

Code of Conduct

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CRITICAL RULE: Verbal, physical, or emotional abuse directed toward the opposition WILL NOT BE TOLERATED under any circumstances.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR ALL MEMBERS & GUESTS

All Members and Guests of Oakley Cricket Club will:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of cricket.
- Treat everyone equally and not discriminate on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, religious belief, class or social background, sexual preference or political belief.
- Not condone, or allow to go unchallenged, any form of discrimination if witnessed.
- Display high standards of behaviour at all times.
- Promote the positive aspects of cricket, for example fair play.
- Encourage all participants to learn the Laws and rules and play within them, always respecting the decisions of match officials.
- Actively discourage unfair play, rule violations and arguing with match officials.
- Recognise good performance, not just match results.
- Place the well-being and safety of children above the development of performance (for these purposes a child is defined as anyone being under the age of 18).
- Ensure activities are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual.
- Respect children's opinions when making decisions about their participation in cricket.
- Not smoke, drink or use banned substances while working with children in the club.
- Not provide children with alcohol when they are under the care of the club.
- Follow ECB guidelines set out in the "Safe Hands - Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children" and any other relevant guidelines issued.
- Report any concerns in relation to a child, following reporting procedures laid down by the ECB.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CLUB OFFICERS & APPOINTED VOLUNTEERS

In addition to the principles above, all club officers and appointed volunteers will:

- Have been appropriately vetted, if required.
- Hold relevant qualifications and be covered by appropriate insurance.
- Always work in an open environment (i.e., avoid private or unobserved situations and encourage an open environment).

NB: Digital & Online Communication

Club officers and volunteers are actively discouraged from online or other electronic communication directly with children — any such communication must be conducted via parents or legal guardians.

- Inform players and parents of the requirements of cricket.
- Know and understand the ECB's "Safe Hands - Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children".
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with young players, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Ensure physical contact is appropriate and necessary, and is carried out within recommended guidelines with the young player's full consent and approval.
- Not engage in any form of sexually related contact with a young player. This is strictly forbidden, as is sexual innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures and terms. (The ECB adopts the Home Office guidelines which recommend that people in positions of trust and authority do not have sexual relationships with 16-17 year olds in their care).
- Attend appropriate training to keep up to date with their role, especially with respect to the safeguarding of children.

* **Note on Coverage:** Members and guests include all members and officers of the cricket club and all guests of those members and officers, as well as all individuals who watch, attend, participate or officiate in matches hosted by the club in whatever capacity.