

NCA Code of Conduct

Northland Cricket Association and New Zealand Cricket Values:

1. Inclusivity, Respect, Tenacity, Optimism, Fun, Sportsmanship and Integrity

NCA Mission

2. *The NCA is dedicated to creating a grassroots, family and whanau friendly cricket environment that promotes fair play, is inclusive and delivers a fun cricket experience that develops our Northland people to be high performers. Our code of conduct is led by our values and the 'Spirit of the Game'. Ensuring the NZC and NCA values, alongside the 'Spirit of the Game', is adhered to is very important and it is paramount to our reputation, success, and growth of cricket.*

NCA Rationale

3. The NCA believes that the reputation of the game, and the way it is played, is paramount. Players, officials and supporters are expected to show sportsmanship and tolerance towards others. The NCA believes that clubs and schools are a vital component to the reputation of the game, and those that play it. Therefore, the NCA requests, and encourages, clubs and schools to show strong leadership regarding the code of conduct and have a process in place, to work alongside players, officials and supporters in supporting the code of conduct. Our players, officials, supporters and wider communities are integral partners to New Zealand's Summer Game. It is 'A Game for All New Zealanders, A game for life.'

The Spirit of Cricket:

4. The NCA endorses fair play and tolerance by, and for, players, officials and supporters, at all times. The game is based on the spirit of cricket – the way the game should be played – this is vital to the success and growth of our game. Gamesmanship and competitiveness is a part of our game – sledging and bullying is not. To keep the integrity of our game intact, games can certainly be played hard, but they must be played fairly – it is up to all players, officials and spectators to adhere to and endorse fair play and tolerance of others. This is the spirit of cricket – play hard, but play fair.

Captain, Club and NCA Responsibilities

5. *NCA establishes the code of conduct – based on NZC, NDCA & NCA values, expectations and/or policies and the spirit of the game.*
 - 5.1 Captains and clubs understand, promote and endorse the code of conduct.
 - 5.2 Captains are responsible for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of Cricket, as well as within the laws.
 - 5.3 Clubs establish a process to follow, regarding the self-regulating of player and/or spectator behavior.
 - 5.4 Captains and Clubs are responsible for endorsing and promoting the Spirit of Cricket.
 - 5.5 NCA regulates and administers the code of conduct for any serious matters that require an official stance and/or judgement.

Coding Process

- 6.1 Any umpire, officially appointed or otherwise, can ask/instruct the captain to inform his/her players and/or spectators to follow the code of conduct, set by the NCA.
- 6.2 Officially appointed umpires can award 5 penalty runs to a non-offending team, during a match.
- 6.3 Officially appointed umpires and team officials can code players, officials and/or spectators.
- 6.4 Only an officially appointed umpire can code a bowlers action, that they deem illegal. This is to be done via a phone call to the NCA General Manager and in turn, in writing, by the said umpire by Tuesday, following the match. Where no official umpires are appointed, a phone call will be made to the NCA General Manager by the following Tuesday, and the NCA will follow the correct protocols. It is recommended that non-appointed umpires do not call no balls, that are deemed to be so, by an illegal action.
- 6.5 Where no official umpires are appointed, a complaint must be lodged from the club delegate, to the NCA.
- 6.6 The NCA will have an appointed Code of Conduct Commissioner that will lead the code of conduct process/protocols. The Commissioner will be independent of the NCA and will follow the protocols set up NZC, NDCA and the NCA. The NCA Chairman will also be involved in all code of conduct matters.
- 6.7 All official complaints must be lodged, in writing, to the NCA General Manager by the Tuesday, following the match (stephenc@northcricket.co.nz). The NCA also encourages the club delegate to phone or meet with the General Manager, before official complaints are made in writing.
- 6.8 At any time, clubs can self-regulate their own player and/or spectator behavior, by any means they see fit.

Rules of the Code

- 7.1 Players and Team Officials must not indulge in unacceptable behavior on any part of a cricket ground including the field of play. A non-exhaustive list of examples of unacceptable behavior is set out below.
- 7.2 Players and Team Officials must not make any public announcement or media comment or engage in any act, omission or conduct prejudicial to the interest of cricket or which may bring the game of cricket or any cricketer or group or cricketers into disrepute.
- 7.3 For the purposes of this Code a 'Team Official' includes any Team Manager or Team Coach appointed to manage and/or coach a team or any other person holding any official position within cricket or the club or team whose conduct is in issue.

Examples of unacceptable behavior (Non Exhaustive)

- 8.1 A player or Team Official assaulting or attempting to assault, an umpire.

- 8.2 A player or Team Official assaulting, attempting to assault another player, Team Official or spectator.
- 8.3 A player or Team Official abusing an umpire.
- 8.4 A player or Team Official disputing, or showing dissent with, an umpire's decision, or reacting in an obviously proactive or disapproving manner either towards an umpire, their decision, or generally following an umpire decision.
- 8.5 A player or Team Official asking an umpire the reasons for a decision.
- 8.6 A player or Team Official intimidating an umpire by excessive appealing, celebrating a dismissal before the umpire makes his decision or charging or advancing towards the Umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.
- 8.7 A player or Team Official using any language or gestures that offend, insult, disparage or vilify another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, gender, colour, descent or origin.
- 8.8 A player or Team Official abusing another player, Team Official or spectator.
- 8.9 A player or Team Official throwing the ball at or near any other person in an inappropriate or dangerous matter.
- 8.10 A player or Team Official using crude or abusive hand signals or pointing or gesturing towards the pavilion in an aggressive manner upon the dismissal of a batsman.
- 8.11 A player or Team Official using crude and/or abusive language.
- 8.12 A player or Team Official changing the condition of the ball.
- 8.13 A player or Team Official engaging in public criticism of or inappropriate comment on a match related incident or match official.
- 8.14 A captain of a team who fails to exercise responsibility for the conduct of the players in their team.
- 8.15 Any player or any umpire, referee, Team Official or Administrator who engage in any betting or gambling in relation to any game.
- 8.16 Any breach of the laws of cricket or the spirit of the game of cricket.
- 8.17 Any other behavior which is unbecoming or may be likely to bring Northland Cricket, the player or Team Official or the game of cricket generally into disrepute.

For the purposes of this code the level of any offence shall be categorised by reference to the levels of offence as are recorded in the New Zealand Cricket Code of Conduct.

Individual Penalties

- 9.1 For a Level 1 offence the indicative penalty is a written censure and/or the imposition of a short term of suspension.
- 9.2 For a Level 2 offence the indicative penalty is a period of suspension the period of which will be dependent upon the level of the seriousness of the offending.
- 9.3 For a Level 3 offence the indicative penalty is suspension for a period of no less than 6 weeks.
- 9.4 For a Level 4 offence the indicative penalty is suspension for a period of no less than 2 years.

Team Penalties

- 10.1 In addition to the penalties set out above penalties can include the deduction of points for the team of which the cited / coded player is a member together with a penalty on the team captain.
- 10.2 Indicative levels of deduction of points are as follows:
 - 10.2.1 A second or further citing / coding for a player – 2 points lost.
 - 10.2.2 Suspension – 4 points lost.
 - 10.2.3 Second or further suspension – 8 points lost.
 - 10.2.4 Where there are two suspensions within a team during a season then the captain of that team will be stood down for one game.
 - 10.2.5 An adult who is suspended for abuse towards a player aged 18 years or younger will automatically result in a deduction of 4 points as well as any other penalty which might be imposed.
- 10.3 Team penalties will be carried forward for five seasons.