

PREAMBLE – THE SPIRIT OF CRICKET

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action which is seen to abuse this spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the captains.

1. There are two Laws which place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the captain.

Responsibility of captains

The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.

Player's Conduct

In the event of a player failing to comply with instructions by an umpire, or criticising by word or action the decisions of an umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, and instruct the latter to take action.

2. Fair and unfair play

According to the Laws the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. The umpires may intervene at any time and it is the responsibility of the captain to take action where required.

3. The umpires are authorised to intervene in cases of:

- Time wasting
- Damaging the pitch
- Dangerous or unfair bowling
- Tampering with the ball
- Any other action that they consider to be unfair

4. The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:

- Your opponents
- Your own captain and team
- The role of the umpires
- The game's traditional values

5. It is against the Spirit of the Game:

- To dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture
- To direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire
- To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance:
 - (a) to appeal knowing that the batsman is not out;
 - (b) to advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing; or
 - (c) to seek to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side.

6. Violence

There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.

7. Players

Captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

Codes of Conduct

PLAYERS

- Play for the fun of it and not just to please parents, coaches and teachers.
- Play by the rules and within the spirit of the game. Shake hands with your opponents after the game
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the match.
- Control your temper. Never use Bad or Foul Language against opposition players, supporters, parents or officials. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, sledging of other players, deliberately fouling, distracting or provoking an opponent or throwing equipment are not acceptable or permissible behaviours.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
- Be a good sport. Admire and applaud all good passages of play whether they are made by your team or your opposition.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Never abuse your own team mates.
- Co-operate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every player regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Understand the damage that the sun's ultraviolet rays can cause and take adequate care to protect your self against sunburn.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- Remember that children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment not yours.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus upon the child's efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event.
- Encourage children to always participate according to the rules. They should understand that playing by the rules is their responsibility.
- Be positive in your comments-Never ridicule and avoid criticism of your child for losing a game or making a mistake.
- Remember that all children learn best from example. Applaud all good plays for either team.
- Teach children that an honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting events.
- Never use Bad or Abusive Language towards any child, parent or official. Realise that improper comments can lead to violence or abuse on the field.
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do the same.
- If you disagree with an official, use the correct protocol to address the matter. Approach the official in a break or at the end of the game. Do not question an official's honesty in public.
- Recognise and value volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for the children and deserve your support. Without them your child could not participate.
- Do not force an unwilling, sick or injured child to compete in the game.

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every player regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Never consume or distribute alcohol whilst present at a game of cricket under the control of CCJCA.

A breach of this Code of Conduct may be referred to the Central Coast Cricket Association Judiciary. The Judiciary has the power to impose penalties against the parent / guardian and also the offender's child.

COACH'S AND MANAGER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

- Remember that children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment not yours.
- Ensure the time the players spend with you is a positive experience, never ridicule a player for losing a game or making a mistake.
- Teach children that an honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Be reasonable in your demands of a player's time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Avoid overplaying talented players, all young players need and deserve equal time, attention and opportunity.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all your players.
- Show concern and caution towards a sick or injured player. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition. Ask for a written doctor's clearance after prolonged absences due to injury or illness.
- Ensure you have a sound knowledge of the Child Protection Act, have signed the relevant forms and abide by their recommendations regarding physical contact with players. Physical contact with players should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every player regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Remember that all children learn best from example. Applaud all good plays for either team.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting events.
- Display control and respect to all those involved in cricket. This includes opponents, coaches, umpires, administrators, parents and spectators. Encourage your players to do the same.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest cricket coaching practices and principles of growth and development of young people.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of Cricket and teach your players to do the same.
- Ensure you have a sound knowledge of the CCJCA local rules which are made specifically for the Central Coast competition.
- Never consume or distribute alcohol whilst present at a game under the control of CCJCA.

