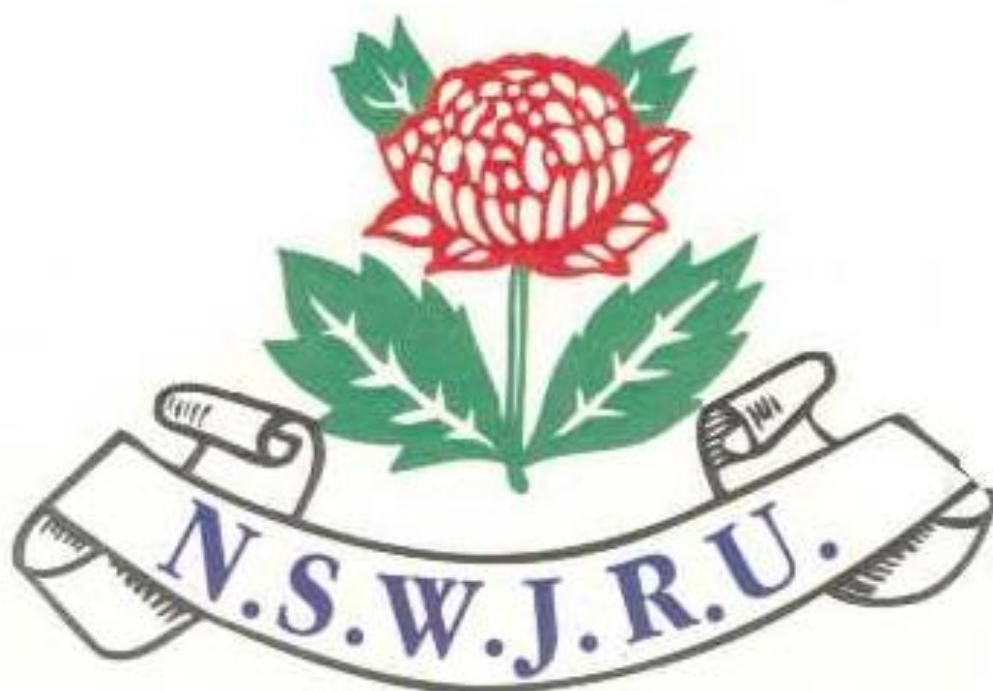


NEW SOUTH WALES JUNIOR RUGBY UNION



CODE OF CONDUCT



Introduction

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to provide all participants with some simple rules concerning the standards of behaviour that are expected.

The NSWJRU Code of Conduct is to be used in conjunction with the ARU Code of Conduct which can be found on the NSWJRU website www.nswjuniors.rugbynet.com.au.

Participants include players, parents, spectators, coaches, referees and officials.

Every participant should:

- Discourage all instances of unsportsmanlike behaviour, foul or illegal play, or acts of violence, both on and off the field.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability/disability, sexual orientation, cultural background or religion.
- Condemn the use of recreational and performance enhancing drugs; their use endangers the health of players and is contrary to the concept of fair play.

I strongly recommend that everyone connected with Junior Rugby adopts this Code so that players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators can attend games secure in the knowledge that it will be a safe and enjoyable experience.

Regards,

John Spana
President, NSWJRU



Endorsement – Jim L’Estrange (Chief Executive Officer - NSW Rugby)

The Code of Conduct is fully endorsed by NSW Rugby Union.

The Code of Conduct provides a clear and excellent framework and I congratulate NSW Junior Rugby Union on its initiative and implementation.

By all of us following and encouraging the behaviours of the code consistently we will help ensure we have a game that is fun, safe and enjoyable for all both on and off the field.





