



HUDDERSFIELD RUGBY  
UNION FOOTBALL CLUB

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Rugby Union has an outstanding reputation of fair play and respect for both players and officials. This also includes spectators. The Rugby Football Union is determined to maintain its well deserved reputation. At most matches spectators are prone to making comments about refereeing decisions, usually “one eyed”, but this should not deteriorate into personal abuse.

Abuse is defined in the RFU handbook as:

Verbal or physical assault, intimidatory conduct, racial or sexual harassment. RFU rules state that a person, “shall not abuse, threaten or intimidate a referee, touch judge or other match official whether on or off the field of play” also “shall not use crude and abusive language or gestures towards a referee, touch judge or other match officials or spectators”.

The game of rugby cannot exist without the commitment and participation of the referee and other officials. When you are unhappy about a referee's decision remember that the referee is closer to the play than you are. The referee knows the laws better than you do. Sometimes you have a better view than the referee does, there may be players in between the referee and the offence. The referee has one pair of eyes, the crowd has many pairs of eyes. The referee is only allowed to referee what he or she see.

The RFU will impose sanctions on any club found guilty of referee abuse. This can be points deducted and a financial penalty.

At Huddersfield we all want to enjoy watching our rugby and taking part in the tremendous spirit which the game has enjoyed throughout its history.

Thank you for your support as we endeavour to ensure we maintain an unblemished reputation at Huddersfield Rugby Union Football Club.

**LET'S STAMP IT OUT  
AND  
ENJOY THE GAME**