

The following code of conduct is expected to be observed by all Newtown and Chilwell players, officials and spectators. Any breaches of these should be reported to the Club president, secretary or junior coordinator.

#### **JUNIOR PLAYERS.**

- 1.1 Abide by the rules of the game and rules set down by your coach, club and association.
- 1.2 Never argue with an official or umpire. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- 1.3 Control your temper. Verbal or physical abuse of officials, umpires, spectators or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted.
- 1.4 Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your teams performance will benefit so will you.
- 1.5 Be a good sport. Applaud all good players whether they are on your team, opponent or the other team. Be proud to walk off the ground after each game knowing that you have given your best effort and never involve yourself in an argument with opposing players, umpires or officials.
- 1.6 Treat all players, as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player. Your involvement to play is for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it.
- 1.7 Co-operate with your coach and teammates, and respect the ability of your opponent. Without them there would be no game.
- 1.8 Play for the ' fun of it ' and not just to please parents and coaches.
- 1.9 Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender, race or religion.
- 1.10 Smoking and / or consuming alcohol is totally forbidden by Juniors whilst involved in Any Junior Cricket competition.

#### **PARENT AND SPECTATORS OF JUNIOR CRICKET**

1. Encourage children to participate if they are interested. However, if a child is not willing, do not force them.
2. Focus upon the child's effort and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event. This assists the child in setting realistic goals related to their ability by reducing the emphasis on winning.
3. Teach your child that honest effort is an important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
4. Encourage your child always to play by the rules.
5. Never ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or losing the competition.
6. Remember your child should be involved in Cricket for their enjoyment, not yours.
7. Remember your child learns best by examples. Applaud good play by both your team and by members of the opposing team.
8. If you disagree an official or umpire raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgement and honesty in public. Remember, most officials give their time and effort for your child's involvement.
9. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from Junior sporting activities.
10. Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for child and deserve your support.
11. Support your club officials in maintaining the highest standard of behaviour both on and off the field for the betterment of the league and your family. Offer your assistance to the team that your child is playing in so that every opportunity is being provided for the very best supervision and support. Your involvement will give both yourself and your child far more satisfaction.
12. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender, race or religion.
13. It is a local law (Local Law Number 8) of the City of Greater Geelong that NO alcohol be consumption on or at a Public Reserve, as all Junior Matches played in the City of Greater Geelong are played on Public Reserves and or School or Private land there shall be no consumption of alcohol at Junior matches.

#### **JUNIOR COACHES**

1. Be familiar with the Laws of Cricket and abide by the rules and conditions of your Association and club.
2. Teach your players that rules of the game are mutual agreements, which no player should evade or break.
3. Group players according to age, height, skill and physical maturity whenever possible in any competitive practice session.
4. Avoid over-playing the talented players. The ' just average ' players need and deserve equal time, if not more.
5. Remember that the players involved play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it. Emphasise the importance of the learning and development of skills and positive attitudes. Never ridicule or yell at your players for making mistakes or losing the competition.
6. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate for the age and ability of the players.
7. The scheduling and length of practise times and competitions should take into consideration the maturity level of the players.
8. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents, as well as for the judgement of umpires and opposing coaches.
9. Follow the advice of a qualified person when determining when an injured player is ready to play or train again.
10. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound Junior coaching principles and developments. Endeavour to attend coaching accreditation and to become an active member of your local branch of Cricket Coaches Association.
11. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender, race or religion.
12. Ensure that all players can compete in a safe and happy environment free of any type of harassment.
13. No alcohol is allowed at junior matches.
14. Smoking whilst actively engaged in junior activities is discouraged.

## **SENIOR PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT THE SPIRIT OF CRICKET**

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it is expected to be played not only within its Laws, but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action, that 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 of the competing teams.

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.

#### **1. Players' Conduct**

In the event of any Player failing to comply with the instructions of an Umpire, criticising his decisions by word or action, 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 requesting 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

Intimidatory bowling

Tampering with the Ball

Any other action that they feel 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 question an Umpire's decision by word or gesture

Indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, eg.

a) appeal, knowing that the Batsman is not out

b) advance towards an Umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing

6 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.

### **Violence**

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

### **Consumption of Alcohol**

The consumption of alcohol by players participating in the game in progress will not be tolerated and clubs allowing this practice to continue will be severely punished.

### **Overall Conduct**

Players, Captains and Umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match and every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

### **PLAYER BEHAVIOUR**

The GCA continues to be concerned with some aspects of player behaviour in GCA Club Cricket.

Traditionally, cricket has been the one sport to maintain and exhibit the highest levels of conduct and sportsmanship. While always a most competitive game, the continued strength of the sport has relied upon the acceptance of the Umpire's decision and the preparedness to play within the spirit of the game.

The areas of major concern, and those clearly unacceptable, to the GCA are:

(a) the use of offensive language – generally as a disparaging remark to an opposing player or toward an Umpire, or even as an expression of frustration or self-admonishment. This includes racial vilification (any act that is reasonably likely to threaten, disparage, vilify, offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate another person or group based on race, religion, descent, colour or national or ethnic origin).

(b) the questioning / disputing of the Umpires decision – often in an aggressive manner or sarcastic manner. This applies equally to dismissals and unsuccessful appeals as to the judgement of calls on no-balls, wides, byes, etc.

(c) the excessive number of frivolous and ridiculous appeals – primarily aimed at pressuring and intimidating the Umpire into a favourable decision.

(d) the actions of the dismissed batsman – in failing to leave the crease promptly on being given out and any equipment abuse ( eg. banging the bat into the ground or against the fence or race, etc and/or throwing the bat or equipment during or after his return to the pavilion).

Whether or not such behavior is evident in international/interstate/intrastate cricket or whether the language used is considered acceptable by today's society is of little concern to the GCA. The Association is primarily interested in having all cricket under its control played within the spirit and traditions of the game. The GCA has two processes for the reporting and consideration of unsatisfactory behavior:

Serious breaches of misbehaviour will see the player immediately reported by the Umpire(s) controlling the match. (Refer GCA Rule 11 and the section, which follows – Reported Players)

For less serious breaches where an Umpire has occasion to speak to a player regarding his behaviour, but does not believe a report is necessary, the incident will be noted on the Umpires Match Report. Should a player be noted on the three such Reports during the season, he may be called to appear before the GCA Tribunal to explain his behaviour.

**IN BOTH INSTANCES, SHOULD A PLAYER BE FOUND GUILTY OF AN ACT OF MISCONDUCT, HE SHALL BE LIABLE FOR A SUSPENSION AS DETERMINED BY THE TRIBUNAL.**

The recruitment and retention of Umpires has become increasingly difficult and it is certainly not being made any easier by the regularly unacceptable levels of player conduct. Few people are willing to continually subject themselves to the childish behaviour and offensive language that is too frequently prevalent on and beyond the cricket field.

All players can certainly play a role in raising the general standard of umpiring and the level of experience within the GCA Panel by lifting their personal level of behaviour and permitting the Umpires to concentrate on those aspects of the game for which they are responsible.

All umpires will be requested to take a firm line with respect to player misconduct especially with regard to the use of offensive language and the disputation of any decision.

ALL PLAYERS SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE STANDARDS EXPECTED BY THE GCA AND CONSEQUENTLY ANY PLAYER CALLED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE TRIBUNAL CAN EXPECT LITTLE SYMPATHY AND, IF FOUND GUILTY, A PERIOD OF SUSPENSION.

It is the responsibility of everyone involved with GCA cricket – Club Officials, Team Captains and especially the Players, to ensure a return to the levels of conduct and sportsmanship traditionally expected in the game of cricket.