

# BAY OF PLENTY CRICKET ASSOCIATION

## CODE OF CONDUCT - PLAYERS AND TEAM OFFICIALS

### GAMES OFFICIATED BY AN OFFICIAL UMPIRE/UMPIRES APPOINTED BY BOPCA.

(Revision 1 – 11 March 2019)

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Code of Conduct (“Code”) shall apply to all matches and competitions subject to the Bay of Plenty Cricket Association (“BOPCA”) playing conditions, including all school matches, all Junior and Senior Grade Club and all Age Group and Senior Representative matches, officiated by an official umpire / umpires that are appointed by the BOPCA.

#### 2. Rules of the Code

- 2.1 Players and Team Officials must not indulge in unacceptable behaviour on any part of a cricket ground, including the field of play, clubrooms, changing rooms and their immediate surrounds.
- 2.2 The document “Examples of Player Conduct Offences” sets out a non-exhaustive list of unacceptable behaviour. The conduct described, if committed by a Player and/or Team Official shall amount to an offence by such Player and/or Team Official under this Code. The “Examples of Player Conduct Offences” have been provided as guidance as to the nature of conduct that might fall within a particular rule and are not a limiting list of conduct prohibited by such rule. This list is kept current on the BOPCA website.

#### 3. For the purpose of this code:

- 3.1 The “Commissioner” is independent and is appointed by New Zealand Cricket. The name of the Commissioner will be kept current on the BOPCA website.
- 3.2 “Disciplinary Committee” The BOPCA Board will appoint a Disciplinary Committee each season and for the purpose of reporting any breaches of the Code of Conduct (“Code”).
- 3.3 “Team Official(s)” shall include without limitation any Team Coach, Team Manager, Team Umpire or Team Scorer appointed by a School, Club or BOPCA to coach, manage, umpire and/or score a team or any other person holding an official position within cricket .
- 3.4 “Official Umpire” is an umpire or umpires that have passed at least the Level 2 Cricket Umpiring Certificate and are officially appointed by the BOPCA
- 3.5 “Working Day” means a day of the week other than:

- (i) Saturday, Sunday, Waitangi Day, Auckland Anniversary Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Labour Day and:
- (ii) A day in the period commencing with the 25<sup>th</sup> day of December in any year and ending with the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January in the following year (inclusive).

#### 4. Eligibility to lodge a report

4.1 An alleged breach of this Code may be reported by:

- (a) An Official Umpire.
- (b) The Chairman of the BOPCA; or
- (c) A BOPCA Board Member; or
- (d) A Team Official involved in the match; or
- (e) A Committee or Executive member of either School or Club involved in the match.

4.2 No alleged breach of this Code shall be reported by any of the persons referred to in 4.1 (b) to (e) above unless they have first consulted with one of the Official Umpire, in respect to any behaviour that is alleged to have breached his Code.

#### 5. Reports Procedure

5.1 A verbal notification of disciplinary action must be made by an Official Umpire, that was officiating the game, within 2 hours of the end of the game.

5.2 All reports of an alleged breach or breaches of the Code must be in writing on the form attached to this code or substantially in compliance with such form, stating the level of offending alleged

5.3 The form shall be submitted to the BOPCA within 2 days of the completed match. The BOPCA contact details for submitting the form is on the BOPCA website.

5.4 The report shall describe the alleged conduct in terms of the “Examples of Player Conduct Offences” that sets out a non-exhaustive list of unacceptable behaviour. This list is kept current on the BOPCA website.

5.5 The BOPCA will forward the report to the Commissioner and before the hearing the Commissioner will forward the report to the Player and/or the Team Official reported.

5.6 Upon the receipt the Commissioner will arrange a hearing that will take place before 7.00pm on the Friday following the lodging of the report.

5.7 If the subject of the report is unable to attend the hearing, the hearing will be postponed until such time as they can attend. Until the hearing occurs the subject shall be ineligible to play or be involved in any match under the jurisdiction of the BOPCA.

- 5.8 The Commissioner alone will hear and decide on the report in a manner which accords with the principles of natural justice and which best ensures the fair and prompt determination of the alleged breach of this Code.
- 5.9 The Commissioner must communicate the decision orally at the conclusion of the hearing and must deliver a written decision with full reasons for the decision within 72 hours of the decision being orally communicated.
- 5.10 The Commissioner will ensure that the written decision will be forward to:
- (a) The Player and/or Team Official.
  - (b) The initiator of the report.
  - (c) The School and/or Club of the Player/Team Official reported and the BOPCA Board.
6. Appeals Procedure
- 6.1 Where a Player and/or Team Official wishes to appeal against the decision of the Commissioner in relation to any alleged breach of this Code, an appeal must be lodged in writing with the Commissioner within 72 hours of the written decision being provided to the School or Club of the Player and/or Team Official concerned. The appeal shall record in full the basis of the appeal.
- 6.2 The Commissioner will immediately on receipt of the appeal advise the initiator of the report and all of the BOPCA Disciplinary Committee.
- 6.3 The BOPCA Disciplinary Committee will hear and decide on the appeal within 3 working days following the receipt of the appeal, in a manner which accords with the principals of natural justice and which best ensures the fair and prompt determination of the appeal. In determining any appeal the BOPCA Board Disciplinary Committee may set aside, reduce, vary or increase any penalty.
- 6.4 If the initial penalty involved a suspension, the subject of the appeal shall be ineligible to play or be involved in any match under the jurisdiction of the BOPCA pending the outcome of the appeal.
- 6.5 The decision of the BOPCA Disciplinary Committee shall be communicated to all those persons with an interest. No one shall be entitled to make any comment in relation to any such decision unless and until the person reported has been advised of the decision.
- 6.6 There shall be no right of appeal from a decision of the BOPCA Disciplinary Committee.
- 6.7 In respect of media reports, only the CEO or Chairman of the BOPCA Board are authorised to notify the media of a report or a decision and any information regarding that process.

## 7. Penalties

- 7.1 Where a Player and/or Team Official has been found in breach of this Code, a penalty or any combination of penalties may be pursuant to this Code.
- 7.2 The penalties that may be imposed are at ascending levels 1, 2, 3, 4.  
The levels are to guide those making the reports, the disciplinary process and to assist Players and Team Officials understand how the Code applies.  
  
Level 1 - the indicative entry level is a written censure and/or suspension.  
Level 2 - the indicative entry level is suspension for at least one playing day.  
Level 3 - the indicative entry level is suspension for at least two playing days.  
Level 4 - the indicative entry level is suspension for an extended period.
- 7.3 Mitigating and aggravating circumstances will be brought to account in determining the Level and the penalty.
- 7.4 Mitigating circumstances may include, without limitation, contrition, apology, good record and the circumstances in which the breach occurred.
- 7.5 Aggravating circumstances may include, without limitation, the fact that a Player and/or Team Official is a repeat offender, refusal to acknowledge a breach or ignoring the umpires warning.
- 7.6 Suspension is intended to have increasing effect through Levels 2, 3, and 4 breaches.
- 7.7 The Commissioner and the BOPCA Disciplinary Committee retains an overall discretion and will endeavour to achieve consistency in their decisions.