



Application for use of HIA and use of temporary substitutions/replacements

HIA

Temporary replacement for head injury assessment was introduced permanently into Law in August 2015. This application form should be completed after reading: World Rugby Head Injury Assessment (HIA) Protocol; Law 3.11 and Regulation 10.

Tournament / competition	
Name of applicant	
Applicant's role	
Date of application (dd/mm/yyyy)	
Tournament/competition dates	

Please answer sections 1, 2 and 3 by ticking the Yes or No column. Any further information can be provided on Page 4.

1. APPROVAL CRITERIA FOR MATCH ORGANISERS

Tournament Organisers and Match Organisers wishing to access temporary replacement for head injury assessment (HIA) in games under their control must apply to World Rugby, confirming that:

Mandatory Player Welfare Standards		Yes	No
1	The Tournament or Matches in question are elite adult tournament or matches.		
2	The Core (mandatory) Concussion Player Welfare Standards outlined at Section 2 have been included in Terms of Participation or Tours Agreement documents signed by all participating unions or teams.		
3	They have facilitated the establishment of an Untoward Incident Review (UIR) system. An example of a UIR is outlined in Section 4 of the HIA protocol.		
4	They have facilitated access to video to assist with the management of head impact events occurring during games.		

2. CORE (MANDATORY) CONCUSSION PLAYER WELFARE STANDARDS

The following player welfare standards relate to concussion and must be included within the Tournament Terms of Participation or Tours Agreement and signed by participating unions and/or teams in order to access temporary replacement for a Head Injury Assessment. Please indicate whether these provisions are in place.

Mandatory Player Welfare Standards		Yes	No
1	All team medical staff and Tournament match day medical staff have completed the following World Rugby education modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concussion Management for Elite Level Match Day Medical Staff • Medical Protocols for Match Day Medical Staff Confirmation of completion of education modules is available by contacting mark.harrington@worldrugby.org		
2	All players and team management have completed a concussion education session (delivered by the Union CMO or relevant team doctor) within the year prior to commencement of the Tournament. This education session as a minimum must cover the essential information outlined in HIA Protocol – Appendix 1.		
3	Each player has completed a baseline concussion assessment in the year prior to commencement of the tournament and the results of this baseline are available to the team medical staff. As a minimum this baseline should be a SCAT 3 however it is recommended that teams also include a computer neurocognitive assessment as part of a player’s annual baseline assessment.		
4	A concussion risk stratification (see HIA Protocol – Appendix 1 for guidance) has been completed on all players, at least annually, to support concussion management on an individual basis.		
5	All team medical staff, coaches and team management will comply with the World Rugby permanent and temporary removal from field of play criteria for head impact events (available in HIA Protocol – Appendix 1 and in the HIA Form 1).		
6	All team medical staff, coaches and team management will comply with a Graduated Return to Play programme as approved by World Rugby (HIA Protocol – Appendix 2) and/or the union in accordance with medical practice in the relevant jurisdiction.		
7	All teams within the respective tournament will participate in World Rugby HIA research and will confirm player consent has been obtained (HIA Protocol – Appendix 3 Player Information and Player Consent Form examples).		
8	All team staff acknowledge that untoward incident review system has been established for potential medical mismanagement and specifically for incidents where criteria, identified in the HIA, for permanent and temporary removal from play following a head injury are not enforced. Also all team staff acknowledge that they will participate if requested in any untoward incident review and that a charge of misconduct can be applied following an untoward incident review.		
9	All team staff acknowledge that the Match Day Doctor has the power under Regulation 15.2.1(c) to unilaterally remove an injured player from further game participation.		
10	All teams agree to use the World Rugby current HIA Process, HIA Form 1, HIA Form 2 and HIA Form 3 during this temporary replacement for head injury unless exemption is provided by World Rugby.		

3. RECOMMENDED PLAYER WELFARE STANDARDS

The following union and team responsibilities are recommended and relate to concussion and other general medical issues and should be completed and included or referenced within each union's relevant medical policies, Tournament Terms of Participation or Tours Agreement and if included in these documents signed by participating unions and or teams.

Recommended standards - concussion		Yes	No
1	Unions should define within their Concussion Policy an "approved healthcare professional" as appropriate to their jurisdiction. This "approved healthcare professional" would be suitable for determining concussion return to play decisions .		
2	Unions should define, 'advanced level of concussion care', within their Concussion Policy. In addition, unions may wish to identify practitioners within their jurisdiction who are capable of providing an 'advanced level of concussion care'. Advanced care is generally available within professional rugby teams and allows for a more individualised management of concussion. This level of care is essential for all adult elite players wishing to start a return to play programme without a week of physical rest. A definition guide to this 'advanced level of concussion care' is provided in HIA Protocol – Appendix 1.		
Recommended standards - general medical issues		Yes	No
3	Unions prior to all tournament or matches should confirm that all players have been assessed by appropriate medical staff as being medically, dentally and physically fit to attend and participate in a tournament or match.		
4	Unions should confirm on a yearly basis that each player has completed the World Rugby cardiac screening questionnaire and cardiac examination as described in the World Rugby Cardiac Screening document available here. Each tournament is responsible for deciding if an ECG is part of this cardiac screening process.		
5	From August 1, 2015, World Rugby strongly recommends that at the elite level of the game that as a minimum, one team medical staff entering the field of play must have completed a Level 2 ICIR course or equivalent. From January 1, 2017, all team medical staff entering the field of play must have completed a Level 2 ICIR course or equivalent.		
6	Confirmation that all team medical staff have completed: Keep Rugby Clean or equivalent, anti-doping educational module Keep Rugby Onside or equivalent, anti-corruption educational module		



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4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have answered **NO** to any of the approval criteria or mandatory standards then please indicate why and any steps you will be taking. Please also note any other issues which World Rugby may need to consider.

Please return to mark.harrington@worldrugby.org

This application will be reviewed by World Rugby Chief Medical Officer and Head of Technical Services.