

ACA TOURNAMENT “SPIRIT OF CRICKET” EXPECTATIONS

“The spirit of cricket is, of course, about the behaviour of players on the field – acceptance of decisions, respect for one another, integrity. But it is also about an enthusiasm for the game; not just aggression but also to share a sense of fun. And fun is what life is all about.”

Martin Crowe, MCC Cowdrey lecture 2006

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 players, captains, coaches, managers and supporters of all teams involved.

ACA expects all Players, Captains, Coaches, Managers and Supporters at all levels within our tournaments to uphold the following values:

1. Fun is the objective;
2. Batsmen walk if caught;
3. Fielders are quiet when batsmen are facing;
4. Teams are prepared to play on time;
5. Fielding teams maintain a fast over rate;
6. No send-offs or abuse;
7. Accept Umpires decisions;
8. Complaints are voiced only through the captain and coach in an appropriate and respectful manner;
9. Thank Umpires and opponents after the game;
10. Report anyone who doesn't uphold these values immediately and appropriately.

ACA requires all Players, Coaches, Managers and Supporters to also be familiar and comply always with the appropriate Code of Conduct:

- [CODE OF CONDUCT YOUTH PLAYERS.](#)
- [CODE OF CONDUCT SUPPORTERS OF YOUTH CRICKET](#)
- [CODE OF CONDUCT YOUTH COACHES](#)
- [CONSEQUENCES OF BREACHING CODE OF CONDUCT](#)

I acknowledge I have read and accept the code of conduct for ACA District Tournaments. I have provided access to this document to all my players and each member of my squad has signed the following page, which I will send along with this page, to the Tournament Director no later than 4 weeks prior to the start of the Tournament.

Team Name: _____

Coach: _____

Manager: _____

CODE OF CONDUCT YOUTH PLAYERS.

1. Abide by the rules of the game and rules set down by your coach, district and competition.
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.
3. Control your temper. Verbal or physical abuse of officials, umpires, spectators or other players on either side, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted.
4. Respect the facilities. Damage to any facilities is not acceptable. Additionally, do not litter and ensure the grounds/facilities are left in as good a state as when you arrived.
5. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your teams' performance will benefit so will you.
6. Be a good sport. Applaud all good players whether they are on your team, 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.
7. 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.
8. Co-operate with your coach and teammates, and respect the ability of your opponent. Without them there would be no game.
9. Play for the FUN and not just to please parents and coaches.
10. Do not use any derogatory language based on gender, race or religion.
11. Smoking and/or consuming alcohol or partaking in illegal substances, is totally forbidden by Youths whilst involved in Any Youth Cricket competition.
12. If my team is playing on the finals day, I will attend the Prizegiving at the conclusion of the Tournament, even if I finish early, regardless of if my team wins or not.

All Players to sign code of conduct acknowledging received and that they have provided it to their parents (supporters) to read.

CODE OF CONDUCT SUPPORTERS OF YOUTH CRICKET

1. Focus upon the player's effort and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event.
2. Teach your player that honest effort is as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
3. Encourage your player always to play by the rules.
4. Never ridicule or yell at your player for making a mistake or losing the competition.
5. Remember your player should be involved in Cricket for their enjoyment, not yours.
6. Remember your player learns best by examples. Applaud good play by both your team and by members of the opposing team.
7. If you disagree with an official or umpire raise the issue through your team manager after the game only rather than questioning the official's judgement and honesty in public in any way during a game.
8. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from Youth sporting activities.
9. Recognise the value and importance of coaches. They deserve your support.
10. Support officials in maintaining the highest standard of behaviour both on and off the field for the betterment of the competition and your family. Offer your assistance appropriately to the team that your player is playing in so that every opportunity is being provided for the very best supervision and support. Your appropriate involvement will give both yourself and your player far more satisfaction.
11. Do not use any derogatory language based on gender, race or religion.
12. There shall be no consumption of alcohol or any illegal substances at any Youth matches at any time. Smoking whilst around Youth activities is not permitted.
13. All supporters are encouraged to attend games, however, to aid with development of players, supporters viewing areas must be setup at least 20m away from the players area. Before and during games, all supporters, must stay away from the players area where only players/coaches/managers/scorers can enter during games. Only coaches can provide advice during games to players.

CODE OF CONDUCT YOUTH 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. Avoid over-playing the talented players. The 'just average' players need and deserve equal time.
4. 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.
5. Remember to play as the laws were intended and do not manipulate the laws to get an unfair advantage.
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 Youth coaching principles and developments. Complete coaching accreditation Foundations and Advanced Foundations courses at a minimum.
11. Do not use any 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. There shall be no consumption of alcohol or any illegal substances at any Youth matches at any time. Smoking whilst actively engaged in Youth activities is not permitted.

CONSEQUENCES OF BREACHING CODE OF CONDUCT

ACA will be requiring all coaches, managers and players that participate in Tournaments to abide by the code of conduct stipulated by ACA. Signed acceptance of the Code of Conduct is required to be received by ACA at least 4 weeks prior to the Tournament start date.

If an individual or team breaches the code of conduct, the following penalties shall be incurred by the team:

- (i) First breach: The team and District to which the team belongs shall receive a verbal warning of the consequences of a further breach by the Tournament Director.
- (i) Second breach: The team and District to which the team belongs shall receive a written warning of the consequences of a further breach by the Tournament Director.
- (ii) Third breach: The team shall forfeit the game where the breach occurred.