



WSMCC Disciplinary Rules

1. BASIC PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

Weston-super-Mare Cricket Club (WSMCC) shall adopt a Disciplinary Policy in accordance with the current Disciplinary Rules operating within the jurisdiction of the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB), the West of England Premier League (WEPL), Somerset Cricket League (SCL), and Somerset Cricket Board (SCB)

- b)a) _____ These rules shall apply to any cricket match or social event where members of WSMCC are directly representing the Club
- e)b) _____ These rules will also apply to the use of Social Media

WSMCC will fully co-operate with the ECB, WEPL, SCL, SCB or any other League or Competition Committee in respect of reported disciplinary incidents or issues.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

- a) All players, officials and supporters are bound by the Club Disciplinary Rules and shall conduct themselves accordingly.
- b) Unsatisfactory conduct shall include, but not be limited to:
 - Dissent at an umpire's decision or reaction in a provocative or disapproving manner, either verbally, by action or in writing ly, by action or in riting
 - Physical abuse, intimidation, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an umpire, official, player or spectator.
 - The use of crude, foul or abusive language or the making of offensive gestures or hand signals whether directed at an individual or otherwise.
 - Sledging or deliberate distraction of an opponent and persisting appealing in order to pressurise an umpire or opponent.
 - Any form of abuse or discrimination relating to race, religion, creed or any other nature.
 - Wilful damage to property, equipment or playing surface.
 - The use or distribution of illegal drugs or substances.
 - Any cAny conduct considered acceptabl or any other action that is likely to bring the Club or the Game of Cricket into disrepute or prejudice its good name or interests.
 - Repeated infringements of the Spirit of the Game, either by an individual or a team where each infringement in itself does not merit any immediate disciplinary action. Such instances will result in a Disciplinary Hearing and the Captain will be held responsible for the conduct of his team.

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- Unacceptable behaviour, by word or action, at any function organised by the Club.
- Mistreatment or harassment of an individual or group either in person or via electronic equipment including, but not limited to, mobile phones, email and social networking sites.

3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING DISCIPLINE MAINTENANCE OF DISCIPLINE

- a) Club - The Club has the overall responsibility for the behaviour of its members and for maintaining discipline
- b) Captain / Team Manager - The Captain and, in the case of junior teams, the Manager of the team, is responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of the game as well as within the Laws. The Captain or Team Manager can instruct a WSMCC player to leave the field of play and take no further part in the game or make a complaint against a player after the game to the WSMCC Secretary. Failure to take suitable action against an offender may render the Captain or Manager liable to a charge of 'Unsatisfactory Conduct'.
- c) All players, coaches and managers are required to read and understand both these rules, and those rules that apply directly to the League they participate in as ignorance of either will not be accepted in defence.

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4. ACTION TO BE TAKEN FOLLOWING AN INCIDENT

In the event of an incident occurring, WSMCC will instigate an investigation and take appropriate action against offenders, irrespective of whether the incident has been reported to the League. The Captain, Team Manager or officials of WSMCC should forward any complaint against a WSMCC player by the umpires, opposition or spectators to the WSMCC Secretary as soon as possible.

5. PLAYERS

- a) No player who is currently under suspension or involved in uncompleted or unresolved disciplinary action imposed by any other league or member club of another league may play in matches for WSMCC.
- b) WSMCC must endeavour to check the disciplinary record of any player whom they intend to sign from a club in another league.

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- c) WSMCC may refuse to register any player until the Club is satisfied that the player's disciplinary status is acceptable.
- d) Overseas and Contracted Players - Contracted or overseas player are also subject to also subject t the Club Disciplinary Rules.

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6. REPORTING AN INCIDENT

- a) Any complaint about incidents of misconduct or improper behaviour must be notified in writing to the Club Secretary no later than five days following the incident. Any complaints reported outside this time will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Club Chairman. The complaint should be supported with evidence, such as written statements from witnesses and other documents.
- b) Upon receipt of such a complaint, the Club Secretary shall inform the Chair of the Cricket Committee and the member reported and supply a copy of any supporting evidence.

