

## **DISCIPLINARY POLICY**

1. To protect the sport and the player, the laws of rugby union, the RFRU Code of Conduct and the RFU disciplinary guidelines define what is unacceptable and set out the punishments that will be applied to those who transgress. Peterborough Rugby Club fully supports these laws and guidelines. It does not condone foul play and in particular referee abuse nor retaliation.
2. The Club has a Disciplinary Committee with fully delegated powers from the Management Committee to implement the Club's policy and take any necessary action against individual players.
3. The Disciplinary Committee comprises:
  - Playing Committee Chairman and/or Club Captain
  - 1st XV Captain and/or 1st XV Team Manager
  - Team Captain
  - A Principal Officer of the Management Committee.

The Playing Committee Chairman or Club Captain will chair the meeting.

4. A quorum comprises three members. In the event of a tied decision the chairman of the disciplinary hearing shall have a casting vote.
5. Any player subject to a disciplinary hearing may attend the club's disciplinary hearing. The player will be required to pay any EMRU penalty levied against the club.
6. Players dismissed from the field of play will, unless the Disciplinary Committee agrees the player has a valid reason to appeal, be suspended by the club prior to any hearing that may be required by the East Midlands Disciplinary Committee.
7. The Club's over-riding concern is that its players play within the laws of the sport. Where disciplinary action is necessary the Club will do all in its power to establish the facts and to act fairly in the interests of the sport, the Club, and the player. However, the Club does not normally appeal against dismissals of players from the field of play, the Club accepting the decisions of the match officials. The right of an individual player to appeal against a dismissal is accepted.
8. The Club fully endorses the RFU Code of Conduct. Any player, club official or spectating club member will be expected to act with this code in mind at all times. Anyone reported for referee abuse will be subject to a Disciplinary Committee hearing.
9. The Club's policies are prominently displayed on the Club's notice boards and are constantly reviewed. Notices relating to foul play policies are issued to all team captains and coaches to be read to every player.

August 2004.

## **REVISED STATEMENT, 15 October 2002**

Peterborough Rugby Union Football Club very much regrets having to attend this Disciplinary Committee meeting. We would like to make it very clear that the Club does not condone foul play. Bearing in mind that the Club is one of the largest in the East Midlands region growing in numbers every season and capable of fielding five senior teams, five junior sides and two ladies' teams each weekend, it has for many seasons maintained a good record for fair play.

The Club does not normally appeal against dismissals of its players from the field of play, the Club **usually** accepting the decisions of match referees. However, the right of an individual player to appeal against a dismissal cannot be denied.

The Club has an active disciplinary policy with regard to foul play. Players subject to East Midlands Disciplinary Committee hearings are suspended by the Club prior to any such hearing, **unless, in the opinion of the Club Disciplinary Committee, that the player has a valid reason to appeal.**

The Club's policies are prominently displayed on the Club's notice board and are constantly reviewed. Notices relating to foul play policies are issued to all team captains and coaches to read to every player.

To summarize, Peterborough Rugby Union Football Club assures this Committee that the Club will continue to take appropriate action, whenever necessary, to minimize and hopefully eliminate foul play.

**Philip Elmer**, Chairman PRUFC

Note: This Statement has been revised as part of the Club's active disciplinary policy taking into account recommendations from the Club Disciplinary Committee formally agreed by the Management Committee on Wednesday, 9 October, 2002. Revisions are noted in bold type.