



We see UEFA's Respect slogan splashed on boards at every stadium around Europe. We also come across it online and in printed form. The problem is that most of the people outside and within the game do not delve deeply enough into its true message.

UEFA : *"The Respect campaign promotes the crucial idea of respect across the game. Respect for opposing players, coaches and officials, referees, opposing supporters – and the essential values of football as a sport open to all".*

I tend to partially agree about this message, however, it is only aimed at respecting the opposition, and, of course, the game. Respecting the opposition is the basis of all sporting disciplines. What about respecting your own team?

The message to the players should also include their team, especially in the prevailing and damaging match-fixing scenario. The leading actors on the field of play, the players, need to understand that their respect should also incorporate the people within their own environment.

You, as a **player**, are reminded to:

- RESPECT your family.**
- RESPECT your friends.**
- RESPECT your teammates.**
- RESPECT your coach.**
- RESPECT your President.**
- RESPECT your club officials.**
- RESPECT your club.**
- RESPECT your supporters.**
- RESPECT your personal fans.**
- RESPECT the Maltese public.**
- RESPECT your country.**
- RESPECT the game.**
- SAY NO to match-fixing.**
- SAY NO to corruption.**
- RESPECT your name.**
- ENJOY THE GAME.***

This encompasses the player's commitment to the game which he/she was brought up to respect. Others must understand that only mutual respect bears fruit.ft