



HAVANT RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB
GROUND: HOOKS LANE, FRASER ROAD,
BEDHAMPTON, HAVANT, HANTS. PO9 3EJ
TEL: 023 92492311 / 92477843

MINI & JUNIOR SECTION

Match Officials - Child Protection Policy

12 January 2004

When refereeing young players at Havant, match officials are asked to:

- Recognise that safety is paramount.
- Appreciate the needs of the players and recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment.
- Be positive as a role model, setting the appropriate example before, during and after the game.
- Explain decisions in a positive way during games as young players are invariably still learning.
- Report any verbal abuse from wherever it comes (details below).

Officials should not:

- Change in the same area as young players – separate changing/shower facilities are provided.
- Shower with young players – agree a timetable with coaches if required by circumstances.
- Be alone with young players at any time – if a young player enters the changing room while you are changing, send the player out immediately.
- Check studs, players clothing etc without a Club coach being present.

- Criticise young players or use language that may cause the player to lose confidence or self-esteem.
- Administer first aid in normal course unless you consider immediate action is important to the safety of the child. You should summon a coach or an appropriately qualified person.
- Allow a young player to continue playing if you have doubts about their fitness.
- Tolerate bad language from young players.
- Engage in any inappropriate contact with young players.
- Give a lift home to any young player unless there are other young people or adults in the car and the parents/guardian has agreed. Where possible, always seat the young person in the rear of the vehicle. You should not take a young player to your home.
- Make sexually explicit remarks to young players, even in fun.

Officials should always:

- Report in the first instance to the Club Welfare Officer Ms. Julie Williams (023 92349838) behaviour by adults that you feel contravenes RFU Child Protection Policy viz.
 - Verbal bullying by coaches/parents/spectators.
 - Physical abuse by coaches/parents/spectators.
 - Inappropriate or aggressive contact by an adult to a young person.
- Report verbal or physical abuse directed at you from any source to me or any Club officer as soon as practicable ensuring that you complete a Referee Abuse Form.

Remember:

Within the playing area you assume custody of young people for the duration of the match. The single most important factor during this period is the safety and welfare of these young people. Your authority in carrying out this responsibility is fully supported.

Deborah J Morgan

Chairman

Havant Rugby Club Mini & Junior Section