

**JERSEY  
CRICKET**



**JERSEY CRICKET LIMITED**

**DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

**Weekend League and Evening League**

**(Non ICC Events)**

**Disciplinary Procedures                      Weekend Matches, Evening League (Not applicable to ICC tournaments)**

**1            The JCL Policy & Reporting Guidelines**

- 1.1 Jersey Cricket Limited (**JCL**) Code of Conduct & Behaviour makes it clear that the primary responsibility for discipline lies with Clubs & Team Captains. The JCL expects this responsibility to be properly discharged and taken seriously. If it is not, the JCL may take action against Club & Captain concerned.
- 1.2 Captains in particular are expected to set a proper example to their players and the wider cricket community. They must address incidents promptly and take action as appropriate. If they do not they may also be subject to action and penalties as set out herein.
- 1.3 The initial responsibility for reporting incidents in matches lies with the match umpires, who will follow the formal procedures set out in the following paragraphs. Incidents reported by others (eg by Clubs complaining about the behaviour of their opponents) will be subject to a special procedure laid down in 6.3 below.
- 1.4 All reports submitted will be handled by the Disciplinary Committee of the JCL.

**2            Breaches of Discipline**

- 2.1 Conduct whether on or off the field of play, which amounts to a breach of the JCL's Code of Conduct, The Laws of Cricket (the **Laws**) and/or The Spirit of Cricket, has been categorised within 4 levels. Details of the breaches within each of these levels are set out below, and such offences are subject to the opinion of the umpire in his or her absolute discretion.

**Level 1**

- a. Time wasting by either the fielding side or the batting side that results in 5 penalty runs or the bowler being disallowed from bowling any further in that innings.
- b. Causing avoidable damage to the pitch that results in a 5 penalty runs being awarded under law 42.13 and /or 42.14 of the Laws.
- c. Unauthorised entry onto the field of play without the umpires' consent.
- d. Wilfully mistreating any part of the cricket ground, equipment or implements used in the match.
- e. Showing dissent at an umpire's decision by word or action.
- f. Using language that, in the circumstances, is obscene or insulting.
- g. Making an obscene gesture.
- h. Appealing excessively.
- i. Advancing towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.
- j. Any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 1 offence.

## Level 2

- a. Showing serious dissent at an umpire's decision, by word or action.  
*Dissent accompanied by offensive or obscene remarks, comprises two separate breaches under Level 2 or 3*
- b. Persistent questioning of umpire's decisions.
- c. Throwing the ball at a player, umpire, or other person in an inappropriate and dangerous manner.
- d. Making inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with another player.
- e. Using language or gestures to another player, umpire, team official or spectator that, under the circumstances, is obscene or of a seriously insulting nature
- f. Any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 2 offence

## Level 3

- a. Intimidating an umpire by language or gesture.
- b. Threatening to assault a player or any other person except an umpire.
- c. Any other misconduct which is in the opinion of the umpires equivalent to a level 3 offence

## Level 4

- a. Threatening to assault an umpire
- b. Making inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with an umpire
- c. Physically assaulting a player or any other person
- d. Committing any other act of violence
- e. Using language or gesture that seriously offend, insult, humiliate, intimidate, threaten, disparage, or vilify another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, descent or nation or ethnic origin.

## Players' Conduct

### Serious misconduct

Umpires shall act upon any serious misconduct. Level 1, 2 & 3 offences shall be subject to punishments described in clauses 4 and 5. Should either umpire consider that a player has committed one of these offences at any time during the match, the umpire shall call and signal 'dead ball'. This call may be delayed until the umpire is satisfied that it will not disadvantage the non-offending side.

The umpire concerned shall report the matter to his colleague and together, they shall decide whether an offence has been committed.

If the offence has been committed by a batsman, the umpires shall summon the offending player's captain and notify him of the penalty. The batsman at the wicket may not deputise for their captain.

#### **Level 4 offences & action by umpires**

If such an offence is committed, the umpire shall call “Time”

Together the umpires shall summon and inform the offending player’s captain that an offence at this level has occurred.

