



NORTHUMBERLAND RUGBY UNION

Patron: HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND
President: Mark Richard

Code of Conduct for Club Coaches and Volunteers Season 2019-20

This document provides a summary of what is required by coaches and team managers of mini and youth teams to ensure best practice. If this is followed by all staff and volunteers they will be supported and protected as they carry out their roles.

All adults that supervise children and vulnerable adults on a regular basis, such as coaches, must have an enhanced **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Certificate** processed and risk assessed by the RFU. This must be obtained **before** working unsupervised with children.

It is important that you have read and understood the Guidance and Practice in the **Safeguarding Toolkit** and have attended a **RFU Safeguarding Course**. Examples of poor practice may be:

- ⤴ Shouting/ abusive language
- ⤴ Excessive Training and training/playing in extreme weather conditions
- ⤴ Not allowing players of different abilities to develop and play together
- ⤴ Ridicule of player errors
- ⤴ Ignoring Health and Safety Guidelines
- ⤴ Abuse of match officials
- ⤴ Failing to adhere to the club's Code of Conduct

It is important that you have read and understood the **Northumberland RU Cyber Policy and Guidance**. Coaches and officials should never contact individual children directly through social media or phone. They should always include a parent, official or other players.

Any inappropriate or aggressive contact or touching between adults and children is unacceptable. Adults and children must **never** play contact versions of the sport together including training games and contact skills.

In order to play a player up or down an age grade, coaches must follow the regulations issued by the RFU in **Regulation 15 and the Protocols issued by Northumberland R.U.** Permission **must** be obtained from the Northumberland R.U. Hon. Secretary **before** playing a player up or down an age grade. **This includes playing an U17 player in the Adult game**

Adults who wish to take children on tour must follow the guidance in '**Touring with Children and Vulnerable Adults**', complete the required forms and obtain permission from their club, Northumberland R.U. and for tours outside the UK and Ireland, the RFU.

It is against the law to sell alcohol to someone under 18 years and for an adult to buy alcohol on behalf of someone under 18 years. As role models adults should avoid excessive drinking in their presence and ensure that at least one nominated person does not drink alcohol.

Season 2019-2020 will start on Saturday 7th September 2019 until Monday 4th May 2020. Outside this period there are restrictions on what rugby can be played, including contact rugby. Full details will be found in RFU Regulation 15.