



## Eastern Suburbs Junior Cricket Club (*Eastern Dragons*)

### Code of Conduct

#### Players

- **Play by the rules.**
- **Never argue with an umpire or officials.** - if you need clarification, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the game.
- **Work equally hard for yourself and your team** - your team's performance will benefit — so will you.
- **Be a good sport** - applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- **Sportsman-like behaviour is encouraged**
- **Show respect to and acknowledge opponents and officials** - (e.g. shake hands before and after the game and say things like 'good luck', 'thanks for the game', 'thanks ump', 'three cheers for ...').
- **Cooperate with your coach, team mates and opponents** - without them there would be no competition.
- **Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit** - not just to please parents and coaches.
- **Play fair and Control your temper** — no verbal abuse of officials, sledging other players (including vilification) or deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent. It is not acceptable or permitted in any sport. Do not show you are unhappy when given out.
- **No Swearing** - bad language (swearing) is not permitted.
- **Mind the chat** - all talk must stop when the bowler reaches his bowling mark.
- **No "Send offs"** - once a batter is dismissed, members of the fielding team are not permitted to give the batter a "send off".
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person** - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- **Do not expect or accept "special" favours from a coach or person involved in team or club management.**
- **Speak to an adult you trust if you have an issue, feel unsafe or are concerned about someone else.**
- **Treat all participants in cricket as you like to be treated.** Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- **Put incidents in perspective** - place in proper perspective the isolated incidents of unsporting behaviour rather than make such incidents the "highlight" of the event.

## Coaches

- **Quality coaches and team managers are the key to developing quality junior sport** – foster a positive attitude where skills are identified and developed.
- **Remember that young people participate for fun and enjoyment** - winning is only part of the fun. Never ridicule or yell at a player for making mistakes or losing a game.
- **Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport** -help your players to understand that playing by the rules is their responsibility.
- **Relate to officials in a courteous and polite way** – Be a positive role model.
- **Implement relevant sport safety policies and practices.**
- **Implement policy and practices (and lead by example)** - in relation to responsible use of alcohol and in relation to recreational and performance enhancing drugs.
- **Listen to your players** - ensure that the time they spend with you is a positive experience.
- **Monitor players time** - the scheduling and length of practice times and competition should take into consideration the maturity level of the players.
- **Be reasonable** - in your demands on player's time and enthusiasm.
- **Rules are mutual agreements and not to be broken** - Teach your players that rules of the sport are mutual agreements which no one should evade or break.
- **Encourage young people to participate in administration, coaching and officiating** - as well as playing.
- **Promote a culturally tolerant environment.**
- **Develop team respect** – respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgment of officials and opposing coaches.
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants** - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- **Keep up to date with coaching practices and qualifications** –ensure you understand the principles of physical growth and development.
- **Give young people the chance to try out different playing positions and different roles** – Captains/scoring/umpiring.
- **Avoid over-playing the talented players.** All young players need and deserve equal time.
- **Group Players** - whenever possible, group players to give a reasonable chance of success.
- **Ensure you are aware of your club's child safe policy** – ensure you are aware of your mandated responsibility to report suspicion of child abuse and neglect. Complete the online training on [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au).
- **Ensure that the equipment and facilities meet safety standards** - is appropriate to the age and ability of the players.
- **Ensure that any physical contact with a young person is appropriate** –is it necessary for the player's skill development?
- **Avoid developing any 'special' relationships with children** – ensure that you show no favouritism such as the offering of gifts or special treatment. This includes intimate relationships and personal online social networking with team members.
- **Follow the advice of physician** - when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.

