



BERKSHIRE SOCIETY OF RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION REFEREES

23rd August 2010

Dear Sirs,

Each of you will have received the "This Is Rugby" DVD from the Rugby Football Union detailing and promoting the importance of the "Core Values" of our game – Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship.

With the new Season almost upon us, I am taking this opportunity to contact all Clubs & Schools serviced by us to re-iterate the Society's policy of Zero Tolerance towards verbal or physical abuse of match Referees & Assistant Referees. I have no doubt that you share my view that Referee abuse of any kind is totally unacceptable in the game of rugby football. We all need to work hard to ensure we do not go down the slippery slope that other sports appear to have done.

Therefore, on behalf of the Committee of the Referees Society, I respectfully request that our policy of Zero Tolerance and the standards of "Core Values" are communicated to all your players, coaches and supporters at this early stage. Berkshire Referees will not accept any kind of verbal or physical abuse during or after any game at which they officiate and have been instructed to report all incidents.

I sincerely hope this will not be necessary and that you will have an enjoyable and successful Season.

Yours faithfully,

Roger Naish

Chairman
Berkshire Society of RFU Referees