

Kingston Heath Cricket Club

Code of Conduct



Introduction

This document has been produced in order to convey to all Club officials (administrators, team managers, coaches and captains), players, parents and supporters the code of behaviour our Club expects from each and every one in order not to bring disrepute on the game and the Cricket Club and its members.

Kingston Heath Cricket Club is a family club, catering for junior and senior male and female cricketers of all abilities. Senior players are reminded that they need to set the right example for younger members at all times. The club's reputation has been earned through hard work and diligence since its inception in 1990 but can be eroded very quickly by a few indiscriminate acts.

The following general comments are framed primarily for our junior teams but still apply where appropriate for senior teams.

Junior Team Managers/Coaches

1. Remember that children participate for pleasure and that winning is only part of the fun.
2. Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing.
3. Be reasonable in your demands on a young player's time, energy and enthusiasm.
4. Teach your players to follow the rules.
5. Whenever possible, ensure that everyone has a reasonable chance of success.
6. Avoid overplaying the talented players. The just-average need and deserve equal time.
7. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.
8. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents and the judgement of officials and opposing coaches.
9. Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.

Players

1. Play by the rules at all times.
2. Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
3. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable in any sport.
4. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team's performance will benefit; so will you.
5. Be a good sport. Applaud all good play whether they are by your team or the opposition.
6. Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.

7. Co-operate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
8. Play for the fun of it, not just to please parents or coaches.

Parents and Supporters

1. Remember that children play sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
2. Encourage children to participate; do not force them.
3. Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
4. Encourage children to always participate according to the rules.
5. Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
6. Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good play by all teams.
7. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
8. Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
9. Show appreciation of volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.
10. Do not physically or verbally abuse any umpire, player or official of either team.

Code of Conduct

1. All matches shall be conducted in the true spirit of the game of cricket and Club Officials, Team Managers, Coaches, Captains and players shall adopt this policy.
2. No player, official or supporter shall at any time engage in conduct unbecoming to the game of cricket or the Club.
3. Players shall:
 - a. Not verbally, physically, or by any other means abuse, harm or threaten any club member, visiting player, official, umpire or supporter;
 - b. Not vilify any club member, visiting player, official, umpire or supporter because of their race, sexuality, disability, appearance or other reason;
 - c. Respect and comply with an umpire's instructions;
 - d. Not dispute an umpire's decision nor react in a threatening or disapproving manner;
 - e. Follow instructions of the captain, team manager or club official when reasonably asked to do so;
 - f. Compete to your best ability for the team's benefit within the Rules. Cheating is never condoned;
 - g. Not indulge in "sledging" opposition players, i.e. by word or action either directly or indirectly aggressively trying to intimidate or unreasonably upset a player.
4. The Senior Captains, Junior Team Managers and Coaches shall be responsible for their team's behaviour. They shall:
 - a. Maintain control of their players. If any incident is brought to their attention and they do nothing to prevent its recurrence they will be in breach of this Code;
 - b. Ensure players do not waste time – incoming and outgoing batsmen should pass inside the boundary line and fieldsmen should move quickly to positions;

- c. Brief players on the behaviour requirements and ensure that their players conduct themselves in a manner that conforms to the traditional image of the game of cricket;
 - d. Report any breach of this Code to the Club Committee.
5. No alcohol shall be consumed by a player on the day of the match until play has been completely concluded, nor during training. Club representatives shall not consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol while acting in an official capacity (e.g. team manager, umpire, scorer). No person under 18 years of age shall consume, or purchase from the club, any alcohol during a match or at a club activity. No person shall provide alcohol to a minor at any club activity. Exception: Persons aged 16 or 17 may consume alcohol in the company of their parent or legal guardian while dining at an organised club function.

The Committee member on duty may determine and enforce that a member or other person will not be served further alcohol. Such a determination must be immediately respected by the person concerned.
6. Players shall dress in clean white cricket clothing while on the field. Clothing shall not carry names or logos of other clubs, associations or the like, nor those of a commercial nature other than that of a club sponsor in an approved form. Players in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd XI shall wear the approved KHCC player uniform, and should dress appropriately when arriving the ground prior to play, and leaving after play.
7. KHCC caps or white cricket hats only shall be worn as headwear unless special permission is obtained from the Committee.
8. Junior players MUST wear an approved cricket helmet, leg guards and protector when batting either in a match or while training.
9. No player or official shall smoke while on the field of play. No person shall smoke in the pavilion or other enclosed activity area, or within 10m of the pavilion.
10. No player, official or supporter shall wrongfully remove or intentionally cause damage to any KHCC's or opposition club's equipment, pavilion, property or the like.

Breach of this Code

Should any breach of this code occur or any action deemed to be detrimental to the game of cricket or the Club take place, the matter shall be dealt with in the first instance by the Club Committee. In accordance with Rule 21 of the Club's Constitution "*should it be deemed necessary and in the best interests of the Club, any member may be expelled, suspended or fined by the Committee*".

The person alleged to have breached this Code shall be given reasonable opportunity to address the Committee or its appointed representatives before any decision is made by the Committee. If the person wishes to appeal against the Committee's decision, he/she shall do so in writing within 14 days. An Appeal Tribunal consisting of five current or former senior club members (not on current Committee) shall be formed by the Executive to hear the appeal within 21 days of receipt of the appeal letter. The decision of the Appeal Tribunal shall be final.

A member under 21 years of age may be accompanied by a support person during either of the above hearings. Any breach by a parent or other family member of a club member, will jeopardise the membership of the club member.

Policy Activation and Review

The policy has been approved by the committee of Kingston Heath Cricket Club at its meeting of 26 October 2016.

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

Next policy review date is October 2017.