



2016/2017 Premier Cricket Handbook

2. Code of Conduct

2.1 Purpose

- 2.1.1 The adoption of this Code of Conduct (the Code) by Cricket ACT and all Clubs is to ensure that the spirit and traditions of the game of cricket are observed.
- 2.1.2 By the adoption of the Code, Cricket ACT and the Clubs undertake that they will act appropriately to ensure that the spirit and traditions of the game of cricket are maintained.
- 2.1.3 In this regard, Cricket ACT and the Clubs formally recognise the Preamble to the Laws -The Spirit of Cricket to be an integral part of the Code.

2.2 The 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.

There are two Laws, which place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the Captain (Laws 1.4 and 42.1).

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 criticizing by word or action the decisions of an umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which brings 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.

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.

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.

The Spirit of the Game involves respect for:

- Your opponents.
- Your own Captain.
- The role of the umpires.
- The games traditional values.

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:
 - To appeal knowing that the batsman is not out.
 - To advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.
 - 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 team.

Violence

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

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.

2.3 The Code

2.3.1 The Code of complements and is in addition to:

- (a) Law 42.1 and the Preamble to the Laws of Cricket (as it relates to the Captains being responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of the game);
- (b) Law 42.9 and Law 42.10
- (c) Law 42.18.

2.3.2 The Code applies to Players, Umpires, Officials and members of Clubs (players and officials).

2.3.3 Ignorance of the requirements of any of the provisions set out in the Code (including ignorance of the Laws of Cricket) is not a valid or justifiable excuse for players or officials, nor is it a reason for the Disciplinary Committee not finding a player guilty of any charge(s) or not imposing a penalty after finding a player guilty.

2.4 Breach of Code

2.4.1 Alleged breaches of the Code and Law 42 (Part 18) of the Laws of Cricket by players or officials may be reported by:

- (a) any player or official participating in a match (where the breach is alleged to have occurred);
- (b) an Umpire officiating in a match where the breach is alleged to have occurred;
- (c) the CEO of Cricket ACT; or
- (d) any member of the Board.

2.4.2 Any report of an alleged breach must be made in writing to the Competitions Manager by noon on the first working day after the end of the Match.

2.4.3 The Competitions Manager must consider any report received under Rule 2.4.2 and determine whether or not to charge the player or official the subject of the report.

2.4.4 Nothing in Rule 2.4.3 prevents the Competitions Manager from asking the Administering Body for its opinion or recommendation when determining whether or not to charge a player or official under Rule 2.4.3.

2.4.5 A player or officials past conduct may be taken into account by the Competitions Manager when deciding whether or not to charge a player or determining the Level of the offence;

2.4.6 The Competitions Manager must:

- (a) forward a copy of any report received under Rule 2.4.2 (whether or not a charge is laid);
- (b) provide details of any charge made against the relevant player or official, including the Level of the offence; and
- (c) provide details of any proposed penalty to be imposed upon the relevant player or official (with or without reference to the Penalty Guidelines set out in Rule Error! Reference source not found.);

in writing to the secretary of the Club of the reported player or official before 5:00pm on the first working day after the end of the Match.

2.4.7 The Club of the reported player or official, through the Club's secretary, may respond to any report and inform the Competitions Manager whether the charge and proposed penalty:

- (a) is accepted by the relevant player or official; or
- (b) is disputed

before 5:00pm on the second working day after the end of the match in which the report arose.

2.4.8 If the Club does not respond before 5:00pm on the second working day after the end of the match in which the report arose, or the charge is accepted, the Discipline Committee will impose the proposed penalty.

2.4.9 If a charge or proposed penalty is disputed, the charge will be heard by the Discipline Committee at a hearing convened for that purpose.

2.5 Powers of Discipline Committee

2.5.1 Upon hearing a charge, the Discipline Committee may:

- (a) dismiss the charge; or
- (b) uphold or vary the charge and:
 - (i) require the player or official to be counselled by a specific member or members of the Discipline Committee;
 - (ii) officially reprimand the player or official;

suspend the member from participating in any number Matches for a specified period or from participating in one or more specified Matches (with or without reference to