



## UBRFC Crowd Charter 2024/25

This crowd charter details the rules and regulations that must be followed by all members of the University of Bath Rugby Football Club. The charter focuses on general crowd behaviour, BUCS fixture specific regulations and STV specific rules. As a club we want to promote the core values of rugby, in particular Respect and Enjoyment. We can have plenty of fun in the crowd, while maintaining the upmost respect for players, staff, match officials and fellow spectators by following the points below. It is your responsibility to call out poor behaviour and be accountable for the actions of those around you. We want to create a positive environment to watch a rugby match for everyone.

### **1. General Behaviour**

- All of our fixtures are watched by friends, families and general members of the public, including senior members of the RFU, BUCS and universities so it is vital that we represent the club in a positive manner.
- Spectators must always be respectful towards players, staff and match officials.
- Personal abuse of a player, staff or match official is completely unacceptable and people caught doing so will be removed from the crowd.
- Spectators must never throw or project an object or fluid at a player, member of staff, match official or supporter.
- It is forbidden to bring any weapons or potentially dangerous objects to a fixture, such as pyrotechnics.
- Spectators must not bring objects or banners that could cause offense to a player, member of staff, match official or fellow spectator.
- Respect must also be given to fellow supporters, from both the University of Bath and the opposition.
- Any physical altercation is not tolerated and will be dealt with by the stewards - you will be removed from the crowd.
- All spectators must remain outside of the field of play, unless specifically invited onto the field prior to the match beginning and agreed with the SU.
- Be respectful of the facilities, particularly as an away supporter.
- Leave the spectating area and surrounding facilities clean and tidy – do not leave rubbish.
- Report any anti-social behaviour to a steward on duty.
- Comply with the stewards if asked to do something by them.
- Call out a member of the club if they are causing a problem or behaving in a way which could damage the image of the club.

### **2. BUCS Fixtures**

- Following a review into university rugby union crowd behaviour, BUCS have produced a new Crowd Behaviour Charter which must be followed at all time and will be communicated across the club, it can also be found on the SU Rugby Union website
- BUCS fixtures are heavily scrutinised and often filmed, so any misconduct issues will be dealt with by BUCS as well as the SU
- As a club we will abide by the spirit and values of the game of rugby union
- Spectators must never confront a player or match official





- Spectators cannot form a tunnel for the players to run out through – you must be at least 3m away from the players at all times
- Hold yourself and your fellow club members to account
- Self-reporting of misconduct or poor behaviour is strongly encouraged
- Members of the club will be encouraged to attend the BUCS “Higher Education Behaviours Charter - Protect Our Game” Webinar and the Rugby Union Culture and Conduct open letter will be distributed across the club.

### **3. Sports Training Village (STV) Infield Specific**

- Spectators must remain behind the white barrier around the athletics track at all times.
- You must not go on the athletics track, unless specifically agreed by Team Bath and the SU prior to the game commencing.
- Tunnels are now banned at BUCS rugby matches and spectators must be at least 3m away from players at all times, so before the game and at half time, the outside lane (Lane 8) of the athletics track will be closed off by stewards to stop spectators getting too close to players.
- You cannot bring your own alcohol to the STV, there is a bar run by the SU in the SW corner of the athletics track.
- Do not spill any food or drink on the athletics track and be particularly careful when walking round from the bar to the stand.
- The STV is completely open to the public and often attracts around 1000 spectators, so do not behave in a manner that will damage the reputation of the rugby club or the university.
- When walking to and from the spectating area through the STV, be mindful that many people will be in there working and exercising, so keep noise to a minimum and be respectful of others surroundings.

### **4. 4G Pitch Specific**

- The above rule on no tunnels and alcohol also apply to the 4G pitch.
- Spectators must remain in the standing zone during the game and can only enter the pitch if given permission by security.
- Spectators must not linger around the pathway to the pitch between the changing rooms and the 4G.

**By paying the Rugby Union Club Fee, you are agreeing to follow the UBRFC Crowd Charter 2023/24 and failure to comply may result in a university disciplinary and removal from the Rugby Union Club.**

