

ARMIDALE DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

JUNIOR COMPETITION RULES

(updated –October 2014)

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1. CODE OF CONDUCT AND SPIRIT OF CRICKET

All players and officials shall abide by the ADCA Code of Conduct and the Spirit of Cricket as set out hereunder.

Code of Conduct

Players

- I will always play by the rules and the Spirit of the Game.
- I will never argue with an Official. If I disagree with a decision, I will inform the captain, coach or manager during a break or after the competition.
- I will control my temper. I understand that verbal abuse of officials, sledging other players, and deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable behaviour in any sport. Abuse of equipment or displays of bad temper is not acceptable or permitted.
- I will work equally hard for myself and my team.
- I will be a good sport and applaud all good play whether made by my team or the opposition.
- I will treat all players in my sport as I like to be treated. I will not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- I will wear proper and approved cricket attire and required safety equipment at all times on the field of play.
- I will cooperate with my coach, team members and opponents.
- I will display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background.
- I will thank the opposition and officials at the end of the game.

Parents

- I won't pressure my child in any way – I know that this is their game, not mine!
- I will never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game – before, during or after the game. I realise that good fun is more important than a good win.
- I will not use bad language, nor will I harass players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- I will encourage my child to play within the rules and Spirit of the Game, and respect officials' and coaches' decisions – no matter what.
- I will teach my child to respect the efforts of their opponents.
- I will remember that children learn best by example, so I will applaud good play by both my child's team and their opponents.

- I will give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.
- I will focus on my child's and their team's efforts and performance – not the score.
- I will thank the coaches, officials and other volunteers who give their time to conduct the game for my child.
- I will volunteer my services and help when asked by a coach or official.
- I will not arrive at the field intoxicated or drink alcohol to excess at junior games.
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background.

Coaches

- I will remember that players participate for pleasure and that winning is only part of the fun.
- I will never ridicule or yell at players for making a mistake or not winning.
- I will be reasonable in my demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- I will operate within the rules and Spirit of the Game, and teach my players to do the same.
- I will ensure that the time the players spend with me is a positive experience. All players are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- I will avoid overplaying the talented players and understand that average players need and deserve playing time.
- I will not use bad language nor will I harass players, officials, spectators or other coaches.
- I will ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- I will display control, respect and professionalism to all involved in the sport including opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. I will encourage my players to do the same.
- I will show concern and caution towards sick and injured players and follow the advice of a physician or their parent when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- I will obtain appropriate training or qualifications, and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young players.
- I will not arrive at the field intoxicated or drink alcohol to excess at junior games.

- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background.

Umpires and Officials

- I will place the safety and welfare of players above all else.
- I will show concern and caution towards sick and injured players.
- I will give all players a “fair go” regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- I will be impartial, consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- I will accept responsibility for my actions and decisions.
- I will condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for the individuality of players.
- I will avoid situations which may lead to or be construed as a conflict of interest.
- I will be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance and ensure my comments are positive and supportive.
- I will be a good sport as I understand that actions speak louder than words.
- I will always respect, remain loyal to, and support other officials.
- I will keep up to date with the latest Laws of Cricket and ADCA Rules, trends and principles of their application.
- I will emphasise the Spirit of the Game rather than the errors.
- I will refrain from any form of personal abuse towards players, parents or other officials.
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background.

ADCA reserves the right to amend this Code of Conduct at any time without notice. Any player, parent, coach or official who breaches this Code of Conduct may be subject to warning, counselling, suspension or expulsion from ADCA activities or venues at the discretion of the Committee. The above Code of Conduct has been adapted from the NSW Sport & Recreation’s sports rage program.

Spirit of Cricket (adapted from the MCC Laws of Cricket, 2000 Code)

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws, but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action which is seen to abuse this spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the captains.

1. Captain's Role

There are two Laws which place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the captain.

Responsibility of captains

The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.

Player's conduct

In the event of a player failing to comply with instructions by an umpire, or criticising by word or action the decisions of an umpire, or 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, and instruct the latter to take action.

