

Code of Conduct for Bowdon Vale Cricket Club Members and Guests*

1. Code of Conduct and Spirit of Cricket

1.1 Code of Conduct

- 1.1.1 BVCC is committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. This Code of Conduct incorporates the Spirit of Cricket, as set out below.
- 1.1.2 The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of Cricket as well as within the Laws.
- 1.1.3 Players and team officials 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.
- 1.1.4 Players and team officials shall not intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an umpire, another player or a spectator.
- 1.1.5 Players and team officials shall not use crude and/or abusive language (known as "sledging") nor make offensive gestures or hand signals nor deliberately distract an opponent.
- 1.1.6 Foul, abusive, racist, sexist language or behaviour which will cause offence is not to be tolerated.
- 1.1.7 Players and team officials shall not make discriminatory abusive comments nor indulge in racially abusive actions against fellow players, officials, members and supporters.
- 1.1.8 BVCC has zero tolerance of the use or distribution of illegal drugs by its members or any guests on its premises.

1.2 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.

- 1.2.1 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. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.
- 1.2.2 It is against the Spirit of the Game:
 - 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
 - a) Excessive appealing
 - b) advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing
 - c) 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.
 - d) Sledging and intimidation of junior cricketers under the age of 15
- 1.2.3 There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.

1.3 Mobile Phones

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- 1.3.1 Due to the development of cameras in mobile phones it is no longer permitted to allow them on display in the dressing room.
- 1.3.2 During home matches, mobile phones can be locked in the club safe or given to the scorer for safekeeping.
- 1.3.3 During away matches, the Club suggests locking them in a car within view of the ground or giving them to the scorer in a valuables bag for safekeeping.
- 2. **Behaviour which may result in disciplinary action from the Committee.**
 - 2.1 The constitution states "Behaviour which could bring the club or sport into disrepute will bring disciplinary action".
 - 2.2 For clarity, this includes but is not limited to: theft, threatening behaviour, assault, bullying, intentional damage to property or personal belongings, substance abuse, inappropriate use of social media or any illegal activity.
 - 2.3 Failure to have an appropriately MOT'd, taxed and insured vehicle when transporting players to and from matches and training.
 - 2.4 Failure to comply with the provisions of Paragraphs 1 and 2 may lead to disciplinary action.
 - 2.5 See Bowdon Vale Disciplinary Procedure for details.

*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 / officiate in matches hosted by the club in whatever capacity.

By signing the membership application form, you are confirming you are familiar with this Code of Conduct and will adhere to it.

All Members and Guests of *Bowdon Vale 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
- Respect and abide by the decisions of Club Committees, including selection.
- Be vigilant during matches and training sessions to ensure safety of children at all times.
- Promote the positive aspects of cricket e.g. fair play

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- Encourage all participants to learn the laws and rules and play within them, 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 young people above the development of performance
- Ensure that activities are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual
- Respect young people's opinions when making decisions about their participation in cricket
- Not drive or transport people whilst under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Not smoke, drink or use banned substances whilst actively working with young people in the Club.
- Not provide young people 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 young person, following reporting procedures laid down by the ECB
- In addition to the above, all Club Officers and appointed volunteers will:
 - 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)
 - Inform Players and Parents of the requirements of Cricket
 - Know and understand ECB's "Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children" and any other relevant guidelines issued.