

FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE

DECISION

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE					
Player's surname	Moala	Player's Siosiua forename(s)			
Player's Union	Tonga				
Match	Fiji v Tonga				
Competition	Pacific Nations Cup 2025	Match Date	30 August 2025		
Offence	Law 9.9 – Dangerous play (collapsing the maul) – 1 st YC Law 9.8 – Repeated infringements (side entry) – 2 nd YC	SELECT: Red c Citing □	ard ⊠ (2x YCs)		
Finding of Committee Foul play determined? Red card upheld?	RC (2xYCs) upheld				
Summary of Sanction	Warning only – sending off sufficient				
Matches/tournaments included in sanction	N/A				

REASONS FOR DECISION

The Player received two Yellow Cards in the Match resulting in a Red Card being issued to the Player.

The first Yellow Card was issued to the Player in the 9th minute of the Match for side entry into a maul.

The second Yellow Card was issued to the Player in the 69th minute of the Match again for side entry into a maul and also for collapsing the maul.

The score was Fiji 32 v Tonga 10 when the Player received his Red Card.

We consider the Match Official was correct in each instance to issue a Yellow Card given that Fiji on each occasion had control of a maul and had advanced a considerable distance close to Tonga's try line.

Under Appendix 4 to World Rugby's Regulation 17 the Judicial Committee has a discretion when considering a sanction for an accumulation of temporary suspensions.

Clause B of Appendix 4 provides as follows:

1. The Judicial Officer or Judicial Committee is required to apply a sanction for the offence of persistent offending, not for the substantive offences relating to each Temporary Suspension and/or Citing Commissioner Warning. Ordinarily, the appropriate entry point for persistent offending within a single Match is a suspension of one to two weeks. Sanctioning in these circumstances should be determined by reference to the methodology in Regulations 17.17 to 17.21 and in particular to the application of mitigating and aggravating features.

2. The Judicial Officer or Judicial Committee may decide that sending off was sufficient (or otherwise that no further sanction is appropriate) in the following circumstances:

...

(c) any of the Temporary Suspensions were awarded for so-called technical offences (including following a team warning) not involving a breach of Laws 9.11 to 9.28 inclusive.

The Player is 36 years of age and has an unblemished disciplinary record.

The Player's two Yellow Cards are for technical offences not for Foul Play of the type addressed by Laws 9.11 to 9.28 inclusive.

The Player is an experienced rugby player with an exceptional disciplinary record notwithstanding his stated age and experience.

His offending was cynical and had no meaningful impact on the outcome on the Match or on the welfare of any opponent.

Accordingly, in the exercise of our discretion we consider that the sending off was a sufficient sanction such that no further sanction is appropriate in the circumstances of this case, and accordingly the Player should be issued with a warning.

Foul Play Review Committee Members	Adam Casselden SC (Chair) John Langford		
Signature Chair	Adam Casselden SC	Date	31 August 2025