

Interpretation Changes - 2010

Held called as soon as the ball carriers leg is lifted

Interpretation

“Where opponents tackle the ball carrier in an upright position the referee should immediately call held if they lift a leg of the ball carrier off the ground.”

Application – This occurs in an upright tackle and the leg of the ball carrier is lifted off the ground. Immediately this happens the referee will call held and players tackling cannot continue wrestling the player or driving him backwards. If they continue to work after the referee has called held then they should be penalised.

Dragging tackled players as opposed to pushing them

Interpretation

*Where opponents do not make a tackle effective in the quickest possible manner but then attempt to **drag** an opponent into touch or back towards his own in goal area then the referee should immediately call held.*

Application - This does not prevent players **driving** an opponent into touch or back into his own in goal area providing that a team mate of the ball carrier has not added their weight to the tackle. As soon as the referee sees a tackling player dragging the ball carrier in a tackle that involves more than one tackler he will call “held”. If the tackling players continue to move the ball carrier after the “held” call they should be penalised.

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