



/FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE

DECISION

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE			
Player's surname	Bowen	Player's forename(s)	Tom
Player's Union	Wales Rugby Union		
Match	Wales U20 x GeorgiaU20		
Competition	World Rugby Junior World Championship 2026	Match Date	27-06-2026
Offence	2 yellow Cards – breach of law 9.13 and 9.10	SELECT:	Red card <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Citing <input type="checkbox"/>
Finding of Committee <i>Foul play determined?</i> <i>Red card/Citing upheld?</i>	Red card (2xYCs) upheld.		
Summary of Sanction	Warning – sending off sufficient		
Matches/tournaments included in sanction	N/A		
REASONS FOR DECISION			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Player was ordered off following receiving 2 yellow cards during the fixture. <p>First Yellow Card</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The first yellow card, was issued for a breach of Law 9.13 - A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously. Dangerous tackling includes, but is not limited to, tackling or attempting to tackle an opponent above the line of the shoulders even if the tackle starts below the line of the shoulders.A description of the first yellow card is in these terms: «<i>Wales 11 tackled an opponent dangerously after a line break. This was a cynical act of foul play.</i>»The video footage identifies an incident consistent with the above.The Georgian team manager sent an email informing that the Georgian player involved in that incident did not sustain any injury as a result of the incident and did not require any on-field or subsequent medical treatment.			

Second Yellow Card (which led to a RC)

- The second yellow card was issued for a breach of Law 9.10 - When different players of the same team repeatedly commit the same offence, the referee gives a general caution to the team and if they then repeat the offence, the referee temporarily suspends the guilty.
- A description of the second yellow card incident is in these terms: «*Wales 11 was offside at the ruck. This was the third infringement in the same passage of play and after a team warning.*»
- The video footage identifies an incident consistent with the above.

The Player's submits, in relation to the 2 yellow cards are the following: *«I acknowledge that receiving two yellow cards in one match results in a red card and I accept that outcome.*

I accept that the first yellow card was warranted for a high tackle. However, I respectfully do not agree with the description of the incident as cynical foul play. My intention was to bat down the hand-off and make a genuine attempt at a safe tackle. As the Georgian player was falling, I misjudged my tackle height, resulting in contact that warranted sanction, but there was no intent to act recklessly or cynically. The second yellow card arose from a team persistence offence rather than an individual act of misconduct.

Across the match, I conceded only two penalties, and, throughout my career, I have maintained a clean disciplinary record and had never previously received a yellow card.

In light of my disciplinary history, the circumstances of the offences, and my acceptance of responsibility, I respectfully ask the panel to consider whether the red card itself constitutes sufficient sanction and, if within the panel's discretion, to consider issuing a warning in place of any further punishment as I understand this is within your discretion in similar circumstances. »

Accordingly, in our opinion we consider the Match Official was correct to issue the two Yellow Cards to the Player.

When the Player received his Red Card the score was Wales 25 x 24 Georgia.

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:

- 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.

- 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 20 years of age and has an unblemished disciplinary record.

The Player's second Yellow Card are for technical offence not for Foul Play of the type addressed by Laws 9.11 to 9.28 inclusive.

The Player is an young rugby player with an exceptional disciplinary record.

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

In the exercise of our discretion, we consider that the sending off was a sufficient sanction in the circumstances of this case and accordingly the Player should be issued with a warning.

Foul Play Review Committee Members	Marcello d'Orey (Chair, Por) Olly Kohn (Wal) Vicky Irwing (Eng)		
Signature Chair	Marcello d'Orey	Date	28-06-2026

Proposed sanction	Accepted by Player <input type="checkbox"/> Not accepted by Player <input type="checkbox"/>
-------------------	--