

CODE OF CONDUCT & Discipline Committee

Rev Date: Nov 2014.

March 13th, 2010 at AGM. (A standard Red shirt uniform will be used for a white ball).
Nov 17th, 2013 at AGM. A new Light Blue coloured shirt/jacket was approved for use with either White or Red ball.

Rev: Nov 16th 2014 at AGM. VCU&SA light blue Uniform top with logo. Black dress pants & VCU&SA black hat per below.

The Vancouver Umpires' and Scorers' Discipline Committee shall be an impartial committee that will meet and make judgement about WRITTEN reports of violation of this CODE OF CONDUCT FOR UMPIRES, by any of its members.

NOTE! THE FOLLOWING RULES ARE MODIFIED EXCERPTS FROM VARIOUS EDITIONS OF "TOM SMITH'S CRICKET UMPIRING & SCORING." PLEASE USE THE MOST RECENT EDITION AS A REFERENCE.

(This document aims to be gender neutral. Any reference to the 'male,' applies equally to the 'female' gender). The League/Governing body refers to the BCMCL/Cricket BC etc. as needed for a particular match. Your association is the Vancouver Cricket Umpires & Scorers Association (VCU&SA-Est.1978)

Umpires or Scorers must NEVER SAY or DO ANYTHING to ENDANGER the RESPECT given to their position, the laws of the game or the esteem of the Local Umpires & Scorers Association. The umpires must have PATIENCE and COMPOSURE at all times. Even in EXTREME cases, umpires must not show their feelings about the game or players by WORD or GESTURE.

The umpire's judgment must be made without hurry, and then be followed by a calm and deliberate decision. Umpires must be completely neutral & unbiased. He must have COMMON SENSE, an even temper & good humour to respond wisely to the often hasty & excited actions of players.

Umpires are advised not to offer justifications for decisions either on or off the field. However, a calm & simple short answer to a polite question from a bowler or captain is always good for player-umpire relations. CONSULT your colleague when needed, for information.

Never discuss decisions made by your colleague with any player on or off the field. Be courteous, but you are required NOT to socialize with one team in preference to the other, before, during or after a match. After the game, it is good practice to discuss decisions with your colleague in a calm & confidential manner.

Recently qualified umpires become good ones after learning from good & experienced umpires & after as much match experience as possible. It is your duty to know the Laws of Cricket & keep abreast of any changes in the Law & Local Playing Conditions. (Paragraph modified Nov 2013)

All umpires will make mistakes. Never attempt to correct a bad decision with another one in order to be fair. If you have made a mistake and realize it, correct it immediately, particularly if your colleague points it out to you quickly. Make sure you repeat all signals to the scorer **when the ball is dead**. The umpires are not responsible for the behaviour of any of the players. This is the captains' responsibility. (You are not a policeman on the field!)

All umpires need to have first-class eyesight & acute hearing. Any aids used must bring you up to excellent condition. Umpires & scorers must have excellent ability to concentrate long hours. It is your duty to ensure that you are in appropriate physical condition for your task.

It is now an MCC Law which requires that you be at your game 45 minutes before scheduled start. - 2010. (Also – locally - avoid going to a ground 1 hour or earlier than the scheduled start, when the weather is questionable, as the assigner may need to inform you that your match has been abandoned – Clubs do not want to pay you if they cancel their match - Nov 2012).

If a Captain reports on a Statistics or Assessment sheet, submitted to the 'league', that you were not there to supervise the toss, you will lose 15% of your match fee. A scorer must be there with umpires 15 minutes before the scheduled start. If reported, as before you will lose 15% of match fee. If not there at the start of play & up to 15 minutes late, umpire or scorer will lose 30% of fee. **If you have mitigating circumstances, it is your duty to explain these (in writing) to your League Secretary & your Umpire Association Appointments secretary.**

YOU MUST follow the Umpires dress code on the field of play (Rev Nov 2014). – If you as an umpire do not follow the VCU&SA Dress Code –see below.

For Umpires:

- a) Black dress trousers or skirt & closed shoes
(**Note:** no blue jeans, track or sweat pants, cargo pants, and no sandals) b)
- Light blue VCU&SA Shirt/Jacket with logo.
- c) If wearing a hat, it must be the VUC&SA black hat with logo

For scorers:

- a) Light blue VCU&SA Shirt/Jacket with logo.
- b) If wearing a hat, it must be the VUC&SA black hat with logo

Cell phone Protocol for VCU&SA Umpires. (Is hereby added to VCU&SA Code of Conduct & was ratified at AGM 2013*).

All on-field VCU&SA umpires are required to turn off all Cellphone or equal communicating devices that are not required for the conduct of a Cricket match. If not turned off, they should be on silent mode. You may check for emergency messages during 'drinks' or 'Innings' breaks.

If you do have to leave the field in response to an emergency message, let your colleague know what has happened & he will obtain a replacement umpire following the Laws of Cricket. **You are responsible to ensure that your Cellphone activity does not interrupt a play.**

Failure to follow the above VCU&SA code, once verified, will mean loss of match fee for the game. VCU&SA Executive / Disciplinary committee reserves the right not to assign further games until compliance is agreed upon.

Discipline Process:

The Local Umpires' and Scorers' Discipline Committee shall be an impartial committee that will meet and make judgment about WRITTEN reports of violation of this CODE OF CONDUCT FOR UMPIRES & SCORERS by any of its members, which are sent to the secretary of the VCU&SA.

The Discipline Committee shall consist of:

- a) The President of the Umpires & Scorers Association or nominee - Chairperson.
- b) 2 active members of the VCU&SA with 5+ years' experience as chosen by the VCU&SA Executive body.

The committee will meet (in person, via Fax or E-mail) within 7 days of receipt of a WRITTEN REPORT – ex on Stat Sheet or Umpires Assessment form etc(Fax or E-mail - OK) sent to the Local League Secretary & VCU&SA Secretary.

The VCU&SA secretary will upon receipt of a report, immediately inform the reported member by phone call & e-mail/fax, of the details of the charge and the date of the meeting AT WHICH THE MEMBER MAY DEFEND HIM/HERSELF.

After adequate hearing and verification of facts, the committee will decide on action

- a) Exoneration b) Reprimand c) Fine - match fee etc. d) Suspension e) Expulsion

The committee will not deal with judgement calls by umpires such as LBW, caught behind, no-ball etc.
The committee will deal with errors about the Law, made by a member - if the President does not wish to handle it privately, before going to committee.

The committee will deal with Local League & Umpires/Scorers or particular Governing Body code (behaviour) violations by our members.

Written match reports by both umpires and both captains at the match will be vital to the process and differences may be resolved by phone calls made from meetings. The captains or umpires report must identify the complainant/s, if different from themselves. There must be no anonymity of the complainant.

Any suspensions/penalties and expulsions may be appealed by E-mail or Fax within 48hrs of written notification of the suspension by the president of umpires/scorers association.

Appeals:

Appeals are made to the Secretary of the umpires/scorers association.

The Appeal Committee is the Executive of the VCU&SA (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer & 1 other senior member not on the Discipline committee. This committee shall meet, in person, via fax or email within 7 days of receipt of written appeal.

Other than the president of the local Umpires/Scorers association, in order for natural justice to prevail, those that sit on the appeal committee shall be different from those on the Discipline Committee. Furthermore, anyone with some perceived association with the reported individual should dissociate him/herself from any of the committees above.

The Appeals Committee decision will be binding and final.
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