



Taunton Rugby Football Club Parent & Spectator Code Of Conduct

In Rugby Union overall and here at Taunton RFC coaches and administrators both fully acknowledge that parents are an integral part of the partnership, which ensures that young players enjoy their involvement in the sport and experience an environment in which they can flourish. Taunton RFC parents, spectators & members are encouraged to:

- * Be familiar with the coaching and training programme in order that they can ensure that their child is fully involved and the coaches are aware of their availability.
- * Be familiar with the teaching and coaching methods used by observing the sessions in which your child participates.
- * Be aware that the club has a duty of care and therefore, where appropriate/requested, assist coaches with the supervision of the young players, particularly where numbers are large and there is a need to transport youngsters to away games.
- * Be involved with club activities and share your expertise.
- * Share concerns, if you have them, with club officials.
- * Be familiar with the Club Codes Of Conduct & Club Safeguarding Policy. In particular:
 - * Coaches should recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when coaching young players & parents should fully support their decisions.
 - * Coaches should keep winning and losing in perspective, encouraging young players to behave with dignity in all circumstances, & parents should fully support their decisions.
- * All must recognise that it is illegal for players under the age of 18 to drink alcohol. Coaches should not drink alcohol while you they are coaching young players. Do not smoke when you are with young players and do not engage in any inappropriate contact with young players.

It is important that parents & all spectators support coaches in instilling these virtues. Taunton RFC Youth Coaches WILL fully support the 'Half Game' Rule for all players.

The Good Spectator's Code

Young rugby players are impressionable and their behaviour will often reflect that of adults around them. At Taunton RFC we welcome spectators on our touchlines who embrace the ethos of the game as one of fun, enjoyment and skill development.

Taunton RFC spectators are encouraged to:

- * Act as **POSITIVE** role models to all young players.
- * Be familiar with, and abide by, the RFU child protection guidance in relation to verbal and emotional abuse.
- * **RESPECT** the rugby clubs policy with regard to spectator behaviour.

Taunton RFC spectators should:

- * **REMEMBER** children play sport for their enjoyment not yours.
- * **ACKNOWLEDGE** good individual and team performance from **ALL** of the young players irrespective of which team they play for.
- * **RESPECT** the match official's decisions. Remember, they are volunteers too and are providing an opportunity for youngsters to play rugby.
- * **NEVER** verbally abuse young players, match officials, fellow spectators or coaches. Such behaviour can create a negative environment for young players and their behaviour will often reflect this.
- * **APPLAUD** effort and good performance rather than the "win at all costs" ethic.
- * Verbally **ENCOURAGE** all youngsters in a **POSITIVE** way. If you do want to shout make sure it is 'for', not 'at', the players.
- * **CONDEMN** bad language, rude behaviour and violence.
- * **ENCOURAGE** all youngsters irrespective of their ability – NEVER ridicule any individual player, regardless of the team they play for.
- * **REMEMBER** - It's only a game, they are young and still learning!

Taunton RFC will not tolerate any abuse of its players, coaches, match officials or anyone of our rugby family. Anyone in breach of these codes may be asked to leave.

Document reviewed and amended by
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