

Attention is directed to sub-section (*g*) of Duties of Referee—"Where he notices any irregularity of play whereby the side committing such gain an advantage."

This is a most important rule and at present is not so generally observed by Referees as it should be. There is, unfortunately, a pronounced tendency on their part to whistle immediately a law has been infringed without waiting to see who gains the advantage of the infringement.

The Board desire to urge Referees to pay greater regard to this rule in future.

The Board wish also to emphasise that the game should be played in the spirit in which the Laws are written, and particularly that one side shall not gain an advantage through its own faults ; thus the Board has ruled that a player who has made a miskick when the opposite side are charging, and the ball hits one of his own off-side players, cannot claim a scrummage for unintentional off-side, provided the charging side gain an advantage, even though this be a try.

If a player be hurt the Referee should not blow his whistle till the ball be dead, unless such hurt player is in a position that the continuance of play might entail further danger, and in no case should he permit a stoppage of play for more than three minutes.