

COLLEGIATE CODE OF CONDUCT

Student athletes and coaches who participate in collegiate rugby represent their colleges and are ambassadors of collegiate rugby in the United States.

As such, collegiate rugby players and coaches are expected to behave with dignity both on and off the field, and should not tolerate or indulge in behavior which would reflect negatively on the college, USA Rugby, or the image of collegiate rugby.

Sportsmanship.

Individuals affiliated with a member institution to administer, conduct or coach college rugby, and participating students, shall act with honesty and sportsmanship at all times so that USA Rugby as a whole, the member institutions and they, as individuals, shall represent the honor and dignity of fair play and the generally recognized high standards associated with wholesome competitive sports.

It is inherent that opponents respect each other and admire the effort made fairly in pursuit of victory. Member teams shall adhere to the standards set forth by USA Rugby and require ethical conduct worthy of the educational stature and the standards of the respective institutions. Players, coaches, and all others associated with college rugby programs and events should adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility.

Non Discrimination.

USA Rugby promotes an atmosphere of respect for and sensitivity to the dignity of every person. It is policy to refrain from discrimination with respect to its governance policies, educational programs, activities and employment policies, including on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, creed or sexual orientation.

Role of Coaches.

The coach's behavior influences that of the players and the fans. The coach has a responsibility to educate student-athletes concerning their obligations to the coach, the institution, college rugby, and themselves. Respect for an opponent can most effectively be conveyed to the student-athletes by the manner in which the coach speaks of and act toward the opponent. A coach shall be fully responsible for assuring that no derogatory public comments on officiating are made by any student-athlete on his or her team.

Role of Players.

College rugby players must uphold the responsibilities which accompany the privilege of representing a college by adhering to USA Rugby and conference sportsmanship guidelines. Students are expected to treat opponents with respect. They must be aware significant penalties will be applied for fighting, taunting an opponent, or other unethical conduct.

Role of Officials.

Although each game official has a demanding and difficult job to officiate the contest, he/she also will be directed to apply without hesitation or reservation the rules governing conduct and sportsmanship during each College competition. When doing so as directed, the official will have the support of USA Rugby, each member institution, and its administrators and coaches.

Crowd Control Policy.

USA Rugby has assigned a high priority to assuring its college games are conducted in a safe and enjoyable atmosphere. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide such an environment, and specifically, to control the actions of the crowd insofar as possible. It is the responsibility of the coaches to control the actions of their players prior to, during, and after the game. Coaches, players, and sidelines personnel shall avoid actions which could incite the crowd during the contest. Proper conduct also is essential to crowd control, to which the Conference has assigned a high priority to assure that attendance at college rugby contests is a safe and enjoyable experience.

Any breach of this Code of Conduct will be forwarded to the appropriate Disciplinary Committee for action.