CONSTITUENT BODY SHORT JUDGMENT FORM

Constituent Body	Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire & Derbyshire		
Case Number	NLD25/260	Select:	Red Card ✔ Citing ☐ Other ☐

Particulars of Offence			
Player's Surname	Tucker	Date of Birth	8/01/1998
Forename(s)	Tom	RFU ID No.	3000428
Club Name	Lincoln RFC	Date of Match	26/09/2026
Offence & Law charged	Choose an item.	Plea	Admitted ☐ Not Admitted ✔
Home Team	Lincoln RFC	Away Team	Bourne RFC
Home Team Level*	L7	Away Team Level	L7

*TEAM LEVEL REFERS TO 1ST XV, 2ND XV, COLTS, VETS, etc. NOT WHOLE CLUB LEVEL

Hearing Details			
Hearing Date	20/10/26	Hearing Venue	Newark RFC
Chairman	Tim Bembridge	Secretary	Andrew Statham
Panel Member 1	Ian Roe	Panel Member 2	Mal Yates
Decision	Proven ✔ Not Proven ☐		

Case Summary & Sanction

NOTE: UNDER RFU REGULATION 19.5.2, PLAYERS ORDERED OFF ARE PROVISIONALLY SUSPENDED PENDING THE HEARING OF THEIR CASE, SUCH SUSPENSION SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN SANCTIONING

Total Sanction	3 Select option.	Entry Point	Mid range
Banned From	27/09/26	Banned To	20/10/26
Ban Split From		Ban Split To	
Free To Play	21/10/26	Costs	£50-00

NOTE: FOR SENDING OFF SUFFICIENT STATE UNDER TOTAL SANCTION

Signature (Chair)	Tim Bembridge	Date	21/10/26
Signature (Secretary)		Date entered to GMS (mandatory)	

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Assessment of Offence (Regulation 19.11.8)				
PLEASE TICK APPROPRIATE BOX:	Intentional 19.11.8(a)	☐	Reckless 19.11.8(b)	✔

Nature of actions 19.11.8(c)	Existence of provocation 19.11.8(d)
While attempting to prevent an opponent from striking a teammate, he made contact with an opponent's head with his knee.	Attempting to help a team mate
Whether player retaliated 19.11.8(e)	**Self-defence 19.11.8(f)**
No	No
Effect on victim 19.11.8(g)	**Effect on match 19.11.8(h)**
None mentioned	Both the player and the Bourne player who was striking a teammate were sent off.
Vulnerability of victim 19.11.8(i)	**Level of participation/premeditation 19.11.8(j)**
The victim was actively striking the players team member and should have anticipated attempts to stop them.	The panel accepted the player's apology, acknowledging that while he didn't intend to strike his opponent he was reckless in his attempt to de-escalate the situation.
Conduct completed/attempted 19.11.8(k)	**Other features of player's conduct 19.11.8(l)**
Completed	Of otherwise excellent conduct

Entry point number		
Top End*	Mid-Range 8 weeks	Low End

NOTE: STATE NUMBER OF WEEKS OR MATCHES ENTRY POINT FOR OFFENCE

*If top end, the Panel should identify an entry point between the top end and the maximum sanction (19.11.9) as set out in Appendix 2

In making the above assessment, the Panel should consider the RFU Practice Note as set out in Appendix 5 to Regulation 19. Significant weight should be given to RFU regulation 19.11.8(a), 19.11.8(h) and 19.11.8(i).

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Reasons for Entry Point
World Rugby / RFU regulations state: ANY ACT OF FOUL PLAY WHICH RESULTS IN CONTACT WITH THE HEAD AND/OR NECK SHALL RESULT IN AT LEAST A MID-RANGE ENTRY-POINT The panel reviewed all the evidence presented by the player and club. However, they found no "clear unequivocal" proof that the referee had made an error in his report. Consequently, they accepted the referee's red card report as fact.

Mitigating Factors (Regulation 19.11.10)	
Acknowledgement of guilt 19.11.11(a)	Player's disciplinary record/good character 19.11.11(b)
Conversed appropriately with the referee post match	Of previous good record
Youth & inexperience of player 19.11.11(c)	Conduct prior to and at hearing 19.11.11(d)
28 YO and is team captain	As expected
Remorse & timing of remorse 19.11.11(e)	Other off-field mitigation 19.11.11(f)
Appropriately post match	As captain works for his club

Number of weeks deducted:	4

NOTE: SUBJECT TO REGULATION 19.11.13, A DISCIPLINARY PANEL CANNOT APPLY A GREATER REDUCTION THAN 50% OF THE RELEVANT ENTRY POINT SUSPENSION

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Aggravating Factors (Regulation 19.11.13)

Player's status as an offender of the Laws of the game 19.11.10(a)

Not at this point

Need for deterrent 19.11.10(b)

Not at this point

Any other off-field aggravating factors (including poor conduct prior to or at the hearing) 19.11.10 (c)

None

Number of weeks added on:	0

Any Other Information

All club fixtures should now be on the RFU website. These fixtures are taken from there. Should the club have other fixtures the are required to evidence them along with reasoning why the fixture is not on the RFU website to Andrew Statham NLD Discipline secretary and an amended return to play date MAY be considered.
Due to his approach to the situation and the positive report from the referee's society, one game of this sanction is suspended until the end of the 26/27 season. This sanction will be imposed if Mr Tucker faces any further disciplinary cases.

Games missed as part of this sanction:
- 3/10 v Mellish Away
- 10/10 v Belgrave Home
- 17/10 v Keyworth Home

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Detailed report of the incident

Lincoln have a lineout inside the Bourne 22, 15m from the line. They set up a maul and the ball is played away shortly after. The next breakdown is formed infield. I then look up and see B21 headbutt a Lincoln player to the head who is lying on the floor. He then leads with his head and pins the Lincoln player's head on the floor. A fracas breaks out with players joining in from both sides. I run around so that I have my back to the near touchline, I then see L4 drop his knee onto the head of B21. After separating both teams, I issued a RCs to B21 and L4. I then ended the half.

L4 apologised to me at Full Time, and we then had a positive and constructive discussion with both him and Lincoln's coach in the bar.

Name:	James Herbert		
Signature:	JH	Date:	26/9/26

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