

Rugby Phoenix Volleyball Club

<http://rugbyphoenixvolleyballclub.wordpress.com>

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Rugby Phoenix Volleyball Club is committed to the prevention and effective management of bullying behaviour relating to young people in volleyball.

This Policy Aims To:

- Provide staff, coaches, volunteers and officials with information if they are concerned about bullying.
- Provide young people and parents with information about what steps are being taken to safeguard against bullying.
- Set clear and consistent standards of behaviour.
- Establish an operational framework and introduce procedures of action to take if there are concerns about unacceptable behaviour.
- Assure all young people that they will be participating in a safe and friendly environment and that their well-being is our priority.
- Ensure that the rights of young people to protection from abuse and neglect are upheld.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is any persistent behaviour by an individual or group which intimidates, threatens or has a harmful and distressing impact on another individual or group. Such behaviour can occur between young people but also from adults towards young people and is often motivated by prejudice against different groups, for example on grounds of race, religion, sex, social background or sexual orientation.

Bullying behaviour may include any of the following:

- Verbal – name-calling or making personal comments.
- Social ostracised or left out of peer group activities.
- Material – when possessions are stolen or damaged or extortion takes place.
- Emotional – including pressure to conform.
- Physical – including any use of violence.
- Sexual – unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments.
- Racist – racial comments, language, graffiti or gestures.
- Homophobic – because of, or focusing on, the issue of sexual orientation.
- Virtual – action through digital or cyber technology including social media, emails or text messaging.

Bullying is different from fighting, which is usually a one-off incident with the purpose of dealing with immediate conflict. Verbal and social forms of bullying take place more often than material or physical bullying, with name-calling by far the most common.