



Code of Conduct in Sport

Sport at Ryecroft C. E. Middle School is an important part of a fully balanced educational programme for our pupils. All pupils are given the opportunity to take part in a broad and varied programme of physical activities within a structured, safe and caring environment. Through the work of committed teachers within the school in curriculum and co-curricular time, pupils will develop physically, emotionally, socially, morally and spiritually. Sport is seen as an integral part of pupils receiving a rounded education. Through experiences gained in sport, pupils will develop an appreciation for the need of cooperation, commitment and consideration for others, which they can utilise in all aspects of their lives at present and in the future. Care should be taken to exclude from our school sport those aspects which place the pursuit of victory over other more important aspects such as enjoyment, good sportsmanship and acceptance of victory and defeat in equal measure. The spirit in which the game is played should be the fundamental reason for participation over the pursuit of victory. With that in mind the following specific points are made:

Players

1. Verbal provocation and deliberate violence even if reactionary is totally unacceptable.
2. Accept without question all referees' decisions. Any negative response towards an official's ruling is unacceptable.
3. The use of bad language, whether directed at umpire/referee, another player, spectator or oneself is unacceptable.
4. Be dignified in victory and defeat. Gracious conduct, whatever the result, is important.
5. Never use unfair or illegal tactics to gain an advantage, observe the laws, rules and regulations of the various sports.
6. Excessive or inappropriate talk on the field of play should not be used.
7. In games lessons, co-curricular practices and inter school fixtures, the correct school kit should be worn.
8. Play in a sportsmanlike manner and extend courtesy to opposition teams. This should include shaking hands with the opposition at the end of the match and extending thanks to the referee/umpire.

Parents/Carers

1. Parents/carers are encouraged to attend fixtures and to support as positively as possible.
2. Parents/carers should be realistic about a player's ability and not push them towards a level that they are not capable of achieving.
3. Parents/carers should never seek, during or immediately after a match, to give advice to, or question decisions made by coaches, referees/umpires or players.
4. Support may be enthusiastic, should be positive rather than negative, persistent negative messages will adversely affect the players' and referee's performance and attitude. A good example should be set by applauding good play and skilful performance from players from both schools.
5. Respect the decisions and professionalism of coaches, accept that selection of teams is made in a fair, unbiased manner without prejudice to individuals.
6. Parents/carers should support both school and children by being sensible about the number and length of external sporting commitments. School commitments should be prioritised over club commitments unless there are exceptional circumstances.
7. If a parent/carer feels strongly about any incident occurring during an inter-school fixture then please contact either the member of staff in charge of that team or the a member of the Senior Leadership Team before contacting an opposition school.

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