

Respect and Zero Tolerance Policy

A Guide for Parents

At West of Scotland Rugby Club, we are committed to fostering a positive and supportive environment for everyone involved in the game.

To ensure rugby remains an enjoyable and respectful sport, we have a strict Zero Tolerance Policy regarding any form of abuse directed at referees, players, coaches, or fellow spectators.



1. Respecting Referees

Referees play an essential role in ensuring fairness and safety on the pitch. They are volunteers giving up their time to ensure games can be played.

We ask all parents and spectators to:

- Refrain from questioning or criticising decisions made by the referee.
- Model positive behaviour by showing appreciation for their efforts to referee the game.
- Understand that constructive feedback is handled through the club's official channels, not during or immediately after matches.

Refereeing is a challenging job. Referees, just like everyone else want the game to flow and players to enjoy it. Abuse from the side lines will not make the game better and will have a negative impact on everyone else.

If you would like to take up refereeing please contact the club development manager for more information on how you can support our game.



**The West of Scotland
Rugby Referees Society**

2. Respecting Players

Our young players thrive in a supportive and encouraging environment. To help them develop both as athletes and individuals:

- Cheer for all players, not just your own child.
- Focus on effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship over winning.
- Avoid coaching from the sidelines; leave the guidance to the coaches.



3. Respecting Coaches

Coaches dedicate their time to developing players' skills and fostering their love for rugby. Attending workshops and courses to ensure the best sessions for players.

Parents can support this by:

- Trusting the coach's decisions.
- Addressing any concerns privately and respectfully at an appropriate time.
- Encouraging your child to listen to their coach and maintain discipline.



4. Respecting Fellow Parents

We are all part of the same rugby family and share a common goal: supporting our players. To maintain harmony and mutual respect:

- Avoid negative comments about other children, teams, or parents.
- Create a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere for all families.
- Celebrate the efforts and achievements of all players, regardless of team affiliation.



Zero Tolerance Policy on Abuse

Any form of verbal, physical, or emotional abuse towards referees, players, coaches, or spectators will not be tolerated. This includes:

- Shouting at or berating referees or coaches.
- Engaging in aggressive or confrontational behaviour.
- Using inappropriate or offensive language.

Consequences:

Individuals who breach this policy will be asked to leave the premises immediately.

Repeated or severe incidents may result in further disciplinary action, including suspension or permanent exclusion from club activities.





Everyone's GAME