**The umpires shall instruct the captain to remove the offending player immediately** from the field of play for the remainder of the match and shall apply the following:-

*If the offending player is a fielder, no substitute shall be allowed, they are to be recorded as “Retired – out”.*

*If the offending player is a batter, no substitute shall be allowed, they are to be recorded as “Retired - Out” and will not take any further part in the game.*

*If a bowler is suspended mid-over, then that over must be completed by a different bowler, who shall not have bowled the previous over nor shall be permitted to bowl the next over.*

As soon as possible, the umpire shall:-

- Award 5 penalty runs to the opposing team
- Signal the Level 4 penalty to the scorers
- Call play

The umpires shall report the matter to the Disciplinary Committee promptly thereafter.

#### **Captain refusing to remove a player from the field**

If a captain refuses to remove the offending player from the field, the umpires shall award the match.

If both captain’s refuse to remove their offending player’s from the field (same incident), the umpires shall instruct the players to leave the field. The match shall be concluded as no result.

#### **Additional matters**

A player while acting as wicket-keeper commits a level 4 offence, only a nominated player may keep wicket.

A nominated player who has a substitute will suffer the penalty for any level 4 offence committed by the substitute, however only the substitute will be reported by the umpires.

### **3**     **Procedure**

- 3.1     If an umpire considers there has been a breach described in 2.1 above, he/she shall, in the first instance make every effort to ensure that the captain of the player concerned is notified that a report is to be made. Such notification shall be given irrespective of any action the umpire may have taken on the field of play in respect of the breach.
- 3.2     Upon completion of the notification, a conduct report shall be complete by the umpire reporting the breach. The report should be as full as possible and where appropriate set out the details of any multiple infringements, for example - level 2(b) – coupled with the use of obscene language – Level 3(h). It is not however, essential for the umpire to categorise the breach as this will be done by the Disciplinary Committee. If a player or his captain has offered any comments these should also be included within the report. Both umpires must append their names/signatures to the report, which shall be sent by E-mail as soon as reasonably practicable to the Disciplinary Committee.
- 3.3     For the avoidance of doubt, if for any reason the umpire is unable to notify the player's captain, in accordance with 3.1 above, this shall not invalidate the report. The umpire must, however, include an explanation in his report, and the Secretary or authorised person of the Disciplinary Committee will immediately on receipt of the report, send a simple brief notification to the Club concerned. The Secretary or authorised person of the Disciplinary Committee will then follow the procedure as set out in 3.4 below.
- 3.4     *Upon receipt of a conduct report, the Secretary or authorised person of the Disciplinary Committee shall forthwith record details of the breach referred to in the conduct report. The breach will be formally categorised by the Secretary or authorised person, if necessary in consultation with the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee. The Secretary or authorised person will then notify the player's Club as to the details of the reported breach, including all infringements. This notification will also include details of the consequences flowing from the breach, including the imposition of any penalty and the date on which any period of suspension shall commence. In general, multiple infringements will attract multiple penalties. **The player's Club will, without delay, notify the player accordingly. There will be no appeal against the imposition of a fixed penalty or suspension, which shall be automatically imposed in accordance with section 4 below.***
- 3.5     Subject to 3.8 below, there shall be no review of an umpire's decision to submit a conduct report to the Disciplinary Committee unless the player reported alleges that he has been mistakenly identified by the umpire.
- 3.6     Any application to review an umpire's decision to submit a conduct report to the Disciplinary Committee on the basis that the player reported alleges that he/she has been mistakenly identified by the umpire shall be made in writing to the Disciplinary Committee within 5 calendar days of the JCL's formal notification to the player's Club under 3.4 above.
- 3.7     Any review following an application under 3.6 above shall be carried out by a 'Disciplinary Panel' of the Disciplinary Committee. Such a review may, if necessary, comprise a review hearing (a **Hearing**) conducted in accordance with the provision of

Section 7 below. The only issue for determination by the Disciplinary Panel shall be whether the cricketer reported was in fact, the player whose conduct the umpire concluded amounted to the breach under 2.1 above. There shall be no appeal from any finding by the Disciplinary Panel on this issue. For the avoidance of doubt, under no circumstances shall the review consider whether the conduct reported by the umpire amounted to or involved any breach under 2.1 above.

- 3.8 If the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee considers that the consequences of any penalty that would ordinarily be imposed upon a player under Section 4 below might produce a result that is manifestly unfair for the relevant player or the league, he may set up a Disciplinary Panel to consider the matter. If necessary a Hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Section 7. The player concerned shall be asked to submit evidence and/or address the Disciplinary Panel. If the Disciplinary Panel concludes that any penalty that would ordinarily be imposed under Section 4 would produce a result which is manifestly unfair for the relevant player or the league, the Disciplinary Panel may, in its absolute discretion, set aside the normal penalty and substitute such penalty (if any) as it considers appropriate. There shall be no appeal against any decision by the Disciplinary Panel.

