



Hartshorne Cricket Club  
**RULES, CODE OF CONDUCT  
& WELFARE FOR YOUNG  
CRICKETERS**



## Amendment Register

Issue level	Section	Page	Reason for change	Authorised
03	All	All	To bring in line with the requirements of ECB Clubmark.	S A Tomlin





## Chairman's Introduction

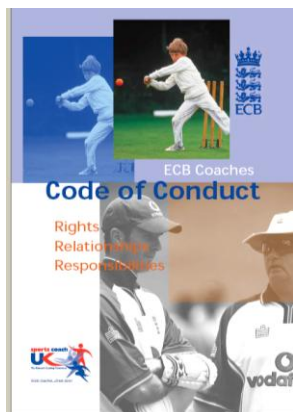
"Welcome to Hartshorne Cricket Club (HCC). The club is a non-profit making club set in rural South Derbyshire and I hope you and your child (or children) will take a supportive role in all our events as well as enjoying playing cricket.

HCC relies on its youth training programme and junior cricket activities to produce the next generation of players and we hope that your child will have a long and happy association with us. You will find that most of our players were trained by the Club and for some the same can be said for many of their parents.

These rules have been produced with the help and advice of the English Cricket Board (ECB), in particular the ECB 'Safe Hands' Policy and the Coaches Code of Conduct, a copy of each can be found in the pavilion at the Rodney Meadows ground. This set of rules and guidelines are aimed at ensuring the safety and welfare of all children taking part in the coaching and playing of the game of cricket. It is essential that you explain these rules to your child and to also discuss what is expected of them so they can obtain the maximum benefit during their time with the Club."

## Keith Winfindale

Chairman of HCC



*Please visit our websites:-*

[www.hartshorne.play-cricket.com](http://www.hartshorne.play-cricket.com)

[www.pitchero.com/clubs/hartshornecricketclub](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/hartshornecricketclub)



## 1.0 General

- 1.1 To meet the requirements defined by legislation and the ECB this document specifies the standards and procedures to be used in the coaching and matches played by young cricketers. These standards and procedures not only apply to managers / coaches but also to parents / guardians / carers and the young players themselves.
- 1.2 The term “young cricketer” and “young players” applies to boys and girls from the age of 5 (five) to 17 (seventeen) years inclusive.
- 1.3 The rules defines here by HCC are not designed to cause any offence but have been produced to ensure that to the best of the Club’s ability the welfare of young cricketers is of paramount concern.
- 1.4 HCC will abide by the ECB child protection policies and procedures, codes of conduct, equal opportunities policy and anti-discrimination policy.
- 1.5 Managers and coaches are entrusted by HCC to educate young cricketers to a consistent cricketing standard.
- 1.6 Player development is paramount and playing for the team to win is the most fundamental part of the game. However, young players will learn that this **does not** mean winning at all costs.
- 1.7 Each team official and players of HCC are subjected to strict codes of conduct and this document is aimed at giving parents / guardians / carers an understanding of these codes and standards. This is to enable parents / guardians / carers to take an active interest and to be involved with their children and the Club.
- 1.8 Parents must fill in a membership form and declaration before a young player can take part in any training activity or game of cricket. These are available from the Club’s Child Welfare Officer (CWO) or Club Secretary (contact details can be found at the rear of this document).
- 1.9 Any matters of concern as to the well-being and/or safety of any young person or any adult in the Club must be reported to the CWO. This includes any assaults, bullying, malicious injury, neglect or verbal abuse.
- 1.10 These rules and codes of conduct cover children from the age of 5 to 17 inclusive. It is expected that parents / guardians / carers explain these rules to their children.
- 1.11 Any matters regarding the content of this document should be referred to the Management Committee of HCC.
- 1.12 In the event of a young player being injured the Manager / Coach will complete an entry in the accident book.
- 1.13 HCC undertakes to vet by the Police (CRB checks) all those applying to the Club to be either a Manager or Coach. The Club Secretary will hold all records returned by the Police.
- 1.14 Any breach of this code will be reported to the Management Committee of HCC at the earliest opportunity. The matter will be recorded and further action will be covered under the rules of the Club.
- 1.15 Where a breach of this code or the integrity of the Club is put into question, the Club may warn as to future conduct, suspend or ban the Manager / Coach from representing HCC.



