



WIMBLEDON
RFC
Wimbledon RFC's Disciplinary Policy

Last Reviewed, 30 March 2026

The aim of this policy is ensure the highest level of discipline throughout Wimbledon RFC (the "Club"). The Policy is to be read in conjunction with [Regulation 19 \(Discipline\) of the RFU's Rules and Regulations](#).

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Team Captains, Managers or Coaches must report all red cards, yellow cards and/or disciplinary incidents by a player, member of the Club community or spectator to the Disciplinary Secretary as soon as possible after, and within 24 hours of, the incident.

2. Senior Player Sent Off or cited

- 2.1. In the event of a senior player being sent off or cited, the following procedure will be adopted:

- 2.1.1. The Captain or Team Manager of the team concerned must report the following information to the Disciplinary Secretary as soon as possible, and within 24 hours of, the incident:

Date of the Incident, Nature of the Incident, Teams involved, Where the match was played, Score at the time, Player's correct name, Player's address, Player's date of birth, Player's RFU Registration number, Player's email address, Player's contact number and a Report of the incident by the Player.

- 2.1.2. The Disciplinary Secretary will receive the Notice of Hearing from Surrey Rugby (which will include details of the specific charge, the red card report, copy of the match footage (if available) and any additional statements or documents received) and share these with the Player.

- 2.2. If deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Secretary, they will call a Disciplinary Committee to be held on the Tuesday following the incident. This will be held either online or at the Club.

- 2.2.1. The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of Disciplinary Secretary, Chair of Senior Rugby and any other member of the Executive Committee.

- 2.2.2. The Disciplinary Committee will consider the sending off and come to a decision on sanction. The Player may be represented, may be accompanied by their own witnesses and may provide character references.



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- 2.3. The Disciplinary Secretary will inform Surrey Rugby of the outcome of any Club disciplinary hearing as soon as possible and respond to the Notice of Hearing.
- 2.4. The Player may be required to attend a disciplinary hearing with Surrey Rugby. If the Player accepts the charge, then the case may be dealt with on the papers only without the need for a hearing in-person.
- 2.5. Where the Referee fails to submit a report of the incident, the Disciplinary Secretary will decide, with guidance from Surrey Rugby, whether the Club should hold an internal disciplinary hearing.
- 2.6. When a player is sent off, they will be provisionally suspended from playing any further match until they have attended a disciplinary hearing with Surrey Rugby. For the avoidance of doubt, included in this is where the Player receives a red card as a result of committing two yellow card offences in one match.

3. Age Grade Player Disciplinary Matter (U12 or below)

- 3.1. In the event of a disciplinary matter, the following procedure will be adopted:
 - 3.1.1. The Age Grade Head Coach must report the following information to the Disciplinary Secretary as soon as possible after, and within 24 hours of, the incident –

Date of the Incident, Nature of the Incident, Teams involved and where the match was played, Score at the time, Player's correct name, Player's address, Player's date of birth and Contact details of the Player's parent or guardian.
 - 3.1.2. The Age Grade Head Coach, with support from the Disciplinary Secretary, will hear the Player's case and consider an appropriate sanction, taking into consideration that it should be an education focused approach in conjunction with appropriate sanctions. The Player will be expected to be accompanied by their parent or guardian.
 - 3.1.3. The Disciplinary Secretary will inform Surrey Rugby of the Player's details and the outcome of the Club disciplinary hearing within 72 hours of the hearing taking place.
- 3.2. When a player is sent off, they will be provisionally suspended from playing any further match until they have attended a disciplinary hearing with the Club. For the avoidance of doubt, included in this is where the Player receives a red card as a result of committing two yellow card offences in one match.



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3.3. The Club is committed to the principles set out in Appendix 6 of the RFU Regulation 19.

4. Age Grade Player Sending Off or cited (U13-U18)

4.1. In the event of a player being sent off or cited, the following procedure will be adopted:

4.1.1. The Age Grade Head Coach must report the following information to the Disciplinary Secretary as soon as possible after, and within 24 hours of, the incident –

Date of the Incident, Nature of the Incident, Teams involved and where the match was played, Score at the time, Player's correct name, Player's address, Player's date of birth and Contact details of the Player's parent or guardian.