#### 4 **Fixed Penalty**

- 4.1 Subject to 4.2 below, a breach recorded in a conduct report shall carry the following penalties:

<b>Level of Breach</b>	<b>Penalty</b>
Level 1	Reprimand
Level 2	6 points
Level 3	12 points
Level 4	18 points

- 4.2 A subsequent Level 1 breach committed within 24 months from the date of the previous Level 1 breach shall carry a penalty of 3 points.

- 4.3 The penalties described above shall remain in force for a period of 24 calendar months from the date on which a player is notified pursuant to 3.4 above and shall not be expunged by virtue of any period of suspension being imposed.

- 4.4 If a player accumulates 9 or more points during any period of 24 months, he shall receive the following automatic suspension:

<b>Points accumulated</b>	<b>Automatic Suspension</b>
9 points	1 unit (2 weeks)
18 points	2 units (4 weeks)
27 points	4 units (8 weeks)

For these purposes, a “unit” is defined in accordance with 4.5 & 4.6 below.

- 4.5 Subject 4.6, a unit shall mean such a period of time as embraces the next 2 weeks with the commencement of such period being calculated in accordance with 4.7 below. 2 units and 4 units shall embrace twice and four times the period of a 1 unit suspension, namely 4 & 8
- 4.6 During any period of suspension, an offence committed in any League (Weekend, Evening or JCL non ICC tournaments) will affect all appointments, thus suspended from all matches within the two weeks. It is also deemed an offence for any suspended player to enter the POMA on match days.
- 4.7 Any automatic suspension under 4.4 above shall:
- a. Commence with effect from when the Disciplinary Committee notify the relevant Club / Player, under 3.4 above, of the exact dates of the suspension.
  - b. Embrace only days falling within the playing season and therefore may straddle such seasons. The precise dates and details of any suspension will be sent out to the club/clubs, the player, the LMC and JACO following the offence.
    - a. Season definition for clarity –
      - i. The Start of the season = The first official game day (as advertised by the JCL) for the individual player’s team/teams in either the weekend league or the evening league
      - ii. The End of the season = The last official game day (as advertised by the JCL) for the individual player’s team/teams in either the weekend league or the evening league.
  - c. Apply to all cricket under the jurisdiction of the JCL Weekend League, Cup, Evening League, Cup and JCL (non ICC events) appointments.

**Note:** *All penalties remain in force for 24 months from the date of notification (see 4.3). Automatic Suspensions (playing bans) are in multiples of 2 weeks (4.5). Once 9 points are reached the 2 week ban is automatic; the relevant points then remain on the record until the 24 months cut off is reached. (The points may drop off at different dates depending on when the points were first accumulated.*

*It follows from this that having served a ban a player is still at risk because even if some of the accumulated points “drop off” the player is still liable to a further ban. This might happen if the total penalty points reached the next automatic suspension threshold or, alternatively, if a fresh set of penalty points is acquired.*

## 5 Fixed Penalties (Failures by Clubs to manage Discipline)

- 5.1 A Club failing in its responsibilities under the JCL’s Code of Conduct or the Spirit of the Game shall itself be liable to sanctions. The Disciplinary Committee will, in particular, look to penalise Clubs whose players are reported for repeated breaches of the Code. To this end, fixed penalty points accumulated by players under Section 4 above, will

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be recorded against the Clubs concerned and the Disciplinary Committee will impose point deductions as follows:

### **Weekend League (35 and 40 over)**

<b>Accumulated Fixed Penalty Points in 24 months' period</b>	<b>League Match Points to be deducted</b>
18	20
36	40
48	60

### **Weekend League (T20)**

<b>Accumulated Fixed Penalty Points in 24 months' period</b>	<b>League Match Points to be deducted</b>
18	10
36	20
48	30

### **Evening League**

<b>Accumulated Fixed Penalty Points in 24 months' period</b>	<b>League Match Points to be deducted</b>
18	10
36	20
48	30

**Note 1:** Inappropriate media comments or comments which bring the game or JCL into disrepute, which shall be decided in the absolute discretion of the Disciplinary Committee, will be recorded as a Level 2 or 3 breach as appropriate and be added to a Club's Accumulated Fixed penalty Points.

