

MOTLEY RUGBY 2023

Team Guidelines

- I. Name – Motley – established 2007. We are one of four founding teams for youth rugby in the Sacramento region. We are under the Sacramento Rugby Union umbrella, which includes Lady Harlequins and the Lions, formerly known at CK McClatchy high school. Formerly we were known as Land Park Motley.

II. Team Philosophy:

The goal of the rugby team is to introduce the international game of rugby to the youth population in Sacramento, ages 6-14; focusing on safety first, then fun, with limited emphasis on winning. We teach team unity (once Motley, always Motley!); respect for your teammates, opponents, referees, parents and fans; and giving back to the community. We promote the international camaraderie that is associated with the game of rugby.

Motley strives to develop athletes to their highest level of intellectual and physical growth through the use of positive coaching ideals, illustration and communication. It is our goal to give the athlete confidence in his/her everyday life and sports activities through success and participation in our sport.

Motley Rugby is a no-cut sport. It does not require any special skills and no previous experience is necessary. The coaches are very good at teaching all the skills that are necessary to participate successfully in rugby at any level of athlete.

III. Player expectations:

1. Motley Rugby falls under the Rugby Norcal umbrella and all the policies and procedures.
2. The highest level of citizenship, respect and sportsmanship during games, practices and interaction with opponents/referees/coaches and parents **is mandatory.**
3. The athlete is expected to attend practices and games as is reasonable. Motley Rugby permits, even encourages, cross training with other sports and we understand time conflicts.
4. The athlete will have at each practice and game appropriate gear, including Motley rugby shorts, cleats or soccer shoes, optional shoulder pads, optional head gear, and mandatory mouthpiece and spare. Gameday attire is Motley rugby shorts and black Rugby socks. Motley provide the jerseys. **THE ATHLETE WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE TO HAVE REQUIRED GEAR AND NOT TO RELY ON PARENTS OR COACHES FOR GEAR.**

5. Eligibility minimums include:
 - A. acceptable GPA - AS DETERMINED AND DICTATED BY PARENTS;
 - B. behavioral standards;
 - C. adherence to all policies and procedures put forth by Motley Rugby and Rugby Norcal.
6. Rugby is a contact sport and, as such, can create contentious scenarios. As Motley athletes, we retain our discipline and respect even during the most combative situations. The expectation is for each athlete to compete to the best of his/her abilities within the laws of the game.

Unsportsmanlike conduct, in any form, by any player, is unacceptable and will result in consequences for the offending party, up to, and including, suspension and possible expulsion from Motley. We pride ourselves on our culture to compete with honor, discipline, integrity, solidarity, and passion, treating the opposition/referees and parents with the same respect as we treat our teammates and coaches.

By signing below, the athlete acknowledges and agrees to the expectations set forth by Motley Rugby, coaches, and administrators.

Player Signature _____ Date _____

IV. Team Structure.

The team is broken down into Under 10s (U 10s); Under 12s (U 12s) and Middle School (MS) age grade teams. Each age grade is generally separated by weight class (when numbers permit), with the larger athletes playing in the “Open” division and the smaller athletes playing in the “Light” division. Motley plays in the Northern California region with games in Folsom, Chico, Gridley, Sacramento, Elk Grove and sometimes in the Bay Area.

V. Coaches.

General Manager – We need one!

1. MS - Rich Boyer Head Coach - (916) 716-2149 – rboyer916@earthlink.net
2. U 12s – Nola Boyer Head Coach - (916) -716-2107
3. U10s – John Buchholz Head Coach – (510) 701-1762
Josh Vavao and Joe Schmitt Assistant Coaches

4. Roaming assistant coaches: Avion Ganse and Tyler Guillen, Motley Alum 2018 and 2012, respectively (giving back!).

VI. Registration.

- A. RugbyXplorer.aus and also hard copies at practices.
- B. Registration with USA Rugby through Rugby NorCal is required of all players prior to participation in any games or tournaments.

Follow instructions (to be provided) and deliver paperwork to a team mom at practice. We accept most payment methods including credit card. Do not wait until the last minute before a game as the registration needs a minimum of 72 hours to process.

- VII. Team Jerseys – on loan from the team for the season. It is the athlete's responsibility to wash the jersey and look after it, including delivering it back to the Team Mom at the end of the season.

VIII. Team Moms.

MS: Regina Jones: lawmama@gmail.com
U12s: Jillian Perinati: Jillianperinati@gmail.com
U10s: Karly DeFazio: kwatters88@gmail.com

IX. The Season.

Season Practice Schedule.

- A. December: Land Park Baseball fields 3:30-5:00
- B. January till season end: Typically at Land Park Rugby and Soccer Complex, next to Land Park Golf and Fairytale Town.
 - i. 3:30-5:00 in January.
 - ii. 3:45-5:30 in February
 - iii. 4:00-6:00 in March.
4. Games. Saturday, times and venue to be determined. The 2023 schedule will be emailed to everyone and can be found on our FB page.

Games and practices are subject to change depending on rain outs.

Rugby is **fluid** regarding games and sometimes practices due to weather and field availability. Prepare for changes and keep updated if there is inclement weather.

X. Parent participation and expectations:

1. Rugby is a game rich in community development and participation. **We are always looking for volunteers to provide support. This support includes, but is not limited to, videotaping games, participating in field set up and tear down, participate in post-match function preparation, providing general support to our Team Mothers (see section VIII), etc. All support is greatly appreciated and elevates the experience of everyone involved.**
2. In rugby, there is one official referee and two “touch judges” who provide input to the ref from the sidelines, or “touch” as it is known. The Touch Judges (known as Assistant Refs or ARs) are typically provided by the home team. We appreciate all parents who are willing and able to provide this volunteer service as it is an important obligatory position for games to be played.
3. **It is of paramount importance that no parent ever speak poorly of a ref or criticize a ref for a presumed missed call.**
4. Rugby has long been a game based on the spirit of competition within the laws of game met with a high expectation of character amongst its participants and supporters. As such, the Motley expectation of the athletes is extended to all the parents and supporters in attendance. Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct are discouraged and not tolerated, including, but not limited to, yelling/harassing the referee/ARs, audible acts of disapproval toward our team, coaches or the opposition, comments made towards the opposition or their supporters, etc. In effect, we cheer for good rugby. The game of rugby is based upon solidarity and community. As such, we treat our opposition with the same respect as we treat our own program. Our mission post game is for our opponents, their coaches and the referee to believe as though our parents and fans treated them with the utmost respect. If there are any instances that go against this decorum, the immediate expectation is for an intervention to occur from within our own community. Exceptional or repeated infractions will be addressed by Motley Administration.
5. The presence of parents physically on the practice fields/sidelines and at games is strictly prohibited – a dedicated zone is established from which parents may watch. Any coaching or advice provided by parents during practices and games is strictly prohibited as it may conflict with what the athlete has been coached to do. Practices

and games are the athlete's time to sharpen the skills they've been taught and to be creative on their own, **WITHOUT SUPERVISION OR DIRECTION FROM THEIR PARENTS**. This is their time, and we must respect that accordingly. Positive comments are encouraged!

6. By signing below, the parent/guardian acknowledges and agrees to the expectations set forward by the Motley Rugby Program, coaches, and administrators. This signature also confirms the participant has also read and signed section III.

Parent/guardian Signature _____ Date_____