2. Fair and unfair play

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 captain to take action where required.

3. 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

4. The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:

- Your opponents
- Your own captain and team
- The role of the umpires
- The game and its traditional values

5. It is against the Spirit of the Game:

- To dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture
- To direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire
- To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance:
 - a) To appeal knowing that the batsman is not out
 - b) To advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing
 - c) To seek to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side

6. Violence

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

7. Players

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.

2. THE COMMITTEE

The administration of the competitions shall be vested in the Committee of the Armidale District Cricket Association (“ADCA”).

All decisions made by the Committee shall be final.

3. AFFILIATION AND REGISTRATION

Procedures concerning affiliation and registration shall be in accordance with the rules applicable to the ADCA.

4. CONDUCT OF COMPETITIONS

The Committee shall, subject to Rule 19 (“Protests and Disputes”), have the authority to make decisions on all aspects of the competitions. In particular, the Committee may, on such criteria as it may decide, determine the age groups in which competitions are to be offered, divide those age groups into two or more Divisions and combine age groups and/or the Divisions of one age group with the Divisions of one or more other age groups for the efficient running of the competitions. The Committee may alter the structure of the competitions and the allocation of teams to age groups and/or Divisions at any time (including after the commencement of a competition).

The Committee shall determine and publish rules for the conduct of all competitions.

5. OFFICIALS AND UMPIRES

The objective of the Umpires should be to **fairly and impartially** apply the Laws of Cricket (2000 Code) plus the ADCA Junior Competition Rules, while also keeping in mind the ideals of junior cricket, ie fun, sharing of opportunities, and development of skills.

Each team must provide at least two officials for each game to act as umpires and scorers. It is not appropriate to rely upon one team to provide both umpires and/or both scorers.

6. WET WEATHER

During wet or inclement weather the ADCA will determine if playing fields are unfit for play and will notify its decision on the radio, website and Facebook.

Once play has commenced, any decision to suspend play will be made by the umpires then officiating in the match, having regard to:

- 1) The safety of the players,
- 2) Pools of water or slipperiness of ground around the wicket or bowlers' approach,
- 3) Surface water appearing after walking across grass.

7. LIGHTNING

ADCA has adopted the following policy on lightning:

- If thunder follows a lightning flash by thirty seconds or less, then people in the open are at risk of being struck by lightning.
- In this circumstance, play must cease immediately, and all people take cover. You should not take shelter under trees, and you should avoid contact with plumbing.
- Play must not resume until 15 minutes after the last lightning flash.

Officials are reminded that Adjustments of Lost Time apply in accordance with the competition rules.

8. ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITIONS

Only players registered with a Member Club are eligible to play or act as a substitute in ADCA competition matches. Players shall be eligible to play in a particular age group if they are under the relevant age at midnight on 31 August immediately prior to the commencement of the competition.

No team is permitted to play an over age player unless a dispensation has been granted by ADCA. These are applied for through the clubs, and follow an ADCA procedure.

Any team that plays an over age player without dispensation will lose all competition points for those matches in which the player participated. For any round that that team had a Bye or a Forfeit, all points will be lost. The non-offending team will be awarded the maximum points scored in that round in that division.

Note that any age dispensation may be reviewed by ADCA during a season and withdrawn.

Players shall be eligible to play for a team in the semi-finals or finals only if they have played for that team in 50% of the premierships matches actually played by

that team. Byes, matches abandoned where no play was possible, and forfeits do not count as matches.

Players representing the ADCA in authorised representative matches may count a club match that was played by his or her team that he or she was unavailable for due to representative commitments, but this concession shall only apply in respect of the club team that the player has actually played the most club games for.

Players may apply to the Committee for dispensation to play for a team in the semi-final or finals matches notwithstanding that they do not meet the eligibility requirements. Such application must be lodged with the Association's Committee no later than 5pm on the Monday following the last round of the Minor Premiership.

