



St. Brendan's Old Boys' R.F.C.

**Members of the Bristol Rugby Combination
Affiliated to the R.F.U. S.C.R.F.U**



SBOB Codes of Conduct

Rugby is a game of long traditions, which have been developed over time into a number of values that guide the way the game is played and how players, coaches, officials and supporters conduct themselves.

At its core, rugby is a physical game and a fundamental value is one of respect - for opponents, team-mates and officials. For the vast majority, rugby remains a sport played for enjoyment. As such, the core values which we at St Brendan's Old Boys aspire to are firm and inclusive. You will find those values embedded in these codes of conduct.

If you have any queries, observations, or suggestions, please contact the Club's Welfare Officer, Chairman, or one of the Coaches.



Parents' Code of Conduct

- Do not force an unwilling child to participate – it's supposed to be for them, and you may put them off rugby forever.
- Encourage your child to understand and play within the laws
- Teach your child that taking part and trying your best are more important than winning
- Focus your child on practising his/her skills, sportsmanship and being part of a team. Winning isn't everything and not everyone can score the winning try.
- Support and encourage your child - never criticize him/her for making mistakes. Console him/her for losing, but encourage him/her to try harder next time.
- Set an example for sportsmanship - applaud good play by all
- Never publicly criticize a referee or linesman - there is no place for 'touchline rage' in rugby
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sport. Report anything to the Club Welfare Officer or Chairman
- Help the club function properly by turning up on time with the appropriate kit. Be prepared to help out if asked. Better still, volunteer!
- Support your coaches - they are giving up their time to train your child. If you have any issues with the way a coach is performing, talk to them first. Refer any issues to an Officer of the Club.



Coaches' Code of Conduct

- Don't overload young players with demands, technical information and tactics - remember they are children and they are playing rugby for fun.
- Don't over play the better players - include everyone
- Players develop at different times and in different ways - make allowances for their physical, emotional and mental maturity and development.
- Winning isn't everything - teach your players to enjoy taking part and performing to the best of his or her ability. Encourage each player to reach his or her potential.
- Never abuse, yell, criticise or ridicule children for making mistakes or losing a game



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- Be organised - establish a structure for the season, prepare a coaching plan for each session, have the appropriate kit. Above all, communicate to players, parents and fellow coaches to set expectations.
- Make sure players develop an understanding of the laws of the game, that they respect opponents, team-mates, coaches and officials
- Never question an official's judgement or honesty
- Ensure players' and parents' behaviour is appropriate and in keeping with the spirit of the game and the expectations of the Club



Players' Code of Conduct

- Play to enjoy rugby - always try your best to improve your skills and play well
- Play within the laws of the game
- Never argue with referees or coaches - their decision is final, (even if you think that they are wrong)
- Rugby is a team game - do your best for your team mates and don't try to grab all that glory for yourself
- Don't show off, lose your cool, pick on other players or generally misbehave - it's not part of rugby
- If you lose, accept it with good grace and try harder next time
- Respect good play - from opponents or your team
- Help team-mates, opponents, coaches and officials - you can't play rugby on your own!
- Don't give up; the game ends when the ref blows the whistle, not before. You are part of a team, so don't let them down!



Spectators' Code of Conduct

- Act as positive role models to all players.
- Be familiar with, and abide by, the RFU Child Protection Guidance in relation to verbal and emotional abuse.
- Respect guidance from the Club with regard to spectator behaviour.
- Remember children play sport primarily for their own enjoyment, not for that of the spectators.
- Acknowledge good individual and team performance from all players irrespective of the team in which they play.
- Respect match officials' decisions, even if they appear to make a mistake - remember, they are volunteers providing an opportunity for players to play rugby.
- Never verbally abuse players, coaches, match officials or fellow spectators: such behaviour can create a negative environment for players and their behaviour will often reflect this.
- Acknowledge effort and good performance rather than 'to win at all costs'.
- Verbally encourage all players in a positive manner, shouting 'for', not 'at', the players.
- Encourage all players irrespective of their ability - never ridicule any individual player, regardless of the team for which they play.