



Agents Code of Conduct when dealing with children (U18s and below)

1. Registered Agents should be aware that anyone under the age of 18 years of age is a child, even if the player is on the elite pathway. Agents should not contact child players without going via the parents/guardians.
2. Agents must be aware of RFU Regulation 8.8.4 which states:
Registered Agents must not make any offer of contract, provide any letter of intent or offer any inducement to any Player under the age of 18 or to any parent, guardian, trustee or other person of such Player, except in the case of Players aged 16 or more where a contract is offered under which the only material consideration provided to the Player is in the form of a non-refundable financial grant to be applied only for the purposes of the Player's academic and/or vocational training for a period of 12 months or longer.
3. Therefore, any contract offered must not benefit the agent by way of remuneration, payment, commission or fee. Contracting with a child also has many legal implications and may be voidable if not done correctly.
4. Agents should be aware that when dealing with children they are subject to the RFU Safeguarding Policy, Guidance and Procedures ("the Policy") which can be found here: http://www.englandrugby.com/mm/Document/Governance/Safeguarding/01/30/34/50/rfuSafeguardingPolicy2014_Neutral.pdf
5. The Policy sets out the responsibilities and requirements of all those involved in rugby to safeguard and protect children in Rugby Union. It therefore applies to agents dealing with children under the age of 18. It is designed to ensure that all rugby environments are safe, secure and enjoyable for children to flourish and thrive whilst learning and playing the game.
6. Adults involved in rugby, including agents, should not be alone with a child who is not their own. Agents should always ensure that a player's parent or guardian is with the player and should not arrange to meet a player without informing the parent/guardian.
7. Communications to a player should always be sent to the player's parent or guardian as well to ensure that all parties are fully aware of all arrangements which have been made. Agents should not approach a child via social media such as Facebook or Twitter. Instant messaging or texting a child is also inadvisable and strongly discouraged. It is advisable to copy in parents or guardians to all emails.
8. Agents should never enter changing rooms or shower areas where children may be. Agents should ensure that they comply with any visitor requirements when attending matches at schools, academies or clubs.
9. Should you have any questions or complaints in relation to agents, clubs, players or the Agents Registration Scheme, please contact Alys Lewis (AlysLewis@rfu.com).