



To: **Secretaries/Chief Executive Officers of Unions and Regional Associations in Membership of the IRB**

From: **David Carrigy  
Head of Member Services**

Date: November 1, 2007

Re: **IRB Council Decision – Dangerous Tackle**

Council at its Interim Meeting held on October 19, 2007 considered a recommendation from the Rugby Committee on dangerous tackling.

Please find below the decision of Council in relation to dangerous tackling.

*The Council had before it a report from the IRB Judicial Chairman to the Rugby Committee with regard to a decision of a Judicial Appeal Committee based upon an interpretation of Law 10.4(e) which relates to high tackles. That interpretation suggested that the tackle would have to start at a level above the line of the shoulders for it to be dangerous and in contravention of Law 10.4 (e). Following discussion it was **AGREED** to accept the recommendation of the Rugby Committee that the following interpretation be applied:*

*A dangerous tackle is effected whenever there is contact above the line of the shoulders whether the contact is the first or a subsequent point of contact. To be clear, a tackle which involves arm contact below the line of the shoulders and thereafter contact is made with either the neck or the head of the tackled player is a dangerous tackle within Law 10.4 (e)*

Please ensure that this information is distributed to all relevant personnel within your Union as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Carrigy', is written over a light grey background.

**David Carrigy  
Head of Member Services**