



Code of Conduct for Club Officials and Volunteers

Introduction

We all have a responsibility to promote the highest standards of behaviour in rugby league.

Club Officials and all those involved in managing and dealing with the affairs of Wigan St. Patrick's ARLFC have a particularly crucial role in the achievement of this aim and in presenting a positive image for both the Club and the game in general. Club officials also have a key role in the establishment of ethics within the Club and need to be aware that almost all of their everyday decisions and choices of action, as well as their strategic targets, will be open to scrutiny.

A high degree of responsibility is therefore required from Club Officials and volunteers in the conduct they display and in setting and maintaining the standards of behaviour the Club expects from its players, coaches, members and supporters.

The Code of Conduct

Everyone involved in the affairs and management of Wigan St. Patrick's ARLFC has a responsibility to act according to the highest standards of conduct and integrity at all times and in all circumstances and to ensure that the reputation of the Club and rugby league in general is beyond reproach.

As a Club Official or volunteer, you have a particularly important role to play in ensuring the success of the RFL's "Respect" programme, as you are not only responsible for your own behaviour but also influence and advise the behaviour

of others. On a match day especially, you are expected to work with the coaches, parents and other spectators and match officials to ensure that the game is managed in the best way possible.

Wigan St. Patricks ARLFC expects you to play your part in this by agreeing and signing up to the Code of Conduct set out below and to observe this in everything you do.

I agree that I will at all times and in all circumstances:

- Conduct myself in a manner that demonstrates respect for the game of rugby league and for all those involved in the game, particularly players, coaches, managers, officials, supporters, parents, referees, match officials and the media
- Understand the importance of my role in establishing levels of excellence within the Club and displaying and promoting high standards of conduct that set an example to others
- Be a good sport. Respect all good play, whether from our own team or the opposition, whatever the result, and place friendship and respect before competition
- Adhere to the spirit of the game and actively encourage all players and coaches to disassociate themselves from foul play, unsporting behaviour or a "win at all costs" attitude
- Seek to maximise the participation and enjoyment of everyone involved or associated with the Club and treat everyone equally and with respect, regardless of their age, gender, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marital, family or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion, belief, ability, disability, political persuasion, trade union membership or social or economic status
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, sexist, racist or abusive language or behaviour and use my position to dissuade others associated with or visiting the Club from doing so
- Never engage in the public criticism of match officials
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying

- Place the health, wellbeing, safety and welfare of everyone involved or associated with, or visiting, the Club above everything else, including winning
- Co-operate fully with all others who have a specialist role in the Club or in the game (e.g. officials, doctors, physiotherapists and welfare officers) in the best interests of the Club and rugby league in general
- Act at all times with propriety and integrity in dealing with and/or managing the affairs of the Club
- Maintain appropriate working relationships based on mutual respect and trust and refrain from exercising any undue influence, of whatever nature, in my relationship with anyone involved or associated with the Club for my own personal benefit or reward
- Never allow personal interest of any kind to conflict with my responsibilities and the overall interests of the Club
- Keep myself familiar with the Club's policies and procedures and observe them at all times
- Ensure that young people are not given or encouraged to consume alcohol at any time in which they are in the care of the Club
- Ensure that all activities within the Club, including the training and coaching of players, are appropriately covered by insurance and take place only under the supervision and control of suitably qualified people whose qualifications and background have been appropriately checked
- Ensure that all equipment and facilities used by the Club meet appropriate safety standards and are kept and maintained in a safe condition
- Attend appropriate training for my role within the Club, including training on policies and procedures
- Abide at all times with the RFL's Volunteer Code of Conduct
- Ensure that all volunteers, administrators and officials within the Club understand and observe the requirements of this Code of Conduct

I understand that if I do not follow this Code of Conduct, any or all of the following actions may be taken by the Club:

I may be:

- Required to meet with the Club Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the Club Committee
- Required to attend an RFL education course
- Suspended from coming to the Club or from attending matches
- Required to leave or be dismissed by the Club

In addition:

- The League or the RFL could impose a fine and/or suspension against the Club

Signed:

Name (print):

Team:

Date: