



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

From: **David Carrigy
Head of External and Member Relations**

Date: August 8, 2008

Re: **ELV Ruling 3, 2008**

The FIR has requested a Ruling from the Designated Members with regard to **ELV 19.7 – Forming a lineout.**

The letter (f) reads:

- (f) **Player between touch and five metres.** The team not throwing in must have a player standing between the touch line and the 5 – metre line on that team’s side of the line of touch when the lineout is formed. That player must stand at least two metres from the five metres line.

Since the ELV 19.7 (a) reads:

“Minimum. At least two players from each team must form a lineout.”

And 19.7 (b) reads:

“Maximum. There is no restriction to the number of players from each team participating in the lineout. Each team can decide how many players participate in the lineout and there is no requirement for there to be an equal number of participants from each team.”

We believe that the non-throwing team should be allowed to determine whether to field a player between the touchline and the 5-metre line or not, as set out at 19.7 (f), when playing a lineout.



Ruling:

The Designated Members have ruled that 19.7 (f) states that there must be a player in opposition to the player throwing in the ball who must be between the touchline and the 5 metre line and that player must be at least 2 metres from the 5 metre line. The provision 19.7 (f) is in addition to 19.7 (a) and (b).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Carrigy', with a small horizontal line at the end.

David Carrigy
Head of External and Member Relations