



# **Highland Rugby Club**

## **Our Vision**

***More than a Rugby Club, To Make a Positive Contribution to the Wellbeing of Our Community***

## **Our Mission**

***A Vibrant and Ambitious Club at the Heart of the Community which allows People to Develop in a Safe and Positive Environment through Rugby, Physical Activity and Social Inclusion***

## **Our Values**

***Enjoyment  
Respect  
Integrity  
Ambition  
Commitment***

***Highland Rugby Club expect high standards from its members at all times. Any conduct which is deemed to bring the club into disrepute may lead to disciplinary action. These Codes of Conduct incorporate the World Rugby, SRU and Highland RFC Codes.***

***As a member of Highland Rugby Club we will always***

- Support positively and applaud good play
- Respect officials and opposition players
- Remember that children are playing to have fun
- Behave as good role models on the touchline
- Congratulate the opposition and make their supporters feel welcome
- If using social media, we make positive/supportive comments about team/club/opposition

***As members of the Rugby family, we NEVER:***



- Force our child to play rugby
- Stray from the touchline onto the pitch
- Verbally abuse match officials, players or other spectators
- Threaten, intimidate, or use bad language
- Give offence by way of insult, humiliation or discrimination.

***Scottish Rugby's Code of Conduct shall apply in respect of all clubs, schools, teams, players, coaches, match officials and other persons participating in or connected in any way with the game in Scotland. (Incorporates World Rugby Code, the overarching document)***

All of whom:-

1. must ensure that the game is played and conducted in accordance with disciplined and sporting behaviour and acknowledge that it is not sufficient to rely solely upon the match officials to maintain those principles;
2. shall co-operate in ensuring that the spirit of the Laws of the Game is upheld and encourage players to refrain from committing acts of foul play (including by refraining from selecting them where appropriate);
3. shall not repeatedly breach the Laws of the Game;
4. shall accept and observe the authority and decisions of the match officials and all other rugby disciplinary bodies, subject to World Rugby 17 and Scottish Rugby's Disciplinary Rules;
5. shall not publish or cause to be published criticism of the manner in which a match official handled a match;
6. shall not publish or cause to be published criticism of the manner in which World Rugby, Scottish Rugby or any disciplinary body handled or resolved any dispute or disciplinary matter resulting from a breach of the World Rugby Bye-Laws, the Laws of the Game, World Rugby's Regulations Relating to the Game, Scottish Rugby's competition rules or any other Scottish Rugby Bye-Law, rule, regulation, policy or process;
7. shall not engage in any conduct or any activity on or off the field that may impair public confidence in the honest and orderly conduct of a match, tour, tournament or series of matches (including, but not limited to, the supply of information in relation to the game, directly or indirectly, to bookmakers or to persons who may use such information to their advantage) or in the integrity and good character of any person;
8. shall not commit a breach of any of the World Rugby Regulations or Scottish Domestic Regulations (including but not limited to any Betting and Anti-Corruption offence (SDR 6), any Anti-Doping offence (SDR 21.1), any Illicit Drugs offence (SDR 21.2) or any breach of Scottish Rugby's competition rules or any other Scottish Rugby Bye-Law, rule, regulation, policy or process;



## 9. Scottish Rugby Code of Conduct for the Game (Season 2022-23)

1. shall promote the reputation of the game and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.
2. shall not abuse, threaten or intimidate any match official, whether on or off the field of play;
3. shall not use crude, foul or abusive language or gestures towards other players, coaches, club officials, match officials, spectators or any other person;
4. shall not do anything which is likely to intimidate, offend, insult, humiliate or discriminate against any person on the grounds of their religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, colour or national or ethnic origin;
5. shall not do anything which adversely affects the game of Rugby, Scottish Rugby, any member club or other Union of World Rugby or any commercial partner of the game in Scotland; and
6. shall abide by all rules, regulations, codes of conduct and policies issued by Scottish Rugby including, inter alia, Scottish Rugby's Child Protection Policy, Concussion Policy and Player Payment Policy;

Each club, player, coach, match official and other person connected in any way with the game in Scotland shall be under an obligation to comply with this Code of Conduct.

