Governance Report

Date – February 2026

RugbySafe – Nothing to Report
Safeguarding – Nothing to Report

Key events, issues, and achievements since the last report.

Discipline Report (Frazer McDermott)

My absence from Northumberland on holiday for the majority of January coincided with a quiet spell as regards discipline. There has been only one case deal with for two yellow cards this month and at the time of writing there will be a hearing next week in relation to match official abuse by a player.

As matters stand (prior to the games this weekend) the balance of discipline issues this season in adult rugby have been 6 red cards, three separate citings by clubs (of which two were proven) and one 5.12 which was resolved by way of a suspended sanction.

I am in dialogue with two clubs about the use of citings as some reservations and concerns have been raised. As ever I am happy to work with any or all of the club Discipline Secretaries to assist in communication and awareness.

Current and impending issues, events, and work streams

Age Grade Discipline Report (Chris Davy)

Notably fewer cases – none!
Why?

Issues requiring Decision, Discussion or Dissemination

Age Grade Discipline Report (Chris Davy)

January RFU CBSGDSs meeting highlighted a form for this season – Investigation into alleged breach of Regulation 19.4.9.
19.4.9 “A club shall be responsible for ensuring that all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that its players, coaches, members and spectators conduct themselves appropriately and do not behave in a way that is improper, offensive, abusive, threatening, indecent or insulting or enter the pitch without the authority of the referee.”
I have attached the Form.
I would propose that this should be discussed at a Club Age Grade meeting NB the CLUB are responsible and it is expected the Club will have taken reasonable steps to prevent e.g.

- Communication to members
- Internal training
- Respect barriers
- Signage on the ground……