

DECISION FORM



Particulars of offence	
Full name of the player: Zaczek KORDIAN	
Player's number: 13	
Player's union: Poland	
Competition: U18 Sevens Championship Boys	
Team 1: Poland	Team 2: Luxembourg
Venue: Stade Pierre Rajon, Bourgoïn-Jallieu, France	
Date of match: 13 July 2025	
Rules to apply: Rugby Europe Disciplinary Regulations (4.2); Regulation 17 World Rugby Handbook	
Referee Name: Sulkhan Chikladze	
Plea: ☒ Admitted ☐ Not admitted	
Offence: ☐ Red card ☒ Citing ☐ Other	
If "Other" selected, please specify:	
Hearing details	
Chairperson / JO: Gert-Mark Smelt (NED)	
Hearing date: 13 July 2024	
Hearing venue: On site	
Appearance Player: ☒ Yes ☐ No	
Appearance Union: ☒ Yes ☐ No	
Player's Representative(s): K. Niedzwiedz	
Other attendees: none	
List of documents/ materials considered by the Panel:	
1. Game sheet 2. Citing Commissioner report 3. Video clip of the incident 4. Disciplinary Statement, given at the hearing	
Preliminary remarks Player (about panel, procedure, documents): ☐ Yes ☒ No	
If "yes", please specify:	
Summary of essential elements of citing / Referee's report / Incident footage	
The Citing Commissioner reports: <i>Time of incident: 4'13"</i> <i>Luxemburg is attacking. Lu1 carries the ball and executes a kick. Poland 13 tackles him without arms. The tackle is late. The tackler makes no attempt to wrap. It was a direct shoulder contact. [Lu, JO] Player lands on his head. Medical staff entered the field to assess the player. High degree of danger. Citing is warranted.</i> She indicates a breach of Law 9.25 "A player must not intentionally charge or obstruct an opponent who has just kicked the ball". The video footage supports the description of the incident by the Citing Commissioner. According to the game sheet the opposite player was not removed from play.	
Essential elements of other evidence (e.g. medical reports)t	

N/a

Summary of player's evidence

The Player accepted at the hearing that his action was foul play and that it warranted a red card. He did not challenge the citing.

The Player stated he did not intend to hurt the other player. He was aiming for a normal tackle, but the ball carrier jumped a little in his kick, so the contact ended up lower than he meant. He was focused on the ball, so he turned his body towards the ball, explaining the non-wrap.

Findings of fact

The Player admitted his action was foul play and warranted a red card.

In light of that and having read the Citing Commissioner Report the Judicial officer finds that the Player's action was an act of foul play, warranting a red card, constituting a breach of Law 9.25.

Decision

☒ Proven ☐ Not proven ☐ Other disposal (please state)

SANCTIONING PROCESS

Assessment of seriousness
<i>As per Article 4.5 of Rugby Europe Disciplinary Regulations and Regulations 17 of World Rugby</i>
Assessment of intent:
☒ Intentional/deliberate ☐ Reckless
Reasons for finding as to intent:
Although the circumstances of a no arm tackle and direct shoulder contact are sufficient to find for an intentional action, it is clear it was not a very well thought through action, bordering recklessness.
Nature of actions
Dangerous late tackle.
Existence of provocation:
N/a
Whether player retaliated:
N/a
Self-defence:
N/a
Effect on victim:
The tackled player did not leave the match
Effect on match:
N/a
Vulnerability of victim:
It is the responsibility of the Player to ensure that his opposite lands safely, not on head or neck.
Level of participation / premeditation:
N/a
Conduct completed / attempted:
Completed
Other features of player's conduct:
N/a

Entry point					
Low-end	Weeks	Mid-range	Weeks	Top end	Weeks
☒	2	☐	X	☐	X
Reasons for selecting entry point:					
Although the action technically was intentional the Judicial Officer takes the level of intent, bordering recklessness, into account.					
The Judicial Officer will apply the U16-U18 sanction entry point being 2 matches low end.					

Relevant off-field mitigating factors	
<i>As per Article 4.5 of Rugby Europe Disciplinary Regulations and Regulations 17 of World Rugby</i>	
Acknowledgement of guilt and timing:	Player's disciplinary record / good character:
The Player did not contest the Citing Commissioner's findings and admitted guilt at the first possible instance.	The Player has no relevant disciplinary record.

Youth and inexperience of player:	Conduct prior to and at hearing:
N/a (The Player has been playing rugby for a number of years and some experience on an international level.)	Good and polite
Remorse and timing of Remorse	Other off-field mitigation:
The Player showed remorse at the hearing.	N/a

Number of weeks deducted: 1
Summary of reason for number of weeks deducted:
The sanction remaining after mitigation with one week is not wholly disproportionate, especially given the dangerous nature of the action. There is no room for 'sending off sufficient'. The Judicial Officer, given the low end entry point, finds reasons to apply article 4.3 of Appendix 4 of World Rugby Regulation 17 and also imposes the non-playing sanction of two individual tackle trainings. They are meant as an extra prevention of dangerous actions like these. He will have one month after the starting of the rugby season to carry them out, that is until 1 October 2025. It will be up to (Board of) the national Polish Union to confirm that the training sessions were thorough tackle training sessions and that the Player carried them out them properly.

Additional relevant off-field aggravating factors
<i>As per Article 4.5 of Rugby Europe Disciplinary Regulations and Regulations 17 of World Rugby</i>
Player's status as an offender of the Laws of the Game:
N/a
Need for deterrence:
N/a
Any other off-field aggravating factors:
N/a

Number of additional weeks: none
Summary of reason for number of weeks added:

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: 1 week	☐ Sending off sufficient
Sanction commences: with the sending off (provisional suspension)	
Sanction concludes: after the match Poland – Romania (13 July 2025)	
Matches/ tournaments included in sanction: 13/7 Poland – Romania	
<u>Supplemental sanction</u> The sanction also consists of a supplemental non-playing sanction, being the completion of two individual tackle training sessions by the Player, to be carried out before 1 October 2025 . Meanwhile, that is after the playing sanction has ended, the Player is free to play. The (Board of the) national Polish Union is to confirm that the training sessions were thorough and individual tackle training sessions and that the Player carried them out them properly.	
Costs: N/a	

Signature
Name of the Judicial Officer: Gert-Mark Smelt
Date: 13 July 2025
Signature: 

NOTE: You have **24 hours** from notification of the decision of the Judicial Officer to lodge an appeal with the Rugby Europe Disciplinary Committee – RE Discipline Regulations 4.2.2