



THE GOOD MATCH OFFICIAL'S CODE

Match officials should:

- Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when officiating young players
- Provide positive verbal feedback, in a constructive and encouraging manner during games
- Emphasise the spirit of the game
- Appreciate the needs of the young players before the needs of the sport
- Understand the physical, social and psychological development of young players
- Be a positive role model - you set an example, and as such, comments you receive should be positive and supportive
- Look to self-improvement

Match officials must:

- Recognise that the safety of players is paramount
 - Explain decisions - all young players are still learning
 - Always penalise foul play
 - Play advantage whenever possible in order to let the game flow
 - Show empathy for the age and ability of young players
 - Be consistent and objective
 - Ensure that verbal abuse from players, coaches or spectators is not tolerated and is dealt with by club officials immediately
 - Be aware of, and abide by, the RFU Child Protection Guidance policies and procedures
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