

Bishopton Rugby Football Club

Code of Conduct & Safeguarding

CODE OF CONDUCT DEFINITION

A Code of Conduct has several important functions:

- It sets out what behaviour is acceptable and unacceptable and provides transparency for all on what practice and behaviours to expect from others
- It defines standards of practice expected from those to who it applies
- It forms the basis for challenging and improving poor practice and behaviour.

Bishopton Rugby Club supports and requires **all** members to observe our club values and to conduct themselves by the following standards of practice. Including verbal and non-verbal, especially when working/volunteering with children and young people.

All concerns about breach of this Code of Conduct will be taken seriously and responded to in line with Bishopton Rugby Club appropriate policy/procedure. This may include the Responding to Concerns Procedure, Complaints Procedure, and/or Disciplinary Procedure.

OUR CLUB VALUES

- **INCLUSIVE** - whoever you are, we are for you
- **INSPIRING** - we do our best to help you achieve yours
- **RESPECT** - we champion the *Spirit of Rugby* by paying due regard for the feelings of our teammates, coaches, opposition and officials.
- **WELCOMING** - we welcome all like family
- **AMBITIOUS** - raising standards, delivering results
- **FUN** - we keep rugby fun, whatever your role, whatever your level

If you have any concerns or if you have any questions about our Code of Conduct, Our Values or any other Safeguarding issues, please contact the club secretary or our Child Protection Officer.

Club Secretary — David Carey — info@bishoptonrugby.com

Child Protection Officer – David Carey – CPO@bishoptonrugby.com / 0800 0141 812

Bischopton Rugby Football Club

Safeguarding Children / Young Adults

GOOD PRACTICE

- Make rugby fun, enjoyable and promote fair play.
- Treat all children and young people equally, with respect, dignity and fairness. Challenge where you see other adults or children and young people participating in disrespectful or bullying behaviour.
- Involve parents/carers wherever possible.
- Build balanced relationships based on mutual trust.
- Include children and young people in decision-making processes.
- Always work in an open environment, wherever possible. Avoid private or unobserved situations.
- Put the wellbeing of each child or young person first before winning or achieving performance goals.
- Be an excellent role model including not smoking. Drinking alcohol, taking drugs or swearing in the company of children and young people.
- Recognise the developmental needs and capacity of children and young people.
- Avoid excessive training and competition, pushing children and young people against their will and putting undue pressure on them.
- Follow Bischopton Rugby Club Digital Communication and Social Media guidance in relation to communicating with children and young people.

PRACTICE TO BE AVOIDED

In the context of your role with Bischopton Rugby Club, the following should be avoided:

- Having 'favourites'- this could lead to misinterpretation, or resentment and jealousy by other children and young people.
- Spending excessive amounts of time alone with children and young people away from others.
- Entering children and young people's bedrooms on trips away from home, unless in an emergency or in the interest of health and safety.
- Where possible, doing things of a personal nature for children or young people that they can do for themselves.
- Contacting children and young people outside Bischopton RFC Digital Communication and Social Media Guidance.

UNACCEPTABLE PRACTICE

In the context of your role within Bishopton Rugby Club, the following practices are unacceptable:

- Allowing allegations made by a child or young person, or about the wellbeing and protection of a child or young person, to go unrecorded and unreported.
- Forming intimate emotional, physical or sexual relationships with children and young people.
- Making sexually suggestive comments to a child or young person, allowing or engaging in touching a child or person in a sexually suggestive manner, or engaging in sexually provocative games.
- Being physically violent towards a child or young person.
- Allowing children or young people to swear or use sexualised language unchallenged.
- Behaving in a coercive or controlling manner towards a child or young person.
- Allowing a child or young person to share a room alone with a coach or adult member or inviting a child or young person into your home.

Bishopton Rugby Football Club

Code of Conduct

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS

- Attendance
 - Aim to attend every training session and all matches, the more you train and play, the better you become.
 - Always confirm attendance via Spond / WhatsApp.
 - Inform relevant person if you are unable to attend & why
 - For matches or tournaments, if you have confirmed you can attend and you are subsequently unable to, you must contact your coach directly via a phone call or direct message.
- Be at the stated meet point, at the stated time, ready to play or train.
- Bring correct personal equipment with you.
- Personal conduct & Integrity
 - Be honest players at all times.
 - Be Honest with yourself, your coaches and your team mates.
 - Never be afraid to make a mistake.
 - Accept feedback from coaches and look to learn and grow from mistakes.
 - Encourage & support your team mates, it's a team game.
 - Never behave in an unacceptable manner or use unacceptable language.
 - Honour yourself, our club and our sport.
 - Shall not commit a doping offence as defined in World Rugby Regulation 21 (Anti Doping)
 - Accept that referees cannot see every infringement on the pitch and are the sole judge of law during the game.
- Friends for life.
 - We are a friendly club where social and friendship, are as important as playing the game.
 - Friend's are within our club and the opposition.
 - Always introduce yourself to new players.
 - Encourage and support new players into our club.
 - Welcome the opposition players, coaches, and supporters to our club

