



Referee Interpretations 2020

Tackle Focus for Rugby

Ball Carrier Ball carriers are allowed one dynamic movement on the ground before they place/pass. If they are clearly held, they cannot crawl forward once hitting the ground

Tackler Tacklers must roll east to west and not impede attacker's ability to clean out. If they fall between the ball and the attack – they take all responsibility to get out. If they cannot, they will be PK'd

Assist Tackler Assist tackler must clearly release ball carrier, get back to his feet and in a position to support his own weight before contesting the ball. The assist tackler must show clear release and clear separation.

Jackler To be rewarded a Jackler must arrive first, in a position where they are supporting their own weight and show a clear lift of the ball with both hands. If they not first or 'lose' their feet, they must roll out. "Bouncing past the ball and then back onto the ball is NOT allowed.

Arriving Attackers Arriving players must come through the 'gate' – their side of the ball with their backside facing between their own corner flags. They must not go off feet to kill the contest by "sealing". Tackling the Jackler's legs will be deemed dangerous play. Drive the body – do not attack the legs.

Offside Focus for Rugby

In Front of Kicker Players in front of the kicker must not move forward until put onside

Offside Tackle/Ruck Players at a tackle or ruck must be clearly onside. This is a shift in focus for super rugby Aotearoa vs. just a tightening up of refereeing

Maul vs. Tackle Refs will delay call, so these are called tackles unless a maul clearly formed. The knee must be clearly on the ground for a "tackle to be called