



Lymm RFC

Disciplinary Process – Red Card Protocol

- **It is the responsibility of all Age Group Coaches and Senior Team Captains to notify of any red cards immediately.**
- All red cards to be notified immediately to Neil Allen, Lymm RFC Disciplinary Secretary on mail@neilallenassociates.co.uk or 07917378083. **By Sunday at the very latest.**
- Will Hind as mini and junior Chair to be copied into any Age Group offence notification. Adam Fletcher as DOR to be copied into any senior rugby notifications. These will then check with Neil that the message has been received and protocol is in process.
- Neil Allen to notify Claire Owen-Smith (senior) or John Downham (age group) at Cheshire RFU, supplying the players name, date of birth, RFU number, match details, offence and Referees name (if available).
- Player concerned to make contact with Neil Allen (on the above) who will support the player through the process in the following week.
- Player to be banned from playing any matches (including school games if appropriate) until a hearing (either internal or external) has been held and a sanction handed down.
- On receipt of referees report the player will be forwarded the report to enter a plea. This will be informed to the Cheshire RFU.
- Two options follow; an internal hearing with 'papers' forwarded to Cheshire or Cheshire may request a direct hearing with the player. This will normally happen if the player pleads not guilty or for 1st XV players.
- A direct hearing is typically held on the Thursday evening after the offence at which, we will be allowed to present evidence and Cheshire RFU will issue a sanction based on the hearing discussions and in line with the RFU disciplinary guidelines.
- If an internal panel is held the disciplinary committee at the club is chaired by Phil Ratcliffe with members Andy Leach, Steve Rule and Neil Allen. This will be scheduled on the earliest date of the week following the sending off offence. Attendance to be agreed based on a case by case basis.
- The disciplinary committee will hear any internal cases and make a ruling based on the evidence and RFU disciplinary guidelines. Neil Allen will forward a report with judgement to Cheshire RFU for comment / agreement. Cheshire will confirm any sanction.

- The player will be informed of the decision and banned from playing until the sanction has been served. This normally is in terms of matches for age-group players and weeks for senior players.
- The sanction will appear on the players record and will be a factor in any future disciplinary matters.
- The Club reserves the right to charge the player for the cost of the Cheshire RFU disciplinary hearing.

Neil Allen

Disciplinary Secretary Lymm RFC