



VHP Cricket Club

Member Code of Conduct

The image and reputation of the VHP Cricket Club is vital to its ongoing success and reflects the club's standing in the community. Our "Member Code of Conduct" sets the standard of conduct required of our club's members and officials, as representatives of the VHP Cricket Club. Club members and officials are expected to abide by our Member Code of Conduct. As a member or official of the VHP Cricket Club your conduct while representing the club in any capacity must meet the standards set out below.

This document details *General Standards* that apply to all members, regardless of whether the member is a player, official or other member.

The *Player Code of Conduct* details standards that are more specific to players and officials. Any player at VHP Cricket Club must therefore meet both the Member Code of Conduct and Player Code of Conduct standards.

These standards are guidelines only and a Disciplinary Committee of VHP Cricket Club reserves the right to charge a member or official for conduct they believe is outside the spirit of these guidelines - whether it is explicitly covered in the Member Code Of Conduct or not.

General Standards

These are the minimum standards required of all members of the VHP Cricket Club.

1. Unsportsmanlike behaviour is not acceptable.
2. The use of verbal or physical abuse is unacceptable.
3. Members will refrain from any form of harassment including:
 - (a) Harassment of any person with a disability
 - (b) Sexual harassment
 - (c) Racial harassment or vilification.
4. Any member that causes the club to be fined as a result of their behaviour shall be required to compensate the club for the amount of the fine.

- 5.** No Member while representing the club as a player or acting in the official capacity of scorer or umpire, shall drink any type of alcoholic beverage prior to or during the course or at the end of a match.
- 6.** Since VHP has a zero alcohol policy, no one is permitted to consume alcohol while wearing VHP uniform or representing VHP.
- 7.** Members are expected to take pride in our clubrooms and respect the team kit, resources, furniture and fittings. Prior to leaving the clubrooms, members must ensure the area they (or their guest/s) have used is clean and tidy.
- 8.** Members are responsible for the behaviour of any visitor/s they introduce to the club.
- 9.** Coaches and officials of junior teams are expected to support and promote these guidelines to junior cricketers and their supporters.
- 10.** Members are expected to both conduct themselves in an acceptable manner and display responsible behaviour.
- 11.** Members are expected to make umpires, opposition players and officials feel welcome when they are our guests at the end of a day's play.
- 12.** Members are expected to bring snacks/afternoon tea to all games and must share it with the visiting team especially while playing on home ground.
- 13.** Members are expected to respect umpires, opposition players and officials.
- 14.** Members are expected to respect our club officials and other members. One of the important way of showing this respect is by formally and promptly acknowledging emails and messages sent to them.
- 15.** Members are expected to play a part in the operation of the club. Recognitions and Awards will be judged on performance in the games (80% weightage) and the contribution made to running of the club (20% weightage).
- 16.** When in charge of a motor vehicle, members are expected to drive in a sensible and safe manner, especially in the presence of pedestrian traffic.
- 17.** Senior playing members are expected to assist develop junior players, be prepared to attend junior training sessions and matches when called upon.
- 18.** Current members are expected to welcome new members and include the new members in their activities.

Player Code of Conduct

This document details Player and Official Standards that apply to all playing and officiating members - junior and senior. While all playing members and officials must adhere to these standards, the Player and Official Standards detailed here should be read in conjunction with the *Member Code of Conduct*, as both codes apply to playing members and officials.

These standards are guidelines only and a Disciplinary Committee of VHP Cricket Club reserves the right to charge a member or official for conduct they believe is outside the spirit of these guidelines - whether it is explicitly covered in the Member/Player Codes of Conduct or not.

Player / Official Standards - Rules and Guidelines

As a playing member or official of VHP Cricket Club you must adhere to the following Player/Official Standards. Each *Rule* below has a *Guideline*. The guidelines are intended as an illustrative guide only. If there is doubt as to the interpretation of any rule, the provisions of the rule itself shall take precedence over the provisions of the guidelines. Rule interpretations are ultimately decided by the Disciplinary Committee.

Player Specific Rules and Guidelines

Rule	Guideline
Abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings.	Includes actions outside the course of normal cricket play such as deliberately hitting or kicking the wickets and actions which intentionally or negligently result in damage to advertising boards, boundary markers or any part of, or contents of, any building or structure at the ground.
Use language or gestures that offend, insult, humiliate, intimidate or threaten. Use language that is obscene, offensive or insulting and/or the making of obscene gestures of a seriously insulting nature to another player, official or spectator.	This includes swearing and offensive gestures which are not directed at another person such as swearing in frustration at one's own poor play or fortune. The extent to which such behaviour is likely to give offence shall be taken into account when assessing the seriousness of the breach.
Use language or gestures that offend, insult, humiliate, intimidate, threaten, disparage or vilify another person on the basis of that person's race religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin.	This includes mimicking another player with the intention to insult, belittle, denigrate, intimidate, threaten, disparage or vilify them on the basis of that person's race religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin. This includes continuing to make fun of another player even when that person has expressly requested to cease such comments.

