

Regulation 15

GROUND SAFETY, TOUCHLINE BARRIERS AND TECHNICAL AREAS

Sponsor Governance Committee

- 1501 All Member and in-County Associate Clubs are to make proper provision for the safety of all participants and should ensure that spectators, replacements and Club officials are kept at a reasonable distance from the field of play. NO Club in the County should ever permit bottles or glasses to be taken out of the bar or an accepted social area immediately outside the clubhouse and certainly must take active steps to ensure no people carrying such items are allowed near the playing enclosure. Plastic glasses should be the norm outside on match days.
- 1502 The following information should be readily available and easily visible close to the club telephone to enable anyone to guide an ambulance to the pitch: Ground name, post code and/or map reference; any sign posting and/or significant landmarks such as pubs, garages and churches; ground telephone number.
- 1503 The ambulance service will give training advice if a club is prepared to provide "first on scene" life support with AED (defibrillator) and oxygen.

Barriers

- 1504 A permanent barrier should be the aim of all Clubs aspiring to competition rugby for the First XV at Levels 8 and above.
- 1505 For other Clubs, and for Second XV's and below, and for youth competition matches it is recognized, especially in public parks and school grounds, that permanent barriers are not achievable. As a minimum therefore a temporary rope barrier at five metres distance from the touch line (or as far as possible if five metres cannot be met) is acceptable. Care must be taken if metal posts are used to suspend a rope that the posts are not a danger to anyone. Provision musty be made to keep spectators clear of the technical areas
- 1506 In games involving smaller sized pitches it is acceptable for the "barrier" to be a rope laid on the ground or be formed of cones placed at at regular intervals.

Technical Areas

- 1507 Technical Areas are compulsory for all Clubs playing in the English Clubs Rugby Union Championship (the Leagues) and Club pitches where Club Hampshire matches are played. The Area is to be as defined in the RFU Handbook.
- 1508 Technical Areas are also required in all matches in the Youth League and Junior Cup Competitions, the Colts League, and in Adult Knock-Out and Merit Table Competitions. All Clubs should aim to implement this as an example of good practice in every match particularly at youth level.
- 1509 Each Club therefore must aim to provide a marked out area for each team of ten square metres, one each side of the half-way line between half-way and the ten-metre line at least one metre from the touchline and inside any perimeter barrier.
- 1510 Each team is to use the area on the side of the centre line which it defends in the first half. The only people allowed to be in the Technical Area during the game are two medical staff and two water-carriers and any player who has been temporarily suspended.
- 1511 All replacements and coaching staff are required to stay outside the barrier; they are not allowed in the Technical Area unless a replacement immediately prior to joining the game. Replacements are to use the area behind their opponents' in-goal area for warming-up.

1512 Any willful breach of 1506 and 1507 reported by a referee to a Competition Organiser may result in a penalty being imposed by the appropriate Committee.