Coaches & Team Managers Code of Behaviour

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Coaches & Team Managers Code of Behaviour is to establish the standards expected of coaches and team managers representing Everton Districts Cricket Club.

Coaches and team managers play an important role in creating a positive cricket environment where players can enjoy the game, develop their skills and learn the values of teamwork, respect and good sportsmanship.

For junior cricket in particular, player enjoyment, development and participation should remain central to the way teams are coached and managed.

2. Scope

This Code applies to all coaches, assistant coaches and team managers representing Everton Districts Cricket Club during matches, training sessions and other club or cricket-related activities.

Coaches and team managers must also comply with the broader EDCC Code of Conduct, applicable competition requirements and other relevant club policies.

3. Policy

3.1. Player Enjoyment and Development

Coaches and team managers are expected to support a positive team environment in which players can enjoy cricket, participate and develop their skills.

Coaches have primary responsibility for cricket instruction and player development, while team managers support the effective organisation and administration of the team.

3.2. Respectful Coaching

Coaches must:

- Treat all players with respect.
- Never ridicule, belittle or yell at a player for making a mistake or losing a match.
- Provide feedback and instruction in a constructive and age-appropriate manner.
- Encourage players to support their teammates regardless of ability or performance.

- Maintain appropriate boundaries and conduct when working with junior players.

3.3. Fair Participation

Coaches are expected to:

- Provide players with fair and meaningful opportunities to participate and develop.
- Avoid consistently favouring stronger or more experienced players at the expense of others.
- Consider player development, safety, ability and applicable competition requirements when making decisions about participation and playing opportunities.
- Provide encouragement and development opportunities to all players.

3.4. Rules and Spirit of Cricket

Coaches are expected to:

- Teach and reinforce the rules and spirit of cricket.
- Encourage players to demonstrate honesty, fairness and good sportsmanship.
- Promote respect for opposition players, coaches and supporters.
- Encourage players to acknowledge good cricket by both teams.
- Not encourage or tolerate sledging, intimidation, abuse or deliberate unsporting behaviour.

3.5. Respect for Officials

Coaches must:

- Respect the decisions and responsibilities of umpires, scorers and other match officials.
- Encourage players to demonstrate the same respect.
- Not publicly abuse, ridicule or question the honesty or integrity of an official.
- Raise legitimate concerns respectfully and through the appropriate match or competition process.

3.6. Player Safety and Wellbeing

Coaches are expected to:

- Place player safety and wellbeing ahead of competitive outcomes.
- Conduct training and match activities in a manner appropriate to the age and capability of players.
- Respond appropriately to injuries, unsafe conditions or other wellbeing concerns.
- Follow applicable EDCC child safety, welfare and safeguarding requirements.

- Escalate significant safety or wellbeing concerns through the appropriate EDCC or external reporting pathway.

3.6.1. Blue Card Requirements

All coaches, assistant coaches and team managers involved in EDCC junior cricket are required to hold a current Queensland Blue Card and have their Blue Card linked to Everton Districts Cricket Club before undertaking their role.

This is an EDCC requirement and applies regardless of whether the person's own child participates in the team or activity.

Coaches and team managers must maintain a valid Blue Card for the duration of their appointment and notify EDCC if their eligibility or Blue Card status changes.

3.7. Leading by Example

Coaches are expected to demonstrate the behaviour they expect from their players.

This includes:

- Communicating respectfully with players, parents, officials, opposition teams and other volunteers.
- Managing disagreements calmly and appropriately.
- Supporting decisions made in the best interests of the team and club.
- Representing Everton Districts Cricket Club positively at training, matches and club activities.

3.8. Breaches of this Code

Concerns regarding coaching behaviour may be raised with an appropriate EDCC Committee member.

Significant or repeated breaches may be referred to the EDCC Committee and addressed in accordance with the club's Code of Conduct, rules, policies and applicable competition requirements.

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1. EDCC Committee

- Approve this policy and any material changes to it.
- Ensure the policy remains appropriate for the club and is reviewed when required.
- Support consistent application of the policy across Everton Districts Cricket Club.

- Address significant breaches or concerns in accordance with the club's rules, policies and procedures.

4.2. Coaches and Team Managers

- Understand and comply with this Code while undertaking their EDCC role.
- Promote and reinforce appropriate behaviour within their team.
- Work together to support a positive, organised and respectful environment for players and families.
- Place player safety and wellbeing ahead of competitive outcomes.
- Raise concerns or seek guidance from an appropriate EDCC Committee member where required.