**Always remember the key responsibility of the Junior Coach / Team Manager is to:**

1. *Encourage enjoyment of sport.*
2. *Provide equal encouragement to boys and girls.*
3. *Recognise and cater for groups with special needs.*
4. *Set realistic standards and objectives for their juniors.*
5. *Set an example of good sporting behaviour.*
6. *Keep up to date with the latest coaching techniques and ideas.*
7. *Provide a safe environment for players to train and compete.*

## **Parents**

- **Remember that children participate in cricket and sport for their enjoyment**  
- not yours.
- **Don't force children** - do not force an unwilling child to participate in cricket.
- **Teach children that an honest effort is as important as victory** – so the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- **Encourage children to play according to the rules** - settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- **Never ridicule or yell at a child** - for making a mistake or not winning.
- **Focus on effort** - focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- **Respect officials' decisions** – encourage and teach children to do likewise.
- **Show appreciation for coaches, officials and administrators**- remember they are usually volunteers without them; your child could not participate.
- **Appreciate good performances and skilful plays by all participants** - Remember that children learn best by example.
- **Applaud good performance and efforts** - from all individuals and teams. Children learn best from good sporting examples.
- **Remove verbal and Physical abuse** - support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- **Congratulate all participants**- regardless of the game's outcome.
- **Condemn the use of violence, verbal abuse or vilification in any form** – regardless of whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- **Support all policies and practices (lead by example).** - This includes responsible alcohol and drug use and support of child safe strategies.
- **Support involvement in modified rules games and other junior development programs.**
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person** -regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- **Ensure you are aware and follow the correct processes to follow if you have an issue or complaint** – do not perpetuate issues with gossip or general criticism.
- **Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches** – they give their time and resources to provide recreational activities for the children and deserve your support.

## Administrators and Officials

- **Ensure you are aware of your obligations to provide a child safe environment** - this includes risk management, child safe policy, appropriate screening of staff/volunteers and mandatory notification obligations of certain people in the organisation. Complete the online training on [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au).
- **Ensure your club is accessible for all to participate.**
- **Create pathways for young people to participate in your club** - give them “a say” on decisions that affect them, provide leadership opportunities and most importantly listen to them.
- **Ensure that the types of programs, rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules are modified to suit the age, ability and maturity level of young players.**
- **Provide quality supervision and instruction for junior players** -ensure volunteers are adequately trained.
- **Direct coaches and officials to highlight appropriate behaviour, skill and development, emphasise fair play** – not winning at all costs.
- **Give a code of behaviour sheet to spectators, officials, parents, coaches and players** -encourage them to follow it.
- **Develop where appropriate and distribute codes of behaviour for other volunteers** – this may include team managers and sport trainers and first-aid staff.
- **Remember, you set an example** - your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- **Implement policy and practices (and lead by example)** - in relation to responsible use of alcohol and in relation to recreational and performance enhancing drugs.
- **Adopt and implement relevant sport safety policies and practices.**
- **Apply rules and regulations to match the skill levels and needs of young people and to make participation more fun.**
- **Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people**
- **Compliment and encourage all participants** - you are a role model and a source of a young person’s confidence building.
- **Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.**
- **Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect** - for all opponents.
- **Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards** - are they appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- **Be familiar with relevant policies and procedures relating to a child safe environment. Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.**
- **Promote a culturally appropriate environment.**
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants** - regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- **Ensure you are aware of your mandated responsibility to report suspicion of child abuse and neglect** - complete the online training on [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au).

## **Setting the Standard for Umpires**

Umpiring Junior Cricket takes special skill. An overzealous umpire can ruin a game just as quickly as one who is too generous in interpreting the rules.

Some hints to help junior umpires avoid some of the problems:

1. View your role as primarily one of teaching and guidance to assist young players to learn and implement cricket skills better.
2. Be consistent, courteous and helpful to all players.
3. Keep informed of sound officiating principles and take account of children's growth and development.
4. Use common sense to ensure the spirit of the game is not lost due to strict application of rules and the over-calling of violations.
5. Discourage unsporting behaviour and promote respect for opponents.

## **Rules**

The normal rules of cricket to apply to the North Eastern Junior Cricket Association unless otherwise stated.

Please read the sections covering Under 9's and Under 11's and Under 13's one day and two day rules and apply them when umpiring. [NEJCA](#)