



MJCC

**METROPOLITAN JUNIOR
COMMUNITY CRICKET**

Offence and Penalty Guidelines

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Definitions

Cricket Activities refers to playing coaching, scoring, spectating, training, attending committee or other meetings in person or electronically.

Introduction

The following are the appropriate penalties for the breaches of the MJCC Codes of Conduct and breaches of the General Laws, Policies and Spirit of the Game.

Note – The following penalty ranges are only a guide. Investigators, Conduct Panels, Conduct Tribunals and the MJCC Appeal's Board will determine penalties they consider appropriate to the circumstances of the offence.

MJCC Codes of Conduct and Breaches of the General Laws, Policies and Spirit of the Game

The following are the appropriate penalties for the breaches of the MJCC Codes of Conduct and breaches of the General Laws, Policies and Spirit of the Game.

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Scope of Penalties

Penalties imposed by a Conducts Officer, Conducts Commissioner, Conducts Panel, Conducts Tribunal or the MJCC Appeals Board apply to all cricket matches and competitions conducted or participated in by the WACA and its affiliates unless exemptions are specifically described in the penalty outcome.

Guide to Offences and Penalties

Level 1 Offences

The offences set out at 1.1 to 1.6 below are level 1 offences.

Players, officials and spectators must not:

1.1. Abuse cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings.

- Includes actions outside the course of normal cricket actions such as hitting or kicking the wickets and actions, which intentionally or negligently result in damage to the advertising boards, boundary markers or any part of, or contents of, any building or structure at the ground.

1.2. Show dissent at an umpire's decision by action or verbal abuse.

- Includes excessive, obvious disappointment with an umpire's decision or with an umpire making the decision and/or an obvious delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket.
- This rule does not prohibit the bowler involved in the decision or a team captain or coach from asking an umpire to provide an explanation for a decision, or the coach from commenting on the umpires' performance in their captains' report.

Note - Once an explanation is given, discussion shall cease.

1.3. Use language that is obscene, offensive or insulting and/or the making of an obscene gesture.

- 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 to that person shall be considered when assessing the seriousness of the breach.

1.4. 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. It is not intended to prevent loud or enthusiastic appealing. However, the practice of celebrating or assuming a dismissal before the decision has been given may also come within this rule.

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

- Includes charging or running up to the batsman and getting "in his/her face".

1.6. Without limiting any other rule, players, officials and spectators must not at any time engage in unbecoming behaviour.

- This is meant as a rule to deal with situations where the alleged incident is not adequately or clearly covered by the offences set out in rules 1.1 – 1.5.
- Includes minor breaches of the codes of behaviour.

Level 1 Penalties

Level 1 - Official reprimand and/or a suspension of up to 2 weeks of cricket activities.

Level 2 Offences

The offences set out at 2.1 to 2.9 below are level 2 offences.

Players, officials and spectators must not:

2.1. 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 crease.
- This rule does not prohibit the bowler involved in the decision or a team captain or coach from asking an umpire to provide an explanation for a decision, or the captain/coach from commenting on the umpires' performance in their captains' report.

Note - Once an explanation is given, discussion shall cease.

2.2. Engage in inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with other players or officials in the course of play.

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

2.3. Charge or advance towards the umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.

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

This is not intended to replace Law 41.4 and 41.5 of the Laws of Cricket.

- Without limitation, players will breach this rule if they deliberately attempt to distract a striker by words or gestures or deliberately shepherd a batsman while running or attempting to run between wickets.

2.5. Throw the ball at or near a player or official in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner

- This rule will not prohibit a fielder or bowler from returning the ball to the stumps in the normal fashion.

2.6. Use language that is obscene, offensive or of an insulting nature to another player, official or spectator.

- This is language or gestures, which are directed at another person.
- The extent to which such behaviour is likely to give offence to that person shall be considered when assessing the seriousness of the breach.

2.7. Change the condition of the ball in breach of Law 41.3

- Prohibited behaviour includes picking the seam or deliberately throwing the ball into the ground for the purpose of roughening it up and the application of moisture to the ball, other than perspiration and saliva (if permitted under current guidelines).

2.8. Attempt to manipulate the result, performance points or otherwise of a match.

- The coach of any team guilty of such conduct shall be held responsible.
- Prohibited conduct under this rule will include incidents where a team bats in such a way as to either adversely affect its own or improve its opponent's performance points or net run rate.

2.9. Without limiting any other rule, players, officials and spectators must not at any time engage in unbecoming behaviour.

- This is meant as a rule to deal with situations where the alleged incident is not adequately or clearly covered by the offences set out in rules 2.1 – 2.8.
- Includes slightly more serious breaches of the codes of behaviour.

Level 2 Penalties

Level 2 - Suspension of up to 4 weeks of Cricket Activity.

Level 3 Offences

The offences set out at 3.1 to 3.4 below are level 3 offences.

Players, officials and spectators must not:

3.1. (Attempt to) Intimidate an umpire whether by language or conduct.

- Includes appealing in an aggressive or threatening manner.

3.2. Threaten to assault another player, team official or spectator.

3.3. Use language or gestures that offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates or threatens another person.

3.4. Without limiting any other rule, players, officials and spectators must not at any time engage in unbecoming behaviour.

- This is meant as a rule to deal with situations where the alleged incident is not adequately or clearly covered by the offences set out in rules 3.1 – 3.3.
- Includes serious or repeated breaches of the codes of behaviour.

Level 3 Penalties

Level 3 - Suspension of up to 8 weeks of Cricket Activities.

Level 4 Offences

The offences set out in 4.1 to 4.6 below are level 4 offences.

Players, officials and spectators must not:

- 4.1. Threaten to assault an umpire or referee.**
- 4.2. Physically assault another player, umpire, referee, team official or spectator.**
- 4.3. Engage in any act of violence on the field of play.**
- 4.4. Use language or gestures that seriously offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person based on that person's race, religion, colour, nationality, sexuality or ethnic origin.**
- 4.5. Players and match officials must obey the Laws of Cricket and play within the spirit of the game. The captain, team coach, and club must use their best efforts to ensure that their team and individual members of the team comply with this rule.**

- This is meant as a rule to deal with situations where the facts of or the gravity or seriousness of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by the offences set out in offences 1-4 (inclusive).
- Conduct which will be prohibited under the clause includes time wasting and any other conduct which is considered "unfair play" under Law 41 of the Laws of Cricket.
- This rule is not intended to punish unintentional breaches of the Laws of Cricket or MJCC Rules and playing conditions.
- Reference may be made to any statement or explanation of the Spirit of Cricket published in conjunction with the Laws of Cricket.
- Nothing in this Rule alters the onus on the club, captain, coach or team official to ensure that the Spirit of the Game is adhered to as stated and defined in the preamble to the Laws of Cricket.

- 4.6. Without limiting any other rule, players, officials and spectators must not at any time engage in unbecoming behaviour that could bring the game of cricket into disrepute or be harmful to the interests of cricket.**

- This is meant as a rule to deal with situations where the facts of or the gravity or seriousness of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by the offences set out in offences 4.1 - 4.5.
- It is intended to include serious acts of misconduct, unruly behaviour, cheating during play, smoking on the field, drinking during the match and playing whilst under suspension.

Level 4 Penalties

Level 4 - Suspension of up to 10 weeks of Cricket Activity. Multiple years or a life suspension from specific Cricket Activity. Club fines or disaffiliation.