

BREDON STAR R.F.C. Ltd. est. 1991

Incorporating
Bredon Star Junior Rugby

(Affiliated to the Rugby Football Union, North Midlands RFU
and Worcestershire & Herefordshire RFU)



Internal Disciplinary Meeting

Date of Meeting: 07/12/2019

Player Name: Peter Mitchell

D.O.B. 31/01/1967

RFU ID: 00120642

Disciplinary Committee:

- Kieran Matty – Director of Rugby
- Sam Verralls – Head Coach
- Alex Ayres – Forwards Coach

Minutes:

- Kieran Matty

Attendees:

- Peter Mitchell

Players account of the incident

Peter Mitchell

- I thought the game was nearly complete (turned out to be 76mins gone)
- We were attacking just inside the Norton 22m line
- As play moved wide, to our left, I had just come up having carried the ball into a ruck in midfield
- I entered into a verbal altercation with a Norton No. 2
- As this was going on, Norton No. 12 blind-sided me and struck me, from behind my back, around my left side with a punch directly to the left cheek
- After this punch, the Norton No. 2 joined in and attacked me from in front
- Admittedly, I reacted in an inflammatory manner which, in hindsight, I appreciate is unacceptable
- I genuinely feel the reaction was in self-defence to being struck from behind
- A fracas ensued between a number of players
- I ended up on the ground, at the bottom of a pile of bodies where I continued to receive blows and again admit to reacting in self-defence with blows of my own
- I wouldn't argue the referees' decision to award a red card as I did strike an opponent but again would stress that I was not the instigator

Disciplinary panel summary

Peter's account of the incident is very similar to that of the referee and therefore we believe he has provided a true account of the incident through his own eyes.

We fully agree that the reaction of Peter was inappropriate, and certainly not in line with the laws and core values, so he deserved to receive a red card for his part in the incident. However, we feel there are mitigating

Industrial and Provident Society Registration No. 31539 R

Club President: Mr D. Newcombe Tel. (01684) 772190

Club Chairman: Mr K. J. Falvey Tel. 07778 554324

Hon. Secretary: Mrs K. Walker Tel. 07717 003292

Junior Section Chairman: Mr S. Jameson Tel. 07714 202533

Hon. Treasurer: Mr H. Wilding Tel. 07866 420872

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circumstances for this situation in that when any individual is blind-sided, whether on a rugby field or not, there is a natural reaction which he displayed in this incident.

Internal Club Sanction

Peter does not deny throwing a punch on the field of play however it was purely a reaction to being punched from behind by an opposition player. Although, as a club, we do not condone such a reaction, we can understand it when an individual came from behind Peter and punched in the right cheek.

As this is our 3rd disciplinary hearing this season, the club feels we need to take a strong stance to show our position against indiscipline on the field of play.

Although Peter Mitchell could be seen to be a little unlucky to be made an example of, the club will be declaring him ineligible to play rugby for 6 weeks until 17th January 2020.

Kieran Matty
Director of Rugby

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