



## **Safeguarding Code for Participants**

### **Introduction**

Everyone involved in rugby shares the responsibility to identify harassment and abuse and to develop a culture of dignity, respect and safety within The Game. Abuse can happen in any sport, at any level, however we, as a community, can take collective action to eradicate it from our game.

This Safeguarding Code is specifically aimed at addressing Safeguarding in all activities involving participants of The Game in Singapore. Its intention is to give all those associated with The Game a clear understanding of expectations around behaviour so that all might enjoy participating without fear of mental, physical or sexual harassment and/or abuse.

### **Safeguarding Principles**

- Safeguard athletes
- Protect the integrity of The Game and the Singapore Rugby Union (SRU)
- Protect all other participants within The Game
- Promote the values of Safe Sport (an IOC initiative)

### **Who does the Code apply to?**

This Code applies to all participants involved within The Game.

### **Prohibited Conduct**

A list of Prohibited Conduct is set out in the [List of Prohibited Conduct] with reference to the [Definition of Safeguarding Key Terms] relating to the Safeguarding Policy that can be found on the SRU Website. It is a violation of the Safeguarding Code for a participant to engage in any Prohibited Conduct.

### **Reporting and Investigations**

The Safeguarding Committee has been established to handle any concerns relating to Safeguarding. More information on these is available on the SRU website.

### **The Safeguarding Committee**

#### **Singapore Rugby Union**



## **Codes for Participants**

### **A. General**

1. It is the duty of all Participants to report concerns to the SRU Safeguarding Committee about the behavior of coaches, officials or any members involved in The Game that put welfare at risk.
2. Young people must not be allowed to drink alcohol or encouraged to drink alcohol if they are under 18.
3. Participants who are under 18 must not change at the same time and place as adults.
4. If groups are to be supervised in changing rooms, always ensure that individuals work in pairs, and that gender is appropriate.

### **B. Players**

1. Respect your opponent. Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not 'bully' or take advantage of any player, regardless of race, religion, colour, creed, ethnic origin, physical attributes, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, socio-economic status and athletic ability.
2. Be aware of your surroundings and ensure your conversations are appropriate for the environment that you are in. Conversations which may seem normal within a particular group may be deemed offensive or uncomfortable to others from a different demographic.

### **C. Coaches and Support Staff**

1. As a coach or support staff you have a duty of care to all your players and your relationship with them must remain appropriate at all times.
2. Lead by example and promote positive values - players need a coach they can respect as a role model.
3. Be generous with your praise and never bully, ridicule or shout at players for any reason.
4. Treat all players with dignity and respect, regardless of race, religion, colour, creed, ethnic origin, physical attributes, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, socio-economic status and athletic ability.
5. Be reasonable in your demands on the players' time, energy and enthusiasm.



6. Respect for all participants, including opponents and match officials.
7. Create a safe and enjoyable environment in which to train and play.
8. Always follow professional medical advice in determining when an injured player is ready to play again.
9. Develop policies for your club / team to agree procedures regarding safeguarding, injury prevention & treatment, team selection etc.
10. Agree appropriate times for entry to changing rooms to deal with match preparation and ensure members of the team management are present.
11. The Game is physical. Situations will occur when, in order to teach or coach certain techniques, it is necessary to make contact with the player. However, the following must apply:
  - Parents & young players must be made aware of situations in which this may happen when they join the club.
  - Physical handling must only be used for safety reasons or where there is no other way of coaching the technique and always with the permission of the player.
12. Any contact or touching which is inappropriate (i.e. not directly related to the coaching context) or aggressive is unacceptable.
13. At least one coach per age group team must hold a valid coaching qualification which is recognized by the SRU.
14. Coaches must ensure that the activities which they direct or advocate are appropriate to the age, maturity and ability of the players.

#### **D. Parents and Spectators**

1. Never ridicule, humiliate or shout at players for making a mistake or losing a match.
2. Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would not be a match.
3. Treat all players with dignity and respect, regardless of race, religion, colour, creed, ethnic origin, physical attributes, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, socio-economic status and athletic ability.
4. Do not place emphasis on winning at all costs. Instead, promote the values of teamwork and positive sportsmanship.
5. Do not force an unwilling participant to take part in the playing of rugby. If a participant is to play, he/she will do so in good time through your encouragement.



6. Support all efforts to remove verbal & physical abuse from The Game and avoid use of profane language or harass referees, coaches, players, or other parents.
7. Identify and acknowledge the good qualities of the Game and uphold these values.
8. Condemn the use of violence in all forms at every opportunity.
9. Act as a role model and promote the positive aspects of rugby and maintain the highest standards of personal conduct.
10. Avoid being alone with underage persons unrelated to you, wherever possible.
11. Never deal with injuries unless qualified to do so.
12. Do not enter changing facilities unless specifically invited to do so, and ensure members of the team management are present when you do so

**I acknowledge that I have read, understood and agree to the policies and procedures of the SRU Safeguarding Policy and Code.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Full Name & Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Club/School Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Role**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**