

# RFU SHORT JUDGMENT FORM 2 YELLOW CARDS



Match	Wasps FC	Vs	Bristol Rugby RFC
Club's Level	1	Competition	Gallagher Premiership
Date of Match	25/09/2021	Match Venue	Wasps

Particulars of Offence			
Player's Surname	Shields	Date of Birth	02/04/1991
Forename(s)	Brad	Plea	Admitted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Admitted <input type="checkbox"/>
Club name	Wasps FC	RFU ID No.	2330647
Type of Offence	2 x Foul play yellow card <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 x Foul play, 1 x Technical yellow card <input type="checkbox"/>	2 x Technical yellow cards <input type="checkbox"/>
Law 9 Offence	<b>Law 9.27 - 2 Yellow cards</b>		
Sanction	Sending off sufficient <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	One week suspension	<input type="checkbox"/>

Hearing Details	
Hearing Date	29/09/2021
Hearing venue	Papers only
Single Judicial Officer	Matthew Weaver
Panel Secretary	Rebecca Morgan

## Summary of Essential Elements of Referee Report:

Yellow Card No 1: 24th minute of 1st half - 9.20c - Collapsing a ruck or maul

Bristol had a line out 5m out and after they had caught the ball and landed they created a maul which went into the 5m channel at this point W6 was the only person from the defending team and he collapsed the maul 4m out from the line. After play had stopped I gave a YC.

Yellow Card No 2: 27th minute of 2nd half - 9.20c - Collapsing a ruck or maul

Bristol had a line out 5m out and after they had caught the ball and landed they created a maul which went into the 5m channel and moved towards the line at this point W6 collapsed the maul 4m out from the line. At this point B16 had to detach and got held up over the line. We reviewed the incident and on review gave the 2nd YC.

## Summary of any mitigating and aggravating features

The Club provided detailed written submissions dealing with the characterisation of the incident and the mitigating and aggravating factors. The Player indicated and entered his plea at the first opportunity notwithstanding that he maintains that he was not trying to deliberately collapse either maul but, rather, did not think a maul had formed and was therefore seeking to make a legal tackle in each case. He has a clean disciplinary record and is of very good character. A character reference from Wasps Head Coach Lee Blackett was provided to the Panel. He is a very experienced international player, playing over 100 Super Rugby games for the Hurricanes, including many as captain. He has played over 50 games for Wasps and is currently team captain. He has won 8 international caps for England. The fact that save for these two yellow cards the Player has only previously received two other yellow cards, and no red cards, over his career is to his credit. His conduct on and off the field has always been exemplary. The Club submitted that there were no relevant aggravating features.

The mandatory entry point is 1 week and, as such, 50% mitigation, which I have no doubt the Player would be entitled to, does not reduce the sanction below 1 week. This does not, in my view, do justice to the fact that the Player did not, on his account, intend to commit the acts of foul play; that the acts were not overtly dangerous and caused no injury to another player and no serious adverse impact on the match; and it does not take into account the Player's early admission of guilt. In addition, it provides the Player with no recognition of his previous clean disciplinary record and the other matters of mitigation advanced on his behalf. In the circumstances, therefore, I consider that Regulation 19.11.12 applies and that a 1 week playing suspension would be a wholly disproportionate sanction for the level and type of offences committed.

As such, I consider that the sending off was sufficient.

Number of weeks allowed in mitigation

0

Number of weeks added on

0

## Sanction

**NOTE:** PLAYERS ORDERED OFF ARE PROVISIONALLY SUSPENDED PENDING THE HEARING OF THEIR CASE, SUCH SUSPENSION SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN SANCTIONING

Total sanction	
Date sanction commences	
Date sanction concludes	
Date free to play	29/09/2021
Final date to lodge appeal	30/09/2021
Costs	£250

Sending off sufficient



Signature of JO

Matthew Weaver

Date

29/09/2021

**NOTE:** YOU HAVE THE RIGHT OF APPEAL AGAINST THIS DECISION AS SET OUT IN REGULATION 19.12 OF THE DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS. YOUR ATTENTION IS SPECIFICALLY DRAWN TO THE TIME LIMIT AND DIRECTIONS/REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO AN APPEAL SET OUT IN REGULATION 19.12.9

ANY PERSON SUSPENDED UNDER THESE REGULATIONS IS REMINDED THAT UNDER RFU REGULATION 19.11.16 THE SUSPENDED PERSON MAY NOT PLAY THE GAME (OR ANY FORM THEREOF) OR BE INVOLVED IN ANY ON-FIELD MATCH DAY ACTIVITIES ANYWHERE WHICH INCLUDES (BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO) ACTING AS WATER CARRIER/ RUNNING ON A TEE ETC