**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR JUNIORS PLAYERS AND PARENTS/CARERS**

All DCC junior players and their parents or other carers are expected to abide by this code of conduct (as applicable).

The principles that underpin this code of conduct are that:

* the players’ welfare is paramount
* all players, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief or sexual identity have the right to equal opportunities and to feel safe and secure within our playing environment
* all players will be treated fairly and consistently and all decisions made in respect of a player’s participation in any club activity will be made subject to a published selection policy and be subject to a right of appeal
* with rights, come responsibilities. A player must at all times meet their responsibilities
* the Spirit of Cricket must be respected at all times, and
* all players and parents must always represent the club with distinction and parents must not embarrass their child or prejudice their future participation in club activities by their words or action.

DCC junior cricketers agree to:

* make every effort to develop their own skills, technique, tactics and fitness with the aim of reaching their full potential
* give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during games and practice
* set a positive example for others, particularly other players
* play cricket in a competitive manner whilst maintaining the highest standards of sportsmanship
* when selected to participate in club fixtures, attend punctually and behave with self-discipline and give notice and reasons for any absence
* listen to and take on board guidance given by the club coaching and management team and treat the coaches, managers and other officials with respect
* abide by the spirit, as well as the letter, of the laws of cricket
* accept the umpire’s decision at all times and do not show any dissent
* behave and dress in an appropriate manner (both on and off the field) when participating in club activities
* not to take alcohol or tobacco, or any other stimulant or harmful substance, whilst participating in club activities
* accept victory and defeat with dignity and grace
* not use foul and abusive language on or off the field
* treat all players, both team mates and opposition, as you would like to be treated, and with respect
* keep to agreed timings for matches and practice sessions
* respect grounds and pavilions and outdoor net facilities
* leave changing rooms neat and tidy
* avoid all forms of gamesmanship including sledging; and
* thank umpires, tea providers and opponents at the end of matches

We realise the role that parents, guardians and families play in the cricketing development of their children. Each official, as well as each child, is subject to a code of conduct and we expect similar levels of commitment from parents, guardians and other family members. The parental code exists to guide and help parents to give all the young cricketers the best opportunity of succeeding. Accordingly, parents, guardians and families agree to:

* attend matches as often as possible to support your child and the team they are representing
* encourage and help the players to meet targets, including abiding by the player’s code of conduct
* support the players without pressure, praise good work and refrain from criticising lapses;
* set a good example to the players
* demand that your child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, colour, sex/gender or ability
* not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as: booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures
* communicate with your age group manager and age group coach, keeping them informed about matters affecting the player
* avoid going onto the field of play or to give advice about the game to your child at any stage of the game
* not enter the dressing room at any stage of the match except in exceptional circumstances, such as injury, when this may be waived at the discretion and invitation of the coach or manager
* not interfere, unless specifically requested, with the warm up, or comment on involvement of your child, or any other child, in the match, and
* respect the role of the coach and/or manager during or after matches by not giving different advice to that which has been given

Any breach of this code of conduct by a player or parent/carer may lead to a player being warned as to their future conduct (or the conduct of their parent, guardian or family member) or in more serious cases result in the player (or parent, guardian or family members) being suspended or barred from participation in club activities. Any matters regarding to this code should be addressed to the club Safeguarding Officer.

The majority of junior matches are umpired by age group managers and/or parents who are not qualified umpires. During such matches where there are not qualified officials, if there is a disagreement between the teams on the pitch that is proving difficult to smooth over, there should be an attempt to de-escalate and resolve the situation away from the field of play. The argument must not be continued around the junior players. The club expects any such difficult conversation (between any non-qualified umpires, managers and coaches) to be held outside the field. Where an agreement cannot be reached, the club recommends that play is stopped. Under no circumstances, should the umpire, manager or coach automatically replaced by another parent or adult.