



Umpires Code of Practice



The integrity of Rounders is embodied in the umpire in whom trust is placed to ensure the game is played by the rules. This Code of Practice is a reminder to umpires of their obligation to maintain fair play and to give both teams the chance to win on merit, by applying the rules in a fair and consistent manner.

All Somervale Ladies Rounders League umpires should work towards the following Code of Practice. S.L.R.L support the Rounders England Safeguarding and Equity policy and procedures and encourage all umpires to be familiar with these guidelines (see www.roundersengland.co.uk)

Umpires should:

- Always have regard for the health and safety of all participants
- Realise that, as an umpire, you have a position of trust, particularly when working with young people, therefore you should always be a positive role model, promote ethical principles and fair play.
- Be the third team on the field and shall remain neutral, working together.
- Always have regard for the best interests of the game and shall not circulate by any means (verbal comment, written and published articles, internet forums, blogs, social networking sites) material which may be detrimental to the league or its members.
- Present a professional image at all times such as appropriate dress, timekeeping etc
- Not use inappropriate behaviour whilst on duty such as smoking, drinking, use of recreational drugs, inappropriate language or unsporting conduct.
- Make a clear warning to players when they use abusive or inappropriate language or behaviour
- Only use the unsporting conduct rule if you have already warned the player or the team - the exception to this is gross misconduct e.g. violence
- Not show any favour towards any team or player and adhere to the Rounders England bribery policy
- Not pass comment on the quality of play or make coaching comments
- Have access to a telephone for immediate contact to emergency services if required.
- Be aware that Rounders England, and Somervale Ladies Rounders league, takes its commitment to safeguarding children and young people very seriously. As your position may involve substantial contact with young people, you are asked to pay particular attention to the Safeguarding and Equality Policies as found at www.roundersengland.co.uk
- Ensure that all participants and players are treated with respect and as equals regardless of race, gender, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, social background or culture.

Any person umpiring a league, cup or plate game in the Somervale Ladies Rounders League will be deemed to have read and agreed to the terms as listed above. All umpires must also have attended the 2015 umpires course, completed their test and been issued with an umpires card.

This Code is in place to ensure the safety of both the individual signing, and anyone they come in to contact with. If at any time you have any concerns regarding the safety of any individual, in particular children and young people, you should contact your divisional representative without delay. Alternatively you may write to the League.