Breaches of the Code of Conduct shall constitute acts of Misconduct under Scottish Rugby's Disciplinary Rules.

### **Code of Conduct for Players**

Players are the most important people in any sport. Playing for the team, and for the team to win, is the most fundamental part of the game. But not winning at any cost – Fair Play and respect for all others in the game is fundamentally important.

#### ***Obligations towards the game: A player should:***

- Make every effort to develop their own sporting abilities, in terms of skill, technique, tactics and stamina
- Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if the team is in a position where the desired result has already been achieved.
- Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters
- Avoid all forms of gamesmanship and time wasting.



- Always have regards to the best interests of the game
- Not use inappropriate language
- Respect the Referee

***Obligations towards one's own team: A player should;***

- Make every effort consistent with Fair Play and the Laws of the Game to help his own team win.
- Resist any influence which might, or might be seen to, bring into question his commitment to the team winning.

***Obligations towards the opposition: A player should***

- Be polite and welcoming
- Shake hands and cheer at the end of the game whatever the result.

Any player in breach of the Code of Conduct or bringing the club in to disrepute may be refused the right to train, play or be selected for any team, for an appropriate period of time as determined by the Committee.

**Code of Conduct for Spectators and Parents**

***A spectator at Highland Rugby Club;***

- Puts the wellbeing of the players first, and remembers that any comments or feedback they offer should be based on constructive, helpful comments that do not involve criticism of any form
- Respects all players and officials including the opposition, and remembers that all teams are here to enjoy the game
- Understands that they're not in a position to influence the game, and respect and accept the decisions of officials and coaches
- Acts as a role model for the players, and does not engage in any abusive or offensive behaviour
- Treats the premises with respect, and obeys any rules or bans regarding smoking, vaping or consuming alcohol on the premises
- Will not engage in any abusive, hateful or discriminatory language towards the officials, coaches or players



- Try to enter the field of play, challenge the decision of the officials or coaches, or interfere with the game at any point.
- Forget that players are here to enjoy rugby and develop their skills. Winning is not everything.

Parents/Spectators have a great influence on children's enjoyment and success in rugby. All children play rugby because they first and foremost love the game – it's fun. It is important to remember that however good a child becomes at rugby within the club it is important to reinforce the message to parents/spectators that positive encouragement will contribute to:

- Children enjoying rugby
- A sense of personal achievement
- Self esteem
- Assist to improve the child's skills and techniques
- parents to interact appropriately with all spectators home and away.

As a parent/spectator your expectations and attitudes have a significant bearing on a child's attitude towards:

- Other players • Officials
- Coaches
- Spectators

Parents/spectators within our club should always be positive and encouraging towards all of the children and not just their own.

***Parents/spectators should:***

- Applaud the opposition as well as your own team
- Avoid coaching the child during the game
- Not shout and scream
- Respect the Game Coach's decision
- Give attention to each of the children involved in rugby and not just the most talented
- Give encouragement to everyone to participate in rugby
- Never enter the playing area.



- If a parent has any concerns they should speak to their child's coach and not with the Game Coach.
- If using social media, when it comes to team/club/opposition, we only use positive/supporting comments/posts

Any parent/spectator in breach of the Code of Conduct or bringing the club in to disrepute may be asked to remove themselves from the training session/fixture immediately.

Misconduct could lead to suspension and in exceptional circumstances, where the behaviour is deemed by the Trustees as wholly unacceptable or their behaviour has been persistent, ongoing or disruptive, reserves the right to request that a parent/guardian/spectator no longer attends training or fixtures.

### **Code of Conduct for Coaches**

- Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person .
- Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
- Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies.
- Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
- Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
- 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.
- Coaches must co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interest of the player.
- 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 Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
- Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance. Coaches must not use or tolerate inappropriate language.



- Coaches , {Children and Youths } must always remember when they are coaching children. Sessions should be Active, Purposeful, Enjoyable, Safe and above all – FUN!
- If using social media, when it comes to team/club/opposition, we only use positive/supporting comments/posts

