



---

## **GORDON RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT**

Gordon Rugby Football Club (GRFC) has adopted the following Code of Conduct (hereafter referred to as The Code) for all players, officials, parents and supporters. The Code is to be read in conjunction with the ARU Code of Conduct and the 'Respect Rugby' program which, in association with 'Play by the Rules', is a proactive initiative with the aim of upholding the values, behaviours and mandatory practices of Rugby Union.

The Code for the GRFC must be adhered to by the following individuals and groups:

- All players affiliated or representing the Club
- All members affiliated with the Club
- Coaches and Officials
- Supporters

All players, members, coaches, officials and supporters must not at any time act in a manner which is detrimental and would bring disrepute to the interests, welfare or image of the GRFC and its sponsors.

Any act which falls into the above category will not be tolerated or condoned by the Club.

This includes any of the following:

- Violence on or off the field including at any Club Functions or sponsored events;
- Any unsportsmanlike behaviour;
- Abuse directed towards referees, touch judges or any appointed officials of the Club or the NSW Rugby Union;
- Abuse directed towards players, coaches or spectators;
- Discrimination of any kind;
- Foul language, disrespect and misbehaviour;
- Any other behaviour deemed by the Club's Board, Rugby Committee or Management Committee to be in breach of the Code.

### **The Code is designed with the following in mind:**

To remind administrators, coaches, players, members, supporters and parents that rugby must be played in good spirits and good sportsmanship at all times and that they shall not at any time act in a manner detrimental towards the GRFC, its sponsors, the game or the spirit of rugby union. All players, members, officials and spectators must conduct themselves in a manner which is credible to the game and the Club at all times. The Code applies to all Club matches, training, social events or if officially representing the club at anytime or whenever wearing Club jerseys or other Club merchandise.



---

## NON-COMPLIANCE

Members who breach the GRFC Code of Conduct may be contacted at any time by a committee member or board member and asked to attend a special Disciplinary Committee meeting where disciplinary action may be taken.

### Please refer to the following links:

Respect Rugby:

<http://www.sjru.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/respect-rugby-manual-v5.pdf>

ARU Expectations of Behaviour Guidelines:

[http://www.aru.com.au/Portals/18/Files/Administration/Policies/Code%20of%20Conduct/Expectations\\_of\\_Behaviour\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.aru.com.au/Portals/18/Files/Administration/Policies/Code%20of%20Conduct/Expectations_of_Behaviour_Guidelines.pdf)

## THE CODES

### 1. ADMINISTRATORS CODE

The NSWRU Administrators' Code of Conduct will be used in conjunction with the ARU Code of Conduct which can be found on their website

at <http://www.aru.com.au/runningrugby/PolicyRegister/CodeofConduct.aspx>

By representing yourself in an honest manner, you will endeavour to uphold the following to the best of your ability:

- Ensure that the club distributes the Code of Conduct and Conditions of Entry and that these are displayed at home games and made known to all participants;
- Ensure your club trains its players, coaches and Ground Marshals in their responsibilities;
- Monitor participant behaviour for any breaches of the Code of Conduct or Conditions of Entry and take appropriate action to stop and/or sanction such behaviour;
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development, and help to improve the standards of coaching and officiating; and
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from the game.

### 2. COACHES CODE

The NSWRU Coaches' Code of Conduct will be used in conjunction with the ARU Code of Conduct which can be found on their website

at <http://www.aru.com.au/runningrugby/PolicyRegister/CodeofConduct.aspx>

By representing yourself in an honest manner, you will endeavour to uphold the following to the best of your ability:



- 
- Lead by example, ensuring that your behaviour sets the standard for your team;
  - Give all participants a 'fair go', regardless of ability, gender, sexual orientation, cultural background or religion – condemning unsporting behaviour and promoting respect for all participants;
  - Do not ridicule or yell at Match Officials or at players for perceived mistakes;
  - Follow the ARU Medical and Safety Recommendations and ensure your players are aware of them;
  - Display professionalism in your conduct and approach to coaching, understanding that your expectations of others must be appropriate for an amateur sport;
  - Only speak with Match Officials with a positive intent and manner, and never in the heat of the moment or during or within 15 minutes after the match, or;
  - Actively discourage foul play, unsportsmanlike behaviour, dissent or querying of referee decisions by players;
  - Maintain a current knowledge of the laws of the game and coaching methods and teach your players to play within the laws and the spirit of the game;
  - Honestly evaluate your own performance and incorporate advice from others so that you may improve your coaching;
  - Ensure all players wear the correct GRFC uniform during all games. Jerseys designed for interstate or overseas tours must not be worn in the local competition(s) at any time.

