



**Hertfordshire
Cricket**

BRINGING CRICKET TO LIFE

PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

Player / Parent

Handbook

2023 – 2024

HERTFORDSHIRE CRICKET

Hertfordshire Cricket comprises of Hertfordshire Cricket Limited (HCL), Hertfordshire County Cricket Association (HCCA) and Hertfordshire County Cricket Club (HCCC) and is the governing body for ALL cricket within the County of Hertfordshire. We enjoy a reputation as a forward-thinking Cricket Board and our aim is to give every player in Hertfordshire the opportunity to develop their cricket so that he, she or they can play to their greatest potential by providing the highest level of support and coaching to all our players.

HERTFORDSHIRE PERFORMANCE PROGRAMMES

Hertfordshire Cricket currently runs programmes for the following age groups.

Boys	Girls
U13 Performance U14 Development U14 County (CAG) U15 Development U15 County (CAG) U16 County (CAG) U18 County (CAG) Emerging Players (EPP)	U11 County (CAG) U11–U12 Development U12 County (CAG) U13 –U14 Development U13 County (CAG) U15 County (CAG) U18 Development U18 County (CAG)

PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME MAIN CONTACTS

Performance Programmes Manager (Boys)	Tanya Whitton – 07393 766435 tanya.whitton@hertscricket.org
Performance Lead (Boys)	Ben Waring – 07951 938273 ben.waring@hertscricket.org
Performance Lead (Girls)	Greg Mackett – 07956 019129 greg.mackett@hertscricket.org

HERTFORDSHIRE CRICKET - PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

(PERFORMANCE SQUADS)

INTRODUCTION

This code applies to all junior players involved in activity, be that coaching sessions or competitive matches, where the player is clearly representing Hertfordshire Cricket.

It includes required consents which must be signed prior to participation in Hertfordshire cricket activities (via an annual online form). Failure to sign and abide by the Code will mean that the player will not be able to participate in HCL matches or related events.

PLAYERS AGREE TO

- Behave in a manner which makes them worthy ambassadors of the Hertfordshire Cricket.
- Maintain the highest playing standards in coaching and match situations.
- All players must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of cricket.
- Treat everyone equally and not discriminate on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, religious belief, class or social background, sexual preference or political belief.
- Hertfordshire players should encourage the development, celebrate the success, be friendly and supportive towards their peers, not only during HCL sessions / matches but at all other times.
- Maintain the highest standards of dress according to the dress code below.
- Arrive at matches and events on time and ensure that they advise the coach if any agreed meeting time cannot be met, giving reasons.
- Advise the coach if you have sustained any injuries prior to the session / match which may affect your performance, if you receive an injury during a game always tell your coach; a first aid kit will always be available at matches or training sessions.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude towards all aspects of the game.
- Demonstrate that he/she/they is a team player by encouraging fellow players and supporting alongside their team mates during the match.
- Show the highest standards of sportsmanship and abide by the ethos contained in the MCC 'Spirit of Cricket'.
- Not use foul or abusive language or spit saliva on or off the field.
- Not intimidate or deliberately distract opponents verbally or by acts of gamesmanship or aggressive behaviour.
- Accept an umpire's decision at all times and not show dissent or disagreement.
- Listen to and take notice of guidance and instructions given by HCL coaches and other staff.
- Refrain from consumption of alcohol and tobacco and any other stimulants or harmful substances and also from chewing gum as this could cause choking if swallowed during the course of the activity.

- Take no unnecessary risks, which might compromise your safety and the safety of others.
- Ensure that no damage is made to any facilities / changing rooms / nets etc. If any accidental damage occurs you must inform the coach / member of HCL staff immediately. If damage is found to have been caused intentionally by a player(s) then the parent(s) will be held liable for any subsequent costs incurred by HCL.
- Accept victory and defeat with grace and dignity.
- All players under the age of 18 must wear a helmet at all times when batting and when standing up to the stumps as a wicket keeper. Parental letters consenting to a player not to wear a helmet will not be accepted

HERTFORDSHIRE CRICKET – DRESS CODE

- Official Hertfordshire County cricket clothing should be worn on the field of play.
- If players have long hair, it should be tied back and off the face, jewellery must be discrete and compatible with playing a sport.
- Shirts should be tucked into trousers at all times.
- No caps or other headgear should be worn during lunch or tea when indoors.