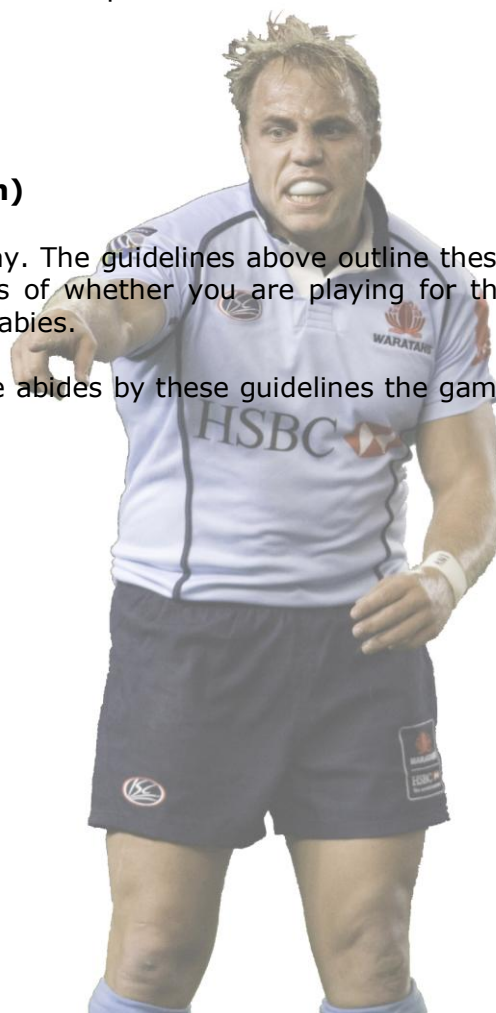
1. CODE OF CONDUCT - PLAYER

- i Be a good sport. Respect all good play whether from your team or the opposition. Form a tunnel after the game and shake hands with and thank the opposition players and referees after the game – win, lose or draw.
- ii Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.
- iii Except when acting as a Captain of a team, never question a referee’s decision.
- iv Never become involved in acts of foul play.
- v Honour both the spirit and letter of the competition rules and live up to the highest ideals of ethics and sportsmanship; and respect the traditions of the game.
- vi Never engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, sledging, obscene gestures, offensive remarks, trash-talking, taunting or other actions that are demeaning to other players, officials or supporters.
- vii Care for and respect the facilities and equipment made available to you during training and competition.
- viii Safeguard your health; don’t use any illegal or unhealthy substances.
- ix Recognize that officials, coaches and referees are volunteers who give up their time to provide their services. Treat them with the utmost respect.

Endorsement – Phil Waugh (NSW Waratah’s Captain)

Players in our game are expected to behave in a certain way. The guidelines above outline these expectations. These expectations do not change regardless of whether you are playing for the Under 13’s at your local club, the Waratahs or even the Wallabies.

I fully endorse these guidelines and if everyone in our game abides by these guidelines the game will continue to be fun and safe for everyone.





2. CODE OF CONDUCT – COACH

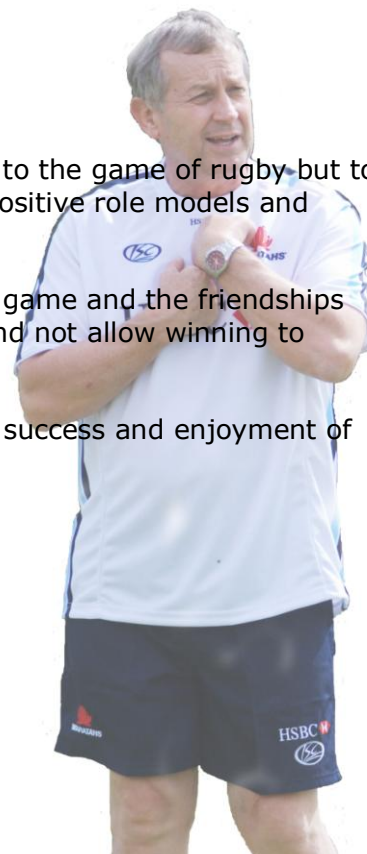
- i Actively discourage foul play, unsportsmanlike behaviour, dissent or querying of referee decisions by players or coaching staff during games.
- ii Seek to maximise the participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability; avoid the tendency to over-use a talented player; treat all players as equals, regardless of their talent.
- iii Show concern and caution towards all sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician and/or sports trainer to the letter when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or playing.
- iv Teach players that an honest effort and competing to the best of their ability is as important as victory.
- v Maintain appropriate, professional relationships with players at all times.
- vi Maintain a thorough knowledge of the laws of the game and keep abreast of current coaching methods; maintain or improve your current accreditation level.
- vii Always consider the health, safety and welfare of the players.
- viii Teach young players to realise that there is a big gap between their play and the professional game; do not coach them as if they are professionals.
- ix Ensure that your coaching reflects the level of the competition being played; do not be a “winner-at-all-costs” coach.
- x As coach, conduct yourself at all times in a manner, and in all situations, that shows leadership, respect for the game of Rugby Union and respect for all those that are involved in the game – the players, officials, the fans, the parents, the referees and the media.
- xi Encourage your team to form a tunnel for your opposition at the conclusion of every game.
- xii Seek to shake hands with the referee and opposition coach at the conclusion of every game.

