



CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction

Cricket has traditionally been one sport to maintain and promote the highest levels of conduct and sportsmanship. We are all familiar with the saying "It just isn't cricket" which implies that a certain type of behaviour is unacceptable. This document is a set of guidelines to provide all members with an understanding of the expectations the club has of each and every player and spectator. These guidelines are relevant during match days (on and off the field), training and club functions and at any other time when representing the West Preston Cricket Club.

The guidelines form part of the Players' Code of Conduct (Cricket Victoria) and will be enforced by the committee of the West Preston Cricket Club. Players and spectators in breach of these guidelines can expect to receive penalties varying from a caution through to suspension, or depending on the severity of the breach, expulsion of member may apply.

Objective

Our objective is to ensure that all players, when representing the West Preston Cricket Club, play cricket in an orderly and proper fashion, so that all can enjoy the game. This includes spectators, opposing players and umpires.

CODE OF CONDUCT (Incorporating the By-Laws of the Cricket Victoria)

No person bound by this Code of Conduct shall engage in disorderly or improper conduct or behaviour. Disorderly or improper conduct or behaviour includes, but is not restricted to, a person:

1. Assaulting or attempting to assault, or abusing, either orally or physically, an umpire, player or spectator
2. Disputing, as distinct from questioning, an umpire's decision, or reacting in an obviously provocative manner towards and umpire
3. Using crude or abusive language, or hand signals or other gestures
4. Engaging in any form of conduct or behaviour detrimental to the spirit of the game or likely to bring the game into disrepute
5. Refusing to supply that person's name and that person's address when required by another person who is lodging a report
6. The captain of a team shall ensure that the players (including the person acting as 12th man) comply with the Code of Conduct. The captain of a team breaches

the Code of Conduct if a player in that team engages in continuing disorderly or improper conduct or behaviour.

Racial and Religious Vilification Code:

No person who is participating in a match under the jurisdiction or auspices of Cricket Victoria or its affiliates shall engage in any conduct, act towards or speak to any other person in a manner which offends, insults, humiliates or vilifies such person on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, descent or ethnic origin.

Under no circumstances will the Club tolerate such behaviour. The committee will deal with West Preston players, whether an official report has been placed or not. The captain of a team shall ensure that the players (including the person acting as 12th man) comply with the Racial and Religious Vilification Code. Likewise, if a West Preston player is subjected to such abuse, the club will take the matter to the association and ensure the matter is dealt with in the appropriate manner.

Expectation of Players:

The Committee of the West Preston Cricket Club has set down these guidelines for all players, including spectators, representing The West Preston Cricket Club.

Umpiring Decisions:

The umpire's decision is final and should be accepted immediately, whether batting or fielding. A bowler is entitled to ask the umpire why he turned the appeal down, but should accept this explanation, if one is given, and immediately play on. The use of offensive language—generally in the form of a disparaging and abusing remark to an umpire—is not acceptable.

Walking:

When there are no neutral umpires, a batsman should walk if he is in no doubt that he has been dismissed fairly. Placing pressure on your teammate, who is acting as umpire, can place doubt in his mind and lead to unnecessary friction between the two teams.

Upon being dismissed:

The actions of the dismissed batsmen—in failing to leave the crease promptly on being given out and then banging his bat on the ground or throwing the bat on returning to the pavilion, including audible foul language, is unacceptable.

Post-Match Traditions :

Players are encouraged to have a friendly chat with the opposition after a match, either home or away, but should also make every effort to return to the West Preston clubrooms in time for the after-match speeches, which will take place as soon as all teams are back at the club..

Training Expectations:

All players are expected to train twice a week on the days nominated by the Training Supervisor. It is understood that work commitments can clash with those of the cricket club, but every effort should be made to attend training. The Training Supervisor should be made aware if you are unable to attend training.

Training is to be used to improve your game and those that you are training with. The bowling of excessive deliberate short pitched deliveries and the continual 'slogging' of balls out of the nets will not be tolerated. Remember, the players you are training with are your teammates. No player is to leave training early without notifying the person in charge of training, being the Training Supervisor or net captain.

Training Attire:

Shorts or tracksuit pants and an appropriate white cricket shirt should be worn at all training sessions.

West Preston Cricket Club Rooms:

Facilities and equipment cost money and will only function properly if kept in good order. Ensure that you do not abuse anything provided for use. Do not engage in dangerous practices. Not only can equipment be damaged but serious injury can occur.

Players Membership / Subs:

All membership should be paid as per the arrangements on the player registration form. Players will be invoiced accordingly. Players that do not have their fees up to date will be deemed to be "un-financial" and risk not being selected in any teams until payment has been made. Players returning from the previous season in an "un-financial" position will be required to pay the last years fees in addition to current season fees before they are eligible for selection.

Afternoon Tea:

Afternoon tea is an important part of the game. It draws the two competing teams together at the break in play. For this reason it is important that all teams provide a suitable afternoon tea each week. It is required that all players in each team provide \$5 towards tea during home games. This covers tea for both sides. The nominated player will purchase food for tea with this money.

Under-age Drinking:

Players under the age of 18 are not permitted to drink alcohol at club functions, including training and match days/nights.

Players assisting under-age players to gain access to alcohol is considered, by the committee, to represent a serious breach of our Code of Conduct. Not only does it put our Liquor Licence at risk, it's also illegal.

Selection Policy:

Players **MUST** play where selected, or be at risk of not being selected in any team.

Players must ensure that notice is given for their unavailability prior to that weeks' selection night.

Where a player is unavailable for selection, he should not consider himself a certainty to be selected as soon as he makes himself available again. It is quite possible that he will not be selected in any grade upon his return. (for more information, refer to the Clubs Selection Criteria)

Social Functions:

Throughout the season there are several functions organised by the Social Committee. Key functions will be scheduled during the year and it is expected that players will make every effort to attend where possible.

Match Days:

Players are to arrive at the ground at least an hour before the commencement of play. This timeframe is to be used solely as an indication and team captains will instruct players as to what time and location to meet.

At home games there are various duties that need to be done. These include laying out the cones, marking the pitch and setting up the stumps. After play, these may also need to be attended to.

Breaches of the Code of Conduct

Any breach of this code can be reported to your captain, club or team coach, a member of the Committee who in turn will advise the Club President or Secretary. The clubs disciplinary committee will be assembled to investigate the breach and determine an appropriate penalty should the breach be proven.

Member to sign and return to the committee of the West Preston CC.

I have read and agree to abide by the West Preston Cricket Club's Code of Conduct.

Member's Name : _____

Address : _____

Phone Number : _____

Emergency Number : _____

Email Address : _____

Signature

Date

Spirit of Cricket

What is the Spirit of Cricket?

The laws of cricket clearly explain the expectations of how participants will behave on the field, and they also outline sanctions should these expectations not be met.

The below explanation is taken from the MCC Laws of Cricket, which is universally applied across all countries and cultures.

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 and its 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
 - (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.

The players, umpires and scorers in a game of cricket may be of either gender and the Laws apply equally to both.

The use, throughout the text, of pronouns indicating the male gender is purely for brevity. Except where specifically stated otherwise, every provision of the Laws is to be read as applying to women and girls equally as to men and boys.