

Code of Conduct

1. Representing the Club

You are representing the Club in any of the following situations:

- As part of any representative team;
- When attending any function on behalf of the Club;
- Whilst participating in Rugby Club tours;
- When dressed in Club attire or in anything that links you to the Club; and
- Whilst visiting any of the four Vikings Group Clubs.

When representing the Club, it is expected that you will behave in a manner that upholds our professional reputation.

2. Games

When representing and playing for the Club you are expected to do so in the spirit of the game. Players are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct when representing the Club before, during and after all matches.

The following are unacceptable actions and are violations of this Code:

- Excessive and/or offensive coarse language;
- Physical, verbal, mental, emotional, and/or sexual abuse, on or off the field, of a referee or match official, opposition player, team members and/or coaching or support staff;
- Threatening or intimidating a referee, assistant referee, or any other match official on or off the field;
- Any forms of harassment or discrimination on the basis of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or ethnicity;
- Any other acts that would threaten the integrity or reputation of the Club including: spitting, kicking an opposition player, consistent foul play etc.;
- Throw or fix a match to achieve a contrived outcome for a match or competition; and
- To seek or accept a bribe to do anything mentioned above.



3. Rugby Club Functions

Although some latitude is given to individuals at Rugby Club functions, there are limits on what constitutes acceptable behaviour. Common sense prevails in order that you do not offend or injure other patrons and that club property is not wilfully damaged. Appropriate respect will be given to all licence club and venue staff, including the bartender and duty manager at all times.

The following are unacceptable actions and are violation of this Code:

- Excessive and/or offensive language;
- Fighting or wrestling;
- Public displays of nudity; and
- Wilful destruction of Club property (e.g. furniture, fittings, glasses, signage etc.).

4. Licensed Club Premises

You will be treated as a normal Licensed Club Member when visiting any of the Vikings Group Licensed Clubs. You must comply fully with the Rules of the Club – found at reception of any of the 4 Vikings Group Clubs.

The Rugby Club will not act on behalf of any person found in breach of Licensed Club rules.

The Licensed Club provides the Rugby Club with a significant amount of support and in turn, there is an expectation from the Rugby Club that all Players & Officials are financial members of the Licensed Club.

All post game functions this year will be held in the Sports Bar (the Zoo) at the Erindale Licence Club. Food will be served after 1st Grade games and all players are expected to attend. We hope that you will join your team mates, opposition team and support staff in the Zoo for at least one drink following every game (drink can be alcoholic or non-alcoholic).

5. Drugs

Drugs in Sport – Vikings Rugby condemns the use of performance enhancing substances. It is contrary to the ethics of sport and dangerous to an individual's health. Doping practices are unacceptable actions and are violations of this code. Vikings Rugby endorses the statements made in the Rugby AU Illicit Drugs Policy, found on the Rugby AU website.



Recreational Drugs – Vikings Rugby does not condone the use of recreational drugs. It is expected that as a member of the TVRUFU you will respect the Club’s clear stance on this issue. Use or proliferation of recreational drugs in any situation is unacceptable and represents a violation of this code.

6. Referees

Without a referee a game cannot be played. Overzealous spectators and disrespectful players will not be tolerated by the TVRUFU.

Team Officials (coaches, managers, sports trainers) must always encourage their respective players to respect the Referee and their decisions. All team officials must always set/model the highest standard of behaviours. Team officials should actively discourage players negative comments and negative engagement with a Referee. With a zero-tolerance policy any failure to meet our club’s expectations may result in disciplinary action being taken by the TVRUFU committee.

7. Management of Code Violations

If you are thought to have violated this Code, the Rugby Club Disciplinary Sub-Committee will investigate your case. You may then be required to appear before the Sub-Committee. If a violation has occurred an appropriate sanction will be determined.

If you violate Licensed Club rules you may be required to appear before the Disciplinary Committee. Thereafter, the Disciplinary Sub-Committee of the Rugby Club may also investigate your conduct.

