



**To: Secretaries / Chief Executive Officers of Unions and Regional Associations in Membership of the IRB**

**From: David Carrigy  
Head of Development & International Relations**

**Date: April 15, 2013**

**Re: Law 4.3 - Studs**

The IRB Rugby Committee at its meeting in March 2013 re-iterated that Studs of players' boots must conform with IRB Specifications (IRB Regulation 12) and Law 4.3.

Law 4.3 – Studs states that:

- a) Studs of players' boots must conform with the IRB Specifications (IRB Regulation 12).
- b) Moulded rubber multi-studded soles are acceptable provided they have no sharp edges or ridges.

Unions are requested to remind Referees in their jurisdiction that they are obliged in accordance with IRB Law 4.5 to inspect player's clothing and studs for conformity to the Laws and Regulations of the Game.

If the referee decides that the clothing does not conform with Law or Regulation and in the case of studs specifically, the studs are burring, sharp or abrasive or liable to cause injury to a player then the referee must order the player to remove it or them (or, as appropriate change boots). The player must not take part in the match until the offending items of clothing are removed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Carrigy', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

**David Carrigy  
Head of Development & International Relations**