Endorsement – Chris Hickey (NSW Waratahs Coach)

As a volunteer coach you are making a valuable contribution not only to the game of rugby but to the lives of the young players you coach. It is vital that coaches are positive role models and promote the values of sportsmanship and fair play.

Young people play the game for the challenges, the enjoyment of the game and the friendships that they share. It is incumbent that coaches promote these values and not allow winning to become the sole focus of playing the game.

I fully support these guidelines and believe they will contribute to the success and enjoyment of the game for the young people you coach.





CODE OF CONDUCT – REFEREE / TOUCH JUDGE / OFFICIALS

- i Apply all the laws fairly and to both teams. Be consistent, objective and courteous.
- ii Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else; be alert to minimise dangerous play.
- iii Accept responsibility for all of your actions.
- iv Do not debate any issues of law with coaches, team officials, parents and spectators during play.
- v Avoid any situation, which may lead to a conflict of interest, both on and off the field.
- vi Maintain an appropriate level of fitness for the standard of game at which you are officiating.
- vii Deal firmly and decisively with foul play.
- viii Set a good example by the way you dress, speak and act towards players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators.
- ix Show concern and caution towards sick and injured players.
- x Officiate to the age and/or experience of the players.

Endorsement – Ron Mancell (NSW Rugby’s Referee Manager)

One of the unique features of Rugby is the culture of its supporters. On many occasions I have discussed this with match officials from other sports and one of the things they envy us, are the relationships we have between players, coaches and match officials, both on and off the field. The NSWJRU Code of Conduct formalises elements of our culture so that new and old supporters of Junior Rugby can be assured that our game will continue to be well managed and administered. I am very pleased to be asked to lend my support to this initiative.



Ron Mancell





4. CODE OF CONDUCT – SPECTATOR/PARENT

- i Condemn all violent or illegal acts, whether they are by players, coaches, officials, parents or spectators.
- ii Respect the referee's decisions – don't complain or argue about calls or decisions during or after a game.
- iii Behave! Unsportsmanlike language, harassment or aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- iv Encourage players to play by the laws and to respect opposition players and officials.
- v Never ridicule or scorn a player for making a mistake – respect their efforts.
- vi Understand that sport is part of a total life experience, and the benefits of involvement go far beyond the final score of a game.
- vii Participate in positive cheering that encourages the players in the team you are supporting; do not engage in any cheering that taunts or intimidates opponents, their fans or officials.
- viii Remember that children participate in Rugby Union for their own enjoyment, not yours!
- ix At all times, follow the directions of the Ground Marshall and/or other match day staff.
- x Never arrive at a game under the influence of alcohol.

Endorsement – Nick Farr-Jones (Former Wallaby Captain & Proud Parent)

