

# Datchworth Rugby Club



Datchworth RFC maintains a number of codes of conduct for our members to communicate the expectations that we have for the different roles we all occupy within the club. These are currently documented for:

- ✓ Players
- ✓ Parents & Carers
- ✓ Club Officials & Volunteers

We also have documented some guides to provide more detail around specific areas we want to emphasise 'good' standards. These are around our relationship with the village and its residents, dealing with youngsters and coaching.

Over all of this we have the RFU's Code of rugby that applies to all members, players and volunteers within Datchworth RFC and sits above all club codes of conduct.



## CODE OF RUGBY

In addition to the requirements, directions and advice contained in the code of conduct, everyone has a duty to uphold the sport's core values

### **Teamwork – Discipline – Respect – Sportsmanship- Enjoyment**

- ✓ Play to win – but not at all costs.
- ✓ Win with dignity, lose with grace.
- ✓ Observe the laws and regulations of the game.
- ✓ Respect opponents, referees and all participants
- ✓ Reject cheating, racism, violence and drugs.
- ✓ Value volunteers and paid officials alike.
- ✓ Enjoy the game

# Datchworth Rugby Club



## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CLUB OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS

- Consider the wellbeing and safety of participants before the development of performance.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with participants, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part.
- Promote the CODE OF RUGBY in everything you do
- Display consistently high standards of behavior and appearance.
- Follow all guidelines laid down by the national governing body and the club.
- Hold appropriate valid qualifications and insurance cover.
- Never exert undue influence over participants to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibited substances.
- Encourage participants to value their performances and not just results.
- Encourage and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own performance and behavior

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS/CARERS

- Encourage your child to learn the rules and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Publicly accept officials' judgements.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Encourage and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.

# Datchworth Rugby Club



## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYING MEMBERS

- Players must play to the laws of the game, respect officials and accept, without question, their decisions.
- Players are expected to control their emotions. Verbal or physical abuse of team-mates, opponents, or match officials IS NOT ACCEPTABLE
- Players must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Players should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions or inform their coach or team manager if they are going to be late.
- Players must wear suitable kit for training and match sessions, as agreed with the coach or team manager.
- Players must pay any fees for training or events promptly.
- Junior players are not allowed to smoke on club premises or whilst representing the club at competitions.
- Junior players are not allowed to consume alcohol of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the club.

# Datchworth Rugby Club



## THE GOOD NEIGHBOURS GUIDE

We play our rugby in a wonderful setting at Datchworth but we should never forget that we play our rugby in a village community and that we have a duty of care and respect to the residents of the village. Effectively we are neighbours of the residents and each club member is encouraged to be a 'Good Neighbour' and set the same standards that you would expect in your own communities. The following lays out the guidelines we expect all members to comply with.

Whether playing, training or watching a game of rugby the way you behave reflects you, your team and Datchworth RFC to everyone watching.

### **TO SUPPORT BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR, MEMBERS MUST:**

- Never park on the village green or any coned off area.
- Never park blocking driveways or access routes.
- Never allow mud to be removed from boots on the pathways or in the car parks.
- Ensure that dogs are on a lead at all times during matches and inside the clubhouse. All dog mess should be cleared up and removed.
- Never park in the village hall on a Tuesday or Thursday night. Occasionally parking will be allowed on a Saturday and Sunday but access will be controlled by marshals.
- Keep to the defined access routes for the pitches using the appropriate foot paths. There should be no use of shortcuts over fences or through hedges by the village hall.
- Limit playing with rugby balls to the pitches or the front of the clubhouse.

### **TO SUPPORT BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR, MEMBERS SHOULD**

- Apply the same courtesy to interacting with our village neighbours as you would expect in your own neighbourhood.
- Advise other members or visiting players and spectators on parking especially when it infringes the guidelines above.
- Keep noise to a minimum especially when leaving the clubhouse in the evening

Unfortunately there is little that can be done to if someone from outside our membership refuses to comply with our good neighbour guidelines. It should be noted though that Datchworth RFC reserves the right to cancel the membership of any member who infringes the guidelines above.

# Datchworth Rugby Club



## THE YOUNG PLAYERS GUIDE

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

Whether playing, training or watching a game of rugby the way you behave reflects you, your team and Datchworth RFC to everyone watching.

### **AS A YOUNG PLAYER YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO:**

- Recognise and appreciate the efforts made by coaches, parents, match officials and administrators in providing them with the opportunity to play and enjoy the rugby environment.
- Understand the values of loyalty and commitment to adults and team-mates.
- Recognise that every young player has the right to expect their involvement in rugby to be safe and free from all types of abuse.
- 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 a right to tell an adult either at the rugby club or outside the game.

### **AS A YOUNG PLAYER, YOU SHOULD:**

- Play because you want to do so, not to please coaches or parents.
- Remember skill development, fun and enjoyment, are the most important parts of the game.
- Be attentive at all training/coaching sessions.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team and both will benefit.
- Recognise good play by ALL players on your team and by your opponents.
- Be a sportsman – win or lose.
- Play to the laws of the game and accept, without question, all the referee's decisions.
- Control your emotions. Verbal or physical abuse of team-mates, opponents, or match officials IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.
- Treat all players, as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of any player.
- Respect our neighbours within the village and comply with our 'Good Neighbours Guide'

# Datchworth Rugby Club



## THE GOOD PARENTS GUIDE

In Rugby Union coaches and administrators both fully acknowledge that parents are an integral part of the partnership, which ensures that young players enjoy their involvement in the sport and experience an environment in which they can flourish.

Whether playing, training or watching a game of rugby the way you behave reflects you, your team and Datchworth RFC to everyone watching.

### **IN RUGBY UNION PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO:**

- Be familiar with the coaching and training programme in order that they can ensure that their child is fully involved and the coaches are aware of their availability.
- Be familiar with the teaching and coaching methods used by observing the sessions in which your child participates
- Be aware that the club has a duty of care and therefore, where appropriate, assist coaches with the supervision of the young players, particularly where numbers are large and there is a need to transport youngsters to away games.
- Be involved with club activities and share your experience.
- Share concerns, if you have them with club officials.
- Be familiar with the 'Good Coaches Guide'. In particular:
  - Coaches should recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when coaching young players.
  - Coaches should keep winning and losing in perspective, encouraging young players to behave with dignity in all circumstances.

### **IN RUGBY UNION PARENTS SHOULD:**

- Remember that young people play rugby for their own enjoyment not that of their parents.
- Encourage young people to play – do not force them.
- Focus on young players' efforts rather than winning or losing.
- Provide positive verbal feedback both in training and during the game.
- Remember that persistent, negative messages will adversely affect the players' and referee's performance and attitude.
- Always support the rugby club in their efforts to eradicate loud, coarse and abusive behaviour from the game.
- Always show appreciation of good play by all young players both from your own club and the opposition.
- Respect decisions made by the match officials and encourage the young players to do likewise.

Remember – if you have concerns, report them to the Club Welfare Officer.