



The Unsworth Cricket and Tennis Club Limited
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Founder Members of the Greater Manchester Cricket League

Code of Conduct for Coaches, Managers & Volunteers

Coaches, managers, and volunteers play a vital role in the development of cricket and the well-being of players. This Code of Conduct establishes the standards required to ensure a safe, inclusive, and positive environment for all participants, particularly young people under 18.

Key Principles

Good cricket coaching practice needs to reflect the following:

1. *Rights* – Respect and champion the rights of every individual to participate in cricket.
2. *Relationships* – Maintain professional relationships based on openness, honesty, mutual trust, and respect.
3. *Personal Responsibilities* – Exhibit high standards of personal conduct and behaviour at all times.
4. *Professional Responsibilities* – Maintain a high level of competence through appropriate qualifications and ongoing training to ensure safe and effective coaching practices.

Code of Conduct

All coaches, managers, and volunteers must:

Respect and Inclusion

- Treat everyone equally, regardless of age, gender, disability, race, ethnicity, nationality, parental or marital status, religion, social background, sexual orientation, or political beliefs.

Behaviour and Conduct

- Demonstrate high standards of behaviour, promoting fair play, sportsmanship, and the Spirit of Cricket.
- Encourage players to understand and follow the rules, respect officials, and avoid unfair play or arguments.

Safeguarding & Welfare

- Prioritise the safety and well-being of young players over performance development.
- Ensure activities are suitable for the player's age, experience, and ability.
- Respect young people's opinions and involve them in decisions about their participation.
- Avoid situations where a coach or volunteer is left alone with a young player.

Substance Use

- Refrain from smoking, drinking alcohol, vaping, or using banned substances while working with young people.
- Do not provide these substances to young players.

Communication & Online Conduct

- Avoid direct messaging under-18s via email, text, or social media. Instead, communicate through parents and open forums using appropriate language.
- Do not connect with players under 18 on social media or gaming platforms.

Physical Contact

- Ensure any physical contact is necessary, appropriate, and conducted with the player's full consent within recommended guidelines.

Training & Accreditation

- Maintain up-to-date safeguarding training, first aid certification, and relevant coaching qualifications.

Reporting Concerns

- Report any safeguarding concerns regarding young people or staff to the designated safeguarding officer immediately.

- Adhere to ECB's "Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children" and any county-specific guidelines.

Coach & Manager Requirements

All coaches and employees working with junior players must hold:

- A relevant coaching qualification for their role and environment.
- A current Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check specific to cricket.
- A valid Safeguarding & Protecting Children certificate.
- ECB Coaches Association (ECBCA) membership or appropriate insurance.
- A current First Aid Certificate (including emergency aid).

Junior Managers, Coordinators & Supervisors must hold:

- A valid, cricket-specific DBS check.

Rights & Responsibilities

As a Coach, Team Manager, or Volunteer, you have the right to:

- Enjoy your time at the club and be supported in your role.
- Be informed of safeguarding and reporting procedures.
- Have access to ongoing training in all aspects of your role.
- Be listened to and involved in club decisions.
- Be respected and treated fairly.
- Be protected from physical or emotional abuse from children or parents and be supported to resolve conflicts.

Safeguarding & Reporting

All club personnel must adhere to ECB's "Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children" and any county-specific guidelines. Any concerns should be reported to the Club Safeguarding Officer: Susan Earnshaw.

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