









WORLD
RUGBY™

SIX NATIONS 2015 STATISTICAL REPORT













WORLD RUGBY GAME ANALYSIS



FINAL RESULTS & STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	TF	TA	PTS
 Ireland	5	4	0	1	119	56	+63	8	3	8
 England	5	4	0	1	157	100	+57	18	11	8
 Wales	5	4	0	1	146	93	+53	13	8	8
 France	5	2	0	3	103	99	+4	9	9	4
 Italy	5	1	0	4	62	182	-120	8	19	2
 Scotland	5	0	0	5	73	127	-54	6	12	0

P = Played W = Won D = Draw L = Lost PF = Points For PA = Points Against
 PD = Points Difference TF = Tries For TA = Tries Against PTS = Points

	Wales	16-21	England	
	Italy	3-26	Ireland	
	France	15-8	Scotland	
	England	47-17	Italy	
	Ireland	18-11	France	
	Scotland	23-26	Wales	
	Scotland	19-22	Italy	
	France	13-20	Wales	
	Ireland	19-9	England	
	Wales	23-16	Ireland	
	England	25-13	Scotland	
	Italy	0-29	France	
	Italy	20-61	Wales	
	Scotland	10-40	Ireland	
	England	55-35	France	

COMMENTARY

The RBS 6 Nations 2015 produced an extraordinary and memorable final day's rugby.

The three matches produced 221 points, at an average of 74 points per game, and 27 tries, an average of nine tries per game. No other round of matches in the 16-year history of the Six Nations had come near to such a high level of scoring, the closest being the final day of the 2007 Championship when 23 tries were scored.

In 2015, however, there was an expectation that tries would feature far more prominently on the last day than they had in the earlier rounds of the competition. This was because four teams were in a position where it was possible for any one of them to win the Championship. To do so, however, the number of tries scored were likely to be critical.

The final day started with Wales beating Italy by 41 points. This now meant that Ireland had to beat Scotland by 21 points to overtake Wales. This they did with a margin of 30 points meaning that England would need to beat France by a points margin of 26 or more to win the Championship. In the event they failed by six points meaning that Ireland were the Six Nations 2015 champions.

The try-scoring rate seen on the last weekend was exceptional and even more exceptional when compared to the rate in the previous four rounds of the 2015 competition. In these earlier rounds, a total of 35 tries were scored in 12 matches, producing an average of 2.9 tries per game which was the second lowest rate in the history of 6 Nations. The last weekend's average of nine tries per game had the effect of producing a tournament average of 4.1 tries per game, which was not a true reflection of the shape of the game in this year's competition. Eight of the first 12 matches, for example, averaged just 1.75 tries per game.

The final round of the 2015 tournament therefore produced a quite different rugby spectacle to that seen in the first four rounds. The following table shows that

- average points per match doubled
- average tries per match trebled, producing a try-scoring rate of one every four minutes
- average scoring margins increased from 12 to 30 points

	SIX NATIONS 2015 OVERALL	SIX NATIONS 2015 Rd 1 - 4	SIX NATIONS 2015 Rd 5	DIFFERENCE
Avg. points per match	44	36	74	>38
Avg. tries per match	4	3	9	>6
Avg. scoring margins per match	16	12	30	>18
Try-scoring rate	8m 54s	12m 39s	4m 03s	<8m 36s
Avg. penalty goals per match	6	6	5	<1

Further analysis showed that despite a tripling in the number of tries, there was little differences in the source, origin and build up to tries. A similar proportion of tries started from inside the scoring team's own half while the proportion of tries containing four or more passes and three or more rucks/mauls showed only marginal differences. The only noticeable change was that the last weekend produced proportionately more tries from set pieces than from broken play. This can be seen in the following table:

	SIX NATIONS 2015 OVERALL	SIX NATIONS 2015 Rd 1 - 4	SIX NATIONS 2015 Rd 5
Try Scoring			
Tries from own half	35%	34%	37%
Tries from set piece	44%	37%	52%
Tries from open play	56%	63%	48%
4+ passes in build up	56%	60%	52%
3+ ruck/mauls in build up	45%	46%	44%

What a detailed analysis of the final round's matches showed – perhaps paradoxically – was that despite a tripling in tries, all the core elements of the game remained the same throughout the tournament.

- the amount of ball in play, the average number of passes, rucks and kicks were all but identical
- the number of set pieces and penalties showed little, if any, variation.

This is illustrated further in the following table which compares the shape of the game in the first four rounds to that of the final round

	SIX NATIONS 2015 OVERALL	SIX NATIONS 2015 Rd 1 - 4	SIX NATIONS 2015 Rd 5	DIFFERENCE
Ball in play %	46%	46%	46%	-
Avg. passes per match	287	285	297	>12
5+ passing movements %	2%	2%	3%	>1%
Avg. ruck/mauls per match	190	192	183	<9
Avg. kicks per match	44	45	44	<1
Avg. lineouts per match	24	25	22	<3
Quick throws	2	1	2	>1
Avg. scrums per match	12	12	12	-
Avg. resets per match	3	4	2	<2
Avg. scrum ball out per match	6	6	7	>1
Avg. scrum collapses per match	7	7	8	>1
Avg. penalties/ FKs	23	23	23	-
Avg. cards	1.0	0.9	1.3	>0.4

The data shows that any differences between the two groups of matches were therefore not quantitative but qualitative. They arose because coaching priorities and imperatives moved from defence to attack. They reflected the options taken by the players and the level of enterprise and skill of the participating teams.

They were also the result of a group of matches where three teams had a realistic opportunity to win the Championship if certain targets were achieved, while the final position of their three opponents were already decided. The fact that the final placings in the table would depend almost wholly on the number of tries scored meant that the core focus of the three challenging teams was on attack and it was this that produced such a unique and memorable day of rugby.

IRELAND WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP

For the second consecutive season, the Championship was won by Ireland. It was their third title in the last seven years.

In 2015, their approach to the game was to minimise risk through strategic kicking from hand, a strong defence, and accurate goal-kicking.

