



# Codes of Conduct Policy & Procedure

## PURPOSE

To provide an expectation of behaviour for Aspendale Cricket Club players, spectators, committee members and officials across all age groups and playing levels.

## POLICY

This policy outlines the conduct expected by all players, spectators, committee and officials of Aspendale Cricket Club and procedure that will follow in circumstances of a breach of these codes of conduct.

Adherence to these codes is key to creating and maintaining the environment desired at the Club.

This will involve complaints or reports relating to conduct or actions of any player, in contravention of one or more of the following:

- a) Cricket Australia Codes of Behaviour, Guidelines or Policies
- b) Victorian Cricket Codes of Behaviour, Guidelines or Policies
- c) Relevant committee, spectator, official's or player's club Code of Behaviour, Code of Conduct or policies.

## CODES OF CONDUCT

### Players Code of Behaviour

Players have a responsibility to uphold the integrity and spirit of the game whilst they are training, competing on the playing field or representing the club away from the field of play.

Players are bound by the following Code of Conduct:

- Play by the rules;
- Never argue with an umpire or other official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach, manager or Marshall approach the umpire in an appropriate manner during a break or after the game;
- Control your temper. Verbal or physical abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours.

- Work equally hard for yourself and your teammates. Your team's performance will benefit and so will you;
- Be a good sport at all times. Acknowledge good play;
- Treat all participants in cricket as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor;
- Cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition;
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents, spectators, or coaches or club officials;
- Cooperate with your coach, the umpires and team mates;
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

### **Player Match Behaviour Code of Conduct**

Any player who breaches the Code in a manner which the Committee deems to be a sufficiently serious breach of misbehaviour, dissent or other unsporting behaviour, may have this taken into account for any future team selections. The club will continue to closely monitor player behaviour in matches. As stated in CSB Code of Behaviour, cricket has been one sport to maintain and exhibit the highest levels of conduct and sportsmanship, and the club wishes to be leaders in modelling play that is in line with these expectations and the "spirit of cricket".

The areas of major concern which are unacceptable to Aspendale Cricket Club and CSB are:

- 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 or religious 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).
- The questioning/disputing of the umpire's decision - often in an aggressive or sarcastic manner. This applies equally to dismissals and unsuccessful appeals as to the judgment of calls on no-balls, wides, byes, etc.
- The excessive number of frivolous and ridiculous appeals - primarily aimed at pressuring and intimidating the umpire into a favourable decision.
- The actions of the dismissed batter - 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 or race, etc. and/ or throwing the bat or equipment during or after his return to the pavilion).
- "Send offs" – usually to a dismissed batter by the bowler or a member of the fielding side. This can often inflame the situation and lead to a more serious altercation.

*Ref: CSB, Cricket Victoria Code of Behaviour*

### **Spectator and Parents Code of Behaviour**

Aspendale Cricket Club  
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Some of the greatest role models we have in our cricketing community are our spectators and parents. Parents and spectators are bound by the following Code of conduct:

- Do not force an unwilling child to participate in cricket;
- Remember, children are involved in cricket for their enjoyment, not yours;
- Encourage your child to play by the rules;
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing;
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game;
- Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skillful play by all participants;
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities;
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise;
- Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Do not enter the field of play
- Do not engage in any verbal or physical aggression of behavior toward any other person
- Do not have unsupervised contact with any child, young or vulnerable person unnecessarily and where contact may be necessary, make every attempt to have another safe adult present.

### **Coaches Code of Behaviour**

The environment created by a coach is integral to the overall experience of all players involved. Aspendale Cricket Club has adopted some foundational expectations of coaches within the club.

- Remember that many players participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun;
- Never ridicule or yell at a player (particularly young players) for making a mistake or not coming first;
- Be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm;
- Operate within the rules and Spirit of Cricket and teach your players to do the same;
- Ensure that the time players spend with you is a positive experience;
- Avoid overplaying the talented players - all young players need and deserve equal time, attention and opportunities;
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players;
- Ensure that you are meeting obligations to provide a safe experience and safe environment to ensure the safety and wellbeing for children, young and vulnerable people;
- Display control and respect to all those involved in cricket. This includes opponents, coaches, umpires, administrators, parents and spectators. Encourage your players to do the same;
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition;
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up-to-date with the latest cricket coaching practices and principles of growth and development of young people;
- Any physical contact with a young person should be supervised by another adult and appropriate to the situation and only occur in cases necessary for the player's skill development or first aid needs;

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

### **Appropriate Behaviour with Children Code of Behaviour (any person under the age of 18)**

- When disciplining or guiding Children, ensure that appropriate techniques are used to do so. At no stage should physical punishment or overly threatening or intimidating behaviour occur.
- Understand the scope and limit of your authority. It is not appropriate for adults involved in cricket to take certain actions in relation to Children that are not their own, without the express consent of the relevant Child's parents.
- Use appropriate language and communication techniques.
- Avoid discriminatory, derogatory, sexual or otherwise harmful language.
- Avoid one-on-one unsupervised contact with Children.
- Avoid use of electronic communications (text, email, social media, etc) to a Child without copying in their parent/guardian to the communication.
- Do not give gifts to Children without the parent having previously approved of the gift being given.
- Avoid taking photos, videos or other recordings of Children without the prior consent of their parent/guardian.
- Ensure all physical contact is appropriate and necessary. Contact should not occur if it is rough, intended to cause pain, sexual or unnecessary.
- Sexual behaviour Children is in no circumstances tolerated.
- Ensure change room arrangements are appropriately considered. This means that you should avoid being in change rooms unsupervised with Children. Ensure that genders are adequately separated into different change rooms. Adults should not use the same facility as Children to get changed – to avoid exposing Children to adult nudity.
- In no circumstances should you supply alcohol or drugs to Children. Nor should you be under the influence of either when in the presence of Children.

## **PROCEDURES**

Any behaviours observed must be reported to the Aspendale Cricket Club executive committee, preferably in writing. The Aspendale Cricket Club executive committee will at this stage assess the seriousness of the breach and determine, what option is best for determining the outcome of the alleged breach. Relevant options for resolving breaches include the following:

1. Investigation
2. Mediation
3. Conduct Committee hearing & decision
4. Escalation within sport (to district/state or national level) – Tribunal

At each stage of the decision-making process the Club President will keep informed all relevant parties. Relevant policies to consider in line with this policy are Complaints/Grievance Policy, Child Safety Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Disciplinary Policy.