



Rugby Pennsylvania Spectators Code of Conduct

Effective September 1, 2019

Rugby is different than other youth and high school sports, and Rugby Pennsylvania encourages all coaches and administrators to adopt and distribute the following Supporters Code of Conduct to parents, friends and fans of youth and high school rugby. Parents, friends and fans supporting the game should be encouraged to always:

1. Recognize and appreciate the efforts made by coaches, match officials, and administrators in providing the opportunity to play the game and enjoy the rugby environment.
2. Recognize that every player has a right to expect their involvement in rugby to be safe and free from all types of abuse.
3. Remember that skill development, fun and enjoyment are the most important parts of the game.
4. Recognize good play by all players on their team and by their opponents.
5. Understand and appreciate that Rugby Pennsylvania coaches teach sportsmanship -- win with dignity, lose with grace.
6. Control their emotions. Verbal or physical abuse of players, opponents, coaches, match officials or spectators **is not acceptable**.
7. Treat match officials with respect – before, during, and after the match.
8. Supporters are encouraged to support their teams. Shouting out opinions on decisions does not help the players and may distract them and cause them to lose advantages being offered by the referee.
9. Under no circumstances is it acceptable to boo or jeer the opposition or match officials.
10. It is customary in rugby, at all levels of competition, for the home team to extend hospitality to the visiting team. This may include a post match social, or some other form of gathering after the match.