

## MACC CODE OF CONDUCT AND PLEDGE

It is the goal of MACC Executive Committee to provide a positive and fair environment for all participants of the MACC. As a player, the responsibility rests with you to be willing to play hard and be committed to fair play. Cricket is a team sport and each player is an important component in the success of the team and the MACC. Players adherence to this code of conduct will promote fair play, discipline, and sportsmanship for the good of the MACC/league/conference, other players, and the game of Cricket. As a PLAYER/Team Official of the MACC/league/conference, I agree to the following Code of Conduct:

### **PLAYERS:**

**Play by the rules:** Take extra effort to understand the rules of the game completely before participating in any games of the MACC. MACC Executive Committee/Umpiring Committee and other officials are there to help you understand them if you have any questions.

**Accept Umpires and Officials' decisions:** Traditionally, cricket has been the sport to maintain and exhibit the highest levels of conduct and sportsmanship. Though it is a most competitive game, the continued strength of the sport has relied upon the acceptance of the Umpire's decision and preparedness to play within the spirit of the game.

**Control Emotions:** Playing and participation in to enjoy your involvement in the game is for your enjoyment and the enjoyment of the other players and spectators and the company of others. No verbal or equipment abuse will be tolerated.

**Save Time:** When coming into bat and between overs, avoid unnecessary conversation. Move back to your bowling mark and fielding positions without delay between deliveries. Pay attention to right-left batting combinations and anticipate changing your field positions accordingly. Play ready-cricket.

**Respect Others:** Treat all players and property as you would like to be treated yourself. Encourage your teammates and bowlers in moderation.

### **Safety and Hygiene:**

MACC Executive committee/Umpire Committee give the highest priority to the safety and hygiene of all players. Make sure to understand safety requirements of the game. Wear appropriate apparel and safety kit equipment as required at all times. Be aware of your surroundings, neighborhood, and other players, people/kids on and around the ground. Report all minor and major injuries and also safety violations to your coaches/managers and MACC Executive Committee/Umpire Committee officials.

Please ensure to clean up all the garbage including drink bottles, food wrappers, and bags, etc. and leave the place clean. All the players and volunteers are required to help in this effort at the

end of every game and practice session. The city authorities and faculty owners require us to leave the place neat and clean. Observe rules and regulations of the ground/facilities.

MACC Executive Committee/Umpire Committee encourages all players to have their own cricket kit during practice sessions and during the games to ensure proper hygiene. Use public facilities carefully and appropriately. Report any hygiene issue promptly to your coaches/managers and MACC Executive Committee/Umpire Committee officials.

### **Ground/Field Use:**

Understand the ground use limitations and follow the set guidelines all the time. Most of the grounds are not owned but made available by the city or schools, which are shared with other teams and members of the community. Follow all the guidelines set by officials regarding the use of each ground. If you have any questions, check with your coaches/managers and MACC Executive Committee/Umpire Committee officials.

### **General Conduct Rules:**

- All players should arrive at least 45 minutes before the scheduled start of play
- All players will stay off the playing surface, the square, prior to the start of the play, unless preparing the surface for play. Please refer to MACC Rule 12.4
- Warm ups will be done on the edge of the field or in the nets
- All players will be dressed in their full cricket attire before the start of the play
- 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
- Players shall not at any time engage in conduct that could bring them or the game into disrepute
- Players must at all times accept the umpires' decision
- Players must not show dissent at the umpires' decision

**Batsmen are allowed external/visible protective gear of a helmet, external leg guards (batting pads), batting gloves, and, if visible, forearm guards. All other protective gear should be worn under clothes. Keepers are allowed wicket-keeping pads, gloves, and helmets. Other fieldsmen are allowed only helmets as visible protective gear. All other items should be under clothes.**

- The captains will make the initial contact with the opposition
- The two captains will perform a coin toss on the playing surface in the presence of umpires/MACC officials
- Play will be conducted in the spirit of the game and according to its rules
- The team kit and individual kits will be kept tidy throughout the game and its contents checked at the end of the game
- All team members will (are encouraged to) shake hands of the opposition before and after the game

- The captain will (is encouraged to) shake hands of the other captain, their coach and the umpires
- All team members will (are encouraged to) give three cheers for the opposition and umpires at the end of play
- All the decisions made by umpires on the ground will be honored. Only umpires and/or team coach/manager may escalate an issue or dispute to the MACC dispute resolution committee.

