



# Crusaders Policy and Procedures

## Crusaders of Oklahoma Players Code of Conduct - September 2016

Athletes represent CRFC in a special, visible way. Therefore it is appropriate to hold high expectations for appropriate conduct in and out of rugby events; on and off the training and playing field; as a host or guest of an opponent; and in public activities. Conduct that does not contribute to team cooperation and self-discipline and/or reflects unfavorably on the team or club may be reason for the officers of the club to temporarily suspend or permanently dismiss an athlete from participation in all club events. Crusaders Rugby Football Club expects **all** teams and players to abide by the following code of conduct:

- 1) Players who represent their teams are ambassadors of their club, as well as the game of rugby in general. As such, each player is expected to display good, responsible behavior at all times, both on and off the field.
- 2) Players shall play their part in creating a welcoming, supportive and positive atmosphere in training sessions. Players shall listen to, and undertake, coaches' instructions and commit fully to drills, game-plans and general playing philosophy. If disagreements about training methods or philosophy arise, players shall speak with the appropriate Coach, Director of Rugby and/or Club Captain. In short, players and coaches can disagree but not be disagreeable.
- 3) Players should not exhibit obnoxious, impolite or antisocial behavior (dangerous play) of any sort that would adversely affect the image of the game as a serious and disciplined endeavor. This includes verbal abuse of opponents by players or their supporters.
- 4) A player must not before, during, or after a match threaten or address a referee or touch judge in insulting terms, or act in a provocative manner towards a fellow player, referee or touch judge.
- 5) All players and supporters must respect the ground rules that are in effect at any particular match, such as prohibitions against having alcohol and drugs on school grounds and in public parks.
- 6) **Payment of Dues & Participation in Fundraisers:** Part of building teamwork is done through supporting **your** team and club. Supporting the club can be defined as cheering at games, paying your dues or participating in fundraisers to raise money for **YOUR** club. Since there are financial responsibilities to playing the sport of rugby, it is crucial that all team members pay dues and participate in fundraising events. This will help the club have enough funds to: pay dues to Unions that the club is a part of; go to tournaments; purchase training equipment; and reach the club's general financial. If there were some reason that a club member would not be able to pay dues in full or on time and/or participate in a fundraising event, this would need to be discussed with the appropriate officer so that other arrangements can be made.
- 7) **CRFC PLAYERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBEYING ALL LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE PARKS DEPARTMENT, CITY and STATE DURING TRAINING SESSIONS, MATCH DAYS and ALL SPONSORED AND UNSPONSORED EVENTS IN WHICH THEY REPRESENT THE CLUB.**
- 8) The CRFC is **not** responsible for club member's actions outside of these rules of conduct. In the event of any inappropriate actions, the club member will be held responsible **NOT** the club, both legally and financially.

Violations of this code of conduct will be immediately addressed by the CRFC officers. Sanctions decided on by the CRFC officers will be enforced by the executive committee and appropriate coaching staff.

**I understand that my participation in CRFC training and competition is dependent upon my signature on this document and by my actions at all matches and team functions.**

Player's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Player's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Members**

Active member: Any person who registers as an Active Player with the OKC Crusaders RFC in any one year pays yearly dues and CIPPs with OKC Crusaders RFC shall hold active player status and have all rights:

- A) Vote on club matters
- B) Speak on club matters at club meetings
- C) Speak at Executive meeting if represented by a member on the Executive Committee
- D) Shall be eligible for all sides of OKC Crusaders RFC
- E) Run for all club positions

In Active; any person who registers as an Inactive player with the OKC Crusaders RFC in any one year plays yearly dues shall hold Inactive Player status and have all rights:

- A) Vote on all club matters
- B) Speak on club matters at club meetings
- C) Shall be eligible to play in non-cup matches
- D) Eligible to run for all club positions

Old Boy; Any person who register as an Old Boy with the OKC Crusaders RFC in any one year pays yearly dues must be over 35 shall hold Old Boy status and have all rights:

- A) Vote on all club matters
- B) Speak on club matters at club meetings
- C) Eligible to run for all club positions

Honorary Player; Any person who goes above and beyond to help the club and represents the values of OKC Crusaders RFC:

- A) Must be nominated by a member of the OKC Crusaders RFC
- B) Voted on by members with in good standing of OKC Crusaders RFC
- C) Eligible to attend all meetings
- D) Attend all socials

## **Executive Members**

Duties as assigned are outlined in the bylaws.

## **Non-Executive Members**

The term for each position will be for One Year and will be appointed by members of the Executive Committee. The Non-Executive Committee members serve as a support role and must be member with in good standing of the club.

