



Winscombe Cricket Club

Code of Conduct for Coaches

Note To Coaches:

The following Code of Conduct is a minor adaptation of the Code of Conduct for Sports Coaches drawn up by Sports Coach UK, the National Coaching Foundation. It is this Code that the ECB has adopted and recommends for adoption by ECB accredited coaches in all clubs.

Within the context of Winscombe Cricket Club, the Code is of most relevance in the coaching Youth Players, but coaches should note that it applies equally to all coaching activities, irrespective of age, gender, or any other factor.

Good coaching practice needs to reflect the following key principles:

Rights: *Coaches must respect and champion the rights of every individual to participate in sport*

Issues:	Actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assist in the creation of an environment where every individual has the opportunity to participateCreate and maintain an environment free of fear and harassmentRecognise the right of all cricketers to be treated as individualsRecognise the rights of cricketers to confer with other coaches and expertsPromote the concept of a balanced lifestyle, supporting the well-being of the cricketer in and out of the sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Treat all individuals in cricket with respect at all timesDo not discriminate on the grounds of gender, marital status, race, colour, disability, sexuality, age, occupation, religion or political opinionDo not condone or allow to go unchallenged any form of discriminationDo not publicly criticise or engage in demeaning descriptions of othersBe discrete in any conversations about cricketers, officials, other coaches or any other individualsCommunicate with and provide feedback to athletes in a manner which reflects respect and care

Relationships: *Coaches must develop a relationship with cricketers (and others) based on openness, honesty mutual trust and respect*

Issues:	Actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Coaches must not engage in behaviour that constitutes any form of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional, neglect, bullying)Promote the welfare and best interests of all cricketersAvoid sexual intimacy with cricketers in their charge either while coaching them or in the period of time immediately following the end of the coaching relationshipTake action if there are any concerns about the behaviour of an adult towards a childEmpower athletes to be responsible for their own decisionsClarify the nature of the coaching services being offered to cricketersCommunicate and cooperate with other organisations and individuals in the best interests of cricketers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Be aware of the physical needs of cricketers, especially those still growing. Ensure that training loads and intensities are appropriateEnsure that physical contact is appropriate and necessary, and is carried out within recommended guidelines with the cricketers full consent and approvalDo not engage in any form of sexually related contact with an under age cricketer. This is strictly forbidden, as is sexual innuendo, flirting, or inappropriate gestures and termsInform parents immediately if you are at all concerned about the welfare of a childDiscuss with parents and other interested parties the potential impact of the programme on the cricketerArrange to transfer a cricketer to another coach if it is clear that an intimate relationship is developingKnow and understand the relevant parts of the ECB 'Safe Hands Policy' in this regardFollow the reporting procedures laid out in document QM10-10-070 Child Protection Incident Handling Process if you have any grounds for concern – inaction is simply not acceptableRespect cricketer's opinions when making decisions about their participation in their sportEncourage cricketers to take responsibility for their own development and actionsAllow cricketers to discuss and participate in the decision making processDiscuss and agree with cricketers what information is confidentialInform cricketers and/or their parents of the requirements of the sportInform cricketers and/or their parents of any potential costs involved in accessing the coaching services on offerBe aware of and communicate on any conflict of interest as soon as it becomes apparentDo not work with any other coach's cricketers without first discussing or agreeing it with both the coach and the cricketer involvedIdentify and agree with cricketers which other experts or organisations could offer appropriate services

Responsibilities – personal standards: *Coaches must demonstrate proper personal behaviour and conduct at all times*

Issues:	Actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be fair, honest and considerate to cricketers and others within the sport• Project an image of health, cleanliness and functional efficiency• Be positive role models for athletes at all times	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operate within the rules and spirit of the game of cricket• Educate cricketers on issues relating to the use of performance enhancing drugs in sport and cooperate fully with UK Sport and ECB policies• Maintain the same level of interest and support when a cricketer is sick or injured• Display high standards in use of language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation• Encourage cricketers to display the same qualities• Do not smoke, drink alcohol or use recreational drugs before or while coaching. This reflects a negative image and could compromise the safety of your cricketers• Display control, respect, dignity and professionalism to all involved in cricket

Responsibilities – professional standards: *To maximise benefits and minimise risks to cricketers, coaches must attain a high level of competence through qualifications and a commitment to ongoing training that ensures safe and correct practice*

Issues:	Actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide a safe environment that maximises benefits and minimises risks to cricketers in achieving their goals• Promote the execution of safe and correct practice• Be professional and accept responsibility for their actions• Make a commitment to providing a quality service to their cricketers• Actively promote the positive benefits to society of participation in sport generally, and cricket in particular• Contribute to the development of coaching as a profession by exchanging knowledge and ideas with others• Gain ECB coaching qualifications appropriate to the level at which they coach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow the guidelines of the ECB or employer• Only allow participation if there is no risk to the cricketer• Plan all sessions so they meet the needs of all cricketers and are progressive and appropriate• Maintain appropriate records of your cricketers• Recognise and accept when it is appropriate to refer a cricketer to another coach or specialist• Seek to maintain the highest level of qualification available• Maintain up-to-date knowledge of technical developments in your sport• Maintain up-to-date knowledge and understanding of other issues that might impact upon both you and your cricketers• Be aware of social issues and how cricket can contribute to local, regional or national initiatives• Actively participate in recruitment and education opportunities• Actively contribute to local, regional and national initiatives to improve the standards and quality of coaching, both in cricket and sport in general• Practice in an open and transparent fashion that encourages other coaches to contribute to or learn from your knowledge and experience• Engage in self analysis and reflection to identify your professional needs• Seek continuous development opportunities to develop your coaching skills and update your knowledge• Manage your lifestyle and coaching commitments to avoid burnout that might impair your performance• Do not assume responsibility for any role for which you are not qualified or prepared• Do not misrepresent your level of qualification

Declaration

I have read and understood the above Code of Conduct and agree to abide by its terms. I understand that although this Code is of primary importance, at least within the context of Winscombe CC, during coaching and interactions with Youth Players, it applies equally to cricketers of all ages, genders and abilities.

I understand that serious breaches of this Code of Conduct may result in the Club or the ECB suspending me from active participation in coaching activities. Where Child abuse of any sort is suspected, the Police and Social Services may be involved and criminal proceedings could result.