



COOK ISLANDS RUGBY UNION
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Declaration on Human Rights and Rugby in the Cook Islands

The Cook Islands Rugby Union

1. opposes any form of discrimination on the grounds of race, national or social origin, sex, politics, religion or creed
2. recognises that rugby can play a positive role in the lives of all members of our society, including children of all ages, women and girls, older persons, persons with disabilities and LGBTI.
3. acknowledges the role of rugby in the education of all its participants, including sponsors, club managers and administrators, village communities, parents, coaches and players
4. highlights the importance of integrity in rugby and creating inspirational role models for our young players who aspire to represent the Cook Islands to the best of their ability both on and off the field
5. emphasises the importance of rugby in achieving the highest attainable standard of individual health, including both physical and mental health
6. stresses the need for ensuring safeguarding measures are in place to protect all players while they participate in the Game.
7. reaffirms the importance of active, free and meaningful participation in all forms of the Game.
8. notes the importance of communicating progress made in the development of rugby in the Cook Islands to promote and protect human rights.

(Adapted from: Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institution. April 2018. *London Declaration on Sport and Human Rights.*)