**Note 2:** Accumulated Fixed Penalty Points will be applied and remain in force for 24 months in accordance with the provision of 4.3 above. The same principles as those applying for player penalties (see note 4.7 above) will apply. Thus, having been deducted points a Club/team is liable to further deductions if the next threshold for deductions is reached or alternatively, if a fresh set of penalty points is accumulated/imposed.



## **6 Offences, penalties and complaints outside the scope of the fixed penalty procedures.**

### **6.1 Certain Level 4 Offences**

Any breach reported by an umpire involving violence, the threat of violence or physical abuse of any kind shall automatically be referred to a Disciplinary Panel of the Disciplinary Committee, which may, if appropriate, hold a Disciplinary Hearing to determine such cases, in accordance with Section 7. Decisions on such cases may entail penalties in excess of those laid down for Level 4 breaches of discipline and such penalties are in the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee.

### **6.2 Spectators' Behaviour**

Clubs are responsible at all times for the conduct of all their members or fans, even where they are merely spectators. In the event of such a member's or fan's conduct being reported as offensive, abusive, etc (whether towards a player, umpires, officials or other spectators), Clubs may be liable to fines and/or points deductions, or such other penalty as the Disciplinary Committee deems appropriate.

### **6.2 Complaints by others than umpires, e.g. By Clubs about opponents or spectators about Clubs or Players**

The Disciplinary Committee will deal with these by categorising the alleged breach into the relevant Level as above. The Disciplinary Committee will then take such action as it considers necessary (in its absolute discretion) to ensure that the Club concerned deals with the matter appropriately and, if the complaint is upheld, by the imposition of the appropriate fixed penalty.

## **7 Hearings**

7.1 In certain cases, the Disciplinary Committee is required or may find it necessary to set up a formal Disciplinary Hearing; for example, certain Level 4 offences, cases of alleged mistaken identity, cases outside the scope of the Fixed Penalty arrangements, and those involving Club officials, spectators, etc.

7.2 In any case, which is referred for a Disciplinary Hearing, the Hearing shall be convened as soon as practicable. At least seven days' notice in writing (including by email) of the Hearing and of the offence/s alleged shall be given to the player or team official, or in the case of its Club, its Secretary.

7.3 The Hearing shall be conducted by a Disciplinary Panel of the Disciplinary Committee, none of whom shall be materially connected with the player, team official, or Club concerned or their opponents at the time of the alleged breach. Members of the Disciplinary Panel (one of whom shall be nominated Chairperson) will normally be drawn from the Disciplinary Committee or from the JCL's Executive Committee

members: where this is not possible, suitable person shall be co-opted and conflicts shall be managed to the maximum extent possible

- 7.4 Any adjournments may be granted at the discretion of the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Panel.
- 7.5 The Player and/or Club shall be entitled to attend the Hearing (in the case of a Club by the Secretary or other official), to be supported by a Club colleague and to call witnesses. Any umpire called to attend a hearing may also be supported by a colleague.

## **8 Penalties (other than Fixed Penalties)**

- 8.1 If, at a Hearing or otherwise, the Disciplinary Panel or Disciplinary Committee finds the alleged offence proved, it shall have the power to impose one or more of the following penalties together with such order as to costs as it deems appropriate.
- 8.2 In the case of a player, in most cases, the Panel will apply the fixed penalties laid down. In addition, or as an alternative, the Panel may also decide:
  - 8.2.1 to require the player to submit appropriate letter/s of apology within a specified time;
  - 8.2.2 to record a reprimand and to give a warning as to future conduct;
  - 8.2.3 to impose a fine;
  - 8.2.4 to suspend the player for one or more matches, or for a stated period of time;
  - 8.2.5 to deduct points from a player's team;
  - 8.2.6 to expel the player from the League or competition.
- 8.3 In the case of a Club or team official, the Disciplinary Panel or Disciplinary Committee may decide:
  - 8.3.1 to require the Club to submit appropriate letter/s of apology within a specified time;
  - 8.3.2 to record a reprimand and to give a warning as to future conduct;
  - 8.3.3 to impose a fine;
  - 8.3.4 to deduct points from the Club's team(s);
  - 8.3.5 to relegate the Club to any lower division of the League or competition;
  - 8.3.6 to expel the Club from any Cup competition of the League; or
  - 8.3.7 to recommend the expulsion of the Club from the League or competition.
- 8.4 The Disciplinary Panel shall have the power to suspend the operation of any part, or all, of the penalty it imposes for such period and subject to such terms and conditions it deems appropriate.

