



USI Rugby Team

www.usirugby.com | admin@usirugby.com

Vision: **To build a highly successful rugby program at the University of Southern Indiana.**

Mission: **To fulfill our vision through a commitment to:**

- **Developing a sense of brotherhood on the team**
- **Dedicating ourselves to the ethos of the sport**
- **Serving USI and our community**

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1. Culture

We strive to create a culture of excellence, teamwork, respect, discipline, sportsmanship and camaraderie that are the heart of the rugby game. These are the fundamental traditions that are linked to the sport and make it unique amongst others.

2. Enjoyment

Enjoyment is the reason we play, train and support rugby. We use our sport to adopt a healthy lifestyle and build life skills. We safeguard our players and help them have fun. We enjoy being part of a team and part of the rugby family.

3. Teamwork

Teamwork is essential to our sport. Rugby is unselfish and focused on team play achievement. Its rugged nature is balanced by the concepts of fair play, sportsmanship, fun and ultimately friendship. We welcome all new team members and include all because working as a team

enriches our lives. We play selflessly: working for the team, not for ourselves alone, both on and off the field. We take pride in our team, rely on one another and understand that each player has a part to play.

4. Respect

Mutual respect forms the basis of our sport. We hold in high esteem our sport, its values and traditions and earn the respect of others in the way we behave. We respect our match officials and accept their decisions. We respect opposition players and supporters. We value our coaches and those who run our club and the clubs with which we compete.

5. Discipline

Strong discipline reinforces our sport. We ensure that our sport is one of controlled physical endeavor and that we are honest and fair. We obey the laws of rugby which ensure an inclusive and exciting global game. We support our disciplinary system, which protects our sport and upholds its values. We observe the sport's laws and regulations and report serious breaches.

6. Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship is the foundation upon which rugby is built. We uphold the rugby tradition of camaraderie with teammates and opposition. We observe fair play both on and off the pitch and are generous in victory and dignified in defeat. We play to win but not at all costs and recognize both endeavor and achievement. We ensure that the wellbeing and development of individual players is central to all rugby activity.

7. Tradition and Heritage

The ethos of rugby has shaped a code of behavior that has transcended generations since 1823. Its time-honored legacy creates a broader social environment for the sport that engages the family and community and strengthens the ties that bind teams and clubs together globally.

8. Membership in USI Rugby

All students of the University of Southern Indiana are welcome to join the USI Rugby club. No experience or athleticism is required to participate in the club at large. The club also welcomes students from other campuses, and non-students to join the USI Rugby club and practice with the team. Those who participate in field activities will be required to sign a waiver in accordance with USI's club sports policy. Those who participate in the club at large will be asked to pay membership dues.

Members are asked to provide \$45 per semester in dues. If a member would like to pay for 2 semesters at once, there is a discount and dues are only \$35 per semester, totaling \$70. This discount is only available during the fall semester. If dues are not paid by the end of the semester, your eligibility to play for the next semester will be closely reviewed.

To pay your dues, you must email admin@usirugby.com and you will be given the contact

information of our treasurer, and a link to optionally pay for your dues online.

Players are encouraged to raise money by asking businesses and individuals to cover their dues. To find out more, please email admin@usirugby.com.

9. USI Rugby Officer Elections

All officers are first nominated. Each nomination has a chance to give a speech to convince the team why they should be elected. After speeches, all members not nominated then participate in a closed vote (where votes are kept confidential), and a majority of votes will constitute an election of that officer. Votes are counted by the highest-ranking and second-highest ranking officer. All other officers are elected in the same way once a year at the end of the Spring Semester.

10. USI / USA Rugby Requirements

In order to play during any official league match for USI Rugby you must be CIPP compliant. To register with USA Rugby and become CIPP compliant, go to:

- <https://membership.usarugby.org>

CIPP compliance costs \$40 per year (fall and spring semesters), and is required to participate in any official rugby games. If you have any questions, please email admin@usirugby.com.

11. USI Rugby Player Code of Conduct

USI Rugby expects all teams and players to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

1. I am an ambassador of rugby and represent the rugby team I am playing for, USI Rugby and USA Rugby. As such, I understand that I am expected to demonstrate good and responsible behavior at all times, both on and off the pitch.
2. I will not exhibit impolite or antisocial behavior (dangerous play) of any sort that would adversely affect the image of the game as a serious and disciplined endeavor. This includes verbal and physical abuse of players and/or their supporters.
3. I will not, before, during or after a match under the jurisdiction of USI Rugby or an affiliated rugby organization, threaten or address a referee or touch judge in insulting terms, or act in a provocative manner towards a fellow player, referee, touch judge or spectator.
4. I will abide by all rules and regulations applicable to the team imposed by the International Rugby Board, USA Rugby, USI Rugby, the school and the local hosts.
5. I agree that grades are a player's primary concern. Player's grades will not fall because a player is playing rugby. If your school has specific requirements these will apply.
6. I will not use substances in an illegal manner, or tolerate the same by my teammates. I understand this is grounds for discipline, up to and possibly including being dropped from the team. This matter is of such concern that a non-toleration policy is in effect.
7. I understand the after-match social is part of the game and that I am expected to attend, demonstrate good sportsmanship and foster good will between teams.
8. I will not make racist, sexist or bigoted jokes or statements.

9. I understand that obscene or profane language will not be tolerated.
10. I agree to wear the proper uniform at all team functions.
11. I understand that Rugby Activities are those approved by the head coach, and a coach is present at the activity i.e. practices, games (set-up, competition, and clean-up), approved social activities and fundraisers. If no coach is present, it is not a team-sanctioned activity, even if it starts as one.

Any violation of these codes of conduct will be immediately addressed by the USI Rugby leadership. The appropriate coaching staff will enforce all sanctions by the USI Rugby leadership.

This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability, and status as a Vietnam era or disabled Veteran.

This document is subject to change, and all members of the club will be notified of such changes.

Last Revision: August 22, 2014