Hertfordshire County Cricket Clothing is manufactured by Gray Nicolls and only available from [Tylers Sportwear](#).

BOYS' PLAYING KIT CONSISTS OF: (compulsory for CAG only)	BOYS' TRAINING KIT CONSISTS OF: (compulsory for CAG only)
Green and Black playing shirt (long or short sleeved) Black playing trousers Green Cap Black jumper/slipover (optional)	Green Training top Black Shorts Black playing/trousers (optional) Black hoodie (optional) Black beanie (optional) Black raincoat (optional)
GIRLS' PLAYING KIT CONSISTS OF: (compulsory for CAG only)	GIRLS' TRAINING KIT CONSISTS OF: (compulsory for CAG only)
Navy and Royal playing shirt (long or short sleeved) Navy playing trousers Navy Cap Navy jumper/slipover (optional)	Navy & Royal Training top Navy playing or training trousers Navy Shorts (optional) Navy hoodie (optional) Navy beanie (optional)

BREACHES OF THE CODE

- Any breach of this code will result in disciplinary action being taken against individuals and/or the team. Incidents will be recorded and dealt with by the coach who may issue a formal verbal warning as to future conduct.
- More serious cases may be referred to the HCL CEO, Iain Fletcher.
- Where a breach of the code is proven, a player may be warned as to his/her future conduct, suspended or banned from representing Hertfordshire in representative cricket.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If any player/parent/guardian has concerns about the playing and coaching of a player, please arrange to discuss it with the Coach. If concerns cannot be resolved satisfactorily with the Coach and then please contact the HCL CEO.

Any issues relating to Child Welfare / Safeguarding should be reported to the following, as soon as possible, and an [Safeguarding Referral Form](#) completed detailing the factual evidence surrounding the incident.

A copy of HCL Safeguarding Policies can be downloaded [here](#).

Julie Page
County Safeguarding Officer
safeguarding@hertscricket.org
07741 272751

HERTFORDSHIRE CRICKET - ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Hertfordshire Cricket is committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our players so they can train, and play, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at Hertfordshire Cricket. If bullying does occur, all players should be able to tell, and know, incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a TELLING organisation. This means anyone who knows bullying is happening is expected to tell someone who can do something about it. Hertfordshire Cricket will not tolerate Bullying in any form. Hertfordshire Cricket take bullying seriously. Player and parents should be assured they will be supported when bullying is reported.

Bullying can take many forms

- **Emotional:** being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (for example: hiding kit, or making threatening gestures)
- **Physical:** pushing kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- **Racist:** racial taunts, graffiti and/or gestures
- **Sexual:** unwanted physical contact or sexual abusive comments
- **Homophobic:** being of, or focusing on, the issue of sexuality
- **Verbal:** name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours and teasing
- **Cyber:** bullying behaviour online or via electronic communication (email and text, social media etc). Misuse of associated technology, such as camera and video facilities

Process for responding to Bullying

- Report bullying incidents to the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Officer
 - In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be reported to the ECB Safeguarding Team for advice via the County Safeguarding Officer
 - Parents should be informed and invited to a meeting to discuss the problem
 - If necessary, and appropriate, police will be consulted
 - The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly
 - An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour
 - In cases of adults reported to be bullying cricketers U18, the ECB will be informed and will advise on action to be taken
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ECB ANTI-DISCRIMINATION CODE / REPORTING

Discrimination has no place in cricket. The England & Wales Cricket Board and Hertfordshire Cricket Limited are committed to taking all allegations of discrimination within cricket in England and Wales very seriously and wants to ensure that anyone can report it in the knowledge that we will act appropriately.