4.1.2. The Age Grade Head Coach or Team Manager must obtain a copy of the referee's report before the referee leaves the Club. This report must then be sent to the Disciplinary Secretary;

4.1.3. The Disciplinary Secretary will convene a Club Age Grade Disciplinary Panel to hear the Player's case and consider an appropriate sanction in line with the RFU Sanction Table. The Club Age Grade Disciplinary Panel will consist of the Disciplinary Secretary, the Club's Child Safeguarding Officer and an Age Grade Coach. The Club's Child Safeguarding Officer may sit on the panel or they may share their advice on any safeguarding elements with the panel. The Player will be expected to be accompanied by their parent or guardian.

4.1.4. The Disciplinary Secretary will inform Surrey Rugby of the details of the Player and the outcome of the Club disciplinary hearing within 72 hours of the hearing taking place.

4.2. When a player is sent off, they will be provisionally suspended from playing any further match until they have attended a disciplinary hearing with the Club. For the avoidance of doubt, included in this is where the Player receives a red card as a result of committing two yellow card offences in one match.

4.3. The Club is committed to the principles set out in Appendix 6 of the RFU Regulation 19.



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5. Senior or Age Grade Player receiving a Yellow Card

- 5.1. Any Player who receives more than two yellow cards in one season may be asked to appear before the Disciplinary Committee to discuss this in more detail.

6. Acts of Bad Behaviour by Players, member of the Club community, Officials, Spectators or Visitors

- 6.1. Any Player or member of the Club community who witnesses an act of bad behaviour at any time on the Club site, must report the matter to the Disciplinary Secretary as soon as possible.
- 6.2. In the event of unacceptable behaviour by a member of the Club community, the Disciplinary Secretary will, in the first instance, investigate the report and meet with the Player or member of the Club community to attempt to resolve the matter in line with Rugby's Core Values.
- 6.3. If the matter cannot be resolved in the first instance, a disciplinary committee shall meet at their earliest convenience to hear the outcome of the Disciplinary Secretary's investigation and to make a decision on how to proceed. The disciplinary committee shall be made up of three members of the Executive Committee or the Age Grade Head coaches.
- 6.4. In the event of a complaint being received from Surrey Rugby or similar, the Disciplinary Secretary shall ascertain the facts and report to the Executive Committee.

7. Acts of Bullying

- 7.1. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable in any form at the Club. Any instances will be taken seriously, responded to promptly, and procedures followed to tackle with the situation.
- 7.2. Rugby is a "telling" culture and anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to report it to the Club Child Protection Officer. They will follow the guidelines as outlined in the RFU Anti Bullying Policy.
- 7.3. It is the responsibility of every adult working in rugby union to ensure that everyone, adults and all young people can enjoy the sport in a safe, enjoyable environment.
- 7.4. Any matters relating to bullying in the Age Grade teams will be dealt with in line with the Club's Safeguarding Policy.



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8. Sanctions

- 8.1. The relevant disciplinary committees will follow the RFU Regulation 19 sanction recommendations.
- 8.2. A record of any penalty awarded against a person and the reasons how that decision was arrived at by the relevant disciplinary committee, will be kept on file. The penalty can be taken into account when deciding on future penalties at any subsequent disciplinary hearing relating to that person.

9. Appeals

- 9.1. A person has a right to appeal the decision of the relevant disciplinary committee on the grounds set out in RFU regulation 19.5.2.
- 9.2. An appeal must be sent in writing, stating the decision(s) in respect of which the appeal is being brought, the date of the original disciplinary committee meeting, the grounds of the appeal, a statement of the facts on which the appeal is based, and any supporting documentation, to the Disciplinary Secretary within 7 days of the relevant disciplinary hearing. The appeal will be heard within the following 7 days.
- 9.3. An appeal hearing panel will be made up of three members of the Exec. Committee or Age Grade Rugby Head Coach who did not sit on the panel at the time of the first hearing.
- 9.4. The Appeal Panel may dismiss the appeal, allow the appeal and remit the matter to the relevant disciplinary committee for a re-hearing, allow the appeal and quash the finding and any sanction imposed, partially allow the appeal and substitute an alternative finding and/or sanction, make such further orders as it deems appropriate. The result of any appeal will be kept on file.

10. Costs

- 10.1. Any costs must be paid by the person concerned and therefore the Club will invoice them for the said amount or they will be invoiced for costs directly. Failure to pay may result in the person being banned from playing any further matches or using any Club facilities until the amounts are paid in full. If a person leaves consequent to not paying the costs they will not be entitled to a refund of their annual subscription.