



Parents Code of Conduct

Definitions - In this Policy the following terms/expressions shall mean:

- **Lincolnshire Cricket** – means Lincolnshire County Cricket Board, Lincolnshire County Cricket Club and Lincolnshire Cricket Ltd.
- **ECB** – means England and Wales Cricket Board
- **Children** – refers to persons under the age of 18
- **Safe Hands** - means the ECB's cricket policies and procedures for safeguarding children within cricket.

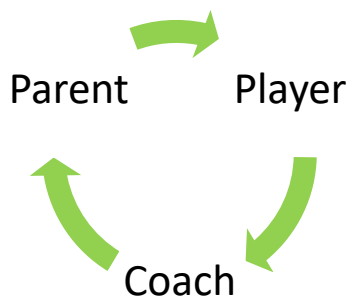
This advice to parents/guardians is provided in the knowledge that they will be keen to assist in ensuring that young players have the best chance to make the most of their opportunities within Lincolnshire Cricket's county representative coaching and playing programme.

The process that leads to the successful development of players is a complex one, involving the identification of technical strengths and weaknesses and working on both these elements. The development of personal qualities such as honesty, reliability, strong work ethic, and a positive attitude to coaching alongside taking responsibility for their own game and performance make up the key disciplines required.

The support of parents/guardians is extremely important to this process. However, it can create difficulties for coaches and players alike if they are receiving mixed messages leading to distractions during games; hence we have put together the 2 following documents that we would ask you to note ('Code of Conduct for Parents, Carers, and Guardians' and 'The 10 Principles for Parents'.)

This is intended to guide and assist you so that you feel part of the team involved in Lincolnshire Cricket.

We ideally see the support of your child in the setup as a 3-way relationship.



Code of Conduct for Parents, Carers and Guardians

Parents, Carers and Guardians are expected to:

Complete and return the 'Player Profile Consent' form as requested by Lincolnshire Cricket and detail any health concerns relevant to the child on that form. Any changes in the state of the child's health should be reported to the coach prior to coaching sessions. Ensure Lincolnshire Cricket has up to date contact details for you and any alternative appointed persons.

Deliver and collect your child punctually to and from coaching sessions/cricket matches. All players will need to be collected by a responsible adult from an agreed collection point where they will be signed out, please inform the coaching staff if you are unavoidably detained. If you give permission for your child to leave the building/ground unaccompanied, Lincolnshire County Cricket must be in receipt of your written consent (note this option is only available for children in school year 7 and above, primary school children must always be collected by an adult).

Parent/Guardians are responsible for transportation of their son/daughter to and from the match venue unless otherwise started by the team management.

Ensure your child is properly and adequately attired for the training session/matches in appropriate Lincolnshire Cricket approved kit, including all required equipment. Let players carry their own kit to and from the dressing room!

If you are unable to accompany your son/daughter at any game, or will be missing for any part of the match, you must nominate an appointed representative outside of the squad management team who can make decisions on your behalf in case of emergency and act as a chaperone. You must inform the team manager of the name of person prior to the pre-match preparations.

Encourage your child to obey rules and teach them that they can only do their best.

Behave responsibly as a spectator at training/matches and treat cricketers, coaches, teams and parents of yours and other clubs with due respect. Be supportive of the game and the officials and note that any forms of abuse will not be tolerated.

Ensure inappropriate language is not used within the environment.

Ensure your child's needs are met in terms of nutritional needs and listen to advice given from the coaching team.

Refrain from entering the changing rooms/field of play on match days and training sessions at all times.

Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of cricket.

Treat everyone equally and do 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.

Parents should be aware that posting messages, comments or any other media on a social networking site that breaches the above requirements of a parent at Lincolnshire Cricket will breach Lincolnshire Cricket's Parents Code of Conduct.

Ensure their child remains with the team for the duration of the match to ensure greater team spirit and aid their child's cricket education. Allow the coaches and players alone to evaluate performance when leaving the field, and refrain from joining the team in their outdoor group meeting area.

Appreciate that catering, where provided, is for the players and officials only and, unless invited by the home manager, refrain from using the meal area during intervals.

Player Sponsorship – Any player attracting personal sponsorship is not authorised to advertise on Lincolnshire Cricket Clothing.

In line with Child protection guidelines, please gain permission from the Team Manager, and complete a Photo Consent Form (available on the Lincolnshire Cricket website) before using any video or camera equipment.

Follow ECB guidelines set out in the "Safe hands – cricketers' policy for safeguarding children and any other related guidelines issued. (The link is available to view on the LC website, and the document on the ECB websites).