- only three tries were conceded in five matches
- the opposition took an average of 28 minutes of possession to score a try
- the most tries conceded in a match was one
- in two matches – against England and Italy – their opponents failed to score a try
- they were awarded the highest proportion of penalties and free kicks
- the majority of their points coming from penalty goals.
- they had the second best goal kicking success, kicking 21 out of 26 penalty goals and converting all eight tries.
- they obtained both the highest average possession per match and the highest proportion of possession
- the majority of their tries were scored from lineout possession and possession gained from inside the opposition 22-metre line
- they were the only team whose forwards scored more tries than the backs
- their forwards were the least likely to pass the ball.
- they were the most likely to kick contestable 50m restarts

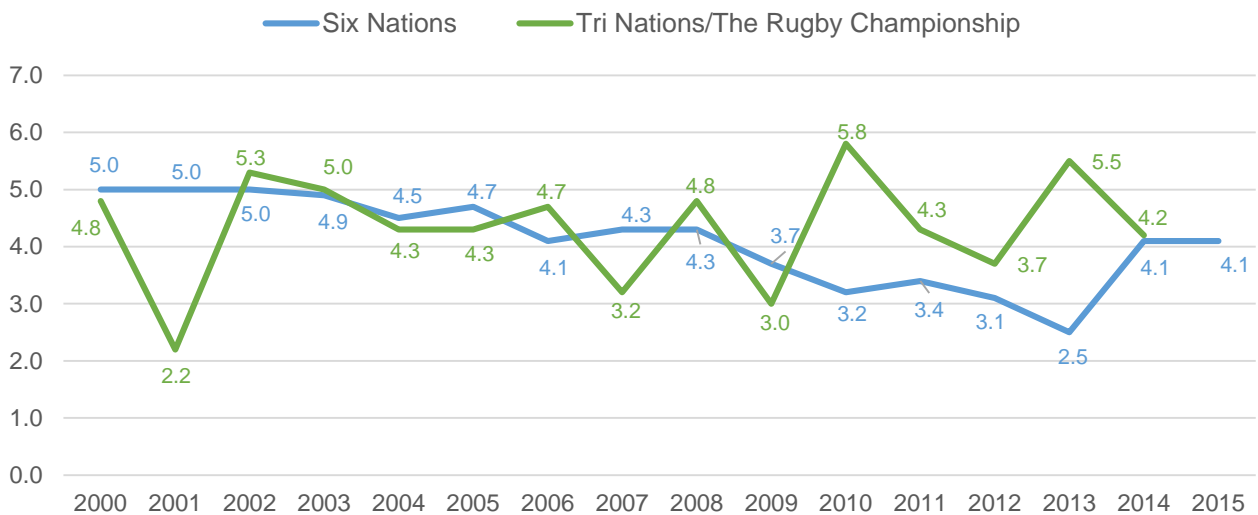
While try conceding was a strength, however, try scoring came at a slow rate with only four tries scored in the first four matches including none against France. Only one team scored fewer tries in this year's Championship (Scotland). This was in sharp contrast to last year when Ireland won the Championship with the best try-scoring rate with the majority of their points coming from tries.

TRY SCORING







Previous Six Nations reports shown a steady decline in try scoring since 2000 – and while the decline stalled in 2014 and 2015, this was the result of high scoring rates in round five of both seasons where scoring points was a priority. After this year’s round four, the total tries scored was the second lowest in Six Nations history.

This increasing paucity of tries in the Six Nations has not been replicated in the Tri Nations/The Rugby Championship where try-scoring rates have continued to change from year to year. One variable that could contribute to this fact is that The Rugby Championship incorporates a bonus points system.

Average Tries per match



In other competitions around the world including Rugby World Cup, bonus points are awarded for scoring four or more tries. In the Six Nations 2015, there were only five occasions when teams scored four or more tries, with four of these occurring in the last round of matches. Wales and Scotland were the only teams to score tries in every match.

	0 TRIES	1 TRY	2 TRIES	3 TRIES	4+ TRIES
 Ireland	1	2	1	-	1
 England	1	-	1	1	2
 Wales	-	3	1	-	1
 France	1	2	1	-	1
 Italy	2	-	1	2	-
 Scotland	-	4	1	-	-
Overall	5	11	6	3	5

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SCRUM OUTCOMES

In the Six Nations 2015, scrums continued to be one of the game's problem areas. When compared with the 2014 edition:

- the rate of scrum collapses increased.
- the rate of scrum resets remained the same.
- the rate of scrum penalties and free kicks increased.
- As a consequence, there was a decrease in the rate the ball came back into play













The continuing problem of the scrum can be clearly seen in the following table:

	RATE OF COLLAPSES PER 100 SCRUMS	RATE OF RESETS PER 100 SCRUMS	RATE OF PK/FKS PER 100 SCRUMS	RATE OF BALL OUT PER 100 SCRUMS
6 Nations 2015	63	26	49	51
6 Nations 2014	59	25	41	59
6 Nations 2013	59	30	51	49
6 Nations 2012	49	33	39	61
6 Nations 2011	56	30	44	56
6 Nations 2010	64	42	38	62
6 Nations 2009	62	47	30	70

The 2015 data is similar to the lowest recorded figure in 2013 when scrum were "crouch, touch, pause, engage" and there were more penalties and free kicks than ball released. However, if the tournament is broken into rounds, the picture is slightly different as there were slight improvements as the tournament progressed. There was a low rate of resets in rounds four and five and the ball was used more in round five than any other round.

	RATE OF COLLAPSES PER 100 SCRUMS	RATE OF RESETS PER 100 SCRUMS	RATE OF PK/FKS PER 100 SCRUMS	RATE OF BALL OUT PER 100 SCRUMS
Overall	63	26	49	51
Round 1	94	44	50	50
Round 2	72	31	50	50
Round 3	51	35	51	49
Round 4	40	12	52	48
Round 5	66	14	40	60

While the rate of scrum collapse and sanctions remain high, the rates are not consistent between the various teams. In Six Nations 2015, for example, Scotland's scrums were 50 per cent more likely to collapse than France's and almost twice as likely to be penalised as Wales and Ireland scrums.