While the JCL shall try to adhere to precedents, penalties and timings of suspensions shall be decided on a case by case basis, considering the circumstances and background to the incident.

## **9 Appeals Procedure**

These procedures apply to Disciplinary cases dealt with outside the Fixed Penalty procedures (see Paragraph 6 above). They also apply to certain other decisions taken by or on behalf of the Board of Directors of the JCL.

- 9.1 A player or Club shall have to right of appeal. Notice of any such appeal, setting out the grounds, must be given in writing to the Secretary of the JCL within seven days of the decision of the Disciplinary or other Committee, together with a deposit, in the case of a player, of £100.00 and in case of a Club £250.00. No appeal shall be allowed if this condition is not complied with.
- 9.2 In the event of such an Appeal, the Chairperson of the JCL shall appoint an Appeals Committee consisting of not less than 3 members, drawn from the Board of Directors of the JCL, or suitable Club Chairperson or other officials, or such persons as deemed to be suitable. One member shall be designated as Chairperson. No member of the Appeals Committee shall have any material connection with the Club or players involved or with their opponents at the time of the alleged breach/incident: neither shall they have formed part of the Committee that considered the original case and conflicts shall be managed to the maximum extent possible
- 9.3 If Notice of Appeal is properly given, together with the required deposit, the penalty shall not take effect pending the hearing of the Appeal, which shall take place as soon as practicable. An Appeal, once made, shall not be withdrawn.
- 9.4 The Appeal shall be by way of a re-hearing before a different Committee, established as set out in 7.3 above. The player of Club shall have the same right of attendance and representation, and to call witnesses, as they had before the original Committee.
- 9.5 The Appeals Committee may confirm, vary, or reverse the decision of the original Committee and it shall have the power to increase the penalty and make decisions as to the costs of the appeal hearing. If the Appeal is successful, the Committee may, at its discretion, decide to return some or all of the deposit.

## **10 Decisions**

- 10.1 Decisions of the Disciplinary Panel or Appeal Committee (a finding that a Complaint is proved or not proved, a decision as to a penalty, or any other consequent action) shall be by majority vote; where necessary, the Chairperson of the Committee shall have the casting vote.
- 10.2 Decisions made by the Appeals Committee, or if no appeal, by the Disciplinary Panel or other relevant Committee, shall be final and binding. The decision making of the relevant committee is not required to be disclosed.

## **11 Social Media**

For the avoidance of doubt, Clubs, players and spectators are to be considered responsible for any posting online and/or on social media for the factors detailed above and as such disciplinary action may be taken against them or their actions online. The deleting of any inappropriate content, whilst advisable, does not prevent disciplinary action from being taken, especially if the person is a repeat offender.

## **12 Spirit of Cricket**

Cricket owes much of its appeal and enjoyment to the fact that it should be played not only according to the Laws, but also within the Spirit of Cricket. Any action, which is seen to abuse this Spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring fair play rests with the team captains, but extends to all club participants.

There are two Laws of Cricket that place the responsibility for a team's conduct firmly on the team captain. These concern the following aspects:

- Responsibility of Captains
- The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted with the spirit of the game as well as within the Laws.
- Players Conduct
- In the event of any player failing to comply with the instructions of an umpire, criticising his decision by word or action, showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, requesting the latter to take action.

According to the Laws, the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. The umpires may intervene at any time, and it is the responsibility of the team captain to take action where required.

The umpires are authorised to intervene in cases of:

- Time wasting;
- Damaging the pitch;
- Dangerous or unfair bowling;
- Tampering with the ball;
- Any other action that they consider to be unfair.

The Spirit of Cricket involves RESPECT for:

- One's opponents;
- One's own captain and teammates;
- The officials (umpires and scorers);
- The game's traditional values.

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It is against the Spirit of Cricket to:

- Dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture;
- Direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire; or
- Indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance: o Appealing knowing the batsman is not out; o Advancing towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.

There is no place for violence on the field of play.

Captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.