



Rugby Virginia Code of Conduct for Players & Coaches

This code establishes the basic contract for behavior in this league, for both coaches and players. Once a player joins the team, he or she has made a commitment to abide by these rules.

- Grades are a player's primary concern. Player's grades will not fall because a player is playing rugby. If your school has other requirements these will apply.
- Use or suspected use of controlled substances (alcohol, other drugs, cigarettes for minors, etc.) or tolerating use in a teammate is grounds for a player to be dropped from the team. This matter is of such concern that a no-toleration policy is in effect.
- Racist, sexist, and bigoted jokes and statements will not be tolerated. Obscene or profane language, as determined by the coaches, is not acceptable.
- No player will be allowed to participate in contact practices or games without a mouthpiece.
- Fighting on the pitch will not be tolerated. If a fight appears to be starting, teammates will pull the offending player to a safe area. Fighting may result in player suspension from the league for a period of time determined by coaches and/or the disciplinary committee.
- Rugby activities are those approved by the head coach and a coach is present at the activity, such as practices, games (set-up, competition, and clean-up), approved social activities and fundraisers. If no coach is present, it is not a team-sanctioned activity, even if it starts as one.
- No player will be dropped from the team for lack of athletic ability.
- Players will not be allowed to play without the following: a) Picture identification; b) USA Rugby/CIPP registration; c) medical waiver/permission; d) verification from school of student status (when requested). Unless a player is eighteen, parents/guardians must sign these forms.
- Players will wear the proper uniform to practice and games.
- Good manners are expected on and off the field, especially when a player is wearing clothing identifying him or her as a rugby player for Rugby Virginia.
- Respect for the referee is required by the Laws of the Game for the players, coaches, attendants and spectators, and is expected (back talk, disrespectful behavior or assault, either verbal or physical, will not be tolerated).
- As a club, all players are expected to assist whenever possible. This includes setting up the fields, after game socials, and fundraisers.
- Players are expected to attend the after-game social.
- If a player is severely injured, a coach or someone designated by a coach, will take appropriate emergency action, including accompanying the player to the hospital. An adult, generally a coach, will remain with the player until either the player is released, or the parents arrive.