

**WOMEN’S CRICKET**

**THE 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.

The captains are always responsible for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of the game, as well as within the Laws.

**The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:**

* Your opponents
* Your own captain
* The roles of the umpires
* The game’s traditional values

**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:
  + To appeal knowing the batsman is not out.
  + To advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.
  + To seek to distract an opponent, either verbally or by harassment

All Players, Spectators and Coaches are required to read and comply with this Charter

**A PLAYER SHOULD** :

* Enjoy participating in women’s cricket
* Participate according to the rules, play hard but fairly and safely within the spirit of the game
* Enjoy the satisfaction of achievement, success and belonging
* Display Sportsmanship and teamwork, tolerate differences and acknowledge good performance whether by team mates or opponents
* Experience skilled, qualified and sensitive leadership by coaches
* Cooperative and show respect for the coach, team mates, opponents, officials and spectators.
* Support and encourage your team without abuse/intolerance to opposition.
* Accept and abide by the decisions of officials without dissent. If necessary let the captain or coach seek clarification. There should be absolutely NO dissent at decisions
* Have access to and use suitable, good quality equipment and facilities

**A SPECTATOR SHOULD:**

* Encourage players to play hard but always play by the rules
* Focus on effort, skill development and performance rather than on the outcome
* Lead by example and display good sportsmanship.
* Acknowledge good performance by players in both teams
* Be courteous in communication with players, coaches, administrators and opposition supporters.
* Respect officials decisions. There should be absolutely NO dissent at decisions
* Support your players but leave the running of the match to officials and coaches.
* Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches and administrators and show appreciation and support for the time, effort and resources they put into cricket.

**A COACH SHOULD:**

* Ensure that players have a positive and valuable experience.
* Treat all players, officials and spectators with respect and within the Spirit of Cricket.
* Not disagree with decisions made by the officials
* Advise and coach their players, as long as it does not negatively impact on the flow of the game. It is recommended that the coach and captain take discussions and advise in the natural pauses of the game. Eg change of batters, drinks.

**AN OFFICIAL SHOULD:**

* Always be fair and impartial
* Encourage players regardless of ability
* Understand that the games are for development and they should facilitate a positive experience of cricket.