



# Role Description: Age Grade Rugby Chairperson

## Job Purpose

To lead, oversee, and champion the development, delivery, and governance of Age Grade Rugby across Leicestershire in line with RFU Regulation 15, the Age Grade Codes of Practice, and the strategic priorities of the Leicestershire Rugby Union (LRU). The Chairperson ensures that all rugby activity for players U7–U18 is safe, inclusive, player-centred, and compliant with national standards.

## Reporting Line

**Appointment:** Volunteer role

**Reports to:** Chair and Executive Committee, Leicestershire Rugby Union

**Works closely with:** Club leaders, safeguarding and disciplinary leads, volunteers, match officials, LRU DoR, RFU staff and community partners

## Key Responsibilities

### 1. Strategic Leadership

- Provide clear leadership for Age Grade Rugby across the county, ensuring alignment with RFU strategy and LRU objectives.
- Develop and deliver an annual Age Grade Rugby plan, including competition structures, festivals, and player-development pathways.
- To work within agreed budgets set by and in conjunction with the LRU Finance Committee.
- Promote the RFU's "Player-Centred, Development-Driven, Competition-Supported" philosophy across all clubs and schools.
- Chair the LRU Age Grade Committee and coordinate sub-groups (e.g., safeguarding, competitions, schools' liaison).

### 2. Governance & Compliance

- Ensure all Age Grade activity complies with RFU Regulation 15, including:
  - Age banding
  - Out-of-age-grade approvals
  - Playing formats

- Season structure and competition windows
- Embed the RFU Age Grade Codes of Practice within all clubs and schools.
- Work closely with the LRU Safeguarding Manager to ensure safeguarding standards are met and concerns are escalated appropriately.
- Maintain accurate records, reports, and documentation required by the RFU and LRU.

### **3. Club & School Support**

- Act as the primary point of contact for clubs, schools, and CB volunteers regarding Age Grade Rugby.
- Provide guidance on best practice in coaching, player welfare, competition management, and transition between age groups.
- Support clubs in implementing RFU initiatives such as:
  - Kids First Rugby
  - Half-Game Rule
  - Age Grade Season Framework
- Facilitate collaboration between clubs and schools to strengthen local playing opportunities.

### **4. Festivals & Competitions**

- Assist and oversee the design and delivery of county-wide Age Grade Festivals and Competitions.
- Ensure Festivals and Competitions are development-appropriate and follow RFU competition guidance.
- Promote equal access and inclusive playing opportunities for all genders and backgrounds.

### **5. Communication & Stakeholder Engagement**

- Communicate RFU updates, regulatory changes, and development opportunities to clubs and schools.
- Build strong relationships with:
  - RFU staff (CRC, RDO, Age Grade leads)
  - Club Chairs and Age Grade Coordinators
  - School sport leads
  - LRU committees and volunteers
- Represent Leicestershire at RFU regional Age Grade forums and national consultations.

### **6. Volunteer Management**

- Recruit, support, and coordinate volunteers involved in Age Grade Rugby delivery.
- Encourage a positive volunteer culture and ensure volunteers understand RFU policies and expectations.
- Signpost training opportunities (e.g., safeguarding, coaching, first aid, Kids First).

## Person Specification

### Skills, Experience & Qualities

- Strong understanding of RFU Age Grade Rugby principles, Regulation 15, and Codes of Practice.
- Experience in youth sport, rugby development, or club/school rugby administration.
- Ability to lead meetings, manage volunteers, and coordinate multiple stakeholders.
- Excellent communication, diplomacy, and problem-solving skills.
- Commitment to safeguarding, player welfare, and inclusive practice.
- Organised, reliable, and able to work collaboratively within the LRU structure.

### Key Relationships

- Works closely with:
  - LRU Safeguarding Manager
  - LRU Competitions Lead
  - LRU Finance Committee
  - RFU Community Rugby Coach (CRC)
  - RFU Age Grade & Player Pathway staff
  - Club and school Age Grade leads
  - Attendance at LRU meetings, RFU regional forums, and key Age Grade events
- Age Grade players, parents and carers
- Coaches, team managers and volunteers
- Match officials and event staff
- Club safeguarding officers and welfare leads
- Constituent Body representatives and competition administrators

### Additional Notes

- The role may require an enhanced DBS check and completion of RFU safeguarding training.
- The AGR Chairperson must uphold the RFU Core Values: Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline, Sportsmanship.