



Weraroa Cricket Club Inc, Code Of Conduct

WERAROA CRICKET CLUB “SPIRIT OF CRICKET” EXPECTATIONS

As a Weraroa Club Cricketer, it is expected that a level of professionalism and courtesy is maintained at all times. With this in mind, the following guidelines have been produced. It is expected that all cricketers understand, accept and adhere to this document.

“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

Conduct Of WCC Club Membership (Seniors & Juniors)

All players should ensure they act in a respectful and mature manner when attending the club, at an opposition premises or at any engagement where they are representing the club including club & HKCA meetings and social functions. This applies to situations both on and off the pitch.

Weraroa Club Cricketers should:

- Not engage in any activity that would be damaging to the reputation of the club
- Not engage in any form of aggravated argument or violence
- Ensure any ‘banter’ is of a sensible level and consider people’s personal feelings when engaging
- Temper the language they use
- Moderate alcohol consumption (No alcohol to be consumed prior to and during games)
- Adhere to the HKCA & MCA code of conduct as set out.
- Adhere to the laws relating to child protection as described by the clubs welfare officer
- Remember, an umpires decision is FINAL and therefore cricketers should not question either on the field of play or after the game. By all means raise a complaint with your captain and or cricket manager.
- Ensure sportsman-like conduct at all times

Subs & Fees

In order for a cricketer to be eligible for selection and to play, annual fees **MUST** be paid in full by the closing date as designated by the Club Manager (or an agreement in place with the club manager for payment of said fees). There will be **NO** exceptions to this rule. Match fees (where applicable) are mandatory. Please ensure you are up to date with your fees payments, if any questions a statement of payments can be requested.

Selection and Availability

The team selections are the responsibility of the selection committee & team managers & team captains, and based solely on ability and performance. There is **NO** automatic selection.

Team selection in a club of our size is difficult. By all means, feel free to query your position – however, the decision of the committee is final. You should be respectful and professional when you have been selected for a specific team – regardless of your own thoughts on the matter. Open discussion about selection criteria and negative conversations is counter-productive and against what the club are trying to achieve. Should you feel aggrieved at a selection decision, please contact the Weraroa Club Manager or the relevant captain directly.

If you have made yourself available for selection, you must play where you are selected – whether home or away. The club will not allow players to dictate where they are picked.

Please ensure you have the contact details of your captain, and team manager. In the event of a change of availability or to notify the club of your availability, you should contact the officials in the order above, i.e. call manager first > then captain.

You are expected to inform the club of your availability no later than Wednesday using the club selection App 3 days ahead of a game. In normal circumstances, your availability will be asked for Monday evenings or when games are known. If you do not get this message via the club selection app, please inform the club manager your availability and he/she can update the info.

The club understands that situations do change and from time to time your availability may be subject to family / work / injury / emergency commitments. It is your responsibility to communicate this to the club via the channels outlined above.

It is **NOT** acceptable to cry off on a Friday night on a whim. Neither is it acceptable to become unavailable after selection if you do not like where you are playing. If either of these situations occurs, it may well affect future selection decisions. If someone becomes unavailable after selection based on the team picked then they will not be considered for selection until that matter is dealt with.

Training & Attendance

All cricketers are expected to attend regular training sessions (work, home-life and fitness permitting) as outlined by the club (please check the website or confirm with a captain / manager / club coach to confirm when these sessions are running).

The club makes every effort to provide the highest quality facilities available to it for the use of the cricketers. The club also wishes to compete at the highest standard possible.

Each cricketer should make every effort to attend training. Repeated missed training will affect selection. If you cannot attend a training session, you must let your captain / team manager know in advance or as soon as possible.

The club understands not everyone can make training every week, but training is mandatory without a valid reason not to be there. Training is important not just at the start of the season, but all the way through. We cannot afford to drop off our standards at any point this year if we are hoping to be successful.

The club also expects (where possible as outlined above) cricketers to attend meetings and social events that are created for the cricketers.

Complaints

If you have a complaint with regards to a fellow cricketer (home or away), official, member of the club or supporter please consult a captain, team manager as soon as possible. They will advise as to how to proceed whether that be mediating or reporting to the club committee.

Disciplinary Procedures

Disciplinary procedures are according to the general membership rules. Actions will be determined by the Club Committee and sanctions imposed accordingly.

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.

