Code of Conduct

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to establish the standards of behaviour expected of people participating in or representing Everton Districts Cricket Club (EDCC).

EDCC is committed to providing a safe, respectful, inclusive and enjoyable cricket environment and to promoting sportsmanship, fair play and behaviour consistent with the spirit of cricket.

This Code supports clear and consistent expectations for behaviour both on and off the field and helps protect the reputation, safety and community values of the club.

2. Scope

This Code applies to EDCC players, coaches, team managers, officials, volunteers, Committee members and other members when participating in, attending or representing the club in cricket or club-related activities.

Where relevant, the behavioural expectations of this Code also extend to interactions with opposition players and officials, spectators, other cricket clubs, associations and members of the wider community.

Separate codes or requirements may apply to parents, guardians and spectators where these have been adopted by EDCC or a governing cricket body.

3. Policy

3.1. General Expectations

EDCC expects everyone covered by this Code to behave in a manner that reflects positively on the club and the wider cricket community.

Behaviour must be consistent with applicable laws, competition requirements, EDCC policies and the standards and expectations of relevant cricket governing bodies.

Competitive and committed cricket is encouraged, but competition must never be used to justify behaviour that is abusive, discriminatory, intimidating, unsafe or contrary to the spirit of the game.

3.2. On-field Behaviour

Players and team officials are expected to:

- Play within the laws and spirit of cricket.
- Respect umpires and accept their decisions appropriately.

- Treat teammates, opposition players, officials and spectators with respect.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship in victory and defeat.
- Avoid abusive, threatening, discriminatory or intimidating language or behaviour.
- Avoid behaviour that could reasonably damage the reputation of EDCC or the game of cricket.
- Comply with applicable competition rules and codes of behaviour.

3.3. Off-field Behaviour

Expected standards of behaviour are not limited to players taking part in a match.

People representing EDCC at training, club functions, meetings, social events, representative activities or other club-related events are expected to behave in a manner consistent with this Code.

This also applies where a person's connection with EDCC is reasonably apparent and their conduct could materially affect the club, its members or its reputation.

3.4. Respect for People

Everyone participating in or representing EDCC must treat others with dignity and respect.

EDCC does not tolerate behaviour including:

- Violence, threats or physical assault.
- Sexual harassment or sexual misconduct.
- Bullying, harassment or intimidation.
- Racism, racial vilification or other discriminatory behaviour.
- Abusive, insulting or seriously defamatory conduct directed at another person.
- Behaviour that creates an unsafe or seriously hostile environment for others.

Concerns involving immediate safety or potentially unlawful conduct should be referred to the appropriate authorities where necessary in addition to any action taken by EDCC.

3.5. Respect of Property and Facilities

EDCC members and representatives are expected to respect club facilities and the property of others.

This includes:

- EDCC grounds, change rooms, clubhouse facilities, equipment and common areas.
- Facilities and equipment belonging to opposition clubs, associations, councils or other organisations.

- Personal property belonging to players, officials, volunteers, visitors or members of the community.

Facilities and equipment should be used appropriately and, as reasonably practicable, left in the condition in which they were found.

Damage, hazards or other property concerns should be reported to an EDCC Committee member as soon as practicable.

3.6. Alcohol and Drugs

EDCC supports the responsible consumption of alcohol and expects members and visitors to comply with applicable laws, licence requirements and club rules.

People consuming alcohol at an EDCC function or while representing the club are expected to behave responsibly and must not allow alcohol consumption to contribute to unsafe, abusive, disruptive or otherwise unacceptable behaviour.

EDCC may refuse the service of alcohol where required or appropriate and may take action where alcohol-related behaviour breaches this Code.

Players must not consume alcohol while participating in a match.

EDCC does not condone the possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs at club premises, club functions or while participating in activities as an EDCC representative. Suspected breaches may be referred to the EDCC Committee and, where appropriate, relevant authorities.

3.7. Breaches of the Code

A suspected breach of this Code may be referred to the EDCC Committee for consideration.

The person concerned should be given a reasonable opportunity to understand the concern and provide their response before a decision is made, except where immediate interim action is reasonably necessary to protect safety or the interests of the club.

Depending on the nature and seriousness of the matter, the EDCC Committee may determine an appropriate response in accordance with the club's constitution, rules, competition requirements and applicable policies or procedures.

Where appropriate, EDCC may also refer matters to the relevant cricket association, governing body or external authority.

3.8. Raising Concerns and Grievances

Concerns should generally be raised with the most appropriate person involved in the relevant activity, such as a coach, team manager, captain or Committee member.

Where a matter cannot be appropriately resolved at that level, or where the nature of the concern makes that inappropriate, it may be referred directly to the EDCC Committee.

Matters involving safety, child protection, serious misconduct or potentially unlawful behaviour should be escalated immediately through the appropriate pathway rather than relying on informal resolution.

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. Members and Participants

- Understand and comply with this policy where it applies to their role or participation in club activities.
- Seek clarification from the EDCC Committee where the requirements of this policy are unclear.
- Raise suspected breaches, concerns or opportunities for improvement with an appropriate Committee member.