



THE TRADITIONS AND ETIQUETTE OF CRICKET

Cricket East believes it is vital to maintain and in some cases, recapture the spirit and traditions in which cricket is played. The values of honesty, fair play, respect for others, accepting the umpire's decision, courtesy and self-discipline are enshrined in the game and the ECB Code of Conduct and Spirit of the Game documents.

Coaches, captains, players and administrators have responsibility for upholding these traditional values, which make cricket such a great game.

The following should be observed in all Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire cricket games:

Fieldsmen

- Enter the field of play after the umpires
- The captain should lead the team onto the field
- Between deliveries keep an eye on the captain for a possible change of position
- Keep position, don't stray
- Remember your position for each bowler and each batsman
- Get the ball back to the bowler promptly
- Do not engage in unnecessary comments or actions in the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of your team
- Do not engage in frivolous appealing
- Only players in line with wickets should appeal
- Do not charge umpire when appealing
- Indicate immediately if you have not completed a fair catch
- Do not engage in chatter or movement likely to distract the batsman
- Do not engage in any form of sledging
- Always signal to the umpire when the ball reaches the boundary
- Do not sit on the ground – even if it is a break for drinks or a wicket has fallen
- Avoid walking on the pitch
- Acknowledge a 50 and or 100 scored by a batsman
- Acknowledge a bowler's good performance by allowing him/her to lead the side from the pitch – clap him/her off the field.

Bowlers

- Always say "thank you" to the umpire when passing to him, or receiving from him, your hat and/or jumper – never throw them or leave them on the stumps or on the ground
- Always accept the umpire's decision
- If questioning the umpire on a point, do it calmly and politely – accept his response
- If the non-striker is leaving his crease early, advise the umpire and player calmly and politely

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- Apologise to the batsman immediately if a high full-pitched delivery accidentally slips out
- Do not engage in any form of sledging
- Be ready to bowl promptly
- Do not tamper with the ball – you may clean it in sight of the umpire
- Unless fielding the ball do not move so as to hamper the batsman's normal running route.

Batsmen

- Enter the field of play after the fielding side
- When asking for 'guard' say "please"
- Always be ready to receive the ball when the bowler is ready to start his/her runup
- Apologise if for some reason, such as adjustment to equipment, you have cause to make the bowler wait
- Accept the umpire's decision – when given out walk immediately without any show of emotion
- Do not engage in comments or gestures likely to cause conflict with the bowler or fieldsmen
- As the incoming batsman, cross the outgoing batsman on the field of play
- Always have clothing and equipment and fully adjusted so as not to cause delays when you are the incoming batsman
- When taking runs always run to the side of the pitch
- Acknowledge 50s and/or 100s by raising your bat

General

- Show respect for your captain, team-mates, coach, opponents, umpires, your county and the game's traditional values
- Do not be arrogant in victory nor surly in defeat
- When the 'home' team, create a hospitable environment for opponents and umpires
- Put team interests above your own
- Show self-discipline on and off the field
- Look the part – clothing should be clean, tidy and properly worn. Ensure that you have the appropriate clothing available, e.g. county shirt, sweater, cap, tracksuit etc. for both matches, warm-ups and practice
- Show appreciation of the efforts of workers within the game – be courteous to and thank catering staff, ground staff and club officials
- Always be punctual for matches and training sessions; apologise if for any reason you are delayed
- At the end of the match, applaud opposition from the field, shake hands with opponents and thank the umpires. Captains shake umpires' hand



- After the day's play, participate in social interaction with team-mates, opponents and umpires (it is amazing how much you can learn about the game on such occasions)
- Take the opportunity to form new friendships and acquaintances.

ENJOY THE GAME – IT'S FUN

If you can observe and practise all the above you will gain maximum enjoyment from this great game and make it equally enjoyable for the other participants. You will also have made a significant contribution to the maintenance of the spirit and traditions of the game and its long-term appeal and existence.