

BEDWAS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Code of Conduct

Purpose

Bedwas Rugby Football Club is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, respectful and enjoyable environment for all players, coaches, volunteers, officials, parents, members and visitors.

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected from everyone associated with Bedwas RFC and applies at all times when representing, attending, participating in or supporting Bedwas RFC activities.

Definitions

Member – Any person holding a paid for membership

Coach – Any person with the responsibility of coaching, team management or first aid

Official – Those that officiate on field activities at Bedwas RFC including referees, lines men, assistant referees

Visitor – any person visiting the premises not falling into one of the above categories

Volunteer – Any person acting on behalf of Bedwas RFC with the consent of the committee or directors

Player – Those registered as a player on the My WRU portal participating in rugby activities

All other policies and procedures referenced within this document can be obtained by asking any committee member.

1. Core Values

Everyone associated with Bedwas RFC shall:

- Respect others at all times.
- Act with integrity and honesty.
- Promote teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play.
- Support an inclusive environment free from discrimination, bullying or harassment.
- Protect the reputation and interests of Bedwas RFC.
- Follow Club policies and the requirements of the WRU and safeguarding regulations.

2. Responsibilities to Bedwas RFC

All members are expected to:

- Represent Bedwas RFC positively at all times.
- Respect Club facilities, equipment and property.
- Help maintain a clean, safe and welcoming environment.
- Follow Club rules, policies and instructions.
- Support Club fundraising, volunteering and community activities where possible.
- Report any concerns relating to safeguarding, misconduct, health and safety or damage to property.
- Conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on Bedwas RFC on and off the field, including on social media.

No person should engage in conduct that brings Bedwas RFC into disrepute.

3. Senior Players

Senior players are ambassadors for Bedwas RFC and are expected to:

- Demonstrate leadership and professionalism.
- Treat coaches, referees, volunteers, supporters and opponents with respect.
- Attend training sessions and matches punctually and prepared.
- Respect team selections and coaching decisions.
- Follow all health, safety and welfare requirements.
- Avoid excessive alcohol consumption, disorderly behaviour or any conduct that negatively affects Bedwas RFC's reputation.
- Act as positive role models for younger members of Bedwas RFC.

Senior players must not:

- Use abusive, threatening or discriminatory language.
 - Engage in bullying, intimidation or harassment.
 - Damage Club property.
 - Consume illegal substances.
 - Create an unsafe environment for others.
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4. Youth, Mini and Junior Players

All youth, mini and junior players must:

- Respect coaches, volunteers, referees and fellow players.
- Listen to instructions and behave appropriately during training and matches.
- Play fairly and show good sportsmanship.
- Wear suitable clothing and equipment.
- Treat Club facilities and equipment with care.
- Respect other teams, supporters and visitors.

Players must not:

- Bully, intimidate or exclude others.
- Use offensive, abusive or inappropriate language.
- Damage Club property.
- Behave in a manner that places themselves or others at risk.

Every child has the right to enjoy rugby in a safe, positive and supportive environment. Breaches of this code by youth mini and junior players are dealt with proportionately and supportively

5. Parents and Guardians

Parents and guardians play a vital role in maintaining standards within Bedwas RFC.

Parents and guardians are expected to:

- Encourage good behaviour, discipline and respect.
- Ensure children attend training and matches appropriately dressed and equipped.
- Support coaches, volunteers and match officials.
- Promote positive behaviour from the touchline.
- Comply with Club safeguarding procedures.
- Collect children promptly at agreed times.

Parents and guardians remain responsible for the conduct and supervision of their children before and after organised activities.

Bedwas RFC expects parents and guardians to take reasonable steps to manage and correct inappropriate behaviour by their children when attending Club activities or using Club facilities.

Parents and guardians must not:

- Abuse referees, coaches, volunteers, players or other spectators either in person or via Social media channels
 - Coach from the sidelines in a manner that undermines Club coaches.
 - Engage in confrontational or aggressive behaviour.
 - Consume alcohol to an extent that impairs their ability to supervise children responsibly
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6. Respect for Coaches, Volunteers, Committee Members and Directors

Bedwas RFC relies on the commitment of volunteers, committee members and directors.

All members, players, parents and visitors must:

- Treat coaches, volunteers, committee members and directors with courtesy and respect.
- Accept that committee members and directors are responsible for making decisions in the best interests of Bedwas RFC.
- Raise concerns through appropriate Club channels.
- Refrain from abusive, intimidating or disrespectful behaviour towards Club officials.

Constructive feedback is welcomed, but abuse, harassment, threatening behaviour or personal attacks against volunteers, committee members or directors will not be tolerated.

7. Clubhouse and Facilities

Everyone using Club facilities must:

- Leave changing rooms, toilets, social areas and playing facilities clean and tidy.
 - Not wear dirty clothing in Bedwas RFC clubhouse
 - Respect furniture, fixtures and equipment.
 - Report damage or hazards immediately.
 - Follow any instructions issued by Club officers or bar staff.
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8. Social Media and Online Behaviour

All members must use social media responsibly.

Individuals must not:

- Post content that damages the reputation of Bedwas RFC.
- Publish offensive, abusive, discriminatory or threatening comments.
- Share confidential Club information without permission.
- Post images of children without appropriate consent and safeguarding requirements being met.
- Share details of any disciplinary hearings

Members should remember that online conduct reflects upon Bedwas RFC.

9. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Bedwas RFC welcomes people from all backgrounds.

Discrimination, harassment, victimisation or bullying based on:

- Age
- Disability
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy or maternity
- Gender identity
- Marriage and civil partnerships

will not be tolerated.

Everyone has the right to participate in a safe and respectful environment.

10. Safeguarding

The welfare of children and young people is paramount.

Bedwas RFC has a dedicated Safeguarding officer, details of which can be obtained at the bar or by asking any mini and junior committee person, senior committee or director. Anyone whose role requires a DBS check under WRU safeguarding requirements must complete the appropriate WRU DBS process, those that refuse will not be permitted to engage with any under 18's at Bedwas RFC.

All members must:

- Follow Club safeguarding policies.

- Report concerns immediately to Bedwas RFC Safeguarding Officer.
- Cooperate with safeguarding investigations and procedures.
- Maintain appropriate boundaries when working with young people.

Any person who is the subject of a safeguarding concern may be suspended from Club activities and access to Club facilities pending investigation.

11. Breaches of this Code of Conduct

Alleged breaches of this Code will be dealt with in accordance with the Bedwas RFC Disciplinary Policy and Procedure and, where applicable, WRU regulations and safeguarding procedures. That policy also defines the appeals process.

Version	Date	Approved by
V2.0 final	Sept 2026	Bedwas RFC Committee