



Terenure College RFC

Code of Conduct

The purpose of the club's code of conduct is to encourage active participation by all players at all grades to achieve their potential in a structured, safe and disciplined environment that is enjoyed by players, coaches, members and supporters alike. The environment is to be free of harassment, defined as any action directed at an individual or group, which creates a hostile, intimidating or offensive environment.

Below are the minimum standards of behaviour which is expected from our club players, coaches, officials, supporters and members. As such these are in addition to and do not contravene or usurp the general codes of conduct and behaviours as set out by the IRFU. We would like to bring particular attention to the IRFU Code of Behaviour associated with underage activity as well as the Child Safeguarding Requirements, both of which are available at www.IRFU.ie. It is the responsibility of every member, coach or player to be fully familiar with both the club code of conduct and those associated with the IRFU more generally.

1. General Conduct

- All members of the club, including players, coaches, officials, and supporters, are expected to always act in a respectful and sportsmanlike manner, both on and off the field.
- Discrimination, harassment, or any form of abusive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Members should uphold the values of the club, which include integrity, teamwork, and fair play.

2. Players' Code of Conduct

- Players should demonstrate commitment and dedication to the club and the sport, attending training sessions and matches regularly and punctually.
- In addition to this clubs code of conduct, players are to comply with the IRFU Code of Conduct.
- Players should respect their teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, and supporters, and should never engage in verbal or physical abuse or behaviour which could be deemed as racist behaviour.
- Fair play and sportsmanship are essential. Players should abide by the rules of the game and accept the decisions of the match officials without dispute.
- Players should avoid the use of illegal substances and adhere to all relevant anti-doping policies.
- Any concerns or grievances should be communicated to the appropriate club officials in a respectful and timely manner (via the players representative).

3. Coaches'/Management's Code of Conduct

- Coaches should provide a positive, supportive and encouraging environment for players, nurturing their development and promoting their enjoyment of the game.
- In addition to this clubs code of conduct, coaches and managers are to comply with the IRFU Code of Conduct.
- Coaches should treat all players equally with fairness and respect, regardless of their ability or background.
- Coaches should prioritise the safety and well-being of the players, ensuring that appropriate training techniques and equipment are used. All equipment needs and other expenditure items require discussion and prior approval by executive.
- Coaches should lead by example, upholding the highest standards of sportsmanship and fair play.
- Coaches should continually seek to improve their coaching skills and knowledge, participating in relevant training and development opportunities.

4. Officials' Code of Conduct

- Club officials, including executive members, should conduct their roles and responsibilities with integrity, professionalism in the best interest of the club.
- In addition to this clubs code of conduct, club officials are to comply with the IRFU Code of Conduct.
- Officials should demonstrate fairness and impartiality when making decisions, while considering the rules and regulations of the club and the sport.
- Officials should communicate effectively with members, players, coaches, and other officials, promoting transparency and constructive dialogue.
- Officials should not disclose discussions that take place at Executive meetings unless expressly agreed to by the Committee.
- Officials should respect the authority of the club and its constitution, adhering to established procedures and policies.

5. Members' Code of Conduct

- Members should actively contribute to the club's success and growth, promoting its values and objectives.
- In addition to this clubs code of conduct, members are to comply with the IRFU Code of Conduct.
- Members should respect the rights and opinions of others, engaging in constructive dialogue and collaboration.
- Members should fulfil their financial obligations to the club in a timely manner.
- Members should abide by the club's rules and regulations, as well as any applicable laws and regulations.
- Members should represent the club in a positive light, both within and outside of club activities.

6. Supporters' Code of Conduct

- Supporters should always show respect and courtesy towards players, coaches, officials, and opposing teams and their supporters.
- In addition to this clubs code of conduct, supporters are to comply with the IRFU Code of Conduct.
- Supporters should avoid engaging in any form of abusive or disrespectful behaviour, both during matches and in any club-related activities.
- Support should be given in a positive and constructive manner, encouraging and applauding good performances and efforts.
- Supporters should familiarize themselves with the rules and regulations of the game and abide by them.
- Supporters should refrain from any actions that may incite or provoke violence or conflict.

7. Disciplinary Actions

Note: All disciplinary actions and procedures undertaken by the authorities of the IRFU and /or Leinster Branch take precedence over any actions contained below.

- Executive may include formal warnings, suspensions, fines, disqualifications or expulsion.
- Code infractions will be brought to the attention of the offending member in as courteous a manner as is possible.
- If an infraction recurs after a verbal warning or is deemed serious in nature greater disciplinary action may be required.
- All disciplinary actions will follow a fair and transparent process, allowing all parties involved to present their side of the story and be heard.
- The severity of the breach and any previous disciplinary history will be considered when determining the appropriate course of action.

8. Amendments to the Code of Conduct

- This code of conduct may be amended or revised as necessary, to reflect the changing needs and values of the club.
- Any proposed amendments should be presented to the club committee, and a majority agreement is required for changes to be implemented.