

A background image of a rugby match. A referee in a blue and white striped shirt is in the center, facing away from the camera. He is surrounded by players in maroon and yellow striped jerseys. One player is holding a rugby ball. The scene is set on a grass field with a blurred crowd in the background. A large red diagonal shape is in the top-left corner, and a yellow diagonal shape is in the bottom-right corner.

Referee Policy 2025

Park Lane

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www.ref

OVERVIEW

At Sedgley Park we are dedicated to making match officials feel welcome and ensure they have an enjoyable experience refereeing any of our teams. This new policy includes how we introduce match officials to our club and to their fixture both in the lead up and on the day. How we treat them before, during and after the match.

This policy sets out our expectations of people involved in rugby on the day whether that be a player, coach, parent/spectator.

We have a zero tolerance policy towards match official abuse. Any actions as such will be dealt with swiftly and harshly.



INTRODUCTION TO OUR CLUB & FIXTURE

Team managers/representatives must ensure they notify the referee of their fixture by Thursday night at the latest, the notification must specify, the team they are refereeing, what pitch they are on, attach a picture to confirm this, whether there is going to be any issues ie no front row or lack of numbers, and if a game is cancelled/postponed ensure they know ASAP.

Prior to their arrival the changing room must have a welcome package which shall include refreshments such as water, chocolate or sweets and a lucozade. Also there must be their meal ticket and two free drink tokens.

The person(s) who has notified the referee of their fixture shall greet them and show them to their changing room, introduce them to the coaches and ask if they need anything to make contact with them.

EXPECTATIONS OF PARTICIPATING PERSONS



Players must not:

- Physically or verbally abuse a match official.
- Disrespect a match officials authority ie Appealing for decisions or questioning decisions in an aggressive manner.
- Act in such a way that a match official does not feel welcome.
- Approach the referee at half time unless you are offering half time refreshments.
- Approach the referee for at least 30 minutes after the game has finished, your approach must be in the interest of both parties.

Players must:

- Treat match officials with respect.
- Make match officials feel welcome.
- Respect all decisions made by a match official, even if we disagree.
- Shake hands with the match official.
- Ensure the match official feels welcome.
- Challenge any negative behaviour towards a match official.

Coaches / managers must not:

- Physically or verbally abuse a match official.
- Disrespect a match official's authority.
- Act in such a way that a match official does not feel welcome.
- Exit their technical area during the game.
- Enter the field of play without the referee's permission unless it requires you to do so in the event of a serious injury.
- Approach the referee at half time unless you are offering half time refreshments.
- Approach the referee for at least 30 minutes after the game has finished, your approach must be in the interest of both parties.

Coaches / managers must:

- Physically or verbally abuse a match official.
- Disrespect a match official's authority.
- Act in such a way that a match official does not feel welcome.
- Exit their technical area during the game.
- Enter the field of play without the referee's permission unless it requires you to do so in the event of a serious injury.
- Approach the referee at half time unless you are offering half time refreshments.
- Approach the referee for at least 30 minutes after the game has finished, your approach must be in the interest of both parties.

Parents & spectators must not:

- Physically or verbally abuse a match official.
- Disrespect a match official's authority.
- Act in such a way that a match official does not feel welcome.
- Enter the field of play at any time during the game.
- Approach the referee for at least 30 minutes after the game has finished, your approach must be in the interest of both parties.

Parents & spectators must:

- Treat match officials with respect.
- Make match officials feel welcome.
- Respect all decisions made by a match official, even if we disagree.
- Shake hands with the match official.
- Ensure the match official feels welcome.
- Challenge any negative behaviour towards a match official.

