

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND SPECTATORS

Dumfries Saints RFC is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy rugby in an environment that is free from the threat of intimidation, harassment, and abuse. The Club is also committed to ensuring that parents/spectators are always positive and encouraging towards all of the children, not just their own. Remember children play sport for their enjoyment and not that of their parents. Positive encouragement will contribute to –

- Children enjoying rugby
- A sense of personal achievement
- Self Esteem
- Assisting to improve the child's skills and techniques

Support the Club's efforts to rid the game of unacceptable, abusive and violent behaviour.

All spectators should:

1. Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding good performances of all. Applaud the opposition as well as their own team-acknowledge good individual and team performance from all youngsters irrespective of the team for whom they play.
2. Respect referees and match officials' decisions. Remember – they are volunteers providing an opportunity for youngsters to play rugby. Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
3. 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.
4. Verbally encourage all youngsters in a positive way. Use correct and proper language at all times.
5. Encourage all youngsters irrespective of their ability – never ridicule any individual player regardless of the team for whom they play.
6. The Club is committed to a youth rugby environment that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol. Youth members are not allowed to consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the Club. No parent/guardian should allow any child, or encourage any other person, to use drugs or alcohol while at any youth rugby event, including travelling to and from such events

Any parent/guardian in serious breach of the Code of Conduct or bringing the Club into disrepute may have their child refused the right to train, play or be selected for any team, for an appropriate period of time.

A parents/spectators expectations and attitudes have a significant bearing on a child's attitude towards –

- Other players
- Officials
- Manager
- Spectators

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