All positive support is welcome but please refrain from open criticism at a match or at training sessions, remembering that the young boys/girls are still inexperienced cricketers with much to learn. Open negative criticism can also lead to disaffection within the team and with parents alike and should be avoided at all times. Support the team, not just your son/daughter, and enjoy the experience of watching talented cricketers perform.

Most of all, help your child enjoy the sport and achieve to the best of their ability.

Failure to comply

Disciplinary Procedure

Any breach of this code may lead to the parent being warned as to their future conduct or in more serious cases being suspended or barred from spectating in Lincolnshire Cricket activities.

Consequences for breaching the code of conduct will follow the below process:

- 1) In the first instance, a verbal warning will be issued by the relevant Coach or Manager. Coaches will address the minor breach(es) and ask the parent to re-read and confirm that future behaviour will comply with this code of conduct.
- 2) Repeated breaches will result in a written warning. The circumstances of the breach will be discussed with the individual along with clear expectations for improvement. Should a singular breach of the code of conduct be deemed significant enough by the Performance team, a verbal warning may be considered inadequate, and a written warning will be issued as a first consequence.
- 3) Persistent breaches of the code of conduct following a written warning will result in a temporary suspension. This will involve being asked to not attend a training session(s) or match(es) until the behaviour improves, and an alternative contact to be nominated for your player.
- 4) Serious or repeated breaches may result in being asked not to attend the activities of the Lincolnshire Cricket to protect the integrity, safety, and culture of Lincolnshire Cricket. In this case, an alternative adult for the player will need to be nominated on a permanent basis.

Consequences will be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking into account individual circumstances surrounding the behaviour that is inconsistent with expectations and the context of the situation.

A written warning will remain on a player's profile for 12 months. The selection process for every season is anonymous and based solely on talent and conduct during trial sessions. Therefore, written warnings will not have any bearing on future selection.

Should a parent wish to appeal against any disciplinary measures issued to a player (as detailed above) they should, in the first instance, formally contact, in writing, Tony McArdle (Chairman) – tony.mcardle@lincscricket.co.uk who will investigate and reply in writing with a full response. The Chairman reserves the rights to delegate the matter to another Board Director subject to their expertise (or in rare cases externally e.g. a legal team) whilst ensuring an independent investigation. The decision of Lincolnshire Cricket will be full and final.

All written correspondence should be sent to: Lincolnshire Cricket, The Barracks County Ground, Aisne Close, Lincoln LN1 3XG

Grievance Procedure

If a parent or child has any issues or concerns about their child's involvement within Lincolnshire Cricket a grievance procedure exists:

In the first instance parents should raise the issues or concerns informally with the respective coach or squad manager, either in writing to admin@lincscricket.co.uk or verbally

Should this not resolve the matter they should formally contact, in writing, Tony McArdle (Chairman) – tony.mcardle@lincscricket.co.uk who will investigate and reply in writing with a full response. The Chairman reserves the rights to delegate the matter to another Board Director subject to their expertise (or in rare cases externally e.g. a legal team) whilst ensuring an independent investigation. The decision of Lincolnshire Cricket will be full and final.

10 Principles for Parents

1 Thou shall not impose thy ambitions on thy child. Your child should strive to achieve their ambitions and dreams not yours.

2 Thou shall be supportive no matter what. Have fun! Every child should enjoy their activity.

3 Thou shall not coach thy child. You are paying to bring your child to Lincolnshire Cricket so enjoy all the benefits our coaches can provide. They have all undergone extensive training to make your child's time a positive one!

4 Thou shall only have positive things to say at a competition. Your child will aim to give 100% whatever you may think. Always applaud and praise their efforts.

5 Thou shall acknowledge thy child's fears. County cricket can be scary when entered for the first time. Do not underestimate how this may affect your child. Be supportive at all times.

6 Thou shall not criticise the officials. All officials give their time willingly. They have had intensive training to gain the qualifications that they have achieved. Please respect these people as without them we cannot play the game.

7 Thou shall respect thy child's coach. Do not criticise the coach in front of your child. The coach may seem to do things you may not understand but you may not know the coach's Long Term Development Plan for your child. If you have any concern you must arrange to speak to the coach privately.

8 Thou shall be loyal and supportive of thy team. Your child is an individual cricketer and a member of a team. Support your child and team

9 Thy child shall have goals besides winning. To improve new experiences, make friends, to be part of a team.

10 Thou shall enjoy and allow your child to enjoy their time in representative cricket.