## 2.0 Parent /Guardians/Carers – Code of Conduct

- 2.1 Parents/guardians/carers (P/G/C's) will be asked to identify ways in which they will support, help and assist in helping their child / children develop their cricket skills.
- 2.2 P/G/C's will be expected to attend as many matches and training sessions of the young players of HCC as possible. The Club cannot function without the help of P/G/C's.
- 2.3 P/G/C's and other family members are not permitted to go to the field of play and are requested not to give advice about the game to their child at any stage of the match or training session.
- 2.4 P/G/C's and other family members / friends are encouraged to support fair play by applauding the opposition as well as HCC, giving attention to each child involved and positively encouraging participation. HCC feel very strongly about maintaining the traditional spirit of the game.
- 2.5 P/G/C's and other family members / friends are not permitted to enter the changing room area at any stage of the match unless any injury occurs to their child that specifically requires attention.
- 2.6 Players are expected to remain with the team for the duration of the match including tea break as this helps to foster team spirit and aids cricket education.
- 2.7 Unless asked to help by one of the Club officials, do not interfere with the warm-ups, or comment on the involvement of your child in the match. All activities are laid down by the ECB guidelines or are part of the match plans.
- 2.8 HCC is unable to provide transport to any matches or other events and request that parents make their own arrangements. It is appreciated that this can cause difficulties at times but it is Club policy and we request that you do not ask Managers or Coaches to assist (please see Managers / Coaches Code of Conduct).
- 2.9 Young players representing HCC are asked to adhere to the dress code, which will be specified by Managers / Coaches.
- 2.10 As P/G/C's, if there are any matters that concern you or your child (cricket otherwise) please speak to the Managers or Coaches.
- 2.11 This Code of Conduct applies to both winter coaching sessions (indoor nets) and the summer match programme and coaching.
- 2.12 **Policy on photography / video** – the Club does not wish to inhibit the opportunity for families to keep a record of their children's cricketing endeavour. In order to follow ECB recommended practice we would ask that family members wishing to take photographs of their children or grandchildren let the team Managers know of their intention to take photographs / video footage and to provide their names to the team Manager. It is the parent's responsibility to inform the Club if they do not wish their child to be photographed and we would ask that all parents complete the 'parental permission form' to indicate their consent or not. This form will be issued with the Membership Application form at the beginning of the season.

At all times we will ensure that the policy is applied in a manner of commonsense and reason.

## 3.0 Young Players Code of Conduct



- 3.1 This Code of Conduct applies to all matches and practices organised through and by HCC for young cricketers and to any other time that players are wearing the Club kit.
- 3.2 The player should make every effort to develop their own sporting abilities, in terms of skill, technique, tactics and stamina.
- 3.3 The player should give maximum effort during training sessions as this is recognised as the quickest and best way to develop. Players should arrive on-time and pay promptly.
- 3.4 The player should give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if his/her team is in a position where the desired result has already been achieved.
- 3.5 The player should avoid all forms of gamesmanship and time wasting; instead set a positive example to others, particularly younger players and supporters.
- 3.6 Foul or abusive language on or off the pitch, intimidation or deliberate distraction of opponents or aggressive behaviour will **NOT** be tolerated.
- 3.7 The player should always have high regard for the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion on the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
- 3.8 The umpire's decision must be accepted at all times and that any show of dissent or disagreement will not be tolerated. The Manager / Coach will, before each match, make the umpires aware of the high standards expected from players of HCC and ask them to report any incident at the earliest opportunity.
- 3.9 Players will also be expected to respect match officials, all coaches, other players, team-mates, opposition players and all supporters.
- 3.10 All local ground regulations and practice rules must be observed at all times and behaviour should be as such as not to cause offence to ground authorities or any other person.
- 3.11 Young players must arrive at and depart from each match dressed as stipulated by the Manager / Coach.
- 3.12 Young players will not be permitted to smoke or drink alcohol whilst representing HCC.
- 3.13 During festivals or tours players must abide by all local rules and curfews. the Manager / Coach has sole responsibility on and off the field and must receive full co-operation from young players and P/G/C's.
- 3.14 Breached of this code will result in disciplinary action being taken against an individual. Sanctions will include verbal warnings, suspensions or a total ban from representing HCC. During festivals or tours young players may be sent home for serious breaches of discipline.

