

WHARFEDALE RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB



WHARFEDALE RUFC CODES OF CONDUCT

It is essential that the following list of people adhere to the Codes of Conduct as defined below and as a condition of being part of or associated with Wharfedale RUFC all parties named are bound by these codes. Any person offending any one of these codes may be reported to the Club Committee for the appropriate action to be decided.

Managers and Coaches (A below)
Parents and Spectators (B below)
Team Officials (C below)
Players (D below)

A) Code of Conduct for Managers and Coaches

Coaches are key to the establishment of ethics in Rugby football. Their concept of ethics and their attitude directly affects the behaviour of players under their supervision. Coaches are therefore expected to pay particular care to the moral aspect of their conduct.

Coaches have to be aware that almost all of their everyday decisions and choices of actions as well as strategic targets have ethical implications.

It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for coaches. This code is not intended to conflict with that. However, the code calls for coaches to disassociate themselves from a 'win at all costs' attitude. Increased responsibility is requested from coaches involved in coaching young people. The health, safety, welfare and moral education of young people are a first priority, before the achievement or the reputation of the Club, coach or parent.

1. Managers and Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
2. Managers and Coaches must place the wellbeing and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
3. Managers and Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies.
4. Managers and Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
5. Managers and Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
6. Managers and Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
7. Managers and Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity experience and ability of players.



8. Managers and Coaches should at the outset clarify with the players (and where appropriate, parent) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from their coach.
9. Managers and Coaches must fully cooperate with other specialists (e.g. other Managers and Coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors and physiotherapists) in the best interests of the player.
10. Managers and Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Law of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
11. Managers and Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
12. Managers and Coaches must never use or tolerate inappropriate language.

B) Code of Conduct for Parents/ Spectators

Parents and spectators have a great influence on Players and children's enjoyment and success in Rugby. People play Rugby first and foremost because they love playing. Wharfedale RUFC is dedicated to nurturing that enjoyment and enthusiasm for the game as a foundation for developing the skills and tactical abilities of each Player. We believe that taking part in club activities contributes to each person's personal development and self-esteem.

All of our teams play to win, but not at any cost. It is important that players play games in the right spirit and in a supportive atmosphere which allows them to play to the best of their abilities. In order to achieve this result we rely heavily on the parents and supporters who attend matches to behave in an appropriate manner and to give their support in the right way.

We therefore require all parents and supporters who attend Wharfedale RUFC matches to read, understand this code of conduct, and to abide by it at all times.

Parents and Spectators should:

1. Encourage all members of the team by applauding good play.
2. Show understanding when players make mistakes or if the team loses.
3. Be positive; discuss performances in a constructive manner at an appropriate time. Focus on things the Players did well, don't dwell on mistakes.
4. Leave it to the coaches to instruct the players during the games.
5. Never use abusive language or behaviour to any player.

Obligations to the other team.

Parents and spectators should.

1. Applaud the opposition or good play, not just your own team.
2. Respect the opposition players coaches and supporters.



3. Not shout or scream or use abusive language.

Obligations to the officials.

Parents and spectators should.

1. Respect the referees and Touch Judge's decisions.
2. Never argue with an official, even if you think their decision is wrong.

Obligations to the Club

1. Never act in an abusive way to an official, coach, manager or player in the club, and never use racist language or behaviour.
2. Support the Club by attending matches and fundraising activities. The Club is run entirely on an entirely voluntary basis. Always volunteer your services before criticising others for perceived failings.

C) Code of Conduct for Team Officials

This code applies to all team/club officials.

Obligations towards the Game.

The Team Official should.

1. Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
2. Promote and develop his/her own team having regard to the interests of the Players, Supporters and reputation of the National Game.
3. Share knowledge and experience when invited to do so, taking into account the interest of the body that has requested this rather than personal interests.
4. Avoid all forms of gamesmanship.
5. Show due respect to Match Officials and others involved in the game.
6. Always have regard for the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion of the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
7. Not use or tolerate inappropriate language.

Obligations towards the Team.

The team official should.

1. Make every effort to develop the sporting, technical and tactical levels of the club/team, and to obtain the best results for the team, using all permitted means.
2. Give priority to the interests of the team over individual interests.
3. Resist all illegal or unsporting influences, including banned substances and techniques.
4. Promote ethical principles.



5. Show due respect for the interests of the players, coaches and officials, their own club/team and others.

Obligations towards the Supporters.

The team official should

1. Show due respect for the interests of the supporters

Respect towards the match officials.

A team official should.

1. Accept the decisions of the match official without protest
2. Avoid words or actions which may mislead a match official
3. Show due respect towards match officials

D Code of Conduct for Players

This Code applies to all players whilst taking part in Games, training or social activities associated with Wharfedale RUFC.

1. Play to enjoy Rugby. Always try your best to improve your skills and play well.
2. Rugby is a team game, always do your best for your team, remember Rugby is a team sport not an individual sport.
3. A score is the result of a team effort not an individual.
4. Play within the rules always respect the rules they are there for all players.
5. Never argue with the referees or coaches- they are there to help you. Their decision is final (even if you think they are wrong).
6. Don't show off, lose your cool, pick on other players or generally misbehave, it is not part of Rugby, remember a team that plays together, celebrates together, will win together.
7. Respect good play from your opponents and your team.
8. Help your team-mate's coaches, officials, opponents. You cannot play Rugby on your own.
9. DO NOT use or tolerate inappropriate language.
10. If you are unhappy with the ways things are going with the training, selection, tactics, coaching, etc, don't be afraid to talk it through with your coaches and team manager. They are there to listen and help you.
11. Whilst taking part in other activities associated with Wharfedale RUFC to always act in a manner that does not cause inconvenience to anyone or bring the name of Wharfedale RUFC into disrespect.
12. Always listen and obey instructions given by the person in charge of you.



The Good Spectators Code:

WHARFEDALE R.U.F.C

Clubs and Schools should encourage Spectators to:

- a. Act as positive role models to all players.
- b. Be familiar with, and abide by, the RFU Child Protection Guidance in relation to verbal and emotional abuse.
- c. Respect guidance from the Club or School with regard to spectator behaviour.
- d. Remember children play sport primarily for their own enjoyment, not for that of the spectators.
- e. Acknowledge good individual and team performance from all players irrespective of the team in which they play.
- f. Respect match officials' decisions, even if they appear to make a mistake – remember, they are volunteers providing an opportunity for players to play rugby.
- g. Never verbally abuse players, coaches, match officials or fellow spectators: such behaviour can create a negative environment for players and the behaviour will often reflect this.
- h. Acknowledge effort and good performance rather than 'to win at all costs'.
- i. Verbally encourage all players in a positive manner, shouting 'for' not 'at' the players.
- j. Encourage all players irrespective of their ability – never ridicule any individual player, regardless of the team in which they play.

Spectator and Parent CODE OF CONDUCT (RFU)

- Show respect for officials and other players
- Encourage in your support
- Be courteous to all
- Applaud good play
- Verbally support in a proactive manner
- Remember victory is not everything
- Children are playing for their own enjoyment
- Enjoy the day and transmit that enthusiasm to the players
- Do not force your child to play rugby
- Do not stray on to the pitch at any time
- Do not verbally abuse match officials – remember, they are volunteers
- Do not verbally abuse players or other spectators
- Do not use bad language
- Do not threaten or intimidate
- Do not become involved in physical aggression
- Do not do anything which is likely to offend by way of insult, humiliation or discrimination

Wharfedale RUFC General Committee November 2017