

Upstate Small College Rugby Conference (UpSCRC) Coaches Code of Conduct

UpSCRC coaches commit themselves to a positive, player-centered approach in their coaching. A UpSCRC coach in good standing pledges:

1. To be a positive role model for Rugby and its players
 - Coaches encourage their players to also be positive role models for Rugby and other players.
2. To respect the rights, dignity, and worth of every player within the context of their involvement in Rugby.
 - Coaches focus on their player's improvement as well as on results. They develop and maximize each player's physical, mental and emotional potential.
 - Coaches place the welfare and safety of each player above all other considerations, including match results.
 - Coaches believe all players are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
 - Coaches refrain from any discriminatory practices on the basis of gender identification, race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnic background, or special ability/disability.
3. To represent self and specialized standing in an honest manner enhancing the reputation of the Rugby coaching community.
 - Coaches are responsible for their actions.
 - Coaches display high standards through language, manner, punctuality and presentation.
 - Coaches display control, dignity and respect for all involved with Rugby - including players, opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators.
 - Coaches comply with UpSCRC Rugby membership requirements for themselves as well as their players.
 - Coaches seek continual improvement through performance appraisal, coach education, and maintaining current USA Rugby certification and CIPP membership.
 - Coaches maintain appropriate records.
4. To make decisions based on the best interests of a player's sporting, educational, and vocational careers.
 - Coaches do not place players in competitive or training situations until they are sufficiently prepared or sufficiently recovered from injury.
Coaches set the appropriate training programs based upon the developmental level of the player.
 - Coaches maintain a balanced emphasis on sporting involvement within life objectives.
 - Coaches provide planned, sequential training programs.
5. To operate within the spirit of the game, the laws of Rugby, and the policies of UpSCRC.
6. To refrain from any form of harassment of players or colleagues.
 - Coaches refrain from any form of personal, verbal, physical or emotional abuse of players, coaches, or officials.
 - Coaches refrain from, and prevent, any form of sexual harassment towards players or colleagues.

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- Coaches ensure that any physical contact with players is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
 - Coaches do not engage in sexual/romantic relationships with players or other participants over whom the coach has evaluative, direct, or indirect authority because such relationships are likely to impair judgment or be exploitive.
7. To exercise a standard of care consistent with the coach's qualifications as a Rugby coach.
- Coaches act out of concern for the health, safety, and welfare of players and colleagues.
 - Coaches refrain from providing services or advice that are outside the scope of their competency.
 - Coaches ensure medical care is available to players.
8. To provide a safe environment for training and competition.
- Coaches ensure equipment & facilities meet safety standards.
 - Coaches ensure an emergency response plan is in place at all training and competitions.
9. To act out of concern and caution toward sick and injured players.
- Coaches encourage players to seek appropriate medical advice.
 - Coaches allow further participation in training and competition only when appropriate.
 - Coaches modify training programs when appropriate.
 - Coaches maintain the same interest and support towards sick and injured players.
10. To understand that coaches and referees work together toward all aims listed herein.
- Coaches form congenial and professional relationships with referees prior to a match.
 - Coaches encourage players to treat referees with respect and understanding.
 - Coaches and referees inform competing players about rule interpretations prior to the game to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all.
 - Coaches and referees assess the safety of the playing field together and monitor any potential sources of problems, including weather, spectators, or field conditions.

I have read and understood the above statements and agree to conduct myself in a manner that demonstrates the standards established in this **Coaches Code of Conduct**.

Club: _____ Address: _____
Print Name: _____
Signed: _____ Phone: _____
Date: _____ Email: _____

Witnessed by the following officer or captain of the club or school official "in charge" of rugby:

Print Name: _____
Signed: _____ Date: _____
Club Position: _____

This form is to be signed and mailed to the UpSCRC Secretary.