

Wellington Rugby Charter

“Game for All”



You are reading this Charter because you are part of the rugby family whether that be as a player, coach, manager, administrator, referee or supporter. You belong to an organisation that loves the game of rugby, believes strongly that rugby has a great contribution to make to the Wellington region and to New Zealand society. There is a place in our game for everyone.

It is a privilege to be a member of the Wellington Rugby Football Union (“WRFU”) and together we are contributing to making Wellington, and Wellington rugby, great. You belong to an organisation that has a long and proud tradition of playing the game of rugby and does not judge individuals, but instead is accepting and supportive of those who are involved in the game. WRFU does however expect that you will conduct yourself in a manner that enhances the reputation of rugby and does not compromise the strong values upon which the game has been built.

Wellington rugby wants people to take pride in who they are and those that they represent, not only upholding the expectations and values that unify and inspire people around them, but more importantly, contribute in a way that sets the right example for those that follow. We need you to act in the best interests of yourself, your family, your club or school and your community. This means:

- Being a positive role model
For example: always conducting yourself in a professional and respectful manner in all situations (including social media)
- Respecting the rights, dignity, safety and worth of others
For example: engaging in appropriate relationships and respecting others thoughts and beliefs
- Being fair, considerate and honest in all dealings with others
For example: being aware of the risks and consequences of behaviour such as violence or corruption
- Being professional, making good decisions and accepting responsibility for your actions
For example: drinking responsibly and not using banned substances or illegal drugs

You are an ambassador for the game of rugby and your conduct on and off the field may come under greater public scrutiny if linked to the fact that you are involved in rugby, and especially where you have been recognised through having achieved higher honours. WRFU expects all those involved in the game to be the best they can be individually, which will in turn make their clubs and schools the best they can be, and consequently Wellington rugby as a whole will go from strength to strength.

This Charter sets out the principles we require of those involved with rugby in Wellington (at all levels). As a member of the Wellington Rugby community, you’re covered by this Charter and you are expected to live up to its principles both on and off the field.

The Charter should be read in conjunction with the NZ Rugby Charter, WRFU Bylaws and the rules and regulations issued by New Zealand and World Rugby for playing and administering rugby.

Wellington Rugby Values

Wellington Rugby lives by and embraces a set of core values to make it a “Game for All”.

RESPECT: We respect every person involved in the game, on and off the field.

- Accepting the decisions of referees, coaches and other officials
- Appreciating the contribution made by the people who make the game happen
- Being mindful of other people’s views and perspectives
- Generally treating others with dignity and respect and having due regard to the rights of others

INTEGRITY: We do our best and play by the rules of the game and our community.

- Participating to the best of your ability, being committed to the team, your club or school and Wellington Rugby
- Embracing the spirit of the game and fair play
- Being fair, considerate and honest in all dealings with others
- Putting health, safety and wellbeing first

INCLUSIVENESS: Rugby attracts people from all walks of life and is better for it.

- Embracing diversity by bringing together people from all walks of life. People of different cultural backgrounds, race, religions, economic groups, gender, sexual orientation and health status
- Accepting that everyone involved in rugby is equal. We all come together with one thing in common: a love of rugby. When everyone is included and feels included, rugby benefits.
- Respecting the rights, dignity, safety and worth of others. No-one will be subject to discrimination in any way, including by way of harassment, demeaning behaviour, marginalism or isolation

Wellington Rugby has a particularly special relationship with, and commitment to, Maori and Pasifika communities. This means that all those involved in rugby embrace the principles of partnership, protection and participation, and encourages these communities to be actively involved in the game and its administration. We look to these communities for guidance and support in ways to enrich rugby through players’ experiences in playing rugby, how rugby is administered, and how problems might be solved.

TRADITION & PRIDE: We have pride in our past and challenge ourselves to be progressive in our thinking.

- Respecting those who have contributed to the game’s history and making the community a better place
- Inspiring people to work together to enjoy the game and achieve their goals
- Giving back to our clubs, schools and communities

LEADERSHIP & EMPOWERMENT: We are role models and add value to our society.

- Being a positive role model
- Learning life skills from being involved in rugby
- Supporting people involved in the game to grow and develop as individuals and leaders

DISCIPLINE: We aspire to provide the best rugby experience from juniors through to high performance athletes.

- Being professional, making good decisions and accepting responsibility for your actions
- Striving to improve your performance