



## THE GOOD PLAYERS' CODE

**Young players should recognise that many people in Rugby Union are working to provide a safe and enjoyable game in which they can develop as both a player and an individual.**

In Rugby Union, young players are encouraged to:

1. Recognise and appreciate the efforts made by coaches, parents, match officials and administrators in providing them with the opportunity to play the game and enjoy the rugby environment.
2. Understand the values of loyalty and commitment to adults and teammates.
3. Recognise that every young player has the right to expect their involvement in rugby to be safe and free from ALL types of abuse.
4. Understand that if an individual or group of young players feel that they are not being treated in a manner that is acceptable, then they have the right to tell an adult either at the rugby club or outside the game.

In Rugby Union, as a young player, you should:

1. Play because you want to do so, not to please parents or coaches.
2. Remember skill development, fun and enjoyment are the most important parts of the game.
3. Work equally hard for yourself and your team – and both will benefit.
4. Recognise good play by ALL players on your team and your opponents.
5. Be a sportsman – win or lose.
6. Play to the Laws of the game and accept, without question, all referee decisions.
7. Control your emotions. Verbal or physical abuse of teammates, opponents or match officials **IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.**
8. Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of any player.
9. The Club will implement, if deemed necessary, a robust disciplinary process in cases of unacceptable behaviour. The Club has a named Disciplinary Officer. Disciplinary procedures will be managed in accordance with **RFU REGULATION 19 – DISCIPLINE**  
<https://www.englandrugby.com//dxdam/ef/ef43f84b-9ab1-4764-81c1-9546e88ffa26/Regulation%2019.pdf>

**Remember that rugby is a game for fun and to make friends. It is not so much the winning or the losing but the playing that is important. This is especially true for young players, so everyone should lead by example and encourage enjoyment for all.**