**Harrogate Cricket Club**

**Code of Conduct**

This code of conduct forms part of the clubs overall welfare policy which is a condition of membership. This includes representing the club at events by families & their guests.

All Members and Guests of Harrogate Cricket Club will:

* Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of Cricket
* Treat everyone equally and not discriminate on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, religious belief, class or social background, sexual preference or political belief
* Not condone, or allow to go unchallenged, any form of discrimination if witnessed
* Display high standards of behaviour
* Promote the positive aspects of Cricket e.g. fair play
* Encourage all participants to learn the Laws and rules and play within them, respecting the decisions of match officials
* Actively discourage unfair play, rule violations and arguing with match officials
* Recognise good performance not just match results
* Place the well-being and safety of children above the development of performance
* Ensure that activities are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual
* Respect children’s opinions when making decisions about their participation in Cricket
* Not smoke, drink or use banned substances whilst actively working with children in the Club.
* Not provide children with alcohol when they are under the care of the Club.
* Follow ECB guidelines set out in the “Safe Hands – Cricket’s Policy for Safeguarding Children and any other relevant guidelines issued
* Speak up if you have concerns or are unsure, your opinions matter
* Support all our managers, coaches, & club officials who give of their time voluntarily
* Respect the managers team selections and decisions within the game
* Tell us in confidence of any additional support your child may require
* Encourage, but never force your child to play, including arriving on time, with the required kit
* Report any concerns in relation to a child, following reporting procedures laid down by the ECB
* Discuss the importance of the Members’ code of conduct with your child
* Volunteer at least a few hours each year to help with the running of the club in some way. Most cricket clubs, are a non-profit organisation. The club functions only by members volunteering their time and we need everyone to pitch in to help.
* Parental request – Please encourage and praise players for effort, development, teamwork and good social skills as much as performance.
* Be pro-active about helping on match-days, for example:

Offer to help the Team Manager with the various tasks that need to be done on match days, such as putting out seats, putting out boundary flags, setting up the stumps, etc

Volunteer to score and teach other parents how to score

Volunteer to umpire if you know the rules

Help ensure that team members waiting to bat are actively watching the game and supporting their team-mates

*Members and guests include all members and officers of the cricket club and all guests of those members and officers,*

*as well as all Individuals who watch/attend/participate/officiate in matches hosted by the club in whatever capacity.*

**In addition to the above, all Club Officers and Appointed Volunteers will:**

* Have been appropriately vetted if required, before taking on their role
* Hold relevant qualifications and be covered by appropriate insurance
* Always work in an open environment (i.e. avoid private or unobserved situations and encourage an open environment)
* Inform Players and Parents of the requirements of Cricket
* Know and understand the ECB’s ‘Safe Hands – Cricket’s Policy for Safeguarding Children’
* Develop an appropriate working relationship with young players, based on mutual trust and respect
* Ensure that physical contact is appropriate and necessary and is carried out within recommended guidelines with the young player’s full consent and approval
* Not engage in any form of sexually related contact with a young player. This is strictly forbidden as is sexual innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures and terms. The ECB adopts the Home Office guidelines which recommend the principle - “People in positions of trust and authority do not have sexual relationships with 16-17 year olds in their care”
* Attend appropriate training to keep up to date with their role, especially that relating to the Safeguarding of children
* Make arrangements with under 18s via their parents or carers (this includes text and email messages). With prior parent consent, over 16s may be contacted directly but the parent must be copied in to any communication.

This code of conduct provides participants with details of acceptable and unacceptable behaviour, and the expectations of others in relation to good practices, and as such provides reference points for managing participants and can assist in identifying unacceptable practice within the game. Breaches of code of conduct will be dealt with as appropriate in each individual circumstance.