	COLLAPSES PER 100 SCRUMS	RESETS PER 100 SCRUMS		PK/FKS PER 100 SCRUMS	BALL OUT PER 100 SCRUMS
 Scotland	75	33	 Wales	38	62
 England	72	17	 Ireland	38	62
 Wales	68	38	 England	50	50
 Italy	61	22	 France	52	48
 Ireland	56	26	 Italy	56	44
 France	52	17	 Scotland	67	33

OVERALL SUMMARY




	SIX NATIONS 2015	SIX NATIONS 2014	SIX NATIONS 2013	SIX NATIONS 2012
Scoring				
Avg. points	44	40	36	36
Avg. tries	4.1	4.1	2.5	3.1
Avg. penalty goals	5.5	4.3	6.3	5.1
Conversion success	74%	77%	77%	74%
Avg. drop goals	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total try TMO referrals	17	17	7	12
Activity				
Avg. ball in play	46%	46%	44%	48%
Avg. passes	287	282	242	268
Avg. ruck/mauls	190	182	180	181
Ruck/maul success	95%	95%	95%	93%
Avg. kicks	44	46	53	46
Set Piece				
Avg. lineouts	24	27	25	23
Lineout success	86%	85%	84%	83%
Avg. scrums	12	13	14	14
Scrum success	85%	80%	82%	85%
Contestable 50m restart regain success	23%			
Discipline				
Avg. penalties/ FKs	23	21	24	21
Total cards	15 + 0	8 + 3	14 + 0	13 + 0
Total foul play TMO referrals	7	8	-	

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TEAM SUMMARY

	ENGLAND 		FRANCE 		IRELAND 	
Scoring	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
Total points scored	154	138	103	101	119	132
Total points conceded	100	65	101	100	56	49
Total tries scored	18	14	9	9	8	16
Total tries conceded	11	5	9	10	3	4
Total penalty goals scored	12	12	16	14	21	10
Total penalty goals conceded	10	12	14	11	11	7
Points from tries	58%	51%	44%	45%	34%	61%
Kicks at goal success	77%	83%	64%	72%	85%	75%
Drop goal success rate	1 / 1	2 / 3	0 / 0	0 / 2	0 / 1	0 / 1
General Play						
Avg. possession	17m 59s	21m 37s	19m 05s	17m 41s	21m 41s	21m 22s
Avg. passes	143	161	146	126	179	167
Avg. ruck/mauls	88	99	96	77	126	115
Ruck/maul retention	94%	95%	94%	95%	97%	97%
Avg. kicks	26	25	22	23	25	27
Set Piece						
Own lineout success	87%	92%	90%	76%	82%	93%
Own scrum success	89%	79%	83%	70%	88%	89%
Own contestable 50m restart success		1 : 4		1 : 13		1 : 4
Discipline						
Penalties and FKs for	51%	52%	52%	53%	59%	60%
Penalties and FKs against	49%	48%	48%	47%	41%	40%
Yellow/red cards	1 / 0	0 / 0	1 / 0	3 / 1	1 / 0	0 / 0

TEAM SUMMARY

	 ITALY		 SCOTLAND		 WALES	
	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
Scoring						
Total points scored	62	63	73	47	140	122
Total points conceded	182	172	128	138	93	79
Total tries scored	8	7	6	4	13	11
Total tries conceded	19	21	12	15	8	6
Total penalty goals scored	4	6	11	6	19	17
Total penalty goals conceded	19	10	16	12	13	13
% of points from tries	65%	56%	41%	43%	46%	45%
Kicks at goal success	50%	61%	89%	53%	82%	83%
Drop goal success rate	0 / 0	0 / 1	0 / 1	1 / 2	2 / 3	0 / 0
General Play						
Avg. possession	15m 52s	15m 06s	17m 57s	17m 33s	17m 55s	17m 32s
Avg. passes	128	119	135	137	132	136
Avg. ruck/mauls	79	71	91	95	91	89
Ruck/maul retention	95%	93%	94%	94%	95%	96%
Avg. kicks	17	16	20	22	23	24
Set Piece						
Own lineout success	82%	82%	89%	73%	86%	89%
Own scrum success	83%	78%	79%	85%	89%	76%
Own contestable 50m restart success		1 : 5		1 : 13		1 : 3
Discipline						
Penalties and FKs or	42%	48%	46%	38%	51%	48%
Penalties and FKs against	58%	52%	54%	62%	49%	52%
Yellow/red cards	3 / 0	1 / 1	5 / 0	1 / 1	4 / 0	3 / 0

MATCH FACTS

- There was no Grand Slam and no Triple Crown with three teams winning four matches. For the second consecutive season Ireland won the Championship on points difference.
- There were 35 tries scored in rounds one to four and 29 tries scored in round five.
- Seventy-three per cent of matches were won by the team scoring the most tries. There were two matches won by the team scoring fewer tries (Ireland v France and France v Scotland).
- Tries were similar to last year with 61 tries scored in 2014 and 62 tries in 2015. However there was an increase in penalty goals with 65 kicked in 2014 and 83 in 2015.
- Last year there were six matches with a margin of 10 points or less, but in 2015 there were eight. The highest margin being 41 points (Italy v Wales).
- Thirty-seven per cent of tries and 67 per cent of penalty goals were scored in the first half
- Seventy-two per cent of tries were scored by backs, 24 per cent by forwards and three per cent were penalty tries.
- Lineout was the most popular source of tries, with 34 per cent of tries originating from lineout possession with only 10 per cent of tries originating from scrum possession.
- Ball in play was similar to last year, averaging 36m 50s per match or 46 per cent.
- The most passes in a match was 374 (Wales v Ireland) and the least was 238 (Scotland v Wales). Ireland made 252 passes in the match against Wales, a number that exceeded the total made in four of the 14 other matches.
- The most ruck/mauls in a match was 272 (Wales v Ireland) and the least was 153 (Italy v France). Ireland made 179 ruck/mauls in the match against Wales, a number that exceeded the total made in five of the 14 other matches and it is the highest number of ruck/mauls by one side in a match in the modern era.
- The most kicks in a match was 61 (Wales v England) and the least was 33 (Italy v Wales, Wales v Ireland, Scotland v Wales).
- There were four scrum tightheads and two free kicks for crooked feed. There have now been eight free kicks for crooked feed in five years.
- There were 23 penalty/free kicks per match. Thirty-nine per cent of penalties and free kicks occurring at tackle/rucks, with 64 per cent in favour of the team in possession and 25 per cent of penalty kicks/free kicks were at the scrum, with 75 per cent of penalty/free kicks in favour of the team in possession.
- Last year there were only eight yellow cards awarded, while in 2015 there were 15 yellow cards awarded with four resulting from maul offences.
- The TMO was used on 24 occasions, 17 were for try referrals and seven were for foul play referrals.