We stand against discrimination in all its forms and are committed to ensuring that cricket is a game for everyone. If you have experienced or witnessed discrimination you can report it through the ECB's website: <https://www.ecb.co.uk/reporting-discrimination>

Any reports will then be triaged by the ECB and investigated by the relevant cricket organisation.

A copy of the ECB Anti-Discrimination Code, which Hertfordshire Cricket Limited as an organisation have adopted, can be downloaded [here](#).

The HCL Reporting Discrimination Privacy Notice, which you can download [here](#), explains how personal data is used, protected and shared.

HERTFORDSHIRE CRICKET – PARENT / GUARDIANS CHARTER

This advice to Parents/Guardians and friends is provided in the knowledge that they will be keen to assist in ensuring that young players have the best chance to make the most of their opportunities in the Hertfordshire Cricket Performance coaching and playing programme.

The process that leads to the successful development of players is a complex one, entailing the identification of technical strengths and weaknesses and working on both elements. The development of personal qualities such as being reliable, demonstrating a good work ethic and most importantly, taking responsibility for their own game and performance is also very important.

The support of Parents/Guardians and friends is of course also extremely important. However, it creates difficulties for coaches and players if they are receiving mixed messages causing possible distractions during the game; Parents/Guardians should be aware that their behavior could affect all children on the programme not just their own. We have therefore put together a list of requests that we would ask you to note.

This is intended to guide and assist you feel part of the team involved in Hertfordshire Cricket

PLEASE:

- Ensure that players arrive at matches and training sessions at the designated time. Punctuality is essential to maximising the effectiveness of training sessions.
- Ensure that players are wearing the appropriate Hertfordshire approved County clothing as defined the player's code of conduct.
- Let players carry their own kit to and from the dressing room.
- Do not enter the dressing room unless invited by the Coach.
- Do not enter the field of play during the course of a match.
- Support the Coach at all times, especially by not involving yourself in any playing or coaching matters on training or match days. This includes advising your own son/daughter on any matter related to the playing of the match.
- Advise the Coach of any impacting problems relating to any injury, illness or school pressures.
- Feel free to discuss any concerns or queries you have with the Coach.
- Support and encourage the player and team, provide positive support in a calm and controlled manner and refrain from negative criticism and/or applying any pressure on any player.
- Respect the opportunity given to the player, accept selection, coaching and playing decisions.

Please note HCL reserves the right to withdraw a player from the "Programme" if parents are unable to adhere to these requests.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are committed to the implementation of performance standards for delivery/outcomes. Feedback is welcome.

Any feedback or complaints should be addressed to:

Iain Fletcher, **HCL Chief Executive Officer**, on **07798 837814** or **iain.fletcher@hertscricket.org**

Any issues relating to **Child Safeguarding** should be reported to:

Julie Page, **County Safeguarding Officer** on **07741 272751** or **safeguarding@hertscricket.org**



HERTFORDSHIRE CRICKET - TALENT SUPPORT FUND

Cricket can be an expensive Sport and as such many counties have offered financial support to talented players in various different ways. Hertfordshire Cricket are pleased to say that we have supported many players over the years. In 2022 the ECB Performance Cricket Committee (chaired by Sir Andrew Strauss) recommended that each County should formalize their schemes and have in place a hardship fund to support both boys' and girls' talent pathway cricket. We have followed this guidance and created the Hertfordshire Cricket Talent Support Fund.

The Fund exists to support the development of young talented players, to whom the potential cost of being part of Hertfordshire County Age Group squads may present financial challenges.

Eligibility

The scheme is open to any player offered a place on the following programmes:

County Age Group (CAG) Boys U13-U18, Girls U11-U18

What do we fund, and to what level?

The Fund seeks to support some of the following key areas of potential cost:

- The cost of the Annual training fees for Hertfordshire Cricket sessions
- The cost of buying essential County Age Group Playing Kit (clothing)
- The cost of summer representative match fees

Full details of the fund and how to apply can be downloaded [here](#).

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