The Weraroa Cricket Club expects all players, captains, coaches, managers, parents and supporters at all levels within our club 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 and Player/Umpires decisions.**
8. **Complaints are voiced only through the captain and manager 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.**

Weraroa Cricket Club requires all Players, Coaches, Managers and Supporters to also be familiar and comply at all times with the appropriate Code of Conduct:

CODE OF CONDUCT JUNIOR PLAYERS.

1. Abide by the rules of the game and rules set down by your manager, coach, club 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. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your teams' performance will benefit so will yours.
5. 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.
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.
7. Co-operate with your coach and teammates, and respect the ability of your opponent. Without them there would be no game.
8. Play for the FUN and not just to please parents and coaches.
9. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender, race or religion.
10. Smoking and/or consuming alcohol or partaking in illegal substances, is totally forbidden by junior players whilst involved in any junior cricket competition with WCC involved.

CODE OF CONDUCT PARENTS & SUPPORTERS 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 as 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 with 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 your 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 competition 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. There shall be no consumption of any illegal substances at any junior matches at any time. Smoking legal cigarettes is discouraged around children.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR JUNIOR COACH'S & MANAGERS

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.
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.
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 or illegal substances are allowed to be consumed by managers, coaches at WCC junior matches.
14. Smoking whilst actively engaged in junior activities is not permitted.

CODE OF CONDUCT SENIOR PLAYERS, COACHES & MANAGERS.

Responsibility Of Captains

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

Players' and Coaches and Managers Conduct

In the event of any Player or Coach or Manager 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.

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
- Intimidating bowling
- Tampering with the ball
- Any other action that they feel to be unfair

The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:

- Your opponents, their manager/coach, supporters and club officials
- Your own captain, your own team, manager/coach, supporters and club officials
- The role of the Umpires
- The game's traditional values

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, e.g.
- appeal, knowing that the Batsman is not out.
- advance towards an Umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing

Distraction and Harassment

It is not acceptable to seek to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment in any way, including 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 and Illegal Substances

The consumption of alcohol and illegal substances by players/coaches/managers participating in the game in progress will not be tolerated and any breaches will be severely punished. This includes when you are not batting and play has not concluded i.e. you are out or waiting to bat.

Overall Conduct

Players, Coaches, 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.

Senior Player And Coach / Manager Behaviour

Traditionally, cricket has maintained the highest levels of conduct and sportsmanship. While always a competitive game, the continued strength of the sport relies upon the acceptance of the Umpire's decision and the preparedness to play within the spirit of the game.

The following areas are highlighted as not acceptable at the Weraroa Cricket Club (WCC):

- a. The use of offensive language – generally as a disparaging remark to an opposing player, your own players, coaches, officials 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 (e.g. banging the bat into the ground or against the fence, etc. and/or throwing the bat or equipment during or after his or her return to the pavilion).

Whether or not such behaviour is evident in higher levels of cricket or whether the language used is considered acceptable by today's society is of little concern to WCC. WCC is primarily interested in having all cricket under its control played within the spirit and traditions of the game. WCC has two processes for the reporting and consideration of unsatisfactory behaviour:

1. Serious breaches of misbehaviour will see the player/coach/manager immediately reported by the Umpire(s) controlling the match.
2. For less serious breaches where an umpire has occasion to speak to a player/coach/manager regarding his behaviour, but does not believe a report is necessary, the incident will be noted on the Umpires Match Report. Should a player/coach be noted on the three such Reports during the season, he may be called to appear before the WCC Disciplinary committee to explain this behaviour.

IN BOTH INSTANCES, SHOULD A PLAYER/COACH/MANAGER BE FOUND GUILTY OF AN ACT OF MISCONDUCT, THEY SHALL BE LIABLE FOR A SUSPENSION AS DETERMINED BY THE WCC DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE.

The recruitment and retention of Umpires is made increasingly difficult by the regular unacceptable levels of player/Coach conduct. Few people are willing to continually subject themselves to the childish behaviour and offensive language on and beyond the cricket field.

All players/coaches can certainly play a role in raising the general standard of umpiring and the level of experience of cricket 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/coach/manager misconduct especially with regard to the use of offensive language and the disputation of any decision.

ALL PLAYERS, MANAGERS/COACHES SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE STANDARDS EXPECTED BY WCC AND CONSEQUENTLY ANYONE CALLED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE WCC DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE CAN EXPECT LITTLE SYMPATHY AND, IF FOUND GUILTY, A PERIOD OF SUSPENSION.

Thanks

Weraroa Cricket Club Inc Committee