TEAM FACTS



IRELAND

Ireland won the Championship on points difference

- The majority of their points came from penalty goals, with eight tries and 21 penalty goals.
- They did not score the most tries but they conceded the least.
- They scored an average of 24 points per match but only scored a try every 13 minutes of possession.
- They only conceded an average of 11 points per match and had the best try conceding rate. It took opposition 28 minutes of possession to score a try.
- The majority of their tries were scored in the second half.
- They converted all eight tries.
- They won two matches by a scoring margin of more than 20 points.
- Their forwards scored more tries than the backs.
- The majority of their tries were scored from possession gained in the opposition 22-metre area and from lineout possession.
- They had the second best goal-kicking success.
- They obtained the highest average of possession per match and had the highest proportion of possession.
- They had the highest passing rate but were least likely to make a passing movement of three or more passes.
- Their forwards were the least likely to pass the ball.
- They had the highest rucking rate and the best retention rate.
- Their back three were least likely to kick possession.
- Together with Wales, they used the ball from scrums more than any other team.
- They were most likely to kick contestable 50m restarts.
- They were awarded the highest proportion of penalties and free kicks.
- They only conceded one yellow card.



ENGLAND

England came second, winning four matches and losing to Ireland in Dublin.

- England scored more tries than their opponents in all four matches they won.
- They scored an average of 31 points per match with the majority of their points coming from tries.
- They had the best try-scoring rate, scoring a try every five minutes.
- They conceded an average of 20 points per match, conceding a try every nine minutes.
- They scored 18 tries from a number of different sources, including kick receipts and turnovers.
- The majority of their tries were scored by backs.
- They were most likely to have a passing movement containing three or more passes.
- Their centres were most likely to pass the ball.
- Together with Wales, they had the highest success rate on their own scrums.
- They had the highest success rate on opposition scrums gaining eight penalties/free kicks and one tighthead.
- They were least likely to kick contestable 50m restarts.
- They conceded a high proportion of offside penalties.
- They only received one yellow card.



WALES

Wales came third, winning four matches after losing to England in Cardiff.

- Wales won all three away matches.
- Tries were equal in two of the four matches they won and three of their matches were won by a scoring margin within 10 points.
- They scored 13 tries, 10 of which were scored in the second half.
- They had the second best try-scoring rate and the second best try conceding rate.
- They scored 13 tries from a number of different sources including kick receipts and turnovers.
- The majority of their 13 tries were scored by backs, with forwards scoring only one.
- They had the lowest passing rate.
- The back row was most likely to pass.
- The Welsh fly-half and centres were most likely to kick.
- They kicked two successful drop goals.
- Together with England, they had the highest success rate on their own scrums.
- Together with Ireland, they used the ball from scrums more than any other team.
- They had the least success on opposition scrums, only winning one tighthead.
- They had the highest success rate on opposition lineouts, they contested the most and won 10 steals.
- They received four yellow cards.



FRANCE

France finished fourth after beating Italy and Scotland

- They lost three matches but two of these were by margins within 10 points.
- The majority of their points came from kicks at goal.
- They scored nine tries, seven of which were scored in the second half.
- Tries were scored by backs and forwards.
- They scored two tries from turnovers and errors and five of their nine tries were scored from inside their own half.
- They had the second lowest kick at goal success.
- Their backs and front row were most likely to pass.
- They had the most successful lineout but the lowest success on opposition lineouts.
- Their scrum was least likely to collapse.



ITALY

Italy finished fifth after beating Scotland in Edinburgh.

- All four of Italy's defeats were by more than 20 points
- They scored an average of 12 points per match and conceded an average of 36 points per match.
- The majority of their points came from tries, with eight tries and four penalty goals.
- They did not kick a single penalty goal in the second half of their matches.
- They had the lowest try-conceding rate, conceding a try every five minutes of opposition possession.
- The majority of their tries were scored from scrum and lineout possession.
- They had the lowest kick at goal success.
- They had the lowest proportion of possession.
- Their back three were most likely to pass.
- They were least likely to kick.
- They had the least successful lineout.
- They were penalised the most and received three yellow cards.



SCOTLAND

Scotland lost all five matches to finish bottom.







- Scotland did not win a match, but scored at least one try in every match and three of their defeats were by less than 10 points.
- Their highest losing margin was against Ireland in the last match.
- They scored the least number of tries, scoring a try every 15 minutes of possession.
- The majority of their points came from kicks at goal with six tries and 11 penalty goals.
- They scored five tries in the first half and only one in the second half of their matches.
- They scored four of their six tries from their own half.
- They had the highest kick at goal success.
- Their forwards were most likely to pass, in particular their second rows.
- They had the second most successful lineout, only contested on 35 per cent of occasions.
- They had the least successful scrum conceding four penalties and free kicks and one tighthead.
- They received the most yellow cards, five in five matches. Three yellow cards were for maul offences.

1. SCORING

IMPACT OF TRIES & PENALTY GOALS ON MATCH RESULTS

The winning team scored the most tries in **11** or **73 per cent** of matches.

In two matches tries were equal, while in two the winning team scored the fewest number of tries (Ireland v France, France v Scotland).







	WON SCORING MORE TRIES	WON SCORING EQUAL TRIES	WON SCORING LESS TRIES
 England	4	-	-
 Ireland	3	-	1
 Wales	2	2	-
 France	1	-	1
 Italy	1	-	-
 Scotland	-	-	-

SCORING MARGINS

There were **eight** matches with a margin of 10 points or fewer. The following table groups all scoring margins.

POINTS DIFFERENCE	NO OF MATCHES	CUMULATIVE
Draw	-	0 drawn
1 – 5	3	3 with 5 points or less
6 – 10	5	8 with 10 points or less
11 – 20	2	10 with 20 points or less
21 – 30	4	14 with 30 points or less
31+	1	

The following tables show the winning and losing margins for each team.

	WON BY 31 +	WON BY 21 - 30	WON BY 11 - 20	WON BY 1 - 10	DRAW	LOST BY 1 - 10	LOST BY 11 - 20	LOST BY 21 - 30	LOST BY 31 +
 Ireland	-	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
 England	-	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
 Wales	1	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-
 France	-	1	-	1	-	2	1	-	-
 Italy	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	1
 Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-

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POINTS SCORING AND CONCEDED

There were **651** points scored, giving an average of **44** points per match.







The following table shows a breakdown of all points scored.

	TOTAL	POINTS	%
Tries	62	310	48
Conversions	46	92	14
Penalty goals	83	249	38
Drop goals	3	9	<1%







The following table shows the total and average points scored per team.

