



# Kilkenny Rugby Football Club

Founded 1886  
Foulkstown, Kilkenny  
Ireland.  
[www.kilkennyrugby.com](http://www.kilkennyrugby.com)

Kilkenny RFC values sportsmanship, fair play, skill development, and mutual respect among all players, coaches, officials and spectators. This Code of Conduct has been established and adopted to ensure the guiding principles of KRFC are understood and met by all individuals associated with this organization.

This Code of Conduct applies to all sports and activities associated with KRFC. These activities include, but are not limited to training sessions, KRFC games, Representative games (South East, Leinster etc), club tours, club events and any activities, attended under the KRFC banner, run by other organisations.

These Codes of Conduct are a covenant between KRFC players, parents, and coaches to abide by the rules and regulations of the game, as well as to maintain a cooperative attitude and uphold the ideals of fair play and sportsmanship. These Codes express our core values and goals. It is essential they be honoured and followed.

The Codes of Conduct can be summarized in the following three principles:

- (1) Demonstrating a positive attitude;
- (2) Setting a good example;
- (3) Maintaining good relationships with all rugby participants - including officials, opponents, and our own team's players, parents, and coaches.



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## Code of Conduct

**The following codes of conduct will be strictly enforced.**

### Players Code of Conduct

Each player will ensure that his/her playing conduct is that of a young lady or gentleman fairly competing to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, the player is expected to:

- Know the rules and abide by them.
- Play to win but not at all costs – win with dignity and lose with grace.
- Respect the game officials and refrain from addressing them or commenting on their decisions.
- Maintain control of his/her emotions, avoiding the use of abusive language or profanity, humiliating remarks, gestures of ill temper, racist or homophobic language, and physical assault upon another player at any time.
- Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team and demonstrate appropriate gestures of sportsmanship at the conclusion of game. Be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- Treat all KRFC property, and that of any opponents, with the appropriate respect & care.
- Realise, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability but also on the sportsmanship, courtesy and manners of each individual player.
- Attend every training session and game that is reasonably possible, and notify the coach/manager in advance if the player is unable to attend.
- Act in a manner which is in accordance with the club's Mission Statement & Values.
- Reject cheating, racism, homophobia, violence and drugs.
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance, both on and off the playing field.
- Players must pay the club playing subscription in a timely manner.
- Junior players are not allowed to consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the club.
- Junior players are not allowed to smoke on club premises or whilst representing the club at competitions.
- When requested, make an effort to volunteer to help out at club events (e.g. Club Teen Disco, Marble City 7s, KRFC Tag etc).



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## Coaches Code of Conduct

The Head Coach will be provided with copies of the Code of Conduct prior to the start of the season. Each Head Coach is responsible to see that their assistant coaches, players, and spectators abide by the respective Code of Conduct. It is also the coach's responsibility to review the Codes of Conduct with their assistant coaches and players.

Each coach will ensure that his/her conduct is that of a responsible adult fairly competing to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, the coach is expected to:

- Instruct players in the rules and coach his/her team in such a way as to motivate each player to compete according to the rules at all times.
- Know the rules and abide by them.
- Place the emotional and physical well-being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- Respect the game officials and refrain from questioning their decisions in a disrespectful or abusive manner.
- Ensure that supporters of his/her team conduct themselves with sportsmanship and maturity at all times while in attendance at games, and assist the game officials in maintaining control of spectators during the games.
- Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team both during the play of the game and at its conclusion, win or lose.
- Teach each player to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- Maintain control of his/her emotions and avoid actions, language, and/or gestures that may be interpreted as hostile and humiliating.
- Instruct team support personnel in their responsibilities in accordance with established rules and procedures.
- Treat all KRFC property, and that of any opponents, with the appropriate respect & care.
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour.
- Never condone rule violations, rough play, racist or homophobic language, or the use of prohibited substances including alcohol to under age players
- Realise, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on its sportsmanship, courtesy, and manners.
- When requested, make an effort to volunteer to help out at club events (e.g. Club Teen Disco, Marble City 7s, KRFC Tag etc).
- Act in a manner which is in accordance with the club's Mission Statement & Values.



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### Parents and Spectators Code of Conduct

Each parent and spectator will ensure that his/her conduct is that of a responsible adult or youth who are positively encouraging all participants to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, each parent and spectator is expected to:

- Respect the rules of the game.
- Respect the game officials and refrain from questioning their decisions or from addressing them in a loud, disrespectful, or abusive manner.
- Cheer for their team in a positive, supportive manner.
- Place the emotional and physical well-being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- Maintain control of his/her emotions, avoid the use of abusive, racist or homophobic language, profanity, and gestures of ill temper, and refrain at all times from making hostile or negative remarks about the opposing team.
- Treat all KRFC property, and that of any opponents, with the appropriate respect & care.
- Demonstrate appropriate gestures of sportsmanship at the conclusion of a game, win or lose. Do not interact in a negative fashion with fans, players or coaches of the opposing team or game officials.
- Act in a manner which is in accordance with the club's Mission Statement & Values.
- Refrain from using foul or abusive language.
- Realise, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on the sportsmanship, courtesy, and citizenship of its supporters.



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## **KRFC Mission Statement:**

Kilkenny RFC aims to be a Community based club which develops rugby for all age groups. We will assist players to reach their full potential both on & off the field. We will promote age appropriate participation and excellence at all levels. We aim to compete at the top level. We will encourage & facilitate involvement in our club & enjoyment of rugby for as many people as possible.

## **Club Values:**

- **Teamwork:**

Rugby brings together a group of individuals and moulds them into a single unit, where they learn to support and encourage one another in pursuit of a common goal. This team spirit cuts across cultural, geographic and religious differences and often leads to the creation of lifelong friendships.

- **Respect:**

Respect is of the utmost importance to rugby, as players are taught to show respect for their teammates, the opposition, their coaches, the match officials and themselves. They must work to earn and retain the respect of the rugby community by setting good examples both on and off the pitch.

- **Community Spirit:**

As a club one of our main aims is to bring together people from diverse backgrounds & with common interests, with the intention of creating a welcoming rugby community within the wider community.



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- **Enjoyment:**

Rugby is a fast and exciting sport that generates great passion amongst its participants. It is also very sociable and provides an opportunity to make enriching friendships with people from diverse backgrounds and communities.

- **Progressive:**

As a club we aim to be progressive in all matters in order to allow us to constantly change and improve. We will strive to take members views into account in implementing continuous improvement within the club.