Appendix 7: Code of Ethics – Aust. Championship

CODE OF ETHICS - AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Players

As players competing at the representative level of Rugby in Australia, it is important that you understand and observe the following:

This is important, so that:

(a) You maximise your own chances of performing well at this level.
(b) You obtain all the benefits from participating, including those additional to playing.
(c) You bring added respect to the high reputation that representative junior/schools rugby enjoys in Australia.

General

1. Junior/Schoolboy Rugby

You are participating in this Championship as a member of your junior/schoolboy team who has been selected to represent your association or State. Thus you are under the jurisdiction of Australian Rugby Union. The Officials in charge of you have a responsibility to Australian Rugby Union, your junior/schoolboy/State team, as well as to your parents.

2. Accommodation

(a) Must never change accommodation arrangements without approval by the Championship Director or his nominee and your team manager.
(b) Must abide by the Championship timetable in respect to all matters.
(c) Must not leave the Championship venue other than as permitted by the Championship Director.
(d) Must, at all times, show due respect for the property of others.

3. Alcohol, Smoking – and banned substances

The use of which:

(a) Is inconsistent with achievement at representative levels of Rugby.
(b) Is inappropriate for junior/schoolboy players attending.
(c) Can lead to difficulties in social situations when in groups.
(d) Is forbidden at any Championship event, or Championship – related event, or when travelling.
(e) Can lead to a player being sent home from the Championship and a report sent to the junior/school association and State, where the consumption of and/or subsequent behaviour due to alcohol is judged to be inappropriate to the Championship Officials.
(f) Will, in the case of banned substances; result in the matter being referred to the Police. The players will then be sent home immediately and a report will be sent to the junior/school association and State of the player(s) involved.
(g) No player shall bring caffeine based drinks e.g. V, Red Bull etc., which with excessive consumption can be detrimental to adolescent health.
(h) Any player on prescribed medication must declare to their team manager and championship director, or his nominee, prior to the Championship.

4. Games

(a) Attitudes and conduct towards other teams must be consistent with the highest standards of sportsmanship. Foul language on or off the field is unacceptable and will be dealt with firmly.
(b) Foul, violent or dangerous play on the field can lead to a player being cited to appear before Judiciary, whether or not the action was detected or dealt with by the referee.

Players Code

(a) All courtesies should be observed; teams must be punctual; the Coach and captain of both teams should receive the opposition team members courteously.
(b) Play may be hard and vigorous in body contact sports, but never deliberately foul and unfair. Any player using deliberate violence should be removed by his coach, before it becomes necessary for the referee to take action.
(c) Bad language will not be tolerated. A player offending in this way should be removed from the field by the Coach.
(d) Barracking should be enthusiastic, but never belittling. Neither should it be provocative or designed to upset the opponents or encourage rough play.
(e) A team or individual that wins should behave modestly. A team that is defeated or an individual, who makes an error, should behave in a sportsman like manner.
(f) Good play should be recognised, whether by an opponent or by a member of one's own team.
(g) Players, coaches or spectators must accept the referee's decision without negative response.
(h) Unfair tactics must never be used. (E.g. the use of provocative comments of a personal nature.)
(i) All players should show courtesy to visiting spectators as well as players. All players must respect the host school's premises and rules in matter of parking, tidiness, access to playing areas and change rooms.

Coaches and Managers Code

(a) Coaches and managers should recognise that games are for enjoyment, and satisfaction should come from participation in a team. Coaches and managers should kindle in their players, on the one hand, and desire to win; which should motivate them towards excellence; and, on the other hand, a readiness to accept defeat.
(b) Coaches and managers should develop within their player's respect for the ability of their opponents, as well as for the judgement of officials (referees, touch judges etc).
(c) Coaches and managers should welcome the opposition and encourage the Captain of the team to seek out the opposition's Captain.
(d) Coaches and managers should be reasonable in their expectations of the players and in their demands of players' time and energy. They should be sensitive to the age, skill and physical maturity of their players.
(e) It is an educational responsibility of coaches to acquaint their players thoroughly with the laws of the game, as these provide structure and order. For this reason, coaches should continually update their knowledge of the game.
(f) The role of the coach and manager is to teach, support and encourage players. Criticism should focus on the mistake and no personal derogatory remarks should be made. Never yell or ridicule a player for making a mistake.
(g) Coaches and managers should be meticulous to observe the ruling that there is to be no coaching from the sidelines while the game is in progress and encroaching on the field is not allowed.
(h) Coaches and managers must notify the Championship Director or his nominee, if any player from his team is sent off. All players who are dismissed from the field shall appear before the Championship Judiciary Committee.