



ORRS Development

Development Update #6

June 15, 2009

Weekly Development

To ensure ORRS Referees are on the same page.

As most referees know the game of rugby is a lot about trends in this issue we are going to look at a trend that is a major concern for rugby – Dangerous Tackles.

We would also like to congratulate Jon Butcher of the T&DRRS for his recent selection to the ORRS Promising Panel. We wish you the best of luck in your refereeing development Jon. We also say bye to an experience Panel member in Joyce Henry.



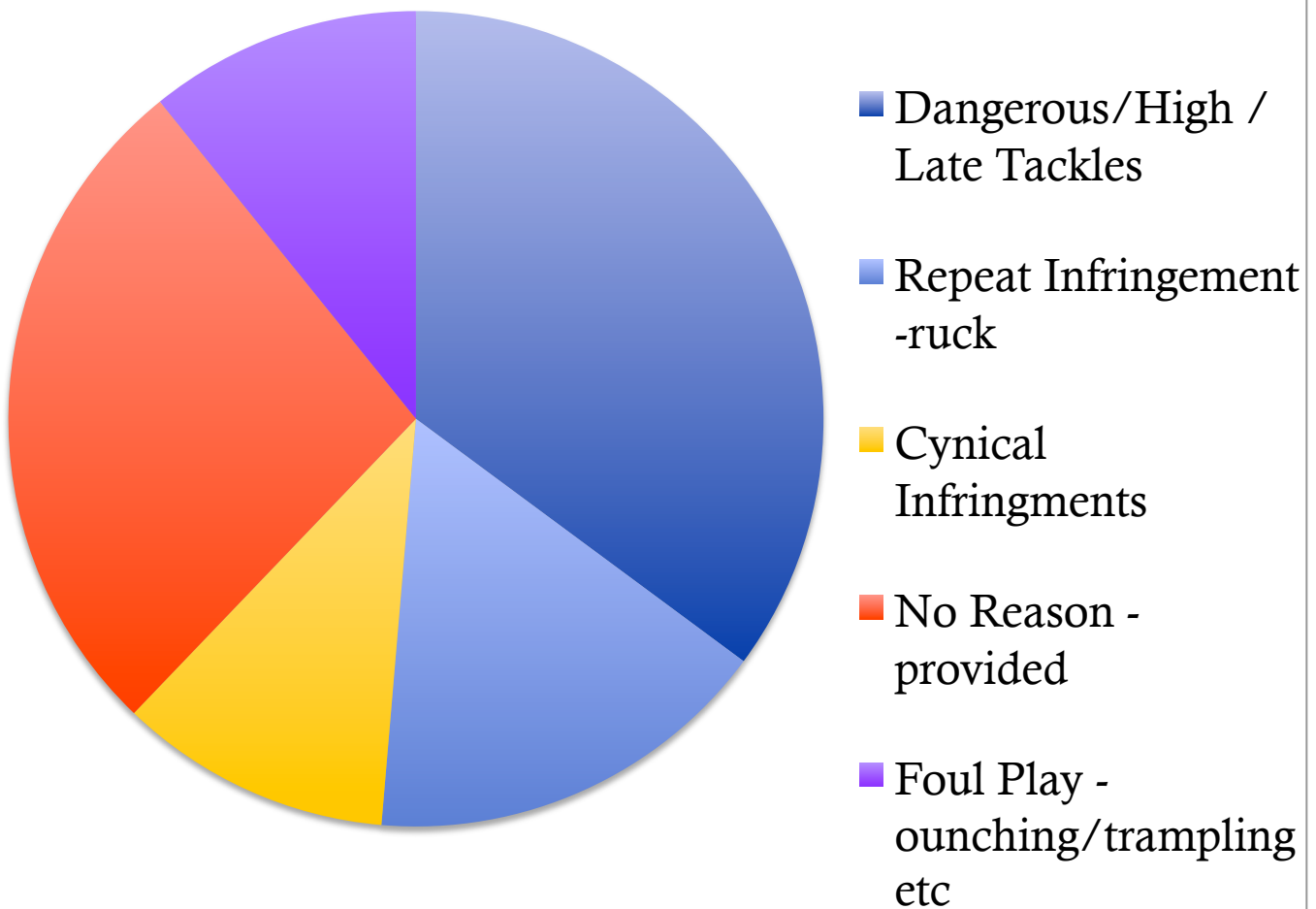
Steve & Andrew

Websites

There are many rugby websites around the world and now there are more dedicated to the art of refereeing. Below are a couple of good sites to keep an eye on.

www.taranakirra.com
www.rugbyreferee.co.nz
www.sareferees.co.za

Yellow Cards 2009 - Up until June 6th



Dangerous Tackling

Last week we looked at Dangerous Tackling and the increasing trend noticed by referees on the panel at the number of sanctions, both penalties and yellow cards for these. To further highlight the point made I have pulled the number of yellow card given since May 9th to June 6th. The pie chart clearly shows that of the 37 reported YC a large percentage of them were issued for dangerous, late, or high tackles. This is a concerning trend and one players and coaches need to work hard on.

As a side note it is very disappointing to see at least 9 YC listed on the game sheets were not given a reason by the referee, we need to make sure we are providing the proper reasons for sanctions.

Last week the IRB's Paddy O'Brien also sent out a memorandum highlighting a spear tackle that occurred in the Super 14 and the subsequent judicial proceedings. It is important to note from this the following;
The possible scenarios when a tackler horizontally lifts a player off the ground:

- ∞ The player is lifted and then forced or "speared" into the ground. A red card should be issued for this type of tackle.
- ∞ The lifted player is dropped to the ground from a height with no regard to the player's safety. A red card should be issued for this type of tackle.
- ∞ For all other types of dangerous lifting tackles, it may be considered a penalty or yellow card is sufficient.

Referees and Citing Commissioners should not make their decisions based on what they consider was the intention of the offending player. Their decision should be based on an objective assessment (as per Law 10.4 (e)) of the circumstances of the tackle.

For the full report and video of the incident that prompted the memorandum please visit www.orrts.ca.