



ADULT CODE OF CONDUCT

The rules of the game of Rugby Union are known as the Laws, but these Laws mean less to the game than the long established and accepted spirit in which the game is played and supported.

You will not find all of the following in the Law book, but you will find them in the hearts and minds of true rugby supporters. Heathfield & Waldron Rugby Football Club therefore asks all parents, guardians and supporters to observe the following points at **all** times:

1. Young players are involved for their enjoyment – not yours.
2. Young players are not playing to satisfy your ambitions.
3. You have the responsibility to encourage young people to play by the rules.
4. Teamwork and effort are as important as winning. You should encourage young players to lose without bad grace and undue disappointment.
5. Do not allow your winning side to gloat over their victory.
6. Never ridicule a young person for making a mistake or for losing. Praise them or say nothing.
7. From the touchline, we treat the opposition at times of success or tension as we would our own side. We applaud (if a little less loudly).
8. Shouts from the touchline should be of encouragement for the whole team and NOT condoning any form of bad play.
9. The Referee/Coach's decision should be accepted without question. Never publicly doubt his/her integrity.
10. Spectators should NEVER cross the touchline. Only enter the pitch/playing area if expressly invited to by the Referee/Coach.
11. Applause for the opposition and the referee after the game should be warm and genuine; it takes two sides plus a referee to make an enjoyable game.
12. Poor behaviour, including verbal or physical abuse will NEVER be tolerated. Any reports of such behaviour will be escalated to the Club Management Team.

Remember that it 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 please lead by example and encourage them to enjoy themselves.