

THE GOOD VOLUNTEER'S CODE

VOLUNTEERS SHOULD:

- Appreciate the needs of the players before the needs of the sport.
- Understand the physical and behavioural development of players.
- Be a positive role model. Set an example.
- Look to self-improvement e.g. participation in training courses.
- Recognise that the safety of players is paramount.
- Be aware of, and abide by, the RFU Child Protection Guidance policies and procedures.
- Promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play).
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with participants, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Provide rugby experiences which are matched to the age, ability and experience of those taking part, as well as their physical and behavioural development.
- Ensure all players are coached in a safe environment, with adequate first aid readily to hand.
- Avoid the overplaying of the best players by using a squad system which gives everybody a satisfactory amount of playing time.
- Ensure good supervision of players, both on and off the field.
- Recognise that players should never be exposed to extremes of heat, cold or unacceptable risk of injury.
- Act as positive role models to all players.
- Be familiar with, and abide by, the RFU Child Protection Guidelines in relation to verbal and emotional abuse.
- Acknowledge good individual and team performance from all players irrespective of the team in which they play.
- Acknowledge effort and good performance rather than 'to win at all costs'.
- Verbally encourage all players in a positive manner, shouting 'for' not 'at' the players.
- Encourage all players irrespective of their ability – never ridicule any individual player, regardless of the team in which they play.