#### **4.0 Safety Guidance on the wearing of Cricket Helmets for young players**





The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has issued safety guidance on the wearing of cricket helmets by young players.

- It is highly recommended that a helmet is worn by young players when batting and when standing up to the stumps when wicket keeping against a hard cricket ball in matches and in practice.
- HCC take the stance that a young player should not be allowed to bat or stand up to the stumps when wicket keeping without a helmet against a hard ball except with written parental consent. Coaches, Managers and umpires should always ensure that a young player wears a helmet if the written parental consent has not been received.
- Players should regard a helmet with a faceguard as a normal item of protective equipment when batting against a hard ball, together with gloves, pads and, for boys, an abdominal protector (box).
- There is a British Standard (BS 7928:1998) for cricket helmets and it is in the best interests of players to ensure that any helmet purchased by P/G/C's for their child meets the requirements of this standard.

#### ECB safety guidance on the wearing of cricket helmets by young players

In February 2010 the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) issued safety guidance on the wearing of helmets by young players up to the age of 18. In brief, the guidance recommends that:

- helmets with a faceguard or grille should be worn when batting against a hard cricket ball in matches and in practice sessions
- young players should regard a helmet with a faceguard as a normal item of protective equipment when batting, together with pads, gloves and, for boys, an abdominal protector (box)
- young wicket keepers should wear a helmet with a faceguard, or a wicketkeeper face protector when standing up to the stumps.

With the assistance of schools, cricket clubs and leagues, the wearing of helmets by young players is now standard practice in cricket throughout England and Wales. Helmets are widely available and are covered by a British Standard (BS7928:1998). A face protector represents an alternative head protection system for young wicket keepers. Face protectors are, at the time of publication of this guidance, a relatively new innovation. Wicketkeeper Face Protectors are covered by a new British Standard (BS 7928 - 2:2009).

The original guidance allowed parents or guardians to give their written consent to allow a young player not to wear a helmet. However now parental consent not to wear a helmet should not be accepted in any form of cricket.

This guidance applies to all players up to the age of 18, both in open age group cricket and in all junior cricket played with a hard cricket ball. The guidance also applies during all practice sessions. Any individual taking responsibility for players should take all reasonable steps to ensure that this guidance is followed at all times.

The ECB asks that the guidance is communicated to the parents or guardians of all young players through clubs and schools, and that young players are not allowed to bat or stand up to the stumps when keeping wicket against a hard ball without wearing appropriate protection.

Section 3 - ECB safety guidance on the wearing of cricket helmets by young players - February 2010

The ECB recommends that this guidance is followed by all players up to the age of 18. It applies to all young cricketers in adult cricket as well as to all junior cricket played with a hard ball.

The ECB requests that the guidance on protective helmets is communicated to the parents / guardians / carers of all young players through clubs and schools, and that parental consent is always obtained before young players are allowed to bat or stand up to the stumps when keeping wicket against a hard ball without wearing a helmet.

## 5.0 Fielding Regulations



- 5.1 No young player in the Under 15 age group or younger shall be allowed to field closer than 8 yards (7.3 metres) from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side, until the batsman has played at the ball.
- 5.2 For players in the Under 13 age group and below the distance is 11 yards (10 metres).
- 5.3 These minimum distances apply even if the fielder is wearing a protective helmet.
- 5.4 Should a young player in these age groups come within the restricted distance the umpire must stop the game immediately and instruct the fielder to move back.
- 5.5 In addition, any young player in the under 16 to under 18 age groups who has not reached the age of 18 must wear a helmet and, for boys, an abdominal protector (box) when fielding within 6 yards (5.5 metres) of the bat, except when behind the wicket on the off side. Players should wear appropriate protective equipment whenever they are fielding in a position where they feel at risk.
- 5.6 These fielding regulations are applicable to all cricket in England and Wales. Age groups are based on the age of the player at midnight on **31<sup>st</sup> August** in the year proceeding the current season.

