



Rockleaze Rangers Football Club



Senior Section Established 1976

Junior Section Established 1995

www.rockleazerangers.org.uk

Codes of Conduct (last updated August 2010)

Introduction

Rockleaze Rangers Football Club is made up of 2 separate sections

- juniors – this section covers the junior teams from under 6 to under 18 in the club, and is referred to as the Junior Club
- seniors – this section covers the adult teams in the club, and is referred to as the Senior Club

Every person who is involved with Rockleaze Rangers Football Club, whether as a player, coach, official or parent/carer, has a responsibility to act according to the highest standards of integrity, and to ensure that the high reputation of the club is maintained

In general, our values as club members are

1. Commitment to improvement – as individuals and as a team
2. Respect for each other
3. Team work and team play
4. Playing by the laws and spirit of the game
5. Enjoying our football and each other's friendship

Code of Conduct – Players

Players are the most important people in the club. Playing for the team, and for the team to win, is the most fundamental part of the game. However, this does not mean winning at any cost. Fair play and respect for all others in the game is fundamentally important. Players should

1. Never swear or use inappropriate language.
2. Never argue with, or make derogatory remarks to, match officials. The decisions of the match officials should be accepted without protest
3. Never verbally or physically abuse opposing players, coaches or spectators – even if provoked.

4. Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violence and rough play, and help injured opponents
5. Avoid all forms of gamesmanship (i.e. cheating) and time wasting
6. Win lose or draw, shake hands with the players of the opposing team after the game.
7. Set a positive example for others, particularly younger players. Players should always give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if his/her team is in a position where the game appears lost.
8. Show respect for the coaches and each other.
9. Not wear jewellery during training or matches.

In addition, the players in the **Junior Club** should

10. Avoid challenging coaches during training or matches. The coaches are happy to talk and explain things afterwards
11. Wear shin pads and proper football boots on grass. If you forget either of these you will not be allowed to play. (League rules as well as common sense!)
12. Bring a drink to training and matches – this is especially important on warmer days to avoid getting dehydrated.
13. Not chew gum at training and matches as it represents a choking hazard.

Code of Conduct – Managers / Coaches

Managers/Coaches are crucial to the establishment of ethics in Rockleaze Rangers Football Club. Their concept of ethics and their attitude directly affects the behaviour of players under their supervision. Managers/Coaches are, therefore, expected to pay particular care to the moral aspect of their conduct.

It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for managers/coaches. This code is not intended to conflict with that. However, the code calls for managers/coaches to disassociate themselves from a “win-at-all-costs” attitude.

Increased responsibility is needed from managers/coaches involved in coaching young people. The health, safety, welfare and moral education of young people are a first priority, before the achievement or the reputation of the club, manager/coach or parent.

The Club supports the Code of Conduct drawn up by the F.A. Coaches Association (which reflects the standards expressed by the National Coaching Foundation and the National Association of Sports Coaches) which forms the benchmark for all involved in coaching. This states that:

1. Managers/Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
2. Managers/Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
3. Managers/Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down by the governing bodies of the leagues they compete in.
4. Managers/Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.

5. Managers/Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
6. Managers/Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
7. Managers/Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
8. Managers/Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the players (and, where appropriate, parent) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from their coach.
9. Managers/Coaches must co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other Managers/Coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the player.
10. Managers/Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
11. Managers/Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
12. Managers/Coaches must not use or tolerate inappropriate language.

Code of Conduct – Club and Team Officials

This Code applies to Club and Team Officials, not specifically covered by other Club Codes. The following statements are standards that all Rockleaze Rangers Club and Team Officials are expected to accept and embrace as the minimum standard for their involvement in Club and Team activities.

1. Club and Team Officials must set and maintain a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
2. Club and Team Officials must avoid all forms of gamesmanship.
3. Club and Team Officials must show due respect to match officials and others involved in the game and accept their decisions without protest.
4. Club and Team Officials must not use or tolerate inappropriate language.
5. Club and Team Officials must show due respect for the interests of the players, managers, coaches, officials, their own Club and Team and those of the opponents Club and Team.

Code of Conduct – Spectators and Parents / Carers

Rockleaze Rangers Football Club will not tolerate abuse of opposing players/managers or supporters or match-day officials by anyone connected with the club. If you do this, you threaten our place in any FA affiliated league we play in.

In addition, parents and family members have a great influence on children's enjoyment and success in football. The expectations and attitudes of a parent / spectator have a significant bearing on a child's attitude towards

- Other players
- Officials
- Managers
- Spectators

With this in mind, parents/carers and spectators are asked to adhere to the following when involved with the Junior Club

1. It is expected that during matches, parents and spectators will provide support and encouragement to the whole team not just their own player.
2. All match day tactics and coaching from the sidelines is the sole responsibility of the match day management team, not the spectators, as negative comments or individual coaching from the sidelines can be very disruptive and harmful to both individual and team development.
3. If you want to discuss any aspect of your child's involvement with Rockleaze Rangers please talk to your Year Group Coach. We are always very open to constructive feedback and suggestions for improvement.
4. Make your Year Group Coach aware of any medical condition or injury to your child that might be affected by training or playing football (e.g. asthma)
5. Please make yourselves aware of our policies on our website so that you can help and encourage your child in his/her football development.

Breaches of Conduct

If an individual wishes to report a breach of conduct, they should approach the relevant team coach / manager. Where this is not appropriate, they should approach a member of the Senior Committee or Junior Executive Committee. If a breach of conduct cannot be resolved in an informal manner, the relevant Committee can be asked to formally consider the matter. The Committee will then take whatever action they deem to be necessary.

Additional Information for Junior Club Parents / Carers

Parents/carers of Junior Club players should be aware of the following

1. Training

In order to progress as individual players and as a team, weekly training sessions will focus on:

- Fitness/mobility
- The key skills of the game
- Individual and/or role coaching (e.g. striker; goalkeeper)
- Basic team structures and tactics
- The laws of the game

It is also expected that players will be encouraged by parents to practice skills and work on fitness outside of formal coaching/games.

2. Team Selections

Team selection for junior (friendly) football at under 10 and lower should take account of the club's 'all inclusive' philosophy and should aim to strike a balance between being competitive and giving a chance for all players to represent the club.

Team selection at under 11 and upwards for competitive fixtures will be based on fielding the strongest, most balanced side available for matches, taking into account the following criteria:

- Team formation
- Ability and current form
- Team working
- Attitude
- Availability

- Training attendance

3. Substitutions

For friendly matches at under 10 and lower, the club philosophy of being 'inclusive' means that managers' will be expected to give all players a run out wherever possible.

Substitutions during the season at under 11 and upwards in competitive fixtures will be made by the Manager on the day and will be made for tactical reasons or to replace injured players. The decision whether or not to make substitutions and the timing of them will be made on a match by match basis, and at the sole discretion of the management team.

4. The Realities of League Football (under 11 and above)

Year Group managers are very happy to talk to parents about the football development of any player and will give honest and constructive feedback

The attitude, sportsmanship and behaviour of some opposing teams (players, officials and parents) are not always as we would like them to be! We will make sure that we stick to our values and represent Rockleaze Rangers Football Club appropriately at all times – as challenging as that might sometimes be!