

SCHOOLS RUGBY

CODE OF CONDUCT




Springboks



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Rugby Union is one of the world's greatest team sports, with Laws providing for players of different physiques, skills, genders and ages.

This brochure outlines the appropriate behaviour expected from match officials, coaches, players and spectators.

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SOUTH AFRICAN RUGBY UNION

SARU House | 163 Uys Krige Drive | Platteklouf | 7500
Western Cape | South Africa
Tel: +27 (0)21 928 7000 | Email: referee@sarugby.co.za
Web: www.sarugby.co.za | www.sareferees.co.za



RUGBY'S FIVE KEY VALUES

Integrity

Integrity is central to the fabric of the Game and is generated through honesty and fair play.

Passion

Rugby people have a passionate enthusiasm for the Game. Rugby generates excitement, emotional attachment and a sense of belonging to the Rugby family.

Solidarity

Rugby provides a unifying spirit that leads to lifelong friendships, camaraderie, teamwork and loyalty that transcends cultural, geographic, political and religious differences.

Discipline

Discipline is an integral part of the Game, both on and off the field, and is reflected through adherence to the Laws, the Regulations and Rugby's core values.

Respect

Respect for teammates, opponents, match officials and those involved in the Game is paramount.

Source: World Rugby Playing Charter



MATCH OFFICIALS

- » *Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when officiating young players.*
- » *Provide feedback in a constructive and encouraging manner during games.*
- » *Appreciate the needs of the young players before the needs of the sport.*
- » *Understand the physical, social, and psychological development of young players.*
- » *Be a positive role model.*
- » *Recognise that the safety of young players is paramount.*
- » *Explain decisions - all young players are still learning.*
- » *Always penalise foul play.*
- » *Play advantage whenever possible in order to let the game flow.*
- » *Be consistent and objective.*
- » *Ensure that verbal abuse from players, coaches or spectators is not tolerated.*



SPECTATORS/PARENTS

- » *Children play sport for their enjoyment, not yours. Encourage young people to play; do not force them.*
- » *Acknowledge good individual and team performances of all youngsters, irrespective of which team they play for or whether they won or lost.*
- » *Provide positive feedback, both in training and during games.*
- » *Respect match officials' decisions.*
- » *Never verbally abuse players, match officials or coaches, or fellow spectators. If you do want to shout, make sure it is for and not at the players*
- » *Always support the school/club in their efforts to eradicate loud, coarse and abusive behaviour from the game.*
- » *Be familiar with the coaching methods and training*



programme to ensure your child is fully involved.

- » *Where appropriate, assist coaches with the supervision of young players, particularly where numbers are large and there is a need to transport youngsters to away games*
- » *Be involved with school/club activities and share your expertise.*
- » *Share concerns, if you have them, with school/club officials.*



COACHES

- » *Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when coaching young players.*
- » *Appreciate the needs of the players before the needs of the sport.*
- » *Be a positive role model.*
- » *Keep winning and losing in perspective – encourage young players to behave with dignity in all circumstances.*
- » *Respect all referees and the decisions they make, and ensure that players do the same.*
- » *Provide feedback in a constructive and encouraging manner, during both coaching sessions and games.*
- » *Provide experiences that are matched to the players' age, ability, physical and mental development.*
- » *Ensure all youngsters are coached in a safe environment and that there's adequate first aid to hand.*
- » *Avoid overplaying the best players by using a system that gives everybody a satisfactory amount of playing time.*

- » *Never allow a player to train or play when injured.*
- » *Ensure good supervision of young players, both on and off the field.*
- » *Develop an awareness of nutrition as part of an overall education in lifestyle management.*
- » *Ensure your knowledge and coaching strategies are up to date and in line with rugby philosophy.*

PLAYERS

- » *Play because you want to, not to please coaches or parents.*
- » *Recognise and appreciate the efforts made by coaches, parents, match officials and administrators in providing you with the opportunity to play the game.*
- » *Skills development, fun and enjoyment are the most important parts of the game.*
- » *Understand the value of loyalty and commitment to adults and teammates.*



PLAYERS

- » *Be attentive at all training/coaching sessions, and work hard for yourself and your team.*
- » *Recognise good play by all players, regardless of what team they're in. Be a good sportsman, regardless of whether you win or lose.*
- » *Play to the Laws of the game and accept all the referee's decisions without question.*
- » *Never verbally or physically abuse teammates, opponents or match officials.*
- » *Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take advantage of any player.*
- » *Your involvement in rugby should be safe and free from all types of abuse.*
- » *If you feel you are not being treated in a manner that is acceptable, tell an adult at the school/club or outside the game.*



3 CHEERS FOR THE REF

The 3 Cheers for the Ref campaign is an initiative designed to bring back to the Game the values of sportsmanship and camaraderie.

At the end of a match, please show appreciation to the referee for what is often a thankless task by getting together with your teammates, opposition and coaches to shout,

“Three cheers for the ref!”

PLEASE REMEMBER

These players are kids

This is only a game

The coaches are volunteers

The referees are human

**Today's games are not
test matches**



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