

THC Code of Conduct Referee Respect Policy

To ease the pressure on the coaches and parents who have volunteered in the past we often have paid referees to act in an official capacity at our junior games. The referees are very often young teenage boys and girls who are regulated by the RFL.

These notes for guidance around the junior referee and what we expect from you as parents, spectators, players, coaches, touch line manager, team manager on match days.

- 1 The referee him/herself is very often a junior (U18 yrs of age).
- 2 The referee will not be subject to verbal, physical abuse from any of the above named people. This includes shouting, swearing from the touch line and behaviour that could be seen as ridiculing or intimidating in any way.
- 3 Please be mindful that the referee has the right to be safeguarded as much as any other minor in the club. Please refer to your clubs safeguarding children policy.
- 4 Should you wish to report, concerns, compliments or complaints please do so through your touchline manager, head coach or team manager who will deal with your complaint in an official capacity according to club protocol.
- 5 The touchline manager has the right to approach **any** person who he or she believes behaviour falls into any of the above categories.
- 6 Parents and coaches are responsible for ensuring that children respect the referee and his/her decision. Any referee abuse from a player may result in the player being removed from the pitch by the referee who will have the head coaches' full backing.
- 7 No person head coach, assistant coach, manager, touchline manager, player or spectator is exempt from these rules.
- 8 Referees can provide post-match feedback regarding the behavior of players, parents, coaches and other spectators, to help the clubs enforce their Codes of Conduct. This is something that we should actively encourage and will give feedback to the clubs officials of both positive and negative behavior.