

# **UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER RUGBY UNION CLUB**

## **CODE OF PRACTICE**

The University of Leicester Rugby Club is run with the objectives of furthering the skills, abilities, perception and enjoyment of the game. The club expects dedication, loyalty and commitment to play to a high standard of rugby. At all times members must recognise that they are ambassadors for the game, the club and the University and behave accordingly.

### **SAFETY**

The club will operate in accordance with the rules and regulations laid down by the RFU.

### **AFFILIATIONS**

The club must be affiliated to the Rugby Football Union, the Leicestershire Rugby Union and the Leicestershire Society of Rugby Union Referees.

### **FACILITIES**

The training area and pitches must be inspected by a competent person coaching staff before use. The ground must be cleared of debris and must be fit to play on.

For home matches, the University's Head Groundsman will, as far as conditions allow, declare pitches unfit for use. The Head Groundsman's decision is final and no University pitches may be used in contradiction of his decision.

In the absence of a decision by the Head Groundsman, the fitness of the ground must be determined by a qualified referee, or by the home team captain.

Goal posts must be padded. Corner flags must be round and light enough to give way under the impact of a player.

### **EQUIPMENT**

All equipment owned and used by the club must be properly maintained and stored correctly. This will be the responsibility of the club captain and the coaching staff.

Equipment used but not owned by the club (e.g. the University's scrummaging machine) must be inspected by the coaching staff before use. Faulty equipment must not be used and must immediately be reported to the sports centre Site Supervisor or his deputy.

### **PERSONAL EQUIPMENT**

Players are responsible for their personal equipment which must conform to RFU and IRB rules:

- No jewellery, buckles or similar items may be worn.
- Shoulder pads must bear the IRB Approval Mark
- Headguards must bear the IRB Approval Mark
- Boot studs must conform to the IRB specifications
- Mouthguards **MUST** be worn during training and matches.

The referee's decision on player's dress is final.

### **FIRST AID & INJURIES**

The club captain and team captains must know where and how to summon assistance in the case of an emergency. This information must be passed to the coach and referee before a training session or match.

A first aid kit must be available at all training sessions, and on the touchlines for each match being played. Maintenance of the club first aid kits is the responsibility of the team captains.

Any player who requires immediate hospital treatment for an injury must be accompanied by the club captain or someone appointed by him.

All injuries must be logged in accordance with RFU rules. The injury log must be kept up-to-date and be available for inspection at the request of the Sports Association or the University. This is the responsibility of the club captain.

Players must not chew gum whilst training or playing.

Players are recommended to check with their own doctors whether tetanus boosters are required.

### **MATCH OFFICIALS**

All match officials, whether qualified or not, will be treated with respect and courtesy by all club members.

Players will abide by the decisions made by match officials during play.

Clarification of any decision should be requested through the team captain.

Any player who abuses a match official, either verbally or physically, will be subject to the disciplinary processes of the club, and the regional authority for the sport.

Fines imposed by the County RFU will be the responsibility of the individual player.

### **DISCIPLINE**

Players who infringe the rules of the game will be subject to disciplinary action by the club and may also be disciplined by the Leicestershire Rugby Union.

Members who attend social events organised by the club, or where they are deemed by the organiser to be representing the club, or use University or Students' Union facilities and by their behaviour bring the club into disrepute, will be subject to disciplinary action by the club and by the University or Union.

The offender will be notified in writing by the club captain of the club disciplinary procedure, and afterwards of any subsequent action to be taken. The member will have the right to appeal against any decision taken by the club's disciplinary committee.

Disciplinary action by the Students' Union or the University will be in accordance with the procedures for that body. Any right of appeal will be subject to those procedures.