

## **Letchworth Garden City Rugby Club (“Club”)**

### **Code of Conduct and Agreement between Parents/Guardians, Spectators and Young Players (“Participants”) and the Club**

The Club is committed to ensuring that all young people who play Rugby will have a safe and positive experience. The Club has developed and implemented policies and procedures, which ensure that everyone acknowledges and accepts their responsibilities and understand the duty of care they owe to young players.

This Code of Conduct is to be read in conjunction with Code of conduct for Club Officials, Coaches and Volunteers. This Code of Conduct applies both directly and indirectly to all individuals working within the Club and to the Participants.

#### **The Club upholds the following principles:**

- All who partake in rugby (training and matches) at any level, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, ability or disability have the right to be developed and protected and have the right to do so in a safe, fun and positive environment.
- All adults involved in rugby be they volunteers, coaches or referees, will understand the duty of care that they owe to young people and will be supported by the Club in their role.
- Individuals will receive support through education and training to be aware of and understand best practice and how to manage child welfare issues.
- All suspicions and allegations of any nature will be taken seriously, managed and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

#### **The Agreement:**

**To effectively achieve the abovementioned principles, the Club and the Participants and each one of them have agreed as follows:**

In consideration of the Club providing the facilities, the Participants and the Club and each one of them individually agree be bound by the following:

#### **The Club shall provide:**

- A safe environment in which the player can learn and develop their rugby skill and knowledge without fear of abuse,
- Participation in competitive rugby matches
- High quality training through trained, screened and qualified coaching staff
- An undertaking that at all times the welfare of the player will be given the highest priority.

#### **In turn, the Participants, where appropriate shall:**

- Encourage the young player to learn the laws of rugby and play within them
- Discourage and not partake in unfair play and arguing with officials

- Help the player to recognise good performance, not just results
- Never force a young player to take part in sport
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all
- Never punish or belittle a young player for losing or making mistakes
- Always accept official's judgements and decisions in the spirit of rugby football
- Support the young players involvement and help them to enjoy the sport
- Always use correct and proper language
- Support young player without pressure.
- Praise good performance and behaviour.
- Keep the team coaches informed about any matters affecting the player.
- Set a high standard and an example to the player and club as a spectator at matches and training sessions.
- Ensure that the player attends matches in the correct kit and training sessions in the correct kit for training (tracksuit bottoms allowed but no zips). It is recommended that mouth-guards are used.
- Ensure that the young player has enough cold drink for the duration of the matches and/or training sessions.

**In addition to the duties of the Participants, the players agree to:**

- Not to use abusive language and/or behaviour;
- Notify the coaching staff at least 24hrs prior to any matches if the player cannot attend training and/or play in a match;
- Report to training sessions and matches at the specified times as directed by the coaching staff;
- Be smartly presented at all times, especially on match days;
- Respect all match officials, coaching staff, other players and spectators including other parents/guardians; and
- At no time bring the good name of the Club and Rugby Football Union into disrepute.