



Match Officiating Code of Practice

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. The behaviour of the match officials has an impact, directly and indirectly, on the conduct of everyone involved in the game – both on and off the pitch.

Play your part uphold & display the Values of the Game and always observe the RFU Code of Conduct.

Referees & Assistant Referees

- Set a positive personal example by promoting good behaviour and showing respect to everyone involved in the game, whether in person or digitally online
- Set a positive personal example by promoting good behaviour from players and team officials
- Communicate with the players & team officials and encourage fair play
- Be honest and completely impartial at all times
- Apply the Laws of the Game and competition rules with fairness, consistency, and sensitivity
- Manage the game in a positive, calm and confident manner
- Deal with all instances of violence, aggression, unsporting behaviour, foul play, and other misconduct in accordance with the Laws of the Game
- Never tolerate offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour from players & team officials
- Support match official colleagues at all times
- Prepare physically and mentally for each match
- Develop and then enhance your level of competence by participating in training and CPD activities
- Complete and submit, accurate and concise match official abuse/foul play reports
- Contribute to the development of officiating by exchanging knowledge and ideas with others
- Do not judge or discriminate against based on age, disability, sex, race, religion or belief, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, body image and pregnancy or maternity

Match Official Developers

- Set a positive personal example by promoting good behaviour and showing respect to everyone involved in the game, whether in person or digitally online
- Never tolerate offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour from players & team officials
- Always be honest and completely impartial
- Develop and then enhance your level of competence by participating in training and CPD activities
- Ensure your level of experience and expertise is sufficient to meet the needs of your role
- Maintain appropriate levels of confidentiality
- Contribute to the development of officiating by exchanging knowledge and ideas with others
- Treat others with respect and dignity
- Complete and submit, accurate and concise reports on the match officials you support/develop underpinned with fact and evidence witnessed from the performance of those you are supporting /observing
- Do not judge or discriminate against based on age, disability, sex, race, religion or belief, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, body image and pregnancy or maternity