



THE TRADITIONS AND ETIQUETTE OF CRICKET

The Western Australian Cricket Association believes it is vital to maintain, and in some cases recapture, the spirit and traditions in which cricket is played. The values of honesty, fair play, respect for others, accepting the umpire's decision, courtesy and self-discipline are enshrined in the game. Coaches, captains, players and administrators have responsibility for upholding these traditional values which make cricket such a great game.

Fieldsmen

- Enter the field of play promptly after the umpires
- The captain should lead the team onto the field
- Between deliveries keep an eye on the captain for a possible change of position
- Keep position, don't wander
- Remember your position for each bowler and each batsman
- Get the ball back to the bowler promptly after each delivery
- Do not engage in unnecessary comments or actions in the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of own team
- Do not engage in frivolous appealing
- Only players in line with the wickets should appeal
- Do not charge the umpire when appealing
- Indicate immediately if you have any doubt about completing a fair catch
- Do not engage in chatter or movement likely to distract the batsman
- Once the bowler has commenced his run-up all fielders should be silent
- Do not engage in any form of sledging
- Always signal to the umpire when the ball reaches the boundary
- Do not sit on the ground – even if it is a drinks break or a wicket has fallen
- Avoid walking on the pitch
- Acknowledge a 50 and/or 100 scored by a batsman
- Acknowledge a bowler's good performance – clap him off the field

Bowlers

- Always say "thank you" to the umpire when passing to him, or receiving from him, your hat and/or jumper - never throw them or leave on the stumps or on the ground
- Always accept the umpire's decision
- If questioning the umpire on a point, do it calmly and politely – accept his response

- If the non-striker is leaving his crease early a quiet word via the umpire should solve the problem
- Apologise to the batsman immediately if a high full-pitched delivery accidentally slips out
- Do not engage in any form of sledging

Batsmen

- Enter the field of play after the fielding side
- When asking for 'guard' say "please"
- Always be ready to receive the ball when the bowler is ready to start his run-up
- Apologise if for some reason, such as adjustment to equipment, you have cause to make the bowler wait
- Accept the umpire's decision – when given out walk immediately without any show of emotion
- Avoid any comments or gestures likely to cause conflict with the bowler or fieldsmen
- As the incoming batsman, cross the outgoing batsman on the field of play
- Always have clothing and equipment comfortable and fully adjusted so as not to cause delays when you are the incoming batsman
- When taking runs always run to the side of the pitch

General

- Show respect for your captain, team-mates, opponents, umpires and the game's traditional values
- Be humble in victory and gracious in defeat
- When the 'home' team, create an hospitable environment for opponents and umpires
- Put team interests above your own
- Show self-discipline both on and off the field
- Look the part - clothing and equipment should be clean, tidy and properly worn
- Show appreciation of the efforts of volunteers and workers within the game - for example, the people who provide lunches and afternoon teas, ground staff and club officials
- Always be punctual for matches and training sessions
- At the end of the match shake hands with opponents and thank the umpires
- After the day's play participate in social interaction with team-mates, opponents and umpires - it is amazing how much you can learn about the game on such occasions
- Take the opportunity to form new friendships and acquaintances

If you can observe and practise all of the above you will gain maximum enjoyment from this great game and make it equally enjoyable for the other participants. You will also have made a significant contribution to the maintenance of the spirit and traditions of the game.