



Dudley Kingswinford Rugby Club

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THE GOOD SPECTATOR'S CODE

From time to time I am sure that other family members and friends will come to the club to cheer the players along. We welcome them to DK and would hope their visit with us is a good experience. Whilst with us and watching the game it could be that they have never experienced the "Rugby" ethos? To this end we have included the "Good spectator's code". Please feel free to make your visitors aware of it and help them to understand the game better.

Young rugby players are impressionable and their behaviour will often reflect that of adults around them. In Rugby Union we welcome spectators on our touchlines who embrace the ethos of the game as one of fun, enjoyment and skill development.

In Rugby Union spectators are encouraged to:

- *Act as positive role models to all young players.*
- *Be familiar with, and abide by, the RFU child protection guidance in relation to verbal and emotional abuse.*
- *Respect the rugby club policy with regard to spectator behaviour.*

In Rugby Union spectators should:

- *Remember children play sport for their enjoyment not yours.*
- *Acknowledge good individual and team performance from all youngsters irrespective of which team they play for.*
- *Respect match official's decisions. Remember that they are volunteers providing an opportunity for youngsters to play rugby.*
- *Never verbally abuse young players, match officials, fellow spectators or coaches. Such behaviour can create a negative environment for young players and their behaviour will often reflect this.*
- *Acknowledge effort and good performance rather than the "win at all costs" ethic.*
- *Verbally encourage all youngsters in a positive way. If you do want to shout make sure it is 'for', not 'at', the players.*
- *Condemn bad language, rude behaviour and violence.*
- *Encourage all youngsters irrespective of their ability - never ridicule any individual player, regardless of the team they play for.*