7. CONVENING A DISCIPLINARY HEARING

- a. In the event of the Club receiving notification regarding issues directly relating to an ECB, WEPL or SCL fixtures (both league and cup), the Cricket Committee shall convene a Disciplinary Hearing within 7 days of receipt of the report.
- b. In the event of the Club receiving notification regarding issues directly relating to friendlies or youth fixtures, the Cricket Committee shall convene a Disciplinary Hearing within 7 days of the receipt of the report.
- c. Should any reported incidents relate to players under the age of 18, the WSMCC safeguarding procedure must be implemented, and the parents or guardians must be involved. In the event that the reported incident is not directly related to cricket, the following procedure will still apply.
- d. Both the Complainant (if applicable) and the Respondent shall be invited to present evidence, and it shall be their responsibility to arrange the attendance of witnesses at the Disciplinary Hearing.
- e. The WSMCC Disciplinary Committee can decide to proceed with the hearing unless a valid reason is given for it to be postponed and rearranged.

8. DISCIPLINARY HEARING



- a. The hearing is not a Court of Law but merely an enquiry into the circumstances giving rise to the complaint. No legal representation will be allowed.
- b. The Disciplinary Panel will appoint a Chair prior to the start of the proceedings. The Chair shall appoint one of the members to make a written note of the Disciplinary Hearing. The decision, penalty and other matters arising for determination at the Disciplinary Hearing shall be on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the event of a split decision, the Chair shall have the casting vote.
- c. No person who is connected in any way with the complaint shall be involved in convening or officiating at the Disciplinary Hearing or in an Appeal.
- d. The decision of the Disciplinary Committee shall be given within 24hrs of the Hearing, but ideally will be given before the Hearing is concluded. It will be confirmed in writing as soon as possible thereafter by the Club Secretary and will be put into effect at the date thereof subject to any possible appeal. In the event of an appeal being lodged, the penalty shall be suspended until determination. No further discussion or submissions will be taken at the meeting.

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9. PENALTIES

- a. The Disciplinary Committee shall impose such penalties as they consider appropriate in accordance with the schedule of penalties laid down by the Club from time to time which shall be published. If a member is found guilty of breaching ECB, WEPL, SCL or SCB directives, the WSMCC Disciplinary Committee has the power to endorse the following penalties:
 - Give the member concerned a written warning about their future conduct, and impose a suspended penalty which shall remain in force for a minimum of 12 months
 - Impose an appropriate financial penalty
 - In the case of a player, impose a ban Impose a ban for a number of games* depending on the nature and seriousness of the incident, and referring to the recommendations of the relevant League or Competition. This may also involve a suspended ban which shall remain in force for at least a minimum of 12 months
 - Recommend that at WSMCC Exec should dismiss the member.
- b. WSMCC can reserve the right to take into account the conduct of the member concerned during the three previous seasons.

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*Cancelled fixtures will not count towards any ban being served

10. APPEAL PROCEDURE



- a. The Complainant and the Respondent may appeal the decision of the Disciplinary Committee, within 48hrs of the Hearing providing new evidence is forthcoming. The Club Secretary must receive any new evidence in writing to enable the Disciplinary Committee to decide if an appeal is warranted. If considered not warranted, the initial decision is will be considered final. If considered warranted, the Secretary should set a date for an appeal with 5 days of receiving notification of the appeal. The Disciplinary Appeal Committee shall have the power to accept an appeal out of time only in exceptional circumstances.
- b. Upon receipt of an Appeal, the Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Disciplinary Appeal Committee and give no less than seven days notice to the complainant and the Respondent.
- c. The Appeal is also not a Court of Law and no legal representation shall be allowed. The Disciplinary Appeal Committee shall comprise of five members drawn from the CC and Club Exec Committee, excluding any who comprised the Disciplinary Committee whose decision is under appeal. In the event that there are insufficient qualified persons to sit on the Disciplinary Appeal Committee, the Club may appoint other members of the Club to sit. The Disciplinary Appeal Committee shall nominate one of its members as Chair. The Chair shall appoint one of the members to make a written note of the appeal hearing.
- d. The Disciplinary Appeal Committee shall have the power to uphold or vary the decision and to uphold, increase or decrease the penalties (if any) imposed or to order a fresh hearing.
- e. The decision of the Disciplinary Appeal Committee shall be final and binding on all parties and shall be confirmed in writing by the Club Secretary as soon as possible thereafter.

11. LEAGUE DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

If action is taken by the WEPL or SCL against a WSMCC the Secretary will ensure all procedures are adhered to and will accompany the WSMCC player to a hearing, or appoint a suitable deputy. In the event that a player under the age of 18 is involved in a League Disciplinary Hearing, the Child Welfare Officer will also be expected to attend.

12. NOTIFICATION AND RECORDING OF OFFENCES

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All information relating to Disciplinary matters will be retained by the Club and be available to all Officers of Clubs and Leagues affiliated to the ECB, but covered by GDPR guidelines.

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