# Cardiff Rugby Files Official Complaint Over Player's Severe Injury Following Alleged Deliberate Strike



Cardiff Rugby has filed an official complaint regarding an incident involving player Gonzalo Bertranou, which has resulted in a severe injury. During last week's match against the Lions in Johannesburg, which ended with Cardiff losing 34-13, Bertranou was forced off the field in the 19th minute due to a head injury.

The club has confirmed that Bertranou, the Argentinian scrum-half, suffered a concussion and a fractured cheekbone, requiring surgery in Cardiff on Wednesday. Cardiff's head coach, Matt Sherratt, stated that the injury was caused by an alleged deliberate strike to Bertranou's face by an unnamed Lions player. The United Rugby Championship (URC) responded to the complaint, indicating there was no "clear and obvious" error made by the match officials.

Bertranou, who joined Cardiff from Dragons in April on a short-term contract, is now ruled out of the upcoming match against Sharks. The 30-year-old could potentially recover in time for the season finale against Ospreys on June 1st, though his future with Cardiff remains uncertain as his current contract is yet to be extended.

Head coach Sherratt praised Bertranou, calling him one of the top professionals he has worked with and emphasizing the player's significant impact since joining the team. Due to budgeting uncertainties and the timing of recruitment across clubs this year, largely influenced by the World Cup, decisions regarding new contracts have been delayed.

This incident highlights ongoing issues regarding player safety and officiating standards within the sport. The outcome of Cardiff's complaint and Bertranou's recovery will be closely watched by those within the rugby community.