



To: **Secretaries/Chief Executive Officers of Unions and Regional Associations in Membership of the IRB**

From: **David Carrigy
Head of Member Services**

Date: May 20, 2007

Re: **Law 4 / Regulation 12 – Padded Equipment**

The IRB Council at its Annual Meeting 2007 received a report on a trial that had been in operation during the IRB U19 World Championship where Touch Judges took responsibility for ensuring that padded clothing / tape being worn was in compliance with Law 4 / Regulation 12. Council noted the success of the trial and agreed that Touch Judges shall have responsibility for the kit inspection prior to kick-off. If there is no appointed Touch Judge then the Referee shall retain full responsibility for inspection. Unions are asked to ensure that the Law / Regulation be rigorously enforced.

Unions are reminded that if a player is found to be wearing illegal padding in the pre-match inspection conducted by Match Officials, the player will be ordered to remove it prior to the match commencing. If the player is subsequently seen to be wearing the illegal clothing the player will be ordered from the field for misconduct. Should a player be found to be wearing padding / tape that was not presented at the inspection the player will be ordered from the field until the offending padding / tape is removed.

IRB Laws and Regulations are available on the IRB web site: www.irb.com

Please ensure that all stakeholders within the Game are informed of this decision.

Should you require any clarification on the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Carrigy', with a small flourish at the end.

**David Carrigy
Head of Member Services**