## 6.0 ECB Fast Bowling Directives

The following directive is taken from the ECB Fast Bowling Directive 2009:-

- 6.1 For the purposes of these directives, a fast bowler is defined as a bowler to whom the wicket keeper in same age group would in normal circumstances stand back to take the ball.
- 6.2 Having completed a spell the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until the equivalent number of overs to the length of his/her spell have been bowled from the same end. A bowler can change ends without ending his current spell provided that he/she bowls the next over that he legally can from the other end. If this does not happen his/her spell is deemed to be concluded. If play is interrupted, for any reason, for less than 40 minutes any spell in progress at the time of the interruption up to the maximum number of overs per spell for the appropriate age group. If the spell is not continued after the interruption the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until the equivalent number of overs to the length of his/her spell before the interruption have been bowled from the same end. If the interruption is of 40 minutes or more, whether scheduled or not, then the bowler can commence a new spell immediately.

### ECB Fast Bowling Directives

The Fast Bowling Directives are designed to raise awareness of the need to nurture and protect our young fast bowlers through their formative years, and have been warmly welcomed by a significant number of coaches and managers. Statistics clearly show that fast bowlers regularly win international matches, and if England is to achieve the vision of becoming the most successful and respected cricket nation, we must make every effort to produce bowlers to reach the goal.

I would like to thank those involved in the development of talented fast bowlers for their observations and constructive feedback regarding the initiative. As coaches we should consider the welfare of the individuals under our supervision, the regulations are designed to minimise the possibility of injury.

The Directives relate to all competitions under the auspices of the ECB at Under 10 level and below as well as all Premier League matches. It should be emphasised that the age of the player is the key criteria, and not the level of cricket being played. The restrictions will be reviewed annually, and the Directives have been amended slightly for the 2010 season in relation to the number of overs to be bowled in matches.

**Mike Gatting**  
 Managing Director of Cricket Partnerships England and Wales Cricket Board



Section 3 - ECB Fast Bowling Directives - December 2009

Age	Max. over per spell	Max. overs per day
Up to 13	4 overs per spell	8 overs per spell
U14, U15	5 overs per spell	10 overs per spell
U16, U17	6 overs per spell	18 overs per spell
U18, U19	7 overs per spell	21 overs per spell

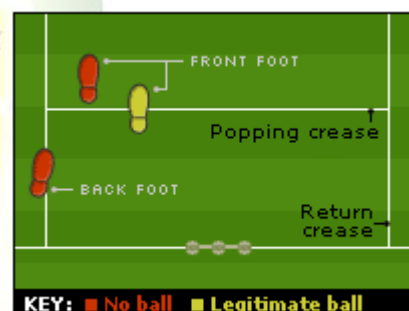




- 6.3 Once a bowler covered by these directives has bowled in a match he/she cannot exceed the maximum number of overs per day for his/her age group, even if he/she subsequently bowls spin. He/she can exceed the maximum the maximum overs per spell if bowling spin, but cannot then revert to bowling fast until an equivalent number of overs to the length of his/her spell have been bowled from the same end. If he/she bowls spin without exceeding the maximum number of overs in a spell the maximum will apply as soon as he/she reverts to bowling fast.
- 6.4 Captains, Team Managers and umpires are asked to ensure that these directives are followed at all times.
- 6.5 Age groups are based on the age of the player at midnight on **31<sup>st</sup> August** in the year proceeding the current season.

## 7.0 No Ball

- 7.1 The first thing to understand is that a batsman cannot be given out off a no ball – unless he is run out. This increases the chance that the batsman will play a riskier scoring shot if a no ball is called.
- 7.2 The bowler's feet must be inside the return crease at the point of delivery and the heel of front foot must not ground past the popping crease as shown in the diagram:
- 7.3 This rule can be difficult to understand so ask your coaches to explain it to you if you are not sure.
- 7.4 A ball bowled from a seam bowler without bouncing, reaching the batsman above waist height, is called a full toss and will be called a no ball.
- 7.5 A slower bowler can bowl a full toss up to shoulder height before being called a no ball.
- 7.6 An illegal action or throw will be called a no ball.
- 7.7 If the ball bounces more than twice, rolls along the ground or stops before reaching the batsman, it will be called a no ball.
- 7.8 If the bowler is bowling dangerously or unfairly (lots of short pitched fast deliveries) a no ball can be called.