Point or gesture towards the pavilion, or behave aggressively or derisively towards either batsman, upon the dismissal of a batsman.

Includes charging or running towards any batsman and getting “in his/her face”.

Threaten to assault another player, umpire, team official or spectator. Engage in inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with other players, umpires or officials in the course of play.

Without limitation, players will breach this rule if they deliberately walk or run into, or shoulder another player, official or match official.

Deliberately and maliciously distract or obstruct another player or official on the field of play.

Players will breach this rule if they deliberately attempt to distract a striker by words or gestures while a bowler is running in, or deliberately shepherd a batsman while running or attempting to run between wickets.

Umpire Specific Rules and Guidelines

Rule	Guideline
Show excessive dissent at an umpire's decision by action or verbal abuse.	Includes excessive, obvious disappointment with any umpires' decision and obvious delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket. <i>This rule does not prohibit a bowler or team Captain involved in the decision from asking an umpire to provide an explanation for a decision. Further, it does not prohibit the Captain from commenting on the umpires' performance in the Captains' Report.</i>
Show serious dissent at an umpire's decision by action or verbal abuse.	Dissent should be classified as serious where the dissent is expressed by a specific action such as the shaking of the head, snatching cap from the umpire, pointing at pad or bat, other displays of anger or abusive language directed at the umpire or excessive delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket. <i>This rule does not prohibit a bowler or team Captain involved in the decision from asking an umpire to provide an explanation for a decision. Further, it does not prohibit the Captain from commenting on the umpires' performance in the Captains' Report.</i>
Engage in excessive appealing.	Excessive shall mean repeated appealing when the bowler/fielder knows the batsman is not out, with the intention of placing the umpire under pressure. <i>This rule is not intended to prevent loud or enthusiastic appealing. However, the practice of celebrating or assuming a dismissal before an umpires' decision may also come within this rule.</i>
Intimidate an umpire whether by language or conduct. Charge or advance towards the umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.	<i>This rule is not intended to prevent loud or enthusiastic appealing. However, a player should not aggressively approach an umpire on appeal.</i>

Players must obey the laws of cricket and play within the ‘spirit of the game’.
The Captain and Coach must use their best efforts to ensure that team members comply with this rule and all above.

Penalties

In the event the Disciplinary Committee decides that any person is guilty of breaching any of the rules of this Player Code of Conduct, they will normally apply a penalty within the normal range of penalties for each level of offence set out in the table below. However, the Disciplinary Committee may also apply any or all of the penalties set out in this section where circumstances require a greater penalty due to:

- The player having been found guilty of a previous offence or offences (whether in this or other competitions) or,
- Where the offence is particularly serious.

When imposing a penalty upon a person who has breached this Player Code of Conduct, the Disciplinary Committee may take into account any circumstance it considers relevant, including:

- The seriousness of the breach;
- The harm caused by the breach;
- The person’s seniority and standing in the game;
- Remorse shown by the person and the prospect of further breaches;
- The person’s prior record; and/or
- The impact of the penalty on the person.

The penalty range below is a guideline only and the Disciplinary Committee may, at its discretion, impose different penalty outcomes and ranges.

Level of Offence	Penalty Range
1	Official reprimand and/or a ban of 1 multi-day match and/or 2 one-day matches
2	Ban of up to 2 multi-day matches and/or 4 one-day matches
3	Ban of up to 4 multi-day matches and/or 8 one-day matches
4	Ban of 5 or more multi-day matches and/or 10 one-day matches or a life ban

Disciplinary Committee of VHP Cricket Club

The disciplinary committee of VHP Cricket Club will consist of

- President of VHP SA and Club President
- Team Captain for the game
- Member Protection Information Officer

- Secretary or Treasurer of VHP SA (optional)

Local Incident Response Team (LIRT)

All approved activities of VHP Cricket Club need to have adopted a common suite of procedures, processes and documentation that will assure the parent body, Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc. (VHP SA) that all such activities adhere to the applicable organisational policies, procedures and practices governing such activities and maintain the standards of behaviour, conduct and performance expected of the participants by VHP SA.

If an issue arises during an event, which cannot be resolved at a later date and immediate assistance is required, the players can contact LIRT.

The LIRT is responsible for responding to incidents in the given order.

1. Captain
2. Vice-Captain
3. MPIO
4. VHP Secretary
5. VHP President

Sanctions

- This process will be led by Team Management who will endeavour to resolve the matter in the interest of team and as amicably as possible.
- In the event of a dispute between Team Management group and players, Club President will make the final decision.
- In an extreme situation where disputes cannot be resolved, the Club President may terminate membership of the player/s.

Good Sports

We are a Level 3 *Good Sports* accredited club.

Sporting clubs such as ours play a significant role in the community and have a responsibility to our members and their families. We have chosen to join over 6,500 clubs across Australia taking part in the Australian Drug Foundation's Good Sports program. Through Good Sports we are committed to having no-alcohol policy and ensuring smoke free areas, which we believe will help us to provide a healthy, safe and family friendly environment.