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**WELLINGTON
SECONDARY
SCHOOLS**

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Wellington Secondary Schools
Wellington Secondary Schools Rugby Union (WSSRU) Executive
WSSRU Life members
Wellington Rugby Football Union (WRFU)
Wellington Rugby Referees Association (WRRRA)

FROM: David Fa'atafa

DATE: 4 May 2021

RE: Quarter Time Intervals

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. NZ Rugby has updated their Domestic Safety Law Variations (DSLVs) to allow secondary school competitions to adopt quarter time stoppages."

Law 5 Time

2. Competition organisers may introduce quarter time intervals at U19 Level and below for the purposes of providing additional replacement opportunities. The Half Game rule still applies in such matches but may be spread across the four quarters rather than two halves.

1.2. WSSRU Executive in consultation with WRFU and WRRRA have agreed to implement quarter time intervals in grades where the Half Game rule applies. For Wellington Secondary schools that means all grades below premier.

1.3. WSSRU believes that this change will give coaches more flexibility in rotating players around. It is hoping that more players get $\frac{3}{4}$ of a game, rather than just the minimum $\frac{1}{2}$ game.

1.4. The following boys grades will have quarter time intervals:

- Under 80kg
- Under 65kg
- Under 55kg
- Under 15 Open

2. FURTHER INFORMATION – How it is applied on game day

- 2.1. The referee will blow his whistle as close to quarter or three-quarter time when there is a stoppage in play.
- 2.2. Teams will be allowed one minute to make substitutions. There is to be no team huddle, rather the coach/manager will send players on from the technical zone behind the posts.
- 2.3. Play will resume from where the last stoppage was at quarter or three-quarter time.
- 2.4. The half game rule still applies to grades that have quarter time intervals. A player may have their time spread across the four quarters rather than just one half ie play the 1st and 4th Quarter.

3. SCHOOLS ACTION

- 3.1. Schools are to ensure that your coaches, managers, parents, and players are aware of the change of quarter time, and how it might affect their team.

If you have any questions concerning the memorandum, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

David Fa'atafa
Secretary
Wellington Secondary Schools Rugby Union