

# MONTANA YOUTH RUGBY CODE OF CONDUCT

## Overview

Rugby is a game to be respected by all participants and spectators. Players, coaches, parents are representing your teams, clubs, and the Game of Rugby. All club members and spectators will conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen on the sidelines as well as on the pitch. As representatives we will strive to improve the image of rugby and rugby players at every level and at every opportunity.

No one from the sideline may at any time enter the playing enclosure for any reason, without the permission of the referee, least of all to insert him or herself into an on-field altercation of any kind or to confront the referee, coach or other game official. Any vocal disagreement with the referee's decisions runs the risk of a penalty against your team and/or expulsion from the sidelines.

If you are a player and you disagree with the referee's decision, you may address the matter with your team captain and he/she will politely and professionally address the matter with the referee. If you attempt to address the matter with the referee yourself, even politely and professionally, the referee may insist you go through your team captain. If you address the matter impolitely or unprofessionally with the referee, you can be penalized, sin-binned, or sent off. The latter two will have further consequences from the Montana Youth Rugby disciplinary committee.

If you are a spectator, you may not cross the sideline barrier at any time for any reason, not even at halftime. A parent may attend to their injured son or daughter with the permission of the referee. Spectators will not verbally abuse any player or match official, even from behind the sideline barrier. When the game is ended, you may enter the playing enclosure or field of play to congratulate your team and the other team. You will not address the other team, referee, or other match officials for any reason that is not friendly.

It is each team's responsibility to clean up their sidelines and pick up their own trash.

## Player's Code of Conduct

I hereby pledge to provide a positive attitude and be responsible for my participation in Montana Youth Rugby by following this Code of Conduct:

- I agree to abide by the following code and to promote fair play and sportsmanship at all times towards coaches, teammates, opponents, and game officials. I also understand that I am responsible for my actions and any consequences resulting from violation of this code.
- I will practice and encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at every game and practice.
- I will attend every practice and game that is reasonably possible and notify my coach if I cannot attend.
- I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches. I will treat my coaches with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or abilities and will expect to be treated accordingly.
- I will refrain from use of obscene/abusive language or gestures.

- I will never physically or verbally abuse or assault the other players.
- I deserve to play in an alcohol, tobacco, and drug free environment and expect adults to respect that wish. As such I will not use or possess tobacco, drugs, including steroids, or alcoholic beverages, in any form regardless of quantity. Any violation occurring at any time during the present season will result in a consequence and may result in a suspension from one game up to the rest of the remainder of the season.
- I agree to abide by the rules of play as set forth and explained by my coaches, in the text of the USARFU Handbook and Laws of the Game for the 2017 season and in the Montana Youth Rugby guidelines. As the laws state in incidents of “foul play” i.e., fighting, taunting, or dangerous play, I will be subject to placement in the “Sin Bin” as instructed by the referee. Repeated offenses will result in my being sent out of the match and possible disciplinary action including suspension from play.
- I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capability because it’s important to me.
- I will remember that sports are an opportunity to learn and have fun.

### **Montana Youth Rugby Code of Conduct Agreement:**

By signing this agreement, I am acknowledging the following:

My parents and I have read and understand the Montana Youth Rugby Code of Conduct Overview and Player’s Code of Conduct.

- I agree to abide by the terms of Montana Youth Rugby’s Code of Conduct.
- I understand that for violations of the Montana Youth Rugby Code of Conduct, I could be subject to disciplinary sanctions that may include suspension.

**PLAYERS:**

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**First Name**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Last Name**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Player**

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**Date**