

Model Guidance for Intra-Club Communication

Every rugby club--and each of its members--is obligated to the global rugby community in adherence to the Laws of the game and all related principles that govern the sport both on and off the pitch. Club communications, as a function of club culture, are inextricably tied to each club's participation in the global rugby community and therefore by abiding by the following guidelines each club will promote a positive environment in which the sport may thrive beginning at the grassroots level.

1. A club's President or his designee(s) shall bear ultimate responsibility for his club's culture, which must be founded at its core on the universal principles of rugby, and necessarily includes open and civil communications.
2. All club leaders regardless of title or official position shall periodically review the Laws of the Game and the core principles of the Spirit of Rugby when directed by the club President or his designee(s).
3. Club leaders shall encourage club members to review the same, and shall serve as examples of these laws and principles by their own conduct and communications.
4. When a club member's conduct falls short of the club standard, one of the club leaders shall personally but privately encourage that member to refrain from similar conduct in the future. When a club leader fails to uphold their own duties, the President or his designee shall personally but privately remind that leader of both his duty to his own club and to the broader rugby community.
5. If a member repeatedly fails to uphold the standards of club culture either in conduct or in communications in such a way that harms the Spirit of Rugby, that member will be subject to discipline according to his club's policies and procedures. A club leader is subject to the same, to include necessary forfeiture of leadership roles for a period appropriate to reestablish leadership ability.