



Policy Owner: M&J Chairman  
Policy Review Date: January 2022

## **Policy: Junior & Adult Player (U13+) Code of Conduct**

This Code of Conduct applies to everybody representing WRUFC, at home or away

- At home or away
- When playing for, or supporting the club
- When wearing WRUFC clothing linking you to the club
- When representing WRUFC virtually (e.g. on social media, by email), or in-person at functions e.g. on tour or fundraising events

At all times you must be aware that younger, impressionable children, playing or visiting, are frequently present at clubs, and you must speak and behave in a manner that does not cause distress to the young person and/or their parents/guardians.

The Club will not accept behaviour (whether it be physical, in writing or verbal) that is unacceptable to any other customer/visitor or member of staff. The Club will take appropriate action if there are instances of this nature.

### **Discipline (Age Grade)**

The Club will follow the [RFU's guidance on age grade rugby disciplinary procedures](#), and in summary

- all coaches & volunteers are expected to encourage the children to demonstrate teamwork, respect, discipline and sportsmanship, and to enjoy their festival rugby experience
- all coaches are expected to encourage high standards of conduct on & off the field
- referees are expected to take a child-centric approach, and deal with disciplinary issues in a fair and proportionate manner

In the unlikely event that a player is sent off the field of play, the referee is requested to provide WRUFC with a report within 24 hours of the match

On Tour, it is the Tour Lead's responsibility to make parents & players of any substantively different expectations of the host nation & Board.

### **Adult Games (including representation from Age Grade Players)**

In all instances the Club will follow [England Rugby's guidance on discipline procedures](#), and with the support of the Club's Discipline's Officer & Club Committee.

On Tour, it is the Tour Lead's responsibility to make parents & players of any substantively different expectations of the host nation & Board.

### **All Players**

All players are expected to play the game in such a way as to minimise the risk of injury to themselves or other players and with respect to all match officials; players are specifically expected not to show dissent to the referee for any decision made.

In the event of a player receiving a card during a game, the player is expected to accept the decision with no dissent. He/she should not behave in any way that could inflame a situation.

After the game, the player is expected to apologise as appropriate to the referee, other match official and opposing player(s). In the event of a red card the player should write a statement detailing the circumstance of the red card which may then be used by the Club or other Disciplinary Body in deciding what, if any, further action is appropriate.

The player is responsible for any costs incurred by the Club for a Disciplinary Hearing.

## **The general Code of Conduct for Mini (up to U12) also continues to apply to all of you!**

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.

### **In Rugby Union players are encouraged to:**

- Recognise and appreciate the efforts made by coaches, parents, match officials & administrators in providing them with the opportunity to play the game and enjoy the rugby environment
- Understand the values of loyalty and commitment to adults and teammates
- To understand that if an individual or group of young players feel that they are not being treated in a manner that is acceptable, they have the right to tell an adult either at the rugby club or outside of the game

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

- Play because you want to 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, both will benefit
- Check your kit to ensure you comply with the Laws
- Recognise good play by **ALL** players on your team and by your opponents
- Be sporting at all times – win or lose
- Play to the laws of the game and accept, without question, respecting 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

**Ill discipline from any WRUFC Wolf is unacceptable; RESPECT your fellow players, coaches & supporters**

**Discipline is EVERYONE's responsibility; CHECK & CHALLENGE each other, don't let anyone get away with it**