

Colchester Rugby Football Club

Code of Conduct: Match Officials

1. Match Officials should:
 - a) Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when officiating players.
 - b) Provide positive verbal feedback in a constructive and encouraging manner during games.
 - c) Emphasise the spirit of the game.
 - d) Appreciate the needs of the players before the needs of the sport.
 - e) Understand the physical and behavioural development of players.
 - f) Be a positive role model. Set an example, and as such, comments should be positive and supportive.
 - g) Look to self-improvement e.g. participation in training courses.
 - h) Recognise that the safety of players is paramount.
 - i) Explain decisions – all players are still learning and parents will understand the game better.
 - j) Always penalise foul play.
 - k) Play advantage whenever possible in order to let the game flow.
 - l) Show empathy for the age and ability of players.
 - m) Be consistent and objective.
 - n) Be familiar with the Good Spectator's Code and ensure that verbal abuse from players, coaches or spectators is not tolerated and is dealt with by club officials immediately.
 - o) Be aware of, and abide by, the RFU Child Protection Guidance policies and procedures.
 - p) Officiate to the rules laid down in the Rugby Continuum and keep themselves updated on rule changes.
 - q) Check that the home Club or School has provided a qualified first aider, ambulance access has not been obstructed and that appropriate equipment is available along with someone trained in its use before starting play.
 - r) Before training sessions and matches check that studs and other clothing are in accordance with the iRB Laws of the game.