Quarter Master:

- a) Maintain and Inventory all equipment.
- b) Work with Executive members to order equipment or apparel needed throughout the season.
- c) Have equipment at practices and games.
- d) Responsible for have the field game ready.
- e) For these responsibilities dues for the member will be waived for that term.

IT:

- a) Maintain Website, Social Media, and any other technology the Oklahoma Crusaders may need or use.

## Discipline

The following Disciplinary Regulations and Procedures, which incorporate those mandated by World Rugby and USA Rugby, TRU and RRRC, and OKC Crusaders RFC will be enforced by the OKC Crusaders RFC events and matches. The OKC Crusaders RFC Disciplinary Committee (DC) will consist of the Club President as Chair. The DC shall be responsible for all disciplinary matters that fall within the jurisdiction of the OKC Crusaders RFC. The function of the Director of Disciplines is to oversee the behavior of all member clubs in matters relating to the game itself and to the public image of rugby in the OKC Crusaders RFC. Therefore, actions, both on and off the field, may come under the scrutiny of this officer. Clubs are encouraged to take action against their own players, members and supporters for actions detrimental to the game of Rugby. All clubs should insist upon a high standard of behavior from all their members and supporters. The Director of Discipline will, at their discretion, consult with members of the Executive Board and all club Captains on disciplinary issues. If disciplinary action must take place the Executive Board will have an emergency including club captains. The members will meet discuss and decide the level of discipline. The decision will be documented and saved both for the club to learn from and to submit to the TRU if needed.

## Safety Guidelines

The OKC Crusaders RFC will follow all mandated safety guidelines by World Rugby and USA Rugby, TRU and RRRC, and OKC Crusaders RFC and will be enforced by the OKC Crusaders RFC events and matches.

