**MATCH DAY PROTOCOL**

Authorised persons that are permitted inside the ropes:

* Referee
* Assistant Referees
* Ball Boys
* Physio/Medic/Water Carriers:

A maximum of four (4) personnel are permitted to fulfil the roles of medics/water carriers. Medics and water carriers must wear the relevant bib/identification and composition may be any of the following:

• One Medic and up to three water carriers- the medic or a water carrier (but not both) may operate from the far side of the field.

• No medics- a team may have up to four water carriers. One water carrier may operate from the far side of the field.

• Note: an Assistant Coach is permitted to be a water carrier

Water carriers

• Water may only be taken on the field during stoppages in play. These are when:

o There is an injury in the playing area and

o A try has been scored.

• The water carriers are not permitted in the playing area during penalty kicks at goal.

• Water bottles must not be thrown on to the field of play

• Water carriers must not obstruct, interfere or direct comments at Match Officials.

Medical personnel

• One of the medically trained people permitted as listed above may be positioned on the far side of the playing area on the touch line opposite the team benches and may move along the touch line.

Medics must not obstruct, interfere or direct comments at Match Officials.

Only designated personnel are allowed in coaching area, reserves area, and on field.Team management and players are to be positioned as per Club rugby field set up.

**Note:** It is the responsibility of team coaches and managers to ensure their team strictly complies with these requirements. Non Authorised person may only enter the playing area:

* To attend to an injured player during stoppages-St John and team officials only: can assist from the Technical Zone.
* To assist in removing an injured player from the field-St John, team officials, plus any nominated assistant.

The game is not to commence until:

* Barriers/rope/safety pads are in place.
* MDM is present.

The Referee is required to stop the game if:

* Unauthorised persons remain inside the ropes
* Any referee abuse or general disorderly behaviour of spectators that is not being addressed by the MDM.
* Any abusive/disruptive spectator or team member who does not abide with requests made of them by the MDM
* Any player ordered from the field who does not immediately leave the playing enclosure **NON COMPLETION OF FIXTURE**

If the referee has to either ***Stop*** or ***call off*** a game, the referee and MDM are to complete a Match Incident Report and forward to NORFU Office within 48 hours of the match ending.

**AFTER MATCH SPEECH**

After match speeches should be conducted in a personable and respectable manner. There will be no derogatory or malicious comments by any parties.