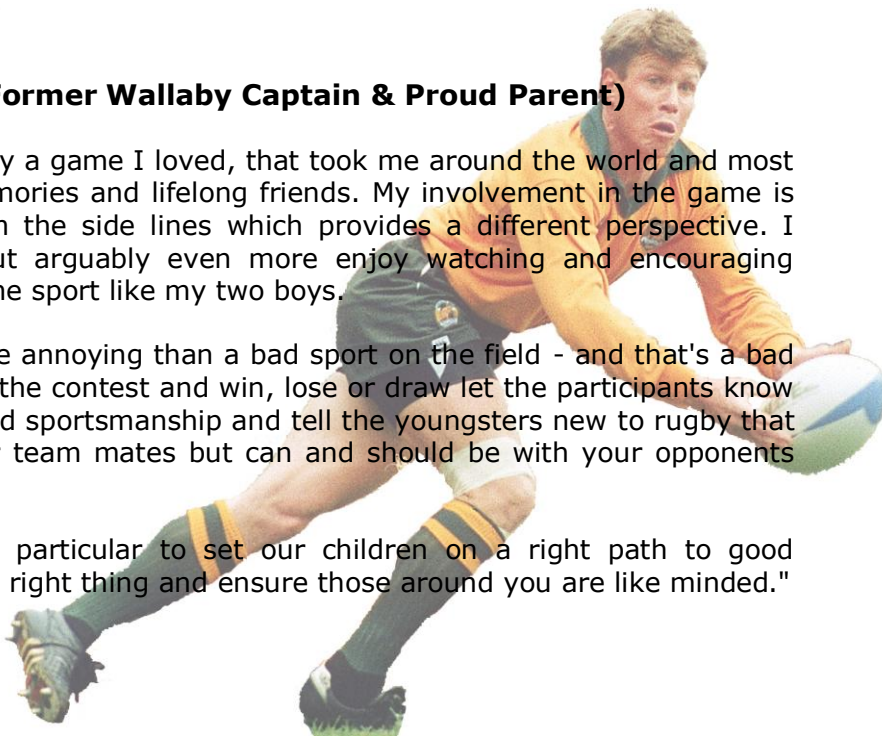
"As a player I was very fortunate to play a game I loved, that took me around the world and most importantly has left me with great memories and lifelong friends. My involvement in the game is now largely limited to looking on from the side lines which provides a different perspective. I enjoy watching international rugby but arguably even more enjoy watching and encouraging young players who are starting out in the sport like my two boys.

In my view there is only one thing more annoying than a bad sport on the field - and that's a bad sport off the field. Enjoy the game and the contest and win, lose or draw let the participants know they have your support. Encourage good sportsmanship and tell the youngsters new to rugby that mateship is not only restricted to your team mates but can and should be with your opponents also.

Parents have a huge responsibility in particular to set our children on a right path to good sportsmanship and I urge you to do the right thing and ensure those around you are like minded."



Nick Farr-Jones





5. CODE OF CONDUCT – PENALTIES

1. No person attending a match shall:
 - i Use offensive or obscene language;
 - ii Enter the Field of Play during the course of a match without the prior approval of the Ground Marshall appointed by the home club and/or union;
 - iii Dispute the decision of a referee or touch judge;
 - iv Assault or act with aggression to any person/s;
 - v Behave in a way contrary to this Code of Conduct and/or the spirit of the game;
 - vi Behave in a way which disturbs the enjoyment of the match by any other person/s, or brings discredit to the home club and/or union;
 - vii Act in such a way as to exhibit racial intolerance;
 - viii Refuse to accept the reasonable direction of the Ground Marshall, official of the home club and/or union, or official of the team/club which that person/s is supporting.
2. Any person/s contravening Rule 1 (above) may be reported by the Ground Marshall to the Team Manager or other official of the team which that person/s is supporting. Where a team does not have a Team Manager present, a request or direction from the Ground Marshall to any official of the team or the team's club shall be regarded as a direction to the Team Manager for the purposes of this Code.
3. The Ground Marshall and/or Team Manager must advise the offending person/s of the relevant breach of the Code. The Ground Marshall must note the details of their report to the Team Manager on the reverse of the team sheet.
4. In the event that the inappropriate conduct continues, the Ground Marshall and/or Team Manager may request the offender/s to immediately leave the ground. This should also be noted on the team sheet.
5. In the event the person/s refuses to obey the direction of the Ground Marshall and/or Team Manager, the Ground Marshall will call the police and ask them to come and eject the person from the ground. The person should be informed that this is the next step to be taken so that they can voluntarily leave the ground if they wish.
6. Clubs which do not exercise all reasonable control over their players, parents/carers of players, coaches, officials or spectators may be requested by the NSWJRU or its affiliates to accept responsibility for their actions and the following penalties may apply (in addition to penalties which may be imposed by the appropriate judiciary):
 - **FIRST OFFENCE**
A fine, and/or loss of competition points, and/or suspension of the player from playing, and/or suspension of the offender/s from attending future matches.
 - **SECOND OFFENCE**
Suspension of the offender and/or team and/or club either for the remainder of the season, or permanently.