



PAC-12 CONFERENCE

1350 Treat Blvd., Suite 500, Walnut Creek, CA 94597

// PAC-12.ORG

// 925.932.4411

For Immediate Release: Monday, Oct. 31, 2011
Contact: David Hirsch (dhirsch@pac-12.org)

PAC-12 SUSPENDS USC'S T.J. McDONALD

WALNUT CREEK, Calif.-- The Pac-12 Conference has suspended USC junior safety T.J. McDonald for the first half of USC's next game for his hit on a defenseless opponent during USC's game with Stanford on Saturday, Oct. 29, Pac-12 Commissioner Larry Scott announced today.

McDonald will miss the first half of USC's next scheduled contest, which will be this Friday, Nov. 4 at Colorado.

"While Mr. McDonald was appropriately penalized on the field, I have deemed it necessary to add a half-game suspension," said Scott. "This process was part of our weekly review of all targeting and unnecessary roughness hits."

"Mr. McDonald had been previously warned about illegal hits above the shoulders on defenseless opponents. In order to protect our student-athletes, it is imperative that we enforce these penalties for the safety of the game." added Scott.

When there is a foul called for initiating contact on the head/neck area of a defenseless opponent that does not result in a player disqualification, NCAA Football Rules specifically call for a video review by the conference office for possible additional sanctions before the next scheduled game.