

Cranbrook Rugby Football Club



4.3 THE GOOD MATCH OFFICIAL'S CODE

Whether playing, training or watching a game of rugby the way you behave reflects, YOU, YOUR TEAM and **CRFC** to everyone watching.

The following Codes are designed to promote the elements of enjoyment and satisfaction, the contribution that can be made by non players and to remind all people involved with the game that there are certain standards of fair play and conduct that should be maintained at all times.

Match officials should:

- Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when officiating young players.
- Provide positive verbal feedback in a constructive and encouraging manner during games.
- Emphasise the spirit of the game.
- Appreciate the needs of the young players before the needs of the sport.
- Understand the physical, social and psychological development of young players.
- Be a positive role model. You set an example, and as such, comments you receive should be positive and supportive.
- Look to self-improvement e.g. participation in Mini/Midi or National 15-a-side courses.

Match officials must:

- Recognise that safety of young players is paramount.
- Explain decisions – all young players are still learning.
- Always penalise foul play.
- Play advantage where ever possible in order to let the game flow.
- Show empathy for the age and ability of young players.
- Be consistent and objective.

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- Ensure that verbal abuse from players, coaches or spectators is not tolerated and is dealt with by Club officials immediately.
- Be aware of, and abide by, the RFU Child Protection Guidance policies and procedures.