

## **PROTOCOLS FOR REFEREE APPOINTMENTS**

### **PURPOSE**

The CARFU Referee Society is committed to the basic principle stated in the IRB Code of Conduct:

All Unions, Associations, Rugby Bodies, Clubs and Persons must ensure that the Game is played and conducted in accordance with disciplined and sporting behavior and acknowledge that it is not sufficient to rely solely upon the Match Officials to maintain these principles.

It is the purpose of these Protocols to create a framework of responsibilities, the commitment to which will establish a culture as envisioned in the statement above, and enhance the prospect of achieving a positive experience for all.

### **PRINCIPLES**

The principles that describe the culture of the Game, and are the guides to enjoyment and fulfillment are Conduct, Spirit, and Object.

#### **Conduct:**

It is perfectly acceptable for a player to be seen to be exerting extreme physical pressure on an opponent in an attempt to gain possession of the ball, but not willfully or maliciously to inflict injury.

These are the boundaries within which players and referees must operate and it is the capacity to make this fine distinction, combined with control and discipline, both individual and collective, upon which the code of conduct depends.

#### **Spirit:**

The Game owes much of its appeal to the fact that it is played both to the letter and within the Spirit of the Laws. The responsibility for ensuring that this happens lies not with one individual—it involves coaches, captains, players and referees.

It is through discipline, control and mutual respect that the Spirit of the Game flourishes and, in the context of a Game as physically challenging as Rugby, these are the qualities which forge the fellowship and sense of fair play so essential to the Game's ongoing success and survival.

#### **Object:**

The object of the Game is that two teams, each of fifteen players, observing fair play, according to the Laws and in a sporting spirit should,

by carrying, passing, kicking and grounding the ball, score as many points as possible.

**The CARFU Referee Society will only appoint Match Officials to matches or competitions where all contestants agree to the following Protocols.**

#### **MATCH OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

At all times the Referee is to maintain professional and acceptable behavior in relation to teams, coaches and bystanders.

The Referee will arrive at the match venue no later than one hour before kick-off, subject to uncontrollable travel issues.

The Referee will introduce him self or herself to the management of both teams, and identify the members of the match officiating team, which may include, Assistant Referees, Performance Reviewers, the Referee's Coach, a videographer, or others.

Sideline Match Officials will communicate with the home team to identify where they will be while performing their duties.

The Referee is encouraged to conduct informational discussions with representatives of both teams. However, there will be no interaction between kick off and 20 minutes after the final whistle.

The Referee will perform all requirements of the competition, such as collecting match forms, recording or verifying scores, and disciplinary incidents.

All disciplinary events will be reported to the match organizers and the CARFU Referee Society within 24 hours of the final whistle.

A Referee or Match officials may remove any coach, player or spectator from the playing enclosure at any time for negative behavior. This includes stopping the match until the person has left the playing and spectating enclosure.