



RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

ELITE REFEREE UNIT

MEMORANDUM

To: ERU, R. Glynne-Jones, S. From: Ed Morrison
Leyshon,
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Cc: Head of Elite Referee
Development

Date: 30th September 2008 Tel: 020 8831 6734

Subject: **Law 19.7: Forming a Lineout**

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Law 19.7 Forming a Lineout

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

At a recent ERC Match Officials Conference held in Dublin agreement between the six unions represented could not be reached on the position of the direct opponent of the player throwing the ball into the lineout. It was agreed to seek confirmation from the iRB and this was sought with immediate effect.

The outcome of the clarification confirmed the direct opponent of the player throwing the ball into the lineout **must** take up a position at least two metres from the five metre line and he is permitted to stand between his team's lineout and his team's 10 metre off side line

Our present interpretation clearly states the direct opponent of the player throwing the ball into the line has to remain in a position close to line of touch.

With effect from Round 1 of the EDF competition, which commences on Friday 3rd October we shall be instructing our officials to implement the iRB's latest clarification in line with all European Unions.

Should you require any advice on this issue please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please accept my sincere apologies for any inconvenience.

Kind regards

Ed Morrison