



The Good Spectators' Code

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

IN RUGBY UNION AS A SPECTATOR YOU MUST:

- Remember children play for sport for their enjoyment not yours.
- Acknowledge good individual skill and team performance from ALL youngsters irrespective of which team they play for.
- Respect match official's decisions. REMEMBER, they are volunteers 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.
- Acknowledge effort and good performance rather than "win at all cost" 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.

IN RUGBY UNION AS A SPECTATOR YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO:

- Act as positive role models to all young players.
- Be familiar with, and abide by, our Child Protection Guidance in relation to verbal and emotional abuse.
- Respect the rugby club policy with regard to spectator behaviour.
- REMEMBER – It's Only a Game