



OAKMEADIANS RFC

Illegal Drugs Policy

DRUGS POLICY REGARDING THE USE OF SOCIAL OR PERFORMANCE ENHANCING DRUGS WHEN PARTICIPATING, PLAYING OR ATTENDING A FUNCTION ASSOCIATED WITH OAKMEADIANS RFC.

1. General Statement.

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) and Member clubs, recognise that the use of illicit drugs presents a threat to the health of both individuals and the Game itself. Oakmeadians Rugby Football Club (The Club) operates a very strict zero tolerance policy with respect to the misuse and supply of drugs on club premises. The club does not believe there is any inherent problem with drug use/abuse among the membership but wants the position to be clear to all members and visitors. The club may decide to run educational programmes in addition to creating rules & policies. This policy should always be read in conjunction with,

- a) The Club Safeguarding Policy.
- b) Current, relevant IRFU guidance and policies.

2. Aims

The Club has developed this policy with the two equally important principal objectives of:

- a) protecting the health and welfare of Players and other members
- b) protecting and promoting the image and reputation of the Club and rugby as a game. These principal objectives shall be affected by:
 - I. providing an effective and measured deterrent to the misuse of drugs by players and others at the Club
 - II. providing a positive example for young players and others in the community
 - III. educating Players about the dangers of misuse of drugs
 - IV. providing, or giving guidance on, drug counselling, treatment and rehabilitation services to members who are found to be using Illicit Drugs or may otherwise be susceptible to such use.

3. 3. Responsibilities

The club can only involve itself in dealing with matters involving club members that arise on club premises and/or at club events – e.g. away matches, functions and tours.

- a) All Club members have a responsibility to bring to attention of the management any activities or suspected activities, related to the misuse of drugs



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- b) Responsibility for dealing with incidents reported to management will lie with the club Disciplinary Committee
- c) Incidents which in any way involve anyone aged under 18 will also be notified to the Club Safeguarding Officer.

COUNTY LINES

County lines is a form of criminal exploitation. It is when criminals befriend children, either online or offline, and then manipulate them into drug dealing. The 'lines' refer to mobile phones that are used to control a young person who is delivering drugs, often to towns outside their home county. Most police forces across the country have reported county lines activity in their area and they say the violence is getting worse. It's not just a 'big city' problem'. County lines is far reaching, with many smaller towns being affected.

- 90% of English police forces have seen county lines activity in their area and the violence is getting worse.
- 4 in 5 parents are worried about county lines in their local area.

1. What are the signs of County Lines involvement

- A child or young person going missing from school or home, or significant changes in emotional well-being.
- A person meeting unfamiliar adults or a change to their behaviour.
- The use of drugs and alcohol.
- Unexplained bus or train tickets.
- Acquiring money or expensive gifts they can't account for.
- Lone children from outside of the area.
- Individuals with multiple mobile phones, tablets or SIM cards.
- Use of unusual terms – e.g. "going country".
- Young people with more money, expensive clothing, or accessories than they can account for.
- Unknown or suspicious-looking characters coming and going from a neighbour's house.
- Relationships with controlling or older individuals, or associations with gangs.
- Suspicion of self-harm, physical assault, malnutrition or unexplained injuries.



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2. How to Contact the Police

- If you're concerned about drug-related crime in your area or think someone may be a victim of drug exploitation, please call 101.
- If it's an emergency, please call 999. If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service 18000. Or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.

3. Silent 999 calls

If you're in danger, call 999 and try to speak to the operator if you can, even by whispering. You may also be asked to cough or tap the keys on your phone to answer questions.

4. Call 999 from a mobile

If you don't speak or answer questions, **press 55 or tap** when prompted and your call will be transferred to the police.

The police will usually be able to find your location.

- If you don't press 55 or respond, your call could be ended.

5. Call 999 from a landline

If you don't speak or answer questions and the operator can only hear background noise, they'll transfer your call to the police.

- If you replace the handset, the landline may remain connected for 45 seconds in case you pick it up again.
- Calling 999 from a landline automatically gives the police information about your location.

6. HOW TO CONTACT CRIMESTOPPERS

You can speak to the Crime Stoppers Contact Centre on **0800 555 111** or use their non-traceable on-line form from their website.

- **You will remain 100% anonymous.**
- **Crime Stoppers** will never ask for your name, and your phone call or online report will never be traced.
- Email: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>



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SUPPORT SERVICES.

Oakmeadians RFC

Safeguarding Officer – Laura Hart 07872 583582

safeguard@oakmeadians-rfc.com

Wellbeing Champion – Chrissie Beatty

support@oakmeadians-rfc.com

Dorset & Wilts RFU.

Dorset & Wilts RFU offer up to date and confidential advice regarding anti-doping and illicit drugs.

Please contact Rich Elliott on 07833 048 418 or email him on dopinganddrugsadvice@dwrugby.co.uk

Ends August 2024