

**IN THE MATTER OF PROCEEDINGS BROUGHT UNDER RUGBY FOOTBALL
UNION REGULATION 20 AND WORLD RUGBY REGULATION 21**

BEFORE THE NATIONAL ANTI-DOPING PANEL

Before: Matthew Lohn

BETWEEN:

RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

the National Governing Body

AND

JOSEPH STAFFORD

AND

RUPERT KAY

the Respondents

CONSENT ORDER

With the agreement of the Rugby Football Union (“RFU”) and Rupert Kay (“the Player”), and in full and final resolution of these proceedings in respect of the Player, it is ordered and declared that:

1. On the evening of 21 February 2019 upon doping control personnel attending the training ground at Hull RFC, Joseph Stafford asked the Player to help him leave the training ground in order to avoid his Sample being collected. The Player agreed to help Joseph Stafford by driving him away from the training ground and thereby assisted Joseph Stafford in evading his Sample collection.
2. The Player was charged by the RFU on 24 September 2019 with an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (“ADRV”) of Complicity in breach of World Rugby Regulation 21.2.9 (Assisting, encouraging, aiding, abetting, conspiring, covering up or any other type of intentional complicity involving an anti-doping rule violation, Attempted anti-doping rule violation or violation of Regulation 21.10.12.1 by another Person).
3. The Player admitted the ADRV on 6 October 2019.
4. This is the Player’s first anti-doping violation.

5. World Rugby Regulation 21.10.3.4 states that for violations of Regulation 21.2.9 (Complicity), the period of Ineligibility imposed shall be a minimum of two years, up to four years, depending on the seriousness of the violation.
6. The RFU considers that the Player's violation is at the lowest end of the scale in terms of its seriousness. The RFU considers and the Player agrees that a period of Ineligibility of two years is warranted.
7. The Player's period of Ineligibility shall therefore run for a period of two years from 16 July 2019 (the date of the Player's provisional suspension) until 15 July 2021.
8. Each party shall bear itself the costs that it has incurred in connection with this matter.
9. Non signatories to this Consent Order may appeal as per World Rugby Regulation 21.13.



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Matthew Lohn
National Anti-Doping Panel Chair
London

Date: 14 July 2020

Each of the following parties, by its undersigned, confirms its agreement to the terms of the Consent Order set out above, and waives any right it has to appeal or challenge the Consent Order.



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Angus Bujalski, Legal and Governance Director
for and on behalf of the RFU



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Rupert Kay