	POINTS SCORED			POINTS CONCEDED	
	TOTAL	AVERAGE		TOTAL	AVERAGE
 England	154	31	 Ireland	56	11
 Wales	140	29	 Wales	93	19
 Ireland	119	24	 England	100	20
 France	103	21	 France	101	20
 Scotland	73	15	 Scotland	128	27
 Italy	62	12	 Italy	182	36

The following tables show the breakdown of points scored by each team.

	TRIES SCORED	PENALTY GOALS SCORED	DROP GOALS SCORED	% POINTS SCORED FROM TRIES	% POINTS SCORED FROM KICKS	TRIES : PK SCORED
 Italy	8	4	-	65%	35%	1 : 0.5
 England	18	12	1	58%	42%	1 : 0.7
 Wales	13	19	2	46%	54%	1 : 1.5
 France	9	16	-	44%	56%	1 : 1.8
 Scotland	6	11	-	41%	59%	1 : 1.8
 Ireland	8	21	-	34%	66%	1 : 2.7

The following tables show the breakdown of points conceded by each team.







	TRIES CONCEDED	PENALTY GOALS CONCEDED	DROP GOALS CONCEDED	% POINTS CONCEDED FROM TRIES	% POINTS CONCEDED FROM KICKS	TRIES : PK CONCEDED
 Ireland	3	11	2	27%	73%	1 : 3.7
 Wales	8	13	-	43%	57%	1 : 1.6
 France	9	14	-	45%	55%	1 : 1.6
 Scotland	12	16	-	47%	53%	1 : 1.3
 Italy	19	19	-	52%	48%	1 : 1.0
 England	11	10	1	55%	45%	1 : 0.9

TIMING OF SCORES – TRIES AND PENALTY GOALS

The following table shows when tries and penalty goals were scored.

	TRIES	%	PENALTY GOALS	%
First half	23	37%	56	67%
Second half	39	63%	27	33%

The following tables show the number of tries and penalty goals scored and conceded per half per team.

	TRIES				PENALTY GOALS			
	FIRST HALF		SECOND HALF		FIRST HALF		SECOND HALF	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 England	7	5	11	6	5	8	7	2
 Wales	3	3	10	5	14	8	5	5
 France	2	4	7	5	10	9	6	5
 Ireland	2	1	6	2	15	8	6	3
 Italy	4	4	4	15	4	13	-	6
 Scotland	5	6	1	6	8	10	3	6

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RATE OF TRY SCORING AND CONCEDED

There were **62** tries scored giving a try-scoring rate of one try every **8 minutes 54 seconds** of play.

The following tables show the rate of try scoring and the rate of try conceding for each team. This is a measure of each team's success in converting possession into tries and their opponent's success in converting possession into tries.






		TRY SCORING RATE			TRY CONCEDED RATE
	England	One try every 5m 00s		Ireland	One try every 27m 52s
	Wales	6m 53s		Wales	11m 21s
	Italy	9m 55s		France	9m 26s
	France	10m 36s		England	9m 16s
	Ireland	13m 33s		Scotland	8m 01s
	Scotland	14m 57s		Italy	5m 00s

SOURCE OF TRIES

The following table shows the possession source of tries.

	TRY SOURCE
Lineout	21 or 34%
Turnover/handling error	13 or 21%
Opponents kick	11 or 17%
Penalty/free kick	9 or 15%
Scrum	6 or 10%
Restart	2 or 3%

The following table shows the source of tries scored and conceded by each team.







	LINEOUT		SCRUM		PEN & FK		KICK		TURNOVER		RESTART		TOTAL		
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	
	England	4	4	2	2	4	-	3	1	5	3	-	1	18	11
	Wales	5	3	1	1	1	1	3	2	3	1	-	-	13	8
	France	2	1	-	1	1	2	3	2	2	3	1	-	9	9
	Ireland	5	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	8	3
	Italy	4	7	2	1	1	3	1	3	-	4	-	1	8	19
	Scotland	1	5	-	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	-	-	6	12

ORIGIN OF TRIES

The following table shows the origin of tries.

	TRY ORIGIN
Own half	22 or 35%
Halfway to 10m	8 or 13%
10m to 22m	9 or 15%
22m to goal line	23 or 37%

The following table shows the origin of tries scored and conceded per team.







	OWN HALF		HW – 10m		10m – 22m		22m - TRY		TOTAL	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 England	5	5	3	1	2	1	8	4	18	11
 Wales	4	3	2	1	3	1	4	3	13	8
 France	5	3	1	2	1	-	2	4	9	9
 Ireland	1	1	1	1	1	-	5	1	8	3
 Italy	3	8	-	1	2	3	3	7	8	19
 Scotland	4	2	1	2	-	4	1	4	6	12

NUMBER OF RUCKS AND MAULS IN BUILD UP TO TRIES

The following table show the number of rucks and mauls that preceded each try.

Rucks/mauls	NUMBER	%	CUMULATIVE %
0 R/Ms	20	32%	32%
1 R/Ms	11	18%	50%
2 R/Ms	3	5%	55%
3+ R/Ms	28	45%	100%

The following table shows the number of ruck/mauls in the build up to tries scored and conceded per team.







	NO R/Ms		1 R/Ms		2 R/Ms		3+ R/Ms		TOTAL	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 England	7	2	4	1	-	1	7	7	18	11
 Wales	6	2	3	-	-	1	4	5	13	8
 France	1	3	3	3	1	-	4	3	9	9
 Ireland	2	-	-	-	1	-	5	3	8	3
 Italy	2	10	1	5	-	1	5	3	8	19
 Scotland	2	3	-	2	1	-	3	7	6	12

NUMBER OF PASSES IN BUILD UP TO TRIES

The following table shows the number of passes that preceded each try.

Passes	NUMBER	%	CUMULATIVE %
0	11	17%	17%
1 - 3	16	26%	43%
4 - 6	14	23%	66%
7 - 9	7	11%	77%
10+	14	23%	100%

The following table shows the number of passes in the build up to tries scored and conceded per team.







	NO PASSES		1 – 3 PASSES		4 – 6 PASSES		7 – 9 PASSES		10+ PASSES		TOTAL	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 England	3	2	5	1	7	3	1	2	2	3	18	11
 Wales	1	1	6	2	2	1	1	2	3	2	13	8
 France	2	1	1	5	1	2	2	-	3	1	9	9
 Ireland	2	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	2	3	8	3
 Italy	2	4	1	7	1	5	2	1	2	2	8	19
 Scotland	1	3	2	1	1	3	-	2	2	3	6	12

TRY SCORERS

The following table shows when tries and penalty goals were scored.