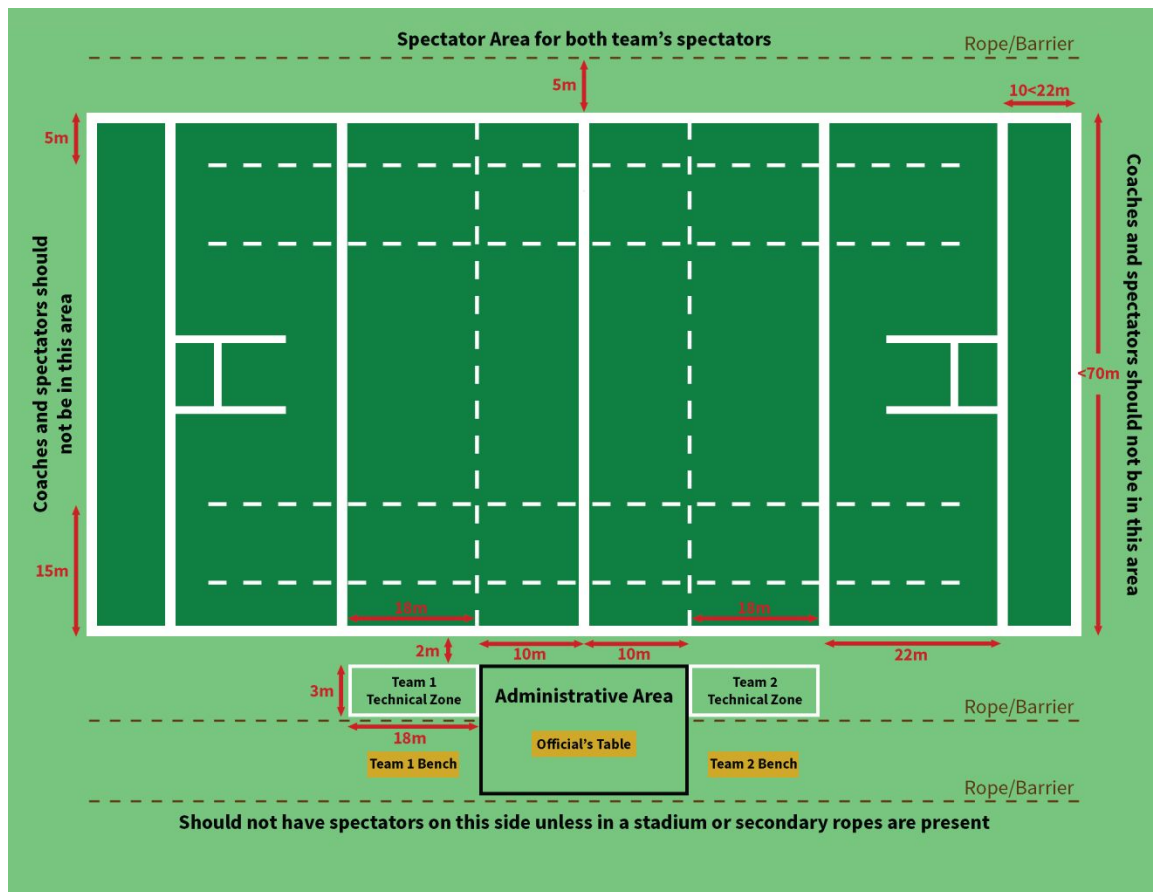
## Field Policy

1. Sideline barriers are required from goal line to goal line and maintained at least 5 meters from the touchline. A maximum of 1 team staff may stand inside the barriers and in close proximity of the sideline barrier. Replacement players are NOT permitted inside the barrier until requesting entry into the match.
  1. The appointed team representative must remain between their 50m and 22m or behind the dead ball line. Additional team staff may be behind the dead ball line.
  2. Coaches or team representatives are NOT permitted to enter the playing area during play. Water carriers and medical personnel may enter the playing area by prior arrangement, or at the specific invitation of the referee.
2. The home club must provide a properly marked field for all matches in accordance with the Laws of the Game and published guidelines of the TRU. Recommended playing surface should be grass or IRB Regulation 22 Certified turf. Fields should be free of debris such as glass, protrusions, divots, etc.
  1. View examples of [rugby field or stadium diagrams](#)
3. Teams, staff and players of both teams will be on the opposite side of spectators, separated at the 50m and will remain on their respective sides. No one is permitted inside the 22m from either team.
  1. If a team has extenuating circumstances that don't allow for this setup, they may request a waiver from the TRU Board. If a waiver is granted, teams, staff and players of both teams will be on opposite sides. Teams, staff and players will still need to stay within their 50m and 22m with no one permitted inside the 22 meters.
4. All goal posts in the field of play must be padded. All field flags must be break-away.
5. The home club shall provide a sufficient number of properly inflated rugby balls, in good playing condition, so as to carry on the match without substantial delay.

The following procedures should be followed on game day and/or in the case of a citing:

- Both coaches should review the assigned team areas at least 30 minutes prior to kickoff.

- If both coaches cannot agree to a suitable resolution, the respective coaches, must notify the referee before kickoff.
- Coaches can NOT agree to waive the stated policy requirements by mutual consent.
- Primary reporting of the Field Barrier Policy shall continue to be made via Referee Match Reports.
- The TRU Administrator and Divisional Reps will review all match reports and notify the respective clubs within 48 hours or as is reasonable.
- Appeals shall be submitted to the TRU Discipline Director within 48 hours of notification or as is reasonable.
- Fines shall be due and payable within 10 business days of notification by the TRU.



## Referee Cancellation

If the referee cancels or alters services the Match Secretary, Director of Rugby, and President of the club must be contacted immediately; they are the club officials authorized to make alternate arrangements. The RRRC representative and TRU referee representative should be consulted immediately to ensure any alternative undertaken complies with union rules (verification of proper referee credentials, etc.). If a solution cannot be agreed to, all options shall be presented to the Executive Committee and a vote taken to choose the best course of action.

## Uniform Guidelines

The OKC Crusaders RFC will follow USA Rugby and TRU guidelines, shall conform to World Rugby

regulations on Uniforms and Equipment and to any further restrictions implemented by the TRU or USA Rugby may apply.

## **Cleaning up the Game**

In view of the growing number of complaints from the public nationwide and the need to create an atmosphere in which parent of young players, families and sponsors will feel comfortable participating in the Game, the TRU in conjunction with the Local Referee Organization (LRO), the Texas Rugby Referee Association (TRRA) intend to take a very serious view of conduct that is contrary to the Object of the Game that demands fair play in a sporting spirit. All member clubs are required to ensure the Game at all levels is run as a disciplined and sporting athletic endeavor, and the TRU and the LRO are determined to play their part in fulfilling this obligation.

Consequently, effective immediately, a very serious view will be taken of unsportsmanlike conduct, especially the gratuitous use of foul language and obscenities in a loud and provocative manner, both on and off the playing area, during play and stoppages, before and after the match, no matter who they are directed toward. Referees will enlist the aid of both captains if the problem arises from the touchlines. Club officials will be held responsible for eliminating such behavior beyond the playing area. This offensive kind of behavior is a major stain on the fabric of the Game in the USA and the TRU and the LRO as local guardians of the laws and ethics of the Game are determined to stamp it out.

Similarly individuals who persistently criticize and dispute the decisions of referees and touch judges, verbally abuse or threaten physical assault of a match official will be severely dealt with by the TRU Disciplinary Committee. The TRU and the LRO expect all affiliated clubs to get this message to their coaches, players and supporters and so obviate the need for more draconian action down the road.

## **Changing of Executive Board**

TBA