

PROTOCOLS FOR CLUBS, COACHES AND PLAYERS

1 No person may be appointed to referee a game in Scotland without the permission of the Scottish Rugby Board unless they are a member of a Referees Society under the jurisdiction of a Union in membership of World Rugby and they are appropriately licensed and insured.

2 Visiting clubs shall advise the home club of their playing colours.

3 The home club shall notify the match officials of the date, venue, kick-off time and team colours of each team and must do so not less than 72 hours before kick-off. Contact must be made in person - voicemail messages are not an acceptable form of confirmation. Failure to appropriately notify the officials of any postponement may result in the home club having to reimburse the match officials' travel costs.

4 The home club shall be responsible for the safety and wellbeing of match officials during their time at the club. Where possible a referee liaison officer should be appointed.

5 Premiership and National League teams shall appoint a fourth official to all home games to control the technical areas and rolling substitutions. For all other games a nominated home club official, or the appointed home touch judge, shall perform these duties

6 The home club shall ensure that the technical and sin bin areas are in place and that the pitch is roped off. The technical areas must be on the same side of the pitch, being either side of the halfway line. A maximum of six persons are permitted within each technical area at any one time (being two coaching staff, two medical staff and two water carriers).

7 Coaching staff must remain within the technical area at all times during play. Medical staff and water carriers must abide by the *Protocols for Persons entering the Playing Area*.

8 Replacements and other team staff must remain in a designated area outside the Playing Enclosure.

9 Both clubs must submit their team sheets in accordance with the competition rules.

10 Players may not receive local anaesthetic on match day unless for the stitching of bleeding wounds or for dental treatment administered by an appropriately qualified medical or dental practitioner.

11 Coaches are encouraged to comment on the performance of the match officials by completing the *"Report on Referee"* form. The referee will hand out such a form to each club coach. Further copies are available from the Match Officials Operations Manager at BT Murrayfield.

12 After the match, coaches and players must refrain from discussing contentious issues emanating from the game with the match officials until at least 20 minutes after the final whistle. Thereafter, all participants in the match are encouraged to discuss aspects of the game.

13 Where a coach, player or club official wishes to complain about the behaviour of a match official, a *"Complaint on Behaviour of Match Officials"* form should be completed and returned to the Referee High Performance Manager at Scottish Gas Murrayfield.

14 Clubs are requested to provide the referee with access to the footage of the game where available.