

# Tennessee High School Rugby

## CODE OF CONDUCT

### Parent's Code

- Do not force an unwilling child to participate in sport.
- Remember, children are involved in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules.
- Teach your child that honest effort is as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Turn defeat into victory by helping your child to work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship. Never ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good play by your team and by members of the opposing team.
- Do not publicly question the referee's judgment and never their honesty. If you do you will be asked to leave the 'field of play'.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sport.
- Recognize the value and importance of volunteer coaches. They give up their time and resources to provide recreational activities for your child.

### Coaches' Code

- Be reasonable in your demands on the young players' time, energy and enthusiasm. Remember they have other interests.
- Teach your players that the rules and laws of the game are mutual agreements which no one should evade or break.
- In contact games, group players according to age, height, skill and physical maturity.
- Avoid overplaying talented players. "Average" players need and deserve equal time.
- Remember that children play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it. Never ridicule or yell at the children for making mistakes or losing a game.
- Ensure that all equipment and facilities are appropriate to the age and abilities of the players.
- The scheduling and length of practice times and games should take into consideration the child's maturity level.
- Develop team respect for the ability of the opponents, as well as for the judgment of referees and opposing coaches. Never publicly question a referees judgment or honesty.
- Make sure the team conduct themselves appropriately at the end of a game, even practice games, with 3 cheers and forming a tunnel for the opposition.

### Players' Code

- Play for the fun of it, not just to please your parents or coach.
- Play by the rules and the laws of the game.
- Never argue with the referee's decision.
- Control your temper.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team, thus your team's performance will benefit, and so will your own.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good play, whether by your own team or the opponents.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Don't interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of any players.
- Remember that the goals of the game are to have fun, improve your skills and feel good. Don't be a show off.
- Cooperate with coaches, team mates, opponents and referees; without them you don't have a game.

**Just one more thing, cherish Rugby for what it is - FUN! No More, No Less.**

**Parents' Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Coaches' Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Players' Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Code of Conduct is copied from the Rugby Football Union, Headquarters in Twickenham England.