	TOTAL TRIES	TRIES %
Tries by backs	45	73%
Tries by forwards	15	24%
Penalty tries	2	3%

The following table shows the number and percentage of tries scored by backs and forwards per team.







	TRIES BY BACKS		TRIES BY FORWARDS		PENALTY TRIES	
	TOT	%	TOT	%	TOT	%
 Wales	12	92%	1	8%	-	-
 England	15	83%	3	17%	-	-
 Scotland	5	83%	1	17%	-	-
 Italy	5	63%	2	25%	1	13%
 France	5	56%	4	44%	-	-
 Ireland	3	38%	4	50%	1	13%

2. KICKS AT GOAL

The following table shows kick success rates.

	KICKING SUCCESS
Conversions	74%
Penalty goals	76%
Drop goals	3/6

The following table shows the kicking success for penalty goals, conversions and drop goals per team.

	PENALTY SUCCESS	CONVERSION SUCCESS	OVERALL SUCCESS	DROP GOAL SUCCESS
 Scotland	11/12 or 92%	5/6 or 83%	89%	0/1
 Ireland	21/26 or 81%	8/8 or 100%	85%	0/1
 Wales	19/21 or 91%	9/13 or 69%	82%	2/3
 England	12/16 or 75%	14/18 or 78%	77%	1/1
 France	16/24 or 67%	5/9 or 56%	64%	0/0
 Italy	4/10 or 40%	5/8 or 63%	50%	0/0

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3. BALL IN PLAY AND POSSESSION













The average ball in play time per match was **36m 50s** or **46 per cent**.

The highest ball in play in any match was **43m 47s** or **55 per cent** and the lowest was **32m 19s** or **40 per cent**.

The table below shows the ball in play times and possession times for each match and team. The winning team won with less possession in four matches (highlighted in gold).

TEAM	POSSESSION TIME	%	TEAM	POSSESSION TIME	%	TOTAL TIME	% BIP
Wales	18m 21s	50%	England	18m 13	50%	36m 35s	46%
Italy	14m 17s	38%	Ireland	22m 15s	62%	37m 13s	47%
France	22m 17s	56%	Scotland	17m 25s	44%	39m 43s	50%
England	18m 14s	51%	Italy	17m 21s	49%	35m 35s	44%
Ireland	16m 23s	48%	France	17m 53s	52%	34m 17s	43%
Scotland	17m 34s	50%	Wales	17m 36s	50%	35m 10s	44%
Scotland	17m 26s	49%	Italy	18m 05s	51%	35m 32s	44%
France	15m 48s	49%	Wales	16m 31s	51%	32m 19s	40%
Ireland	23m 50s	59%	England	16m 21s	41%	40m 11s	50%
Wales	17m 59s	41%	Ireland	25m 47s	59%	43m 47s	55%
England	18m 43s	48%	Scotland	20m 11s	52%	38m 55s	49%
Italy	16m 11s	48%	France	17m 15s	52%	33m 26s	42%
Italy	13m 22s	41%	Wales	19m 04s	59%	32m 27s	41%
Scotland	17m 04s	47%	Ireland	19m 26s	53%	36m 30s	46%
England	18m 23s	45%	France	22m 08s	55%	40m 31s	51%

The following table shows the average possession time and the proportion of possession per match obtained by each team and their opponents.

		OWN POSSESSION AVERAGE	OPP POSSESSION AVERAGE			OWN POSSESSION %	OPP POSSESSION %
	Ireland	21m 41s	16m 43s		Ireland	57%	43%
	France	19m 05s	16m 59s		France	53%	47%
	England	17m 59s	20m 23s		Wales	50%	50%
	Scotland	17m 57s	19m 14s		Scotland	48%	52%
	Wales	17m 55s	18m 09s		England	47%	53%
	Italy	15m 52s	18m 59s		Italy	46%	54%

4. OPEN PLAY

Open play activity includes passes, ruck and mauls and kicks. The following table shows the average number and rate of passes, ruck/mauls and kicks per match.







	AVG. PER MATCH	RATE FREQUENCY OF PASSING
Passes	287	One every
Rucks/mauls	190	One every
Kicks	44	One every

PASSING







The average number of passes per match was **287** and the passing rate was **one every eight seconds** of possession.

The most passes in a match was **374** (Wales v Ireland) and the least was **238** (Scotland v Wales).

The following table shows the average, the most, the least and the passing frequency rate per team.

	AVG. PASSES PER MATCH	MOST	LEAST	RATE FREQUENCY OF PASSING
 Ireland	179	252	118	One every 7.3s
 Italy	128	158	94	One every 7.5s
 England	143	163	119	One every 7.6s
 France	146	169	117	One every 7.8s
 Scotland	135	154	106	One every 8.0s
 Wales	132	165	116	One every 8.2s

The following table shows frequency of passing movements for each team. Overall, **14 per cent** of all passing movements contained three or more passes.

	1 PASS	2 PASS	3+ PASS
 England	53%	29%	18%
 France	60%	24%	16%
 Wales	58%	27%	15%
 Scotland	59%	26%	15%
 Italy	57%	32%	11%
 Ireland	64%	26%	10%

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PLAYER PASSING













The following table shows the proportion of all passes made by forwards, scrum-halves and backs.

	%
Passes by forwards	15%
Passes by scrum-half	52%
Passes by backs	33%



















The following table shows the number and proportion of passes made by the forwards, the scrum-half and backs of each team.

	PASSES BY FORWARDS	%	PASSES BY SCRUM-HALF	%	PASSES BY BACKS	%
 Scotland	116	17%	342	51%	216	32%
 France	126	17%	344	47%	260	36%
 England	110	15%	343	48%	260	36%
 Wales	100	15%	349	53%	209	32%
 Italy	92	14%	334	52%	211	33%
 Ireland	97	11%	537	60%	261	29%



















The following tables show how often forwards and backs of each team passed the ball.

	FORWARDS PASS : POSSESSION RATIO		BACKS PASS : POSSESSION RATIO
 Scotland	1 : 3.2	 France	1 : 2.0
 France	1 : 3.3	 England	1 : 2.1
 England	1 : 3.3	 Italy	1 : 2.1
 Wales	1 : 3.4	 Ireland	1 : 2.2
 Italy	1 : 3.7	 Scotland	1 : 2.2
 Ireland	1 : 4.9	 Wales	1 : 2.4

Overall, forwards passed the ball once in every **3.6** possessions. The following tables show how often front rows, second rows and back rows of each team passed the ball.