### 3. PLAYERS CODE

The NSWRU Players' Code of Conduct will be used in conjunction with the ARU Code of Conduct which can be found on their website

at <http://www.aru.com.au/runningrugby/PolicyRegister/CodeofConduct.aspx>

By representing yourself in an honest manner, you will endeavour to uphold the following to the best of your ability:

- Players must at all times play within the spirit and guidelines as stipulated by the International and Rugby Australia Boards.
- You will be encouraged to play hard and strive to win within the laws of the game;
- Team spirit and club loyalty must be given priority over selfish play. Work equally hard for yourself and your team;
- When you commit yourself to a team for the season, honour that commitment. Attend all training sessions and games each week for the whole of the season;
- Treat all other players as you yourself would wish to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of any player;



- You will play by the rules, never argue with an official, referee or other players. Let the coach or manager sort out any problems;
- You must cooperate with coaches, team mates and opponents and play hard and strive to win within the laws of the game. Without them you do not have a game;
- Players shall take pride and enjoy participating in rugby and playing for GRFC;
- Learn to win with grace and lose with dignity. Be modest in success and appreciate your opponents' performance, even when defeated;
- At the conclusion of the game, the opponents are to be thanked for the game as should the referee and officials who have made the game possible.

### ***At matches & training***

- Ensure that you are always dressed in the correct GRFC uniform for all games. You are provided with shorts and socks at the beginning of the season and a jersey is loaned to you by the club to wear at each game. No other jerseys shall be worn without prior approval from the Committee;
- Ensure that you arrive at the game wearing the appropriate dress code as prescribed by your coaches.
- Mouth guards are compulsory for all games and training;
- Be punctual to all games. You should be at the ground at least one hour before the match starts (or as advised by your coach and manager). If you arrive late you can expect to be a reserve if there is a surplus of players;
- Training nights – If you are unable to attend you must notify your manager or the coach as to the reason why you were unable to attend. Failure to do this or supplying an unacceptable excuse may result in you not being selected in the run on side for the following match.
- If a player is unsure of what to do or needs to be assisted in any way, he or she should speak to the team manager for help. You will be provided with the telephone numbers of the coach and the manager.
- Rugby is a winter sport and the game should be considered on despite inclement weather. Always look to your coach or manager for advice first and secondly ensure you are checking for updates via Team App, the website, Facebook and Twitter.
- You are expected to help with the equipment at both training and at all matches. Equipment should be looked after and cared for by the whole team. Always thank your coach after all training sessions and all games.
- Do not commence drinking alcohol after your game as you may be needed as a reserve for the next game(s).
- Alcohol is not permitted on the field at any time whilst games are being played.



---

#### **4. PARENTS CODE**

Attendance at matches by parents is welcomed and encouraged, but only on the condition that the following guidelines are observed:

- Support all efforts to remove physical and verbal abuse from all sporting activities;
- Parental involvement should be restricted to encouragement for the team. Leave the coaching, positional play, tactics, etc. to the team coach;
- If there is any concern about a referee's decision or any other aspect of the game, it should be raised with the coach of your son's or daughter's team. Under no circumstances is the official's honesty or judgement to be questioned in public;
- Do not enter onto the field when the coaches are meeting with their team at half time. Your presence whilst well intentioned will serve as a distraction to the boys and the coaches.

#### **5. SPECTATORS CODE**

- Be on your best behaviour. Don't use profane language or harass players, coaches or referees;
- Applaud good play by your own team and the visiting team;
- Show respect for your own team's opponents. Without them there would be no game;
- Never ridicule or scold a player for making a mistake during the game;
- Condemn the use of violence in all forms;
- Respect the referee's decisions. Under no circumstances is the official's honesty or judgement to be questioned in public.
- Any GRFU members who are visibly intoxicated at games, will be asked to leave the stadium.

#### **6. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

- Refer to The Gordon Rugby Football Club Social Media Policy.