## 8.0 Wide Bowling – Judging a Wide

- 8.1 Umpires are instructed to apply a very strict and consistent interpretation in regard to the Law in order to prevent negative bowling wide of the wicket.
- 8.2 As a guide, if the ball passes either side of the wicket sufficiently wide to make it virtually impossible for the striker to hit the ball with his/her bat by means of a 'normal cricket stroke' from both where he/she is standing and from where he/she would be standing in a normal guard position, the Umpire should call and signal 'Wide'.



## 9.0 The Result

- 9.1 A result can be achieved only if both teams have had the opportunity of batting for at least 20 overs, unless one team has been out in less than 20 overs or unless the team batting second scores enough runs to win in less than 20 overs.
- 9.2 All matches in which both teams have not had the opportunity of batting for a minimum of 20 overs (subject to the provisions of this clause) shall be declared 'No Result'.

## 10.0 Code of Conduct and Spirit of Cricket

HCC is committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. This Code of Conduct incorporates the *spirit of cricket*, as set out below. It applies to all matches played under the auspices of the ECB and may be applied to cricket in general.

- 10.1 The Captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of cricket as well as within the Laws.
- 10.2 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 an Umpire at any time.
- 10.3 Players and team officials shall not intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an Umpire, another player or a spectator.
- 10.4 Players and team officials shall not use crude and/or abusive language (known as 'sledging') or make offensive gestures or hand signals nor deliberately distract an opponent.
- 10.5 Players and team officials shall not make racially abusive comments nor indulge in racially abusive actions against fellow players, officials, members and supporters. Clubs must operate an active open door membership policy whilst respecting player qualification regulations and welcome players/members irrespective of ethnic origin.
- 10.6 Players and team officials shall not use or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs.
- 10.7 Clubs must take adequate steps to ensure the good behaviour of their members and supporters towards players and umpires.

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.



## 11.0 Players' Conduct

In the event that any player failing to comply with the instructions of the Umpire, criticising his actions by word or action, showing dissent or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the Umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other Umpire and to the players' captain requesting the latter to take action.

**11.1 Fair and unfair play** – According to the Laws the Umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. The Umpires may intervene at any time and it is the responsibility of the Captain to take action when required.

**11.2 The Umpire is authorised to intervene in the following cases: –**

- Time wasting
- Damaging the pitch
- Intimidatory bowling
- Tampering with the ball
- Any other action that they consider to be unfair.

**11.3 The Spirit of the Game involves respect for**

- Your opponent
- Your own Captain and team
- The role of the Umpires
- The games' traditional values

**11.4 It is against the Spirit of the Game to**

- Dispute an Umpire's decision by word, action or gesture
- Direct abusive language towards an opponent or an Umpire
- Indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, eg, appeal, knowing the batsman is not out, advance towards an Umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing, seeking to distract an opponent either verbally or with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side.

**11.5 Violence** – there is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.

**11.6 Players** – Captains and Umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match and every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.



## Declaration

On behalf of Hartshorne Cricket Club we, the undersigned, will oversee the implementation of the Rules, Code of Conduct and Welfare for Young Cricketers and take all the necessary steps to ensure it is adhered to.

Name: **Keith Winfindale**

Name: **Neil Mawbey**

Position: Club Chairman

Position: Vice-Chairman

Signature:

Signature:

Date:

Date:

Name: **Mark Stone**

Name: **Amy Upton**

Position: Child Welfare Officer /  
Junior Manager

Position: Club Secretary

Signature:

Signature:

Date:

Date:

Name: **Iain Wilkins**

Name: **Steven Tomlin**

Position: Club Captain

Position: U13 / U11 Coaching  
Assistant

Signature:

Signature:

Date:

Date:



## **Contact Information**

### HCC Chairman

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### Child Welfare Officer

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### Club Secretary

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