	FRONT ROW PASS : POSSESSION		SECOND ROW PASS : POSSESSION		BACK ROW PASS : POSSESSION
 France	1 : 3.3	 Scotland	1 : 2.9	 Wales	1 : 2.9
 England	1 : 3.4	 France	1 : 2.9	 England	1 : 3.1
 Scotland	1 : 3.8	 Italy	1 : 3.2	 Scotland	1 : 3.2
 Wales	1 : 3.8	 England	1 : 4.1	 Italy	1 : 3.5
 Italy	1 : 4.5	 Ireland	1 : 4.4	 France	1 : 3.6
 Ireland	1 : 7.0	 Wales	1 : 4.4	 Ireland	1 : 4.4

Overall, backs passed the ball every **2.2** possessions. The following tables show how often fly-halves, centres and back threes of each team passed the ball.

	FLY-HALF PASS : POSSESSION		CENTRES PASS : POSSESSION		BACK THREE PASS : POSSESSION
 Scotland	1 : 1.4	 England	1 : 2.0	 Italy	1 : 2.2
 England	1 : 1.5	 France	1 : 2.6	 France	1 : 2.5
 France	1 : 1.5	 Wales	1 : 2.9	 Scotland	1 : 3.0
 Ireland	1 : 1.5	 Italy	1 : 3.1	 Ireland	1 : 3.7
 Italy	1 : 1.6	 Scotland	1 : 3.2	 England	1 : 4.0
 Wales	1 : 1.6	 Ireland	1 : 3.2	 Wales	1 : 4.3

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RUCKS AND MAULS

The average number of ruck/mauls per match was **190** and the ruck/maul rate was **one every 12 seconds** of possession.

The most ruck/mauls in a match was **272** (Wales v Ireland) and the least was **153** (Italy v France).







The following table shows the average, the most, the least and the ruck/maul frequency rate per team.

		AVERAGE R/Ms PER MATCH	MOST	LEAST	FREQUENCY RATE OF R/Ms
	Ireland	126	179	83	One every 10.3s
	Wales	91	96	86	One every 11.8s
	Scotland	91	97	81	One every 11.9s
	France	96	113	79	One every 12.0s
	Italy	79	98	68	One every 12.0s
	England	88	97	79	One every 12.2s

RUCK AND MAUL RETENTION

The retention rate at ruck/mauls was **95 per cent**.

The following table shows how often each team retained ruck/maul possession and how often each team turned over opposition possession.







		SUCCESS IN OWN RUCK/MAULS	SUCCESS IN OPP RUCK/MAULS
	Ireland	97%	5%
	Italy	95%	3%
	Wales	95%	6%
	Scotland	94%	7%
	England	94%	4%
	France	94%	5%

KICKING

The average number of kicks per match was **44** and the kick-rate was **one** every **50 secs** of possession.













The most kicks in a match was **61** (Wales v England) and the least was **33** (three matches).













The following table shows the average, the most, the least and the kick frequency rate by each team.

		AVERAGE KICKS PER MATCH	MOST	LEAST	FREQUENCY RATE OF KICKS
	England	26	31	20	One every 41s
	Wales	23	31	19	One every 47s
	Ireland	25	36	11	One every 52s
	France	22	29	11	One every 53s
	Scotland	20	31	14	One every 53s
	Italy	17	23	13	One every 57s

PLAYER KICKING

Overall, scrum-halves kicked every **12.8** possessions and backs kicked every **6.7** possessions. The following tables show scrum-half, fly-half, centres and back threes kick frequency for each team.

	SCRUM-HALF KICK : POSSESSION		FLY-HALF KICK : POSSESSION
	England		Wales
	Ireland		England
	Wales		France
	Scotland		Ireland
	France		Italy
	Italy		Scotland

	CENTRES KICK : POSSESSION		BACK THREE KICK : POSSESSION
	Wales		Italy
	Scotland		Scotland
	England		England
	France		France
	Ireland		Wales
	Italy		Ireland













5. SET PIECE

50m RESTARTS













The following table shows the proportion of 50m restarts that were contestable and the success rates of contestable restarts.

	50m RESTARTS
Contestable	63%
Not contestable	37%
Receiving – success	78%
Regaining – success	22%

The following tables show the success per team on own and opposition 50m restarts by each team.

	SUCCESS RECEIVING CONTESTABLE 50m RESTARTS		SUCCESS REGAINING CONTESTABLE 50m RESTARTS
 Italy	9 from 10	 Italy	10 from 28
 Scotland	7 from 9	 Ireland	4 from 15
 Ireland	14 from 20	 France	3 from 18
 England	22 from 26	 Wales	3 from 11
 Wales	19 from 23	 Scotland	2 from 21
 France	11 from 17	 England	1 from 12

The following table shows the type of 50m restart received and kicked by each team.







	TYPE OF 50m RESTARTS RECEIVED			TYPE OF 50m RESTARTS KICKED	
	CONTESTABLE	NOT CONTESTABLE		CONTESTABLE	NOT CONTESTABLE
 England	74%	26%	 Ireland	75%	25%
 Italy	71%	29%	 Italy	70%	30%
 Wales	62%	38%	 France	69%	31%
 France	61%	39%	 Scotland	66%	34%
 Ireland	59%	41%	 Wales	46%	54%
 Scotland	45%	55%	 England	46%	54%

LINEOUTS







The following table shows the average number of lineouts per match, the most/least number of lineouts in a match, the proportion of lineouts contested and the lineout retention rates.

LINEOUTS	
Average per match	24
Most in a match	33
Least in a match	20
Success	86%
Contested	42%

The following table shows the success per team on own lineouts.

OWN LINEOUTS			
	SUCCESS	CONTESTED	STEALS
 France	90%	51%	6
 Scotland	89%	35%	6
 England	87%	40%	8
 Wales	86%	41%	8
 Ireland	82%	38%	11
 Italy	79%	48%	13

The following table shows the success per team on opposition lineouts.

OPP LINEOUTS			
	SUCCESS	CONTESTED	STEALS
 Wales	18%	49%	10
 England	16%	45%	9
 Ireland	16%	47%	9
 Scotland	16%	38%	11
 Italy	11%	38%	7
 France	9%	38%	6







SCRUMS

The following table shows the average number of scrums per match, the most/least number of scrums in a match, the percentage of times the ball came out of the scrum back into play and the scrum retention rate.