9. DISPENSATION TO PLAY IN YOUNGER AGE GROUP (INCLUDING GIRLS)

The Committee may grant dispensation to any player who would not otherwise be eligible to do so to play in any competition under its control. The Committee would not normally grant such dispensation except on medical, extenuating and/or compassionate grounds. All applications for dispensation should be made to the Committee prior to the player playing in the age group requested.

Girls may play in any competition under the control of the Committee (other than competitions solely for girls) for which they would have been eligible had they been born exactly one year after their actual date of birth. This dispensation is automatic and no application to the Committee is required. Dispensations for more than one year may be applied for and granted as above.

Any player who is granted an age dispensation (excluding girls with an automatic one year dispensation) is not eligible for an ADCA individual player award.

10. TEAM NUMBERS, NOMINATION OF TEAMS AND PLAYERS FROM OTHER CLUBS

A team must have a minimum of 7 players in attendance before play can commence. Prior to the toss, the captain shall nominate the team of up to a maximum of 12 players who may thereafter only be changed with the consent of the opposing captain.

11. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Every batter must wear an abdominal protector (box), two leg guards (pads), batting gloves and a properly adjusted cricket helmet with FULL FACE GRILLE when batting, irrespective of the type of bowler or prevailing weather

conditions. **Umpires must not allow a batter to take strike unless this rule is fully complied with.** The helmet shall be a properly fitting cricket helmet that conforms to AS/NZS 4499:1997 “Protective Headgear for Cricket”.

This rule does not apply to Under 9 competitions where a softie ball is used.

12. BALLS

The ball to be used shall be in accordance with the following table. Balls other than those listed in this rule may only be used if prior approval has been obtained from the Committee.

Age group	Approved balls
U9	Aero Safety Club Junior weight or Easton Incrediball Club Safety (Junior Size) or similar
U10 to U12	142 gram two-piece synthetic ball
U13 to U16	156 gram two-piece leather ball

13. BOUNDARIES

It is desirable that, subject to the maximum limits set out in the following table and safety considerations, the largest possible playing area be used. Each team should provide at least 10 boundary markers. Managers should take careful note of the position of the boundary markers on day one of a two-day match to ensure as far as possible that the position of the boundary on day two is consistent with day one.

The boundary should not exceed the maximum set out in the following table:

Age group	Maximum Distance from stumps
U9	35 metres
U10 to U11	40 metres
U12 to U14	50 metres
U15 to U16	60 metres

14. MATCH POINTS

Two-day matches	Points
Outright win – after leading on 1 st innings	10

Outright win – after a tie on 1 st innings	8
Outright win – after trailing on 1 st innings	6
Outright tie – after leading on 1 st innings	8
Outright tie – after a tie on 1 st innings	5
Outright tie – after trailing on 1 st innings	2
Outright loss – after leading on 1 st innings	4
Outright loss – after a tie on 1 st innings	2
Outright loss – after trailing on 1 st innings	0
First innings win	6
First innings tie	3
First innings loss	0
Draw	3
Washout (day 1)*	0
Bye	Max points in division in that round
Win on forfeit	Max points in that division in that round
Loss on forfeit	0

*If the team batting first on the first day of a Two-Day match faces less than 15 overs and is not all out, no points are to be awarded. However, a One-Day match will then be scheduled for the second day of the round and, if that too is washed out, both teams will receive 2.5 points (ie the points for a washout in a One-Day match).

One-Day Matches	Points
Win	4
Loss	1
Draw (one side fails to receive the minimum overs)	2.5
Tie	3
Washout	2.5
Bye	4
Win on forfeit	Max points in division in that round
Loss on forfeit	0

15. UNFAIR RESULTS

The Committee has the power to investigate any circumstances in any match and, if it considers that the manner by which the result was obtained:

- a) Was unfair to any of the teams in the competition; and/or
- b) Was unfair – in the context of the Club Championship – to any of the clubs in the same competition;

then the Committee has the power to adjust any or all of the competition points awarded for that match.

