



The Good Parent/Carers Code

In Rugby Union, 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.

IN RUGBY UNION AS A PARENT/CARER YOU MUST:

- Remember that young people play rugby for their own enjoyment not that of their parents’.
- Encourage your child to understand and play within the rules
- Encourage young people to play – do not force an unwilling child to participate – it’s supposed to be for them, and you may put them off rugby forever
- Focus your child on practicing their skills, effort, sportsmanship and being part of a team. Winning isn’t everything and not everyone can score the winning try.
- Teach your child that taking part and trying your best are more important than winning
- Be realistic about the young players’ ability; do not push them towards a level that they are not capable of achieving.
- Provide positive verbal feedback both in training and during the game. Support and encourage your child – never criticize them for making mistakes. Console them for losing, but encourage them to try harder next time.
- Remember that persistent, negative messages will adversely affect the players’ and referee’s performance and attitude.
- Always support the rugby club in their efforts to eradicate loud, coarse and abusive behaviour from the game.
- Support your coaches – they are giving up their time to train your child. If you have any issues with the way a coach is performing, talk to them first. Refer any issues to an Officer of the Club.
- Remember young people learn much by example.
- Always show appreciation of good play by ALL young players both from your own club and the opposition.
- Respect decisions made by the match officials and encourage the young players to do likewise
- For children aged under 12, that a named responsible adult remains with their child at all times