

8 April 2005

BBC Charter Review
DCMS
2-4 Cockspur Street
London
SW1Y 5DH

Dear Sir,

With regard to your advertisement in the Sunday Times on 27 March 2005, please find enclosed copy of my letter to the BBC dated 14 March 2005, which, I think, expresses the view of many.

I have not received a reply, or even an acknowledgement of this letter, similarly with previous e-mails on the same subject. I would therefore wish to complain about the appalling lack of feedback correspondence.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Turner', written over a horizontal line.

14 March 2005

The Producer of 6-Nations Grandstand
BBC Complaints
PO Box 1922
Glasgow
G2 3WT

Dear Sir,

Confirming my telephone call today, I wish to complain, in the strongest terms, about the appalling standard of BBC camera coverage of the Scotland – Wales rugby match on Sunday. There are two main issues:

First is the misuse of close-up photography. A rugby enthusiast needs to view the whole game, as if present at the match itself; the positioning of the players on the field - especially near the scrum, how the backs are aligned, where the gaps are, who is likely to move off-side, etc. Instead of this, whenever there was a ruck or maul we got an immediate close-up and the rest of the game was momentarily lost.

Second is the use of extended playbacks during the game for commentator's lengthy analysis, depriving the viewer of important movements of play.

Could it be that the camera director is an American, used to covering American football, where hype is all important to maintain interest and skill is largely non-existent or unnecessary? Alternatively, is he/she more used to fast moving trailers and adverts, presenting information in giddy one-second bursts? Either way they surely cannot understand the game.

There is no doubt that the technology is good, but it is getting in the way of our enjoyment and must be reigned in. We don't want hype, or close-ups of a player's ear lobe at the range of 100 metres. We want to watch a game of rugby, with the presentation as close as possible, in terms of atmosphere, to being at the game itself.

Please take steps to improve matters before the coming weekend.

Yours faithfully,

(Please do not broadcast my name)