

THE CODE OF CONDUCT & SPIRIT OF CRICKET

1. West Ilsley cricket Club 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.

2. 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**.

3. **The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the captains** who are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.

4. **Player's conduct** : In the event of a player failing to comply with instructions by an umpire, or criticising by word or action the decision of an umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, and instruct the latter to take action.

5. **The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT** for your opponents – your own captain – the umpires – and the game's traditional values.

6. **It is against the Spirit of the Game** for players and/or team officials:

- (a) to dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture;
- (b) to use crude and/or abusive language or make offensive gestures or hand signals;
- (c) to intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an umpire, another player or a spectator;
- (d) to indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance:
 - (i) to appeal knowing that the batsman is not out
 - (ii) to advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing
 - (iii) to seek to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm or motivation of one's own side.

7. Players and team officials shall not make racially abusive comments nor indulge in racially abusive actions against fellow players, officials, members or supporters. Clubs must operate an active open door membership policy whilst respecting player qualification regulations and welcome players/members irrespective of ethnic origin.

8. Players and team officials shall not use or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs.

9. Clubs must take adequate steps to ensure the good behaviour of their members and supporters towards players and umpires.

10. Captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. **Every player is expected to make an important contribution towards these aims.**