



ECB Yorkshire South Premier League

Code of Conduct and the Spirit of Cricket

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

- players must at all times accept the umpire's decision
- players must not show dissent at the umpire's decision or react in a provocative or disapproving manner towards another player or a spectator
- players shall not intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an umpire, another participant or a spectator
- players shall not use crude or abusive language ('sledging'), nor make offensive gestures or hand signals, nor deliberately distract an opponent
- players shall not use language or gestures that offend, insult, humiliate, intimidate, threaten, disparage or vilify another person on the basis of that person's (or their perceived) age, race, religion, sexual orientation, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin
- players shall not use or in any way be involved in the use or distribution of illegal drugs or other criminal activity
- participants shall not make any public or media comment which is prejudicial or detrimental to the interests or reputation of other participants or the game of cricket in general

In this instance, media shall include (but not necessarily be limited to) press, radio, television, external websites, club websites, social networking sites and club match programmes. Nothing in this provision shall prevent any comment which constitutes honest opinion in regard to cricketing matters and which is made in a fair and respectful manner.

- participants shall not publicly disclose or comment upon any alleged breach of this Code of Conduct
- participants shall not act in any manner which is against the Spirit of Cricket, is otherwise improper, or is prejudicial or detrimental to the interests or reputation of the League or the game of cricket

Spirit of Cricket

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws, but also within the spirit of the game. Any action which 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.

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.

Player's Conduct. In the event of any player failing to comply with the instructions of an umpire, criticising his decision by word or action, 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
- dangerous or unfair bowling
- tampering with the ball
- any other action that they consider to be unfair

The Spirit of Cricket involves respect for:

- your opponents
- your own captain and team
- the role of the umpires
- the game's traditional values

It is against the Spirit of Cricket:

- to dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture
- to direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire
- to indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance to:
 - appeal knowing the batsman is not out
 - advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing
 - 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.

Players, captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

Failure to comply with the provisions of the Code of Conduct may lead to disciplinary action