

FOUL PLAY REVIEW COMMITTEE

DECISION

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE			
Player's surname	Evans	Player's forename(s)	Luke
Player's Union	Welsh Rugby Union		
Match	Australia U20s v Wales U20s		
Competition	World Rugby Junior Championship 2026	Match Date	12 July 2026
Offence	Law 9.13 – Dangerous tackling. 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 which leads to head contact; or tackling or attempting to tackle an opponent above the relevant sanction line (see law 14.1) while either player is in open field play.	SELECT: Red card ☒ Citing ☐	
Finding of Committee <i>Foul play determined?</i> <i>Red card/Citing upheld?</i>	We find the Player committed foul play contrary to Law 9.13 We find that a red card was warranted		
Summary of Sanction	A suspension of 3 weeks (one week of which can be replaced by coaching intervention if the Player completes the Coach Intervention Programme to the satisfaction of World Rugby)		
Matches/tournaments included in sanction	Wales U20 v Scotland U20 17 July 2026 Exeter Chiefs v Scarlets 5 September 2026 Exeter Chiefs v Cardiff 19 September 2026		
REASONS FOR DECISION			
The Committee considered all of the available evidence and the Player's submissions. It concluded that the Player had committed an act of foul play contrary to Law 9.13 following a dangerous tackle on Australia 6 and that that the World Rugby Head Contact Process was engaged In attempting to tackle A6, the Player's shoulder made forceful contact with the head of A6, thus above the line of the shoulders. The Player was at fault as the head contact was avoidable as the Player could have lowered his body position and hinged at the waist, rather than remaining in an upright position. The degree of danger was high as the impact was forceful and direct to the head. The Player had a good line of sight of A6 at all material times and there was no sudden or significant drop or movement by A6 which contributed to the head contact. The Player's actions were reckless as he knew or ought to have known that by remaining in an upright position he may have made contact with the head of A6.			

The Player had fully participated in the offending by tackling in an upright position causing direct contact between his shoulder and the head of A6. A6 was vulnerable although fortunately there was no injury nor any impact on the match. The Committee did not find that the foul play was premeditated.

As the foul play involved contact with the head of an opponent, pursuant to Appendix 1 of World Rugby Regulation 17, the Committee was obliged to impose at least a mid-range entry point. In this instance the Committee concluded that mid-range was the appropriate entry point. For offences contrary to Law 9.13 this mandates a suspension of 6 weeks.

The Player was entitled to the full (50%) mitigation permissible under Regulation 17.19.2 due to his admission of responsibility, apology, good previous disciplinary record (no red cards, citations, or yellow cards for dangerous play) and his youth and inexperience.

There were no off field aggravating factors identified, and so the resultant sanction was one of three weeks.

The Committee concluded that the Player is also eligible to participate in World Rugby's Coach Intervention Programme (CIP) which, if successfully completed, means that the final week of his suspension can be replaced by Coaching Intervention.

Foul Play Review Committee Members	Simon Thomas (Wales- Chair), Martyn Wood (England) ¹ Ruhan Straeuli (South Africa) ²		
Signature Chair	<i>Simon Thomas</i>	Date	15 July 2026

Proposed sanction	Accepted by Player ☐ Not accepted by Player ☐
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¹ Former international player

² Former international player