

# MML

## Code of conduct

This COC is not exhaustive; it is an attempt to show you the guidelines within which we expect you to play the game. Taken and adapted from the ICC code of conduct, changed to suit the form of game we play.

**Level 1 Offence:** Penalty for a Level 1 Offence shall be an official reprimand and or monetary fine.

1.1 Abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings. This 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 fences, dressing room doors, mirrors, windows and other fixtures and fittings.

1.2 Showing dissent at an umpire's decision by action or verbal abuse. This includes excessive, obvious disappointment with an umpire's decision or with an umpire making the decision, obvious delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket.

1.3 Using language that is obscene, offensive or insulting and/or the making an obscene gesture. This includes swearing and obscene gestures which are not directed at another person such as swearing in frustration at one's own poor play or fortune. This offence is not intended to penalize trivial behavior. The extent to which such behavior is likely to give offence shall be taken into account when assessing the seriousness of the breach.

1.4 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 a dismissal before the decision has been given may also constitute excessive appealing.

1.5 Pointing or gesturing towards the pavilion in an aggressive manner by a bowler or other member of the fielding side upon the dismissal of a batsman.

**Level 2 Offence:** Penalty for a Level 2 Offence shall be 1 league game ban.

2.1 Repeat of any Level 1 offence anytime during the season.

2.2 Showing 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 umpire, pointing at pad or inside edge, other displays of anger or abusive language directed at the umpire or excessive delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket.

2.3 Inappropriate and deliberate physical contact between Players in the course of play. Without limitation, players will breach this regulation if they deliberately walk or run into or shoulder another player.

2.4 Charging or advancing towards the umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.

2.5 Deliberate and malicious distraction or obstruction on the field of play.

2.6 Throwing the ball at or near a Player, umpire or official in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner. This regulation will not prohibit a fielder or bowler from returning the ball to the stumps in the normal fashion.

2.7 Using language that is obscene, offensive or of a generally insulting nature to another Player, umpire, Referee, Team Official or spectator. (It is acknowledged that there will be verbal exchanges between Players in the course of play. Rather than seeking to eliminate these exchanges entirely, umpires may look to lay charges when this falls below an acceptable standard. In this instance, language will be interpreted to include gestures). This is any language or gesture which is directed at another person or persons. In exercising his judgment as to whether the behavior has fallen below an acceptable standard, the umpire seeking to lay a charge shall be required to take into account the context of the particular situation and whether the words or gesture are likely to:

- be regarded as obscene; or
- give offence; or
- insult another person.

This offence is not intended to penalize trivial behavior. The extent to which such behavior is likely to give offence shall be taken into account when assessing the seriousness of the breach.

2.8 Changing the condition of the ball in breach of Law 42.3 as read with the Standard Test Match and ODI Playing Conditions clause 42.1 (this supplements and does not replace the provisions of the Laws and Playing Conditions) Deliberately throwing the ball into ground for the purpose of roughening it up and the application of moisture to the ball save for perspiration and saliva shall not be permitted.

2.9 Any attempt to manipulate a match in regard to the result, net run rate, bonus points or otherwise. The Captain shall be held responsible.

**Level 3 Offence:** Penalty for this shall be a ban from league for 4 games.

3.1 Repeat of any Level 2 offence anytime during the season.

3.2 Intimidation of an umpire or Referee whether by language or conduct. This includes appealing in an aggressive or threatening manner.

3.3 Threat of assault on another Player, Team Official or spectator.

3.4 Using any language or gesture that offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, gender, color, descent or national or ethnic origin. In assessing the seriousness of a breach the degree to which the behavior was likely to give offence (to the ordinary person) and whether it was directed specifically towards any person or persons shall be taken into account.

**Level 4 Offence:** Penalty for this shall be a ban of between 5 and 10 league matches up to a life ban for the Player or Official concerned and or ban on a club from participation in the league till further notice.

4.1 Repeat of any Level 3 offence anytime during the season.

4.2 Threat of assault on an umpire or Referee.

4.3 Physical assault on another Player, umpire, Referee, official or spectator.

4.4 Any act of violence on the field of play.

4.5 Using any language or gesture that seriously offends, insults, humiliates, another person on the basis of that person's race..... See comments under 3.4 above in relation to the seriousness of the breach.

## **Clause C1**

Conduct Contrary to the Spirit of the Game

This is meant as a general catch all clauses. Conduct which will be prohibited under the clause includes using an illegal bat or illegal wicket keeping gloves, time wasting, cheating during play (includes deliberate attempts to mislead the umpire), failure to comply with the provisions of clause 7.1 of the Standard Playing Conditions and any conduct which is considered "unfair play" under Law 42.

## **Clause C2**

Conduct unbecoming their status or which brings the game into disrepute.

This is another catch all clause and is intended to include serious or repeated criminal conduct, public acts of misconduct, unruly public behavior and inappropriate public comment which falls outside of Clauses CC 1.7 and 2.4 and which is detrimental to the interests of the game. In this respect any comment which denigrates another member country or another player, official, umpire or referee shall be prohibited under this regulation.

## Notes

5.1 Where the facts of or the gravity or seriousness of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, the person laying the charge may allege one of the following offences

(A) breach of Rule C1 - conduct contrary to the spirit of the game; or (B) breach of Rule C2 - conduct that brings the game into disrepute

The person laying such a charge must specify the level of breach to accompany the charge: for example, "conduct contrary to the spirit of the game – Level 2" or "conduct that brings the game into disrepute – Level 1".

5.2 In deciding penalty, the committee is entitled to and should take into account the prior record of the person charged.

5.3 If damage has been caused to any property, the adjudicator may order compensation to the aggrieved party as part of the penalty.

5.4 Where there are separate incidents in the course of the match, the umpire should lay separate charges. If the adjudicator finds the person charged to be guilty of more than one offence, he should impose separate penalties in respect of each offence. Penalties in such cases are cumulative and not concurrent.

5.5 Plea bargaining is not permitted. It is open to the adjudicator to find a Player guilty of an offence in a level lower than that in which he is charged where the constituent elements of the lesser offence are the same. For example, if a Player is charged with serious dissent under clause CC2.2, it is open to the adjudicator to find the Player guilty under clause CC1.3 of dissent rather than serious dissent.

5.6 Nothing in this Code of Conduct alters the onus on the Captain to ensure that the Spirit of the Game is adhered to as stated and defined in the preamble to the Laws of Cricket.