

## QISSRL Confraternity Carnival Judiciary process 2017 onwards

### Rationale

The carnival has a long and proud history of high quality Rugby League. It is renowned for the positive spirit in which games are played and supported, and maintaining this spirit remains critical. The carnival has grown from 6 teams in its first year, to its current format that includes 48 teams. Hence, the structures and processes surrounding the carnival require regular review in order to continue to meet the needs of what has become a major event. A more robust and consistent judiciary process has been identified as an area that can positively add to the integrity of the carnival and the safety of its players. The intention is not to find more players guilty of offences; rather, to be proactive in ensuring that games are played to the highest standards of behaviour and sportsmanship.

### Specifics

- All matches to be video recorded
- For quick access to video footage, the time of any send-off will be recorded on the match scoresheet
- Any incidents of concern will be reported, via a referees' delegate, to the QISSRL Operations Manager as a matter of urgency in order to assemble the judiciary panel
- On-field incidents will not be placed 'on report' as per NRL matches as time will not allow
- For incidents requiring judiciary intervention, the judiciary will be composed of the Judiciary Chair, the Referees' Co-ordinator or his delegate and the QISSRL Operations Manager. The judiciary must meet as early as possible before the player in question's next match is scheduled
- The player and his coach / team official will be required to attend the judiciary
- Parents of the player in question will not be permitted to be part of the judiciary process, unless the player's coach is his parent
- Video evidence and/or the report of a match official may be used in the judiciary process
- A player **must** appear before the judiciary if he is sent from the field (full send-off)
- A player **may** appear before the judiciary even if he is not sent from the field; this would be based on a report from a match official to the Referees' Co-ordinator
- The player and his coach / team official will be permitted to make a verbal submission to the judiciary
- For the sake of consistency, the basic standards of the NRL Judiciary Code of Procedure will be applied to offences. At the same time, the nature of the carnival and its players will be considered in the decision-making process

### Penalties

- Following a send-off, it may or may not be necessary for a player to be suspended for a period of the carnival, depending on whether it is deemed that the send-off was sufficient penalty
- If a player's actions are considered to sufficiently breach the code of conduct, the player will be suspended for one or more carnival matches
- In extreme cases, it may be deemed that a player is no longer permitted to take part in the carnival as a result of his actions
- In deciding penalties, all available information will be considered. In general, the following standards can be expected in response to some **common offences**:

→ Any player guilty of punching can expect a **minimum** of a one game suspension. The suspension could be greater, depending on the severity of the offence

→ Any player guilty of a shoulder charge as outlined by the code (forceful contact with no attempt to wrap **both** arms) can expect a **minimum** of a one game suspension

→ Any player who contributes significantly to a dangerous throw in which a player is placed in the dangerous position and his head/neck makes first contact with the ground can expect a **minimum** of a one game suspension

Other penalties will be decided in alignment with the NRL Code and in the interests of maintaining the integrity of the carnival.