



ANNEX TWO

Law 3.11 – Number of Players – The Team

Implementation date: August 1, 2015

[Law 3.10 TEMPORARY REPLACEMENT - BLOOD INJURY

[Text as per current Law]

Law 3.11 TEMPORARY REPLACEMENT – HEAD INJURY ASSESSMENT

If at any point during a match a player is concussed or has suspected concussion, that player must be immediately and *permanently* removed from the field of play. This is known as “Recognise and Remove”.

In elite adult matches only, which have been approved in advance by World Rugby

(pursuant to Regulation 10.1.4 and 10.1.5) for use of the Head Injury Assessment and this temporary replacement procedure, a player who is to have a Head Injury Assessment¹:

- Must leave the field of play; and
- Shall be temporarily replaced (even if all of the substitutes/replacements have been used).

Where such a player has been temporarily replaced:

- (a) If that player is not presented to a match official on the touchline within 10 minutes (actual time) of leaving the field of play to undergo the Head Injury Assessment, the replacement will automatically become permanent and the replaced player is not allowed to return to the field of play;
- (b) If the temporary replacement takes place within 10 minutes before half-time, the replacement shall become permanent unless the replaced player returns to the field of play immediately at the start of the second-half;
- (c) Unless the temporary replacement becomes permanent, the temporary replacement is prohibited from taking penalty kicks at goal or conversion kicks except in Sevens Rugby where the temporary replacement is permitted to take penalty and conversion kicks;
- (d) The temporary replacement can himself be temporarily replaced if he requires a Head Injury Assessment (even if all of the replacements have been used);

¹ To allow for the assessment of a player where it is not immediately apparent if the player has concussion or suspected concussion and should be permanently removed from the field of play.

- (e) If the temporary replacement is ordered off the field for foul play, the replaced player shall not be allowed to return to the field of play except in accordance with Law 3.5 (The Front Row – Replacements and Substitutions) and Law 3.13 (Substituted Players Rejoining The Match), and only if he has been medically cleared to do so and is presented to a match official on the touchline within 10 minutes (actual time) of leaving the field of play to undergo the Head Injury Assessment;
- (f) If the temporary replacement is cautioned and temporarily suspended, the replaced player is not permitted to return to the field of play until after the period of suspension except in accordance with Law 3.5 (The Front Row – Replacements and Substitutions) and Law 3.13 (Substituted Players Rejoining The Match), and only if he has been medically cleared to do so and is presented to a match official on the touchline within 10 minutes (actual time) of leaving the field of play to undergo the Head Injury Assessment.

Consequential Amendment to Law 3.13

3.13 Substituted players rejoining the match

If a player is substituted, that player may only return to play when replacing:

- an injured front row player in accordance with Law 3.5
- a player with a blood injury in accordance with Law 3.10
- a player undertaking a Head Injury Assessment in accordance with Law 3.11