

Laws & Ethics Committee Statement re. Incident at the Perry Shield – 9th. July 2022

During the Perry Shield 2022, **Paul Gagne** and **Diana Harris**, representing Mid Wales refused to play against Tony Haworth, representing West Wales, when West had seating rights.

The TD reported that the situation was defused by the West captain agreeing to the West changing seats, forfeiting their seating rights and enabling the event to continue, which meant that on this occasion no infringement actually occurred resulting in a difficult decision for the committee.

The L&E commented that whilst technically no infringement of the rules happened as a compromise was reached, refusing to play against an opponent is a serious breach of regulations, normally resulting in the forfeit of the match and possible disqualification of the pair or team.

Players who refuse to play are now informed that any such violation of these regulations will be treated correctly by TDs (i.e. the match will be awarded to the non-offending side) and subsequently sanctions will be applied.

26/7/22

Additional Statement from the Management Committee

The Management Committee further adds that the accommodating actions taken by West Wales to allow the match to continue, were much appreciated, although sadly the team from the West was damaged by the disruption. Covid played its part as the team of six from Mid Wales was depleted, which was not foreseen, otherwise this situation would not have arisen.

The effect of this action by the West allowed the match to continue. However we acknowledge that if the situation arises again, then severe action will be taken.

26/7/22