	SCRUMS
Average per match	12
Most in a match	18
Least in a match	7
Ball back into play	51%
Success	85%

In total there were **four** tightheads and **no** through 90 degree turnovers in **178** scrums.













The following table shows the success per team on own scrums.

OWN SCRUMS						
	WON %	BALL RELEASED	PEN/FK FOR	LOST %	TIGHTHEAD / THRU 90	PEN/FK AGAINST
 England	89%	9	7	11%	-	2
 Wales	89%	22	11	11%	-	4
 Ireland	88%	20	10	12%	-	4
 Italy	83%	14	16	17%	2	4
 France	83%	14	10	17%	1	4
 Scotland	79%	10	9	21%	1	4

The following table shows the success per team on opposition scrums.

OPP SCRUMS						
	WON %	TIGHTHEAD / THRU 90	PEN/FK FOR	LOST %	BALL RELEASED	PEN/FK AGAINST
 England	24%	1	8	76%	22	7
 France	19%	2	4	81%	14	10
 Ireland	17%	-	4	83%	11	9
 Scotland	10%	-	3	90%	16	11
 Italy	9%	-	3	91%	15	17
 Wales	5%	1	-	95%	11	9

The following table shows the rate of collapses, resets, penalties/free kicks and ball back into play overall and on each team's scrum put-in.







		COLLAPSES PER 100 SCRUMS	RESETS PER 100 SCRUMS			PK/FKS PER 100 SCRUMS	BALL OUT PER 100 SCRUMS
	Overall	63	26		Overall	49	51
	Scotland	75	33		Wales	38	62
	England	72	17		Ireland	38	62
	Wales	68	38		England	50	50
	Italy	61	22		France	52	48
	Ireland	56	26		Italy	56	44
	France	52	17		Scotland	67	33

6. PENALTIES AND FREE KICKS

The following table shows the overall average number of penalties/free kicks per match.

	PENALTY/ FREE KICKS
Average per match	23
Most in a match	31
Least in a match	17

The following tables show the total penalties for and against, and the proportion of penalties for and against for each team.







		PK/FK FOR	PK/FK AGAINST	PK/FK FOR	PK/FK AGAINST
	Ireland	68	48	59%	41%
	France	61	57	52%	48%
	England	51	50	51%	49%
	Wales	63	60	51%	49%
	Scotland	53	62	46%	54%
	Italy	50	69	42%	58%

OPTIONS TAKEN AT PENALTIES/FREE KICKS

The following table shows the options taken at penalties/free kicks.

	%
Kick to touch	58%
Kick at goal	32%
Tap kicks	8%
Scrum	1%
Penalty tries	1%

The following table shows the options taken at penalties and free kicks per team.







	KICK TO TOUCH	KICK AT GOAL	TAP KICKS	SCRUM	PENALTY TRIES	
	Scotland	68%	23%	9%	-	-
	Italy	67%	20%	6%	4%	2%
	Wales	59%	33%	8%	-	-
	Ireland	53%	38%	7%	-	1%
	England	54%	32%	12%	2%	-
	France	52%	39%	5%	3%	-

CATEGORIES OF OFFENCES PENALISED

The following table shows proportion of penalties and free kicks awarded in each facet of play.

	%
Tackle/ruck	39%
Scrum	25%
Offside	11%
Maul	8%
General	7%
Foul play	5%
Lineout	1%

The following table shows the proportion of penalties and free kicks against each team in each facet of play.

	TACKLE/ RUCK	SCRUM	LINEOUT	MAUL	GENERAL PLAY	FOUL PLAY	OFFSIDE
 England	50%	18%	0%	4%	4%	2%	20%
 Ireland	46%	27%	4%	4%	4%	8%	2%
 Scotland	42%	26%	0%	11%	3%	5%	10%
 Wales	38%	22%	2%	5%	12%	5%	10%
 France	35%	26%	2%	9%	7%	7%	9%
 Italy	26%	29%	1%	10%	12%	4%	14%

Of penalties awarded at the tackle/ruck, **64 per cent** were in favour of the team in possession and **36 per cent** were in favour of the team not in possession.

Of penalties/free kicks awarded at the scrum, **75 per cent** were in favour of the team in possession and **25 per cent** were in favour of the team not in possession.

7. CARDS

The following table shows the total number of cards.







	YELLOW CARDS	RED CARDS
Total	15	-

The most cards in any match was **two** and the least was **none**. There were **10** matches that contained at least one yellow card with **five** or **33 per cent** of all matches containing **none**.

The following table shows the reasons for the yellow cards.

	YELLOW CARDS	RED CARDS
Tackle/ruck	4	-
Maul	4	-
Tripping	2	-
Tackle in the air	2	-
Deliberate knock-on	1	-
Kneeing	1	-
Obstruction	1	-

The following table shows the number of cards awarded against each team and the reasons for the cards.

	YELLOW CARDS	RED CARDS	REASONS
 Scotland	5	-	3 x maul / 1 x tackle in the air / 1 x tackle/ruck
 Wales	4	-	2 x tackle/ruck / 1 x Deliberate knock-on / 1 x tackle in the air
 Italy	3	-	1 x maul / 1 x obstruction / 1 x tackle/ruck
 England	1	-	1 x tripping
 France	1	-	1 x kneeing
 Ireland	1	-	1 x tripping

8. TELEVISION MATCH OFFICIALS (TMO)

There were **24** referrals to the TMO as shown in the table below.

The shortest try referral took **30 seconds** and the longest took **2 minutes 34 seconds**.

	TOTAL	AVERAGE NUMBER PER MATCH	AVERAGE TIME TAKEN
Try TMO	17	1.1	101 secs
Foul play TMO	7	0.5	63 secs
Total TMO referrals	24	1.6	90 secs

The following table shows the reasons for the try referrals to the TMO.

	TOTAL	TRY	NO TRY
Grounding	9	6	3
Obstruction	3	1	2
Touch	2	2	-
Knock-on	2	1	1
Forward Pass	1	-	1
Offside	-	-	-
Total	17	10	7

The following table shows the reasons for the foul play referrals.

	TOTAL	NO ACTION	PENALTY	YELLOW CARD	RED CARD
Tackle in the air	2	-	-	2	-
Charging	1	1	-	-	-
Striking	1	1	-	-	-
Obstruction	1	-	1	-	-
Kneeing	1	-	-	1	-
Tripping	1	-	-	1	-
Total	7	2	1	4	-