<input type="checkbox"/> Top end	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-range	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low-end 6 + 6 Matches
*If Top End, the JO or Panel should identify, if appropriate, an entry point between the Top End and the maximum sanction and provide the reasons for selecting this entry point, below.		
Reasons for selecting Entry Point above Top End		
This was a single act of verbal abuse and physical contact. The Referee did not report being threatened. Objectively, the actions were intimidating. However, this was a single and brief act of contact and single verbal statement. In the circumstances both offences merit a Low End entry point. We conclude the sanctions should run consecutively because of the seriousness of the conduct being against a match official.		

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT OFF-FIELD AGGRAVATING FACTORS

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

Player's status as an offender of the Laws of the Game

Not relevant.

Need for deterrence

Not relevant.

Any other off-field aggravating factors

No off-field aggravating factors.

Number of additional weeks: **Nil**

Summary of reason for number of weeks added:

No weeks added.

RELEVANT OFF-FIELD MITIGATING FACTORS

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

Acknowledgement of guilt and timing

The Player accepted he made physical contact with the Referee and that his words were abusive.

Player's disciplinary record/good character

Good character.

Youth and inexperience of player

Although the Player is 34 years old, he has only been involved in rugby for 4 years. He only plays Beach Rugby. Overall an inexperienced players who appears before a Disciplinary Committee for the first time.

Conduct prior to and at hearing

Appropriate.

Remorse and timing of remorse

The Referee apologised very briefly after his offence and repeated his apology at the hearing.

Other off-field mitigation

The Player coaches other rugby teams.

Number of weeks deducted: **3 + 3 Matches**

Summary of reason for number of weeks deducted:

The Player was of good character. This is his first Red Card / citing. He accepted responsibility for his actions and was apologetic. He will not get the benefit of such a discount in the future.

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	6 matches	<input type="checkbox"/> Sending off sufficient
Sanction commences	Immediately	
Sanction concludes	To be confirmed by the Committee Chair	
Matches/tournaments included in sanction	<p><u>Match 1:</u> RE Beach Rugby Tour (Moldovan Leg) Russia v Romania (25.07.21) <u>Match 2:</u> Russian Rugby Championship 2021 - РК Энергия v РК Слава (07.08.21) <u>Match 3:</u> Russian Rugby Championship 2021 - РК Энергия v Пересвет (07.08.21) <u>Match 4:</u> Russian Rugby Championship 2021 - РК Энергия v РК Динамо-2 (07.08.21) <u>Match 5:</u> Russian Rugby Championship 2021 - РК Энергия v РК Витязь (08.08.21) <u>Match 6:</u> Russian Rugby Championship 2021 - Республики Дагестан v РК Энергия (08.08.21)</p> <p>The Player only participates in competitive Beach Rugby and the Committee concludes that Beach Rugby matches of appropriate tournaments shall be meaningful, rather than whole 'weeks' which would be unduly harsh/disproportionate.</p>	

Costs	Nil
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Date	25 August 2021
Signature (JO or Chairman)	Matthew O'Grady

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)