

SYSTON RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Barkby Road, Queniborough, Leicestershire, LE7 3EF

Tel: 0116 260 1223

SYSTON RFC CODES OF CONDUCT

The Syston RFC Codes of Conduct ensure that all adults within a rugby club clearly understand the acceptable standard of behaviour towards children and young people.

All club members must adhere to the relevant Syston RFC Codes of Conduct:

- ***Club Code of Conduct***
- ***Coaches Code of Conduct***
- ***Players Code of Conduct***
- ***Parents Code of Conduct***
- ***Spectators Code of Conduct***
- ***Match Officials Code of Conduct***
- ***Tour Code of Conduct***
- ***Tour Staff Code of Conduct***

These Codes of Conduct are supported by the Leicestershire Rugby Football Union and breaches will be reported for appropriate action to be taken.

Syston RFC ensures and makes available the following Codes of Conduct to all club officials, coaches, young players, medical support staff, parents and spectators etc. When joining the **Syston RFC you will be asked to sign to ensure you are aware of the various Codes of Conduct and must agree to abide by them. Breaching the Codes of Conduct will mean that appropriate action will be taken.**

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SYSTON RFC CODE OF CONDUCT

Syston RFC's Code of Conduct ensures that:

- The rights, dignity and worth of young people are respected and treated.
- The physical and emotional well-being of all young players must be placed above all other considerations.
- The relationship developed between adults and young people with whom they work must be based on mutual trust and respect.
- All activities undertaken are appropriate to the age, maturity, experience and ability of the young players.
- Young players should be encouraged to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Young players (and their parents/carers) are aware of what is expected of them both on and off the rugby field and also what they are entitled to expect from the coaches.
- Everyone, including coaches, officials, doctors, physiotherapists etc, should ensure the well-being, safety and enjoyment of all young players.
- The positive aspects of the sport e.g. fair play must be promoted.
- Behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant regulations or the use of prohibited techniques or substances must never be condoned.

Approved by the Senior Committee:

President: (Signed)

Chairman: (Signed)

Secretary: (Signed)

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COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

Syston RFC's Code of Conduct for Coaches ensures that:

- The coaches provide experiences, which are matched to the young players' age and ability, as well as their physical and mental development.
- All youngsters are coached in a safe environment with adequate first aid readily available.
- The coaches avoid the overplaying of the best players by using a squad system which gives everybody a satisfactory amount of playing time.
- There is appropriate supervision of young players both on and off the field.
- They recognise that young players should never be exposed to extremes of heat, cold or unacceptable risk of injury.
- The coaches develop an awareness of nutrition as part of an overall education in lifestyle management.
- They recognise that it is illegal for young players under 18 to drink alcohol.
- They ensure that their knowledge and coaching strategies are up to date and in line with RFU philosophy and expectations.
- They are aware of, and abide by, the RFU recommended procedures for taking young people on residential tours at home and abroad.
- The coaches are aware of, and abide by, the policies and procedures outlined in the Policies and Procedures for the Welfare of Young People in Rugby Union.
- Treat games against other clubs as lessons, opportunities to learn not as tests.

- Never ridicule any player. Never belittle any player, always make every player feel valued.

In Rugby Union Coaches should:

- Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when coaching young players. Most learning is achieved through “doing”.
- Appreciate the needs of the players before the needs of the sport.
- Be a positive role model.
- Keep winning and losing in perspective – encourage young players to behave with dignity in all circumstances.
- Respect all referees and the decisions they make (remember it could be you refereeing next week) and ensure that the players recognise that they must do the same.
- Learn the laws and learn to referee.
- Provide positive verbal feedback in a constructive and encouraging manner, to all young players both during coaching sessions and games.
- When you call yourself a coach you apply to join an elite; when others call you a coach you have achieved membership. You owe it to yourself and to others to behave as a coach.
- Look like a coach, always act like a coach.
- Plan your season.
- Plan your sessions.
- Do not drink alcohol before you work, or while you are working.
- Do not smoke when you are working.
- To be a good coach you need up to date information on coaching issues and Rugby issues. Stay in touch.
- Remember players’ safety is paramount.
- Mark out a safe area and keep it safe. Make sure equipment is in good repair and safe.

- Never 'join in' with contact drills and games.
- Do not encourage or allow players to play on an injury. Refer injured players to their doctor or better still, a sports injury clinic.
- Do not put yourself in a position where you could be suspected, or accused of physical or sexual abuse of any child associated with the club. Use a separate changing room from players and never be alone with individuals behind closed doors and never get in the bath with the boys.

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PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

Syston RFC's Code of Conduct for Players ensures that:

- All players treat each other with the same respect and fairness.
- They respect differences in gender, disability, culture, race, ethnicity and religious belief systems.
- All Players appreciate that every player brings something valuable and different to the game.
- They show patience and act with dignity towards others at all times.
- They are aware of their own welfare and that of others and that they do not act irresponsibly or illegally.
- All Players take time to thank those who assist them, whether it is family, organisations or team mates.

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PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

Syston RFC's Code of Conduct for Parents ensures that:

- They remember that young people play rugby for their own enjoyment not that of their parents.
- They encourage young people to play – do not force them.
- The focus on the young players' efforts rather than winning or losing.
- They are realistic about the young players' ability; not pushing them towards a level that they are not capable of achieving.
- They provide positive verbal feedback both in training and during the game.
- **Remember persistent, negative messages will adversely affect the players and referee's performance and attitude.**
- They always support the rugby club in their efforts to eradicate loud, coarse and abusive behaviour from the game.
- They remember that young people learn by example.
- They always show appreciation of good play by ALL young players both from your own club and the opposition.
- They respect decisions made by the match officials and encourage the young players to do likewise.

