



## Rugby Idaho Referee Code of Conduct

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In order to ensure that the principals of sportsmanship, fair play, skill development, and mutual respect among players, coaches, officials, and spectators are the primary considerations governing competition in the Rugby Idaho Youth program, the following Code of Conduct has been established.

1. A rugby referee and other match officials must be free of obligation to any interest other than the impartial and fair judging of rugby matches. Without equivocation, match decisions that are slanted by personal bias are dishonest and unacceptable.
2. A rugby referee and other match officials recognize that anything that may lead to a conflict of interest, either real or apparent, is to be avoided. Gifts, favors, special treatment, privileges, employment or a personal relationship with a school or team that can compromise the perceived impartiality of officiating must be avoided.
3. A rugby referee and other match officials have an obligation to treat other officials with professional dignity and courtesy and recognize that it is inappropriate to criticize other officials publicly.
4. A rugby referee and other match officials have a responsibility to continuously seek self-improvement through study of the game, rules, mechanics, and the techniques of game management. They have a responsibility to accurately represent their qualifications and abilities when requesting or accepting officiating assignments.
5. A rugby referee and other match officials shall protect the public (fans, administrators, coaches, players, et al.) from inappropriate conduct and shall attempt to eliminate from the officiating avocation/profession all practices which bring discredit to it.
6. A rugby referee and other match officials shall not be party to actions designed to unfairly limit or restrain access to officiating, officiating assignments, or association membership. This includes selection for positions of leadership based upon economic factors, race, creed, color, age, sex, physical handicap, country or national origin.
7. To be a positive role model for rugby, its players, parents and spectators.
8. To refrain from any form of harassment of players, coaches, parents, and spectators.
9. To represent self and specialized standing in an honest manner enhancing the reputation of the rugby referee community.
  - a. Referees are responsible for their actions.
  - b. Referees display high standards through language, manner, punctuality and presentation.
  - c. Referees display control, dignity and respect for all involved with rugby – including players, opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators.
  - d. Referees comply with USA Rugby membership requirements for themselves as well as their players.
  - e. Referees seek continual improvement through performance appraisal, referee education and maintaining current USA Rugby certification and other relevant qualifications.
  - f. Referees maintain appropriate records.
10. I will read, understand, and follow the procedures and policies within the Youth & High School Coach Manual to the best of my abilities.

By signing below, I agree to support and abide by the principles established by the Code of Conduct and Overview as long as I participate in Rugby Idaho activities.

Referee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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