



Goodwood Cricket Club Youth Policy

INTRODUCTION

Goodwood Cricket Club is a community cricket club whose aims are:

- i) to provide a safe and nurturing environment that enhances participation, promotes friendships and to foster a love of cricket in young people
- ii) to teach the skills of the game
- iii) to teach, and ensure the observance of, the Spirit of Cricket, as defined in the 2000 code of the Laws of Cricket

This policy accords with Cricket Australia's junior policy statement.

Goodwood fields teams in the following age groups: Under 10's, Under 12's, Under 14's, Under 15's and Under 17's. Each team plays a series of matches between October and February under the aegis of the Adelaide Turf Cricket Association (ACTA). The Under 10's, Under 12's and Under 14's play 40-over games on Sunday mornings, and the Under 15's and Under 17's play longer games (60 or 72 overs) on Sunday afternoons. Most games are 2-day events, played on successive Sundays, although some 1-day games are played. At Under 14's level the leading 2 teams in each competition play a grand final. At Under 15's and Under 17's level the leading 4 teams in each competition play semi-finals and a final.

OBJECTIVES

Being a community club, Goodwood seeks to strike a balance between two principles:

1. to strive to win cricket matches – it is our belief that no game is worth playing unless one endeavours to defeat the opposition. This does not suggest a “win at all costs” attitude.
2. to ensure that every player, from the weakest to the strongest, becomes an integral part of the team and is given the opportunity to demonstrate his skills on the field of play.



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CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT

The Club's Child Protection Officer is Mr Jeff Emmel (also President of Goodwood Cricket Club). He can be contacted on 0403 570 915 or e-mail redlington@optusnet.com.au

1. The Goodwood Cricket Club concurs with the DECD Principles pertaining to the provision of a child safe environment at all times.

This applies to all volunteers and acknowledges all forms of physical and emotional risk that children might face.

2. All volunteer coaches and managers will undergo background checks before they can undertake a leadership role. Parents of all participants will be made aware of this at the beginning of each season.

3. The Club will appoint a Senior Committee person as its Child Safety Officer. The Club's Child Safety/Protection Officer is currently Mr Jeff Emmel, President and Chairman of Goodwood Cricket Club.

The Child Safety officer will:

1. Be the first point of contact for parents and who have concerns about the safety and treatment of their children.

2. Organise pre season child safe environment training sessions for all coaches, managers and volunteers who hold a position of responsibility in a junior team.

3. Monitor the administration and conduct of the Club's junior programs

4. Deal with all disputes and concerns that might arise in the conduct of junior practice sessions and fixtures.

5. Refer any concerns and allegations of parents about the behaviour of coaches and volunteers that threaten the safety and well being of children.

ON-FIELD POLICY

Although we adhere to these twin objectives throughout the age range, there is inevitably a gradual shift in emphasis between them as the players grow older.

In the early years, participation is paramount and results are secondary. Obviously, in the older age groups, the team's potential is maximised to achieve success. We are not all born equal – some have greater talent than others; consequently, