



## Coaching from the sideline - West Norfolk RUFC Guidance

### Mini's

Up to U13 the RFU encourages the referee to be a “game coach” and provides guidance that the game coach should impartially coach players of both teams as the game is played, encourage them to follow best practice, correct poor practice and provide feedback throughout the game.

As a Club we support this approach and also recommend that the referee and coaches from both teams should meet before the game and agree how the touch is going to be run, and specifically whether or not it is appropriate for the coaches to personally run the touch and actively “coach” (i.e. coach/shout encouragement/instruction) their team at the same time.

### U13 to Adult

The starting point is that from U13 onwards all match officials need to be seen to be impartial and, if a touch judge, to actively support the referee and his/her decisions, they should not actively “coach” the team whilst either refereeing or running the touch.

If at junior/youth levels the coach wishes to “coach” the game whilst personally running the touch then this must be agreed by both teams and the referee before the game.

If this approach is agreed then all junior/youth coaches are reminded that notwithstanding the agreement their primary role as a touch judge remains to actively support the referee and his/her decisions.

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