



## **FCA Code of Conduct and Spirit of Cricket**

This document has been adopted by the Association Committee of the Finnish Cricket Association (FCA) on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and it supersedes the previous version of the Code of Conduct and Spirit of Cricket adopted on 3 November 2014.

### **1. Scope of application**

Any offence committed in contravention of the Code of Conduct and Spirit of Cricket by a person under the jurisdiction of the Finnish Cricket Association is subject to the penalties laid out in this document. Persons under the jurisdiction of the FCA include all members of FCA member clubs and other persons participating in cricket sanctioned by the FCA. An express purpose of this document is to broaden the scope of application of Law 42 to situations outside matches, grounds, and the day of the match.

### **2. Code of Conduct**

- 2.1 The Finnish Cricket Association is committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. This Code of Conduct incorporates the Spirit of Cricket, as set out below. It applies to all matches played under the auspices of the FCA and is to be applied to cricket played in Finland in general.
- 2.2 The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of Cricket as well as within the relevant Playing Conditions.
- 2.3 Everyone must at all times accept the umpire's decision. Players must not show dissent at the umpire's decision or react in a provocative or disapproving manner towards another player or a spectator.
- 2.4 No one shall intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an umpire, another player or a spectator.
- 2.5 Players and team officials shall not use crude and/or abusive language (known as "sledging") nor make offensive gestures or hand signals nor deliberately distract an opponent.
- 2.6 No one shall make racially abusive comments nor indulge in racially abusive actions against players, officials, members and supporters. Clubs must operate an active open-door membership policy whilst respecting player qualification regulations and welcome players /members irrespective of ethnic origin.
- 2.7 No one shall use or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs (also including but not limited to all drugs outlined in the relevant WADA and ICC anti-doping codes).
- 2.8 No one shall attempt to manipulate a match with regard to the result, net run rate, or performance of any player.
- 2.9 Clubs must take adequate steps to ensure the good behaviour of their members and supporters towards players and umpires, both on and off the field of play.

### **3. Spirit of Cricket**

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.

#### **3.1 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.

#### **3.2 Player's Conduct**

In the event of any player failing to comply with the instructions of an umpire, criticising their 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.

### 3.3 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.

### 3.4 The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:

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

### 3.5 Violence

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

### 3.6 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.

## 4. Code of Conduct – Offences

### 4.1 Reception of offences listed in Laws 41 and 42

Offences received into Playing Conditions and other format-specific rules from Laws 41 and 42 of the Laws of Cricket are directly sanctionable.

In addition to offences received from Law 42, the following offences shall incur penalties.

### 4.2 Level 1 Offences

- 4.2.1 Showing dissent at an umpire's decision by word or by action outside the scope of application of Law 42.
- 4.2.2 Using language or a gesture that is obscene, offensive or insulting outside the scope of application of Law 42.
- 4.2.3 Where the facts of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, conduct that either: (a) is contrary to the spirit of the game; or (b) brings the game into disrepute.

### 4.3 Level 2 Offences

- 4.3.1 Repeat of any Level 1 Offence within 12 months.
- 4.3.2 Showing serious dissent at an umpire's decision by word or action made outside the scope of application of Law 42.
- 4.3.3 Public criticism of a match related incident or match official made outside the scope of application of Law 42.
- 4.3.4 Using language or a gesture that is obscene, offensive or of a seriously insulting nature to another player, umpire, referee, team official or spectator, when committed outside the scope of application of Law 42.
- 4.3.5 Where the facts of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, conduct that either: (a) is contrary to the spirit of the game; or (b) brings the game into disrepute.

### 4.4 Level 3 Offences

- 4.4.1 Repeat of any Level 2 Offence within 12 months.
- 4.4.2 Intimidation of an umpire or referee outside the scope of application of Law 42.
- 4.4.3 Threat of assault on a player, team official, or spectator made outside the scope of application of Law 42.

- 4.4.4 Using language or gestures that offends race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin made outside the scope of application of Law 42.
- 4.4.5 Where the facts of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, conduct that either: (a) is contrary to the spirit of the game; or (b) brings the game into disrepute.

#### **4.5 Level 4 Offences**

- 4.5.1 Repeat for any Level 3 Offence within 12 months.
- 4.5.2 Threat of assault on an umpire or referee made outside the scope of application of Law 42.
- 4.5.3 Physical assault of another player, umpire, referee, official or spectator made outside the scope of application of Law 42.
- 4.5.4 Using language or gestures that seriously offends race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin.
- 4.5.5 Anti-doping violations.
- 4.5.6 Manipulation and attempted manipulation of a match.
- 4.5.7 Where the facts of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, conduct that either: (a) is contrary to the spirit of the game; or (b) brings the game into disrepute.

### **5. Code of Conduct – Penalties**

If, after a report by any party, any player – or non-playing member of a club under the jurisdiction of the FCA – is found guilty after the proper procedures have been concluded, of any of the offences outlined above, that person shall be liable to the following sanction:

#### **5.1 Penalties**

- 5.1.1 Level 1 Offences: Warning of future conduct
- 5.1.2 Level 2 Offences: Severe reprimand and ban for 1–2 SM40 matches, 1–2 T20 matches, or 2–3 Indoor matches
- 5.1.3 Level 3 Offences: Ban for 2–5 SM40 matches, 2–5 T20 matches, or 4–9 Indoor matches
- 5.1.4 Level 4 Offences: Ban for 5 SM40 matches to life, 5 T20 matches to life, or 10 Indoor matches to life

#### **5.2 Mode of application to non-playing members**

For non-playing members, the ban shall take the form of exclusion from the number of matches determined. The offending person shall not attend the match in any capacity.

### **6. Disciplinary Procedures**

- 6.1 The procedures to be followed in respect of any breaches of the Offences contained in section 2 are detailed in the FCA Disciplinary Guidelines.