Syston RFC encourages Parents to:

- Be familiar with the coaching and training programme in order that their child is fully involved and the coaches are aware of their ability.
- Be familiar with the teaching and coaching methods used by observing the sessions in which their child participates.

- Be aware that the club has a duty of care and therefore, where appropriate, 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 their expertise.
- Share concerns, if they have them, with club officials.
- Be familiar with the “Good Coaches Code” and in particular that Coaches should recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when coaching young players.
- Coaches should keep winning and losing in perspective, encouraging young players to behave with dignity in all circumstances.
- **It is important that parents support coaches in instilling these virtues.**

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SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

Syston RFC's Code of Conduct for Spectator ensures that:

In Rugby Union players are impressionable and their behaviour will often reflect that of the adults around them. In Rugby Union we welcome spectators on our touchlines who embrace the ethos of the game as one of **FUN, ENJOYMENT** and **SKILL DEVELOPMENT**.

In Rugby Union Spectators are encouraged to:

- Act as positive role models to all young players.
- Be familiar with, and abide by, the RFU and RFUW Welfare of Young People guidance in relation to verbal and emotional abuse.
- Respect the rugby club policy with regard to spectator behaviour.

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MATCH OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT

When refereeing young players, match officials should:

- Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when officiating young players.
- Provide verbal feedback in a positive way during games.
- Appreciate the needs of the players.
- Be a positive role model.
- Recognise that safety is paramount.
- Explain decisions - most young players are still learning.
- Never tolerate verbal abuse.

Officials should not:

- Change in the same area as young players.
- Shower with young players - agree a timetable with the coaches.
- Be alone with young players at any time - if a young player comes into the dressing room ensure another adult is present.
- Check studs without the coach being present.
- Administer first aid.
- Allow any player to continue playing if there are doubts about their fitness.
- Tolerate bad language from young players.
- Engage in any inappropriate contact with young players.

- Give a lift to a player unless there are other young people or adults in the car and the parents are aware.
- Take a young player to your home.
- Overtly criticise young players or use language which may cause the player to lose confidence or self-esteem.
- Make sexually explicit remarks to young players, even in fun.

Officials must always:

Report, in writing, to the Club or CB Welfare Manager and/or Society Secretary, behaviour by adults which you feel contravenes RFU and RFUW recommended Policies and Procedures for the Welfare of Young People:

- Verbal bullying by coaches/parents/spectators.
- Physical abuse by coaches/parents/spectators.
- Inappropriate or aggressive contact by an adult to a young person.
- Verbal abuse directed at the official by young people or adults.

REMEMBER: The welfare of all young people is paramount.

**System RFC's Child Protection Officer: Tony Fraser,
Tel: 0116 260 7719**

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TOUR CODE OF CONDUCT

- 1) The person responsible for any player found to have caused damage to property will pay for that damage.
- 2) **No under age drinking will be permitted by the coaches of Syston RFC.**
- 3) No alcohol or food bought outside hotels will be taken back to rooms.
- 4) The staff and guests of all venues will be treated to the respect due to them and all rules of the venue are to be adhered to.
- 5) Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated and may lead to suspension from the club.
- 6) Continual bad behavior or any serious breach of discipline will lead to the player or adult being required to leave the tour.
- 7) All persons going on tour must remember that they are not only ambassadors for Syston Rugby Club, but for the game of rugby itself.

You must not:

- a) Smoke
- b) Use foul language
- c) Engage in sexual behavior
- d) Consume alcohol or illegal drugs
- e) Leave the site for any reason unless accompanied by a member of staff.

You must

- a) Treat others with the same respect and fairness that you would like them to show you.
- b) Demonstrate fair play on and off the field
- c) Look out for the welfare of yourself and others
- d) Challenge behavior which is not okay
- e) If you have a concern talk to a member of staff
- f) Be on time when meeting the team.

- 8) The purpose of rugby tours are for the players to learn and enjoy the game of rugby whilst meeting new people and facing new challenges.
- 9) We aim for the children to enjoy themselves as much as possible and everybody **must** remember that **it is a mini and junior tour, not an adult one!**

Responsibility of Parents:

Finally, please remember that the parents or accompanying adults are ultimately responsible for their own children, including their entertainment and their behavior, ensuring that it is within Syston RFC Code of Conduct. The coaches only have responsibility for your child during the games.

As the person responsible for the child(ren) named below, I agree to abide by the rules of tour as listed above and agree to pay for any damage found to be caused by the child/those children whilst on tour.

Name of Child(ren).....

Name of Person responsible.....

Signature.....Date.....

Age Group.....

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TOUR STAFF CODE OF CONDUCT

All Tour staff must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person with whom they work with and treat them equally within the context of Rugby Union.

All tour staff must place the physical and emotional well being of all young players above all other considerations, including the development of performance.

The relationship that a tour staff develops with the players with whom they work must be based on mutual trust and respect.

All tour staff must ensure that all activities undertaken are appropriate to the age, maturity, experience and ability of the young players.

All tour staff should clarify with the players (and their parents/carers) what is expected of them both on and off the rugby field and also what they are entitled to expect from the coach.

Tour Staff must not:

- Share a room with a player
- Smoke
- Consume alcohol or take illegal drugs
- Engage in sexual activity with each other or with players
- Engage in inappropriate physical contact
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a player in fun
- Swear or use inappropriate language
- Arrange to meet a player on your own

Tour Staff must be fully aware of the RFU Tour Guidelines of January 2005.

All disciplinary matters must be reported immediately upon your return to the Child Protection Officer, the Disciplinary Officer, who must inform the necessary Bodies within 48 hours. Any action taken must be documented for record purposes.

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