**Following areas of player, manager, and coach behavior are of major concern to MACC Executive Committee/Umpiring Committee and are clearly unacceptable and may incur penalties including the disqualification of related players or team:**

- The use of offensive language - generally as a disparaging remark to an opposing player or toward an umpire, or even as an expression of frustration or self-admonishment. This includes racial vilification (any act that is reasonably likely to threaten, disparage, vilify, offend, insult, humiliate, or intimidate another person or group based on skills, race, religion, descent, color or national or ethnic origin.
- The questioning/disputing of the umpire's decision - often in an aggressive or sarcastic manner. This applies equally to dismissals and unsuccessful appeals as to the judgment of calls on no-balls, wides, byes, etc. Crowding or touching of an umpire by players or the team can be considered grounds for disciplinary action resulting in individual or team disqualification.
- Entering the field of play without umpire's permission, disputing decisions on the field and interfering with the progress of the game.
- The excessive number of aggressive appeals primarily aimed at pressuring and intimidating the umpire into a favorable decision.
- The actions of the fielding team on an unfavorable decision from the umpire (e.g. banging the ball on the ground, wicket keeper throwing his gloves and inappropriate language).
- The actions of the dismissed batsman - in falling to leave the crease promptly on being given out, confronting or verbally abusing the umpire, and any equipment abuse (e.g. banging the bat into the ground or against the fence, etc. and/or throwing the bat or equipment during or after his return to the pavilion.)
- "Send offs" - verbal taunting usually to a dismissed batsman by the bowler or a member of the fielding side. This can often inflame the situation and lead to a more serious altercation.
- Be honest and consistent by acknowledging balls crossing the boundary. Although boundaries can sometimes be hard to determine, if the ball crosses the boundary, give credit to the batting team. The boundary may not be adjusted once the game has started.

**Continued breach of conduct in any manner despite warnings will result in disciplinary action against the player/team and the concerned offending team.**

**Coaches/Manages/Team Officials:**

- Providing opportunities for your players to improve his/her skills
- Encourage them to improve their cricketing skills in batting, bowling, and fielding. Give them positive feedback about their skills and efforts.
- Encourage them to communicate openly with coaches. Remember to help them understand that winning is only one aspect of playing the game and should not overpower all other aspects of the game
- Encourage play within the rules, honest effort, skilled performances, goal setting, and team loyalty (the process for success)
- Be a model of good sports behavior for your player
- Be courteous in your communication with players, officials and MACC Executive Committee/Umpiring Committee
- Home team is expected to help set up the field/wickets and help clean up after the game
- Home team is expected to provide shade/water/ice/cooler for visiting teams

**Guests and Spectators:**

- Demonstrate appropriate social behavior. Remember that the players play for their enjoyment
- Let the officials conduct the game without interference and respect their decisions
- Applaud good performances and efforts from each team
- Respect the opposing team players, their officials and their supporters

**Application and Enforcement of the Code:**

- The Code of Conduct will serve as guide to the Executive/Disciplinary/Umpiring Committee in dealing with infractions
- The Code of Conduct is applicable to all the games played within MACC, including League and representative games
- The Executive Board may in addition to, or as an alternative to any of the penalties, impose a term of probation not exceeding two years. Any subsequent offence committed while on probation will be dealt with more severely.
- Penalties can be in the form of suspension from games, fines, or both. Maximum penalties are intended to be reserved for the worst instance of a breach of the rule or when dealing with repeat offenders
- The period of suspension will be specified as a number of games (inclusive of life) depending on the nature and seriousness of the infraction. Suspension must be served in (or must apply to) the year in which the infraction occurred. If not completed in a given

season, it must be carried over to the subsequent seasons. Suspension from one division will debar a player from participating in another division (Junior/senior/under 19)

- Suspension penalty includes suspension from all MACC activities and events, all matches and all MACC representative matches until the period of suspension is completed
- No player under probation shall hold any office in MACC until after the end of the probationary period
- Lack of knowledge of the existence of this document does not constitute as an excuse for non-compliance

### **Infractions:**

#### Level I Infractions:

1. Any player using crude or abusive language or making offensive gestures
2. Failure of a Batsman to immediately leave the field after being given out by the umpire
3. Any player involved in a further minor incident subsequent to receiving a warning or caution

#### Level I Penalties:

- Automatic Probation for a 6 month period from the date of imposition
- Fine of up to US \$50.00

#### Level II Infractions:

1. Any audible on-field expression of criticism or dissent by a player to an umpire's decision, whether or not it is expressed directly at an umpire
2. Any confrontational or threatening language or gesture directed at an umpire or any player(s)
3. Failure to comply with an umpire's instruction
4. Any player under probation committing another Level I infraction
5. Any player involved in repetitive Level I infraction, whether they are currently on probation or not

#### Level II Penalties:

- Automatic Probation for a 1 year period from the date of imposition
- Fine of up to US \$100.00
- Suspension for a period encompassing up to 1-3 MACC scheduled games

#### Level III Infractions:

\*\* This infraction is considered as the worst incident and maximum penalties can be applied.

1. A player participating in MACC games under the influence of alcohol, narcotics, or controlled substance, or who consumes alcoholic beverages during the game
2. Any player or team involved in any physical abuse of equipment or facilities
3. Any player or team engaging in conduct which can jeopardize future use of ground facilities
4. A player under suspension violating any of the previously imposed penalties

Level III Penalties:

- Automatic Probation for a 2 year period from the date of imposition
- Fine of up to US \$250.00
- Suspension for a period of no less than 3 MACC scheduled games

Level IV Infractions:

1. Any act of physical aggression or violence towards a Player, Umpire or Spectator.
2. Any captain involved in a Level III infraction.

Level IV Penalties:

- Automatic Probation for a 2 year period to commence after suspension.
- Fine of up to US \$250.00
- Suspension for a period of not less than 3-5 MACC scheduled games.