

Scaynes Hill Cricket Club – Junior Section

Operating Policy and Codes of Conduct

Introduction

- The Junior Section of the Scaynes Hill Cricket Club (the Club) endeavours to introduce children from the area, who would not otherwise have the opportunity of playing cricket, to the game; and
- in the longer term, to provide young players for the Club's senior sides.

Our ethos

The Junior Section has stressed the importance of the way in which the game is played; old fashioned values such as sportsmanship are prized and in this way the very special ethos of the Club is being promoted to the junior players.

We aim to ensure that our junior players enjoy playing competitive cricket in the correct spirit and to balance the need to give all our junior players opportunities to develop and to play a level of cricket that is appropriate to their individual development needs.

The Club values greatly the Junior Section and is committed to providing the very best facilities for its junior players. It is clear that junior players will be more likely to enjoy their cricket and have more fun if they are well managed and receive top quality coaching. For that reason the Club has produced the Operating Policy for the Junior Section, to inform the junior players and their parents/guardians what they can expect of the Club.

Operating Policy for the Junior Section

It is agreed that the Club will:

1. take all reasonable steps to safeguard and promote the well being of all of the Clubs junior players;
2. ensure that everyone involved with Junior Section are encouraged to show respect to each other and to safeguard each others' welfare at all times;
3. ensure that all home matches are played on pitches that are safe for the age group concerned;
4. ensure that all fixtures are properly arranged and that a suitable match manager is available for each game;

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5. ensure that all coaching/training is supervised by suitably qualified coaches;
6. ensure that all relevant personnel are properly CRB checked
7. ensure that junior players wear the correct safety equipment and bowl no more overs than is recommended by the ECB for their particular age group;
8. take all possible steps to supervise the taking of medications in accordance with the specific request of parents/guardians;
9. deal with an emergency concerning the health or welfare of a junior player

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Code of Conduct for Junior Players

The following standards are expected from all of the Club's junior players:

- to behave in a sportsmanlike manner whilst playing cricket for the Club, to play competitively and with full commitment;
- to support their team mates at all times whilst playing cricket for the Club;
- to respect the opposition and to treat them in a sportsmanlike way – it is unacceptable to intimidate or to deliberately distract opponents orally, or by acts of gamesmanship or aggressive behaviour;
- the umpire's decision must be accepted at all times and dissent should not be shown;
- behaviour at any match or coaching/training, wherever played, should not cause offence to any person present;
- it is unacceptable to use foul, abusive or derogatory language;
- it is expected that all players will keep to agreed timings for coaching and matches, or inform their coach or team manger if they are going to be late;
- it is unacceptable for junior players to smoke, drink alcohol or take drugs whilst representing the Club; and
- it is expected that players will be dress in smart cricket clothing, whilst playing cricket for the Club.

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Code of Conduct for Parents (or Guardians)

The Junior section is heavily reliant on the goodwill and support of the junior players' parents/guardians and greatly appreciate the contributions and sacrifices that they make to ensure that the Junior Section can function successfully. In order to continue to progress in this way, it is hoped that parents/guardians will:

- always remember that children should play cricket for their own enjoyment;
- encourage children to participate and never force them to do so;
- focus on the child's enjoyment, commitment, behaviour and performance, rather than winning or losing, and never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes;
- support and ensure an understanding in their children of the Junior Section's ethos;
- encourage children to play cricket in accordance to the laws and etiquette of cricket and above all in a sportsmanlike manner;
- set a good example by recognising fair play;
- discourage unfair play and arguing with officials;
- support all efforts to remove verbal abuse and dissent from cricket;
- provide the coach with all relevant information about their child by correctly and quickly completing the Player Profile Form (registration document)
- ensure that adequate arrangements are made for the safe collection and transportation of the junior player to and from matches/training;
- supervise any siblings or friends of the player at matches/training to ensure their safety; and
- actively support the club personnel involved with the training of their child by taking an interest in training sessions and not just dropping the child off and leaving.