If you have any concerns or if you have any questions about playing, coaching or the club, please talk to your head coach or email info@bishoptonrugby.com

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

- Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every player and treat everyone equally within the context of our sport.
- Coaches will ensure players are given every opportunity to learn, play and experience Rugby Football.
- Reference Bishopton RFC Long Term Player Development Document
- Ensure all players have the opportunity to grow and development in a positive and nurturing environment.
- Encourage Effort
- Every experience should be a learning opportunity
- Ensure we Respect the Laws of Rugby Union in all ways
- Utilise Teachable Moments
- Confront any violation by Players of the Code of Conduct.
- Accept that referees cannot see every infringement on the pitch and are the sole judge of law during the game.
- Coaches should co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. Qualified First Aid volunteers, other coaches, physiotherapists, club officials' etc.) in the best interest of the player.
- Coaches should always advocate the positive aspects of Rugby and never condone rule violations or the use of prohibited substances.
- Coaches must ensure the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual.
- Coaches should undertake the level of training requirements as governed by the Scottish Rugby Union
- Ensure that all children leave with the correct Parent / Guardian and that no child is left unattended

If you have any concerns about the wellbeing of a child or young person at the club, you can contact our Child Protection Officer.

If you have any questions about coaching and structure, please email coaching@bishoptonrugby.com

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS/CARERS

- Remember that children and young people play for enjoyment as well as competition.
- Remember that your behaviour may affect not only your child but the other children and young people participating.
- Stay outside the field of play and in the Spectator's Area (where provided)
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour.
- Always respect the match officials' decisions.
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success.
- Let the coaches do their job and not confuse the players or athletes by telling them what to do.
- Encourage the players and athletes to respect the opposition and match officials.
- Never criticise a player or athlete for making a mistake. Remember that mistakes are important part of learning and wellbeing.
- Pass on any concerns that you have about the wellbeing of a child or young person to a club official.

I understand that breaches of the code may result in action being taken away by Bishopton Rugby Club.

If you have any concerns about the wellbeing of a child or young person at the club, you can contact our Child Protection Officer or Wellbeing and Protection in Sport on 0141 419 1156 or Children 1st Parentline on 080000 28 22 33.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Adults at Bishopton Rugby Club should help to make sports safe and fun. This is your job too, which means respecting other players/athletes and the people who are there to help you to learn. You should do this by:

- Being ready and on time for training and competition.
- Respecting the coach and other helpers.
- Accepting what the coach or match officials ask you to do in the rules of the game.
- Playing to the best of your ability
- Never swearing at or insulting anyone, including other players.
- Telling your parents or carers where you are, or if you are going to be late.
- Following advice from sport doctors or physios to keep you safe and injury free.
- Never bullying other players/ athletes either yourself or in a group.

Bullying can happen between children or between adults and children. It means things like:

- Name calling
- Making fun at someone's expense
- Giving only negative feedback
- Hitting
- Shoving
- Stealing
- Damaging belongings
- Spreading rumours
- Making threats
- Sending/posting nasty messages
- Leaving people out on purpose.

If you are worried about something don't keep it to yourself. Speak to an adult who you know and trust such as a parent, coach, teacher, the Child Protection Officer at your club, a guidance teacher, doctors or school nurse.

If there isn't anyone you can talk to, you can contact Childline in Scotland on 0800 1111 or at childline.org.uk. It's free, private and confidential.

CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

Everyone at Bischopton Rugby takes Child Protection very seriously. Please contact our Child Protection Officer should you have any questions or require anything from him. Your details will always be handled in the upmost confidence and sensitivity as they require.

Child Protection Officer: David Carey CPO@BischoptonRugby.com / 0800 0141 812

SCOTTISH RUGBY UNION SAFEGUARDING
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You can also contact the Scottish Rugby Union at safeguarding@sru.org.uk

Alternatively, you can call Scottish Rugby on 0131 346 5000 and ask to speak to the Child Protection Team

Faye Henderson (Child Wellbeing and Protection Manager) – Faye.Henderson@sru.org.uk / 07976 279473

Clare Forrest (Child Wellbeing and Protection Advisor) – Clare.Forrest@sru.org.uk / 07966 902246

ADDITIONAL ONLINE RESOURCES

- Child Protection in Sport NSPCC
 - <https://thecpsu.org.uk/>
- Children First Safeguarding in Sport
 - <https://www.children1st.org.uk/help-for-families/child-wellbeing-and-protection-in-sport/>
- Scottish Rugby Union Child Protection Resources
 - <https://scottishrugby.org/the-child-wellbeing-and-protection-in-sport-tool/>
- Bischopton Rugby Club Child Protection Policy
 - <https://bischoptonrugby.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Bischopton-RFC-Child-Protection-Policy-2023.pdf>