16. MINOR PREMIERS

At the completion of the final competition preliminary round in all age groups/divisions (except the U9 age group which is not a competition division for the purpose of tabulating results), the team with the highest number of competition points shall be declared the Minor Premiers for the age division within which they competed.

If two or more teams finish on equal points then the team with the highest “quotient” will be declared the Minor Premiers.

(A team’s quotient is determined by dividing its batting average by its bowling average. The batting average for a team is defined as the total number of runs scored by the team divided by the total number of wickets lost. The bowling average for a team is defined as the total number of runs scored against the team divided by the number of wickets taken.)

17. SEMIS AND FINALS COMPETITIONS

Following the completion of the Minor Premiership, teams in each competition age group/division (except U9, U10s and U11s) will be drawn to play in finals based on the team’s respective position on the competition table.

The finals will be one-day games.

(Note: The ranking of a team is important as it will determine the winner if play is abandoned or there is a draw/tie. In a semi-final the highest ranked team will be declared the winner. In a final, if there is no result, the highest ranked team will be the winner, if there is a tie the teams shall be declared Joint Premiers.)

18. INDIVIDUAL AWARDS AND TROPHIES

Awards are made in all U10 to U16 competitions to the players who, at the completion of the Minor Premiership have:

- The highest aggregate runs
- The highest average runs

- The highest aggregate wickets
- The lowest average runs per wicket

subject to meeting the minimum standards set out below:

Age group	Minimum runs for batting awards	Minimum wickets for bowling awards
U10	120	10
U11	120	10
U12	140	10
U13	160	12
U14	220	12
U15	240	14
U16	250	14

It is desirable that there is a winner of each award and trophy in each competition every season. Therefore, the Committee may, at its discretion, vary the criteria for the individual awards and trophies. (For example, if no player meets the minimum requirement for a batting award in a particular competition, the Committee may reduce the requirement in order to make an award. Similarly, if an abnormal number of rounds have been washed out, the Committee may reduce the qualifying levels for one or more of the awards.)

Awards will be based on individual statistics submitted via the MyCricket website.

Team scores and individual statistics in abandoned matches count and must be entered in MyCricket, except where play is abandoned on day 1 of a two day game and the team batting first faces less than 15 overs and is not dismissed, and a one-day game is scheduled on day 2.

19. PROTESTS AND DISPUTES

The following procedure should be followed in the event of a dispute or protest:

- Every effort should be made to resolve all disputes and/or complaints at the ground on the day of the match, firstly with both umpires and secondly (if necessary) with the management of the team or teams concerned.
- If this is unsuccessful, the dispute should be referred to, and resolved by, the management of the Clubs concerned.
- If this is still unsuccessful, then the Clubs concerned may make application to the Committee for adjudication.
- The President shall appoint a Disputes Committee consisting of three Delegates from Member Clubs not involved in the dispute.

- v. The Disputes Committee shall investigate the complaint and may adjust any or all of the competition points awarded for the match and/or reprimand or suspend any player or players involved for such period as it shall determine.
- vi. Any protest must be submitted to the Vice President - Juniors in writing by 12 noon, three days following the completion of the match giving rise to the protest and be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$50.
- vii. The Disputes Committee's rulings may be appealed to the full Committee by notice in writing to the President by 12 noon, three days after the ruling. Such appeal must be accompanied by a further non-refundable fee of \$50.
- viii. At the Committee meeting at which the appeal is heard, the Delegates who sat on the Disputes Committee may not vote. However, those Delegates may appoint alternate delegates who may vote.
- ix. The Committee may uphold, set aside or amend the ruling of the Disputes Committee. The decision of the Committee on the appeal shall be final.

The MyCricket dispute result process relates only to the manner in which a match result has been entered and is not a substitute for the above procedure.

20. BREACH OF CODE OF CONDUCT

Where an adult involved with a junior cricket match is alleged to have breached the Code of Conduct than the Code of Conduct process and procedures contained in the current judiciary document for senior players will apply.