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Code of Conduct for Coaches and Managers

(Based on ECB Code of Conduct for Coaches)

NB. This code of conduct shall apply as appropriate to any adult who is working with junior players under the auspices of the Junior Section and the term 'coach' should be read accordingly in this Code of Conduct.

Rights of Junior Players

Coaches should:

- assist in the creation of an environment where every junior player has the opportunity to participate appropriately in coaching and matches;
- create and maintain an environment where junior players are free of fear and harassment;
- recognise the rights of all junior players to be treated as individuals.

Relationships with Junior Players

Coaches should:

- develop a working relationship with junior players that is based on mutual trust and respect;
- aim to promote the welfare and best interests of the junior players;
- seek to empower junior players they are working with to be responsible for their own actions and decisions;
- never engage in behaviour that constitutes any form of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional, neglect or bullying);
- never exert undue influence over junior players to obtain personal benefit or reward;
- never condone violations of the laws of cricket, rough play or use of prohibitive substances;
- avoid any form of sexual intimacy with junior players;
- take action if they have a concern about the behaviour of an adult towards a junior player;

Responsibilities – Personal Standards

Coaches:

- should act to promote the Junior Section's ethos at all times when they are working with junior players;
- must be fair, honest and considerate to junior players and their parents or guardians;

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- must be aware of their position as a role model for junior players at all times that they are working with those players and seek to act as a positive role model for junior players at all times; and
- should display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance.

Responsibilities – Professional Standards

Coaches shall:

- provide a safe environment that maximises benefits and minimises risks to junior players in achieving their goals;
- promote the execution of safe and correct practice, appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part;
- be professional and accept responsibility for their actions;
- hold the appropriate, valid qualifications;
- make a commitment to providing a quality service to those junior players they coach;
- follow all guidelines laid down by the ECB and the Club;
- gain ECB coaching qualifications appropriate to the level at which they coach; and
- take responsibility for ensuring that they have been individually checked by the Criminal Records Bureau.

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Photography/Video Policy

The Junior Section is keen to promote positive images of children playing cricket and is not preventing the use of photographic or videoing equipment. However, it recognises that there is evidence that some people have used sporting events as an opportunity to take inappropriate photographs or film footage of children.

The Junior Section, therefore, adheres to the following policy:

Photographs/images are not to be taken at matches or training without the prior permission of the parents/carers of the children who are the subject of any image. This permission can be given by proxy by the coach of each team only after parental consent for this has been granted.

The coach should be aware if parents/carers have given permission for photographs/images to be taken in the player profile form.

The children should, where possible, be informed that a person will be taking photographs and encouraged to report any concerns that they may have about images being taken to the relevant coach or match manager or to the Junior Section Manager or the Club Welfare Officer as appropriate.

Concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography should always be reported to the Club Welfare Officer and recorded in the same manner as any other child protection concern.

If a photograph is published on the Junior Section website or elsewhere by the Club the child/children will not be named.

Images of children in appropriate cricket kit or other clothing only will be used, to reduce the risk of inappropriate use, and to provide positive images of the children.

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Guidelines on Changing Rooms and Showering Facilities

All ECB affiliated cricket clubs must have a Changing Policy, which will be dependent upon the facilities available at the club, the access to those facilities and the number of children involved.

These guidelines apply to adults and children sharing changing facilities when the children play for adult teams within the Club.

- Where possible, adults must not change or shower at the same time using the same facility as children; to help with this guideline it is recommended that children turn up to matches in their whites and also shower/change when they go home;
- If adults and children need to share a changing facility, either at a home or away match, the Club must have consent from the parents that their child(ren) can share a changing room with adults in the club. This consent is given via the player profile form where parents agree to the responsibilities given to them and their children within these Operating Policies and Codes of Conduct;
- Adults should try to change at separate times to children during matches, ie. when padding up.
- If children play for adult teams, they and their parents must be informed of the Clubs policy on changing arrangements.
- Mobile phones must not be used changing rooms.