With junior players every effort should be made by officials, coaches and managers to resolve breaches of the Code of Conduct at the club level.

Any complaint by an official, manager, coach, parent or player that a junior player from another team has breached the Code of Conduct should initially be directed to the coach or manager of the opposing side. The complaint should be conveyed by the manager or coach of the complainant team or the umpire where applicable. The complaint should not be conveyed by a player or parent.

It is expected that the club receiving the complaint would deal with it in an appropriate way having regard to the seriousness of the complaint and the age of the player involved.

Only if:

- i. the opposing club disputes the allegation; or
- ii. the complainant believes that the opposing club not will not deal with the complaint in an appropriate manner, than a complaint may be made to the Committee.

A complaint to the Committee must:

- i. be in writing (including by email);
- ii. set out in full the nature of the complaint and the player alleged to have breached the Code of Conduct;
- iii. specify what attempts were made to resolve the matter with the opposing club and the results of those attempts;
- iv. be forwarded to the President, Secretary or Vice President Juniors;
- v. be received no later than 6.00 pm on the second day after the conclusion of the game.

Upon receipt of a complaint the Vice President Juniors will convene a disciplinary committee of not less than three members to hear and determine the complaint.

The disciplinary committee will convene a hearing within three days of the receipt of the complaint and will deal with the complaint in such manner as it sees fit.

The disciplinary committee may request the attendance of the player and any witnesses. Any junior player requested to attend may be accompanied by a parent, guardian or an official from their club.

The hearing will be conducted with as little formality as is possible.

At the conclusion of the hearing the disciplinary committee may:

- i. dismiss the complaint; or
- ii. find the complaint established.

If the complaint is established the disciplinary committee will determine whether a sanction is appropriate, and if so, the appropriate sanction. The disciplinary committee may caution the player or suspend the player for such time or games as it thinks fit.

21.WORKING WITH CHILDREN

Clubs must ensure that every coach, assistant coach, manger or assistant manager working with their teams has either a working with children clearance or is exempt from obtaining a clearance.

Each club will maintain a register of all coaches, assistant coaches , managers and assistant managers working in their clubs in the format set out in Schedule 1.

Each club will no later than Round 2 of the competition send a copy of the register to the Secretary and will then provide an update of the register whenever there are changes.

22. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES AND INTERPRETATION

All or any of these Rules may be deleted, added to or otherwise amended by the Committee at its absolute discretion. Such deletion, addition or amendment shall be effective from such date (including a date already passed) as the Committee shall determine. The Committee's interpretation of these Rules shall be final.

23. CLOTHING

Whites are to be worn and all players are to wear hats and sunscreen. Players may not wear representative shirts.

24. ENTERING RESULTS IN MYCRICKET

The match result is to be entered into My Cricket, by either team, by 6pm on Saturday evening, or in the case of rescheduled games, six hours after completion. It is the responsibility of the "home" side (ie the team that appears first in the draw) to ensure the match result is entered by this time. Each team must enter their player scores by 6pm on the Monday following the game.

Failure to enter the results into MyCricket on time will result in a penalty of one point for every day it is not done. Penalty points will be deducted from the team's points.

Matches will be locked at 6pm on the Wednesday following the game. Results and player scores will not be able to be entered after this time. Teams that have not entered results by this time will incur a penalty as above, and forego the opportunity to enter their individual players' scores for that match.

25. REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

To be eligible for junior representative cricket a player must be registered with and be an active player with a club.

26. TRANSFERS

A player may register and play with only one ADCA affiliated club in any one season. If a player wishes to transfer to another club during a season, the club must seek approval from the Committee prior to the player playing with the new club.

27. INTER-CLUB TRANSFERS

Subject to this rule, a club having more than one team in a grade may transfer players between teams or allow players who would otherwise have a bye to play in another team.

No more than three players can be transferred from one team to another team in any consecutive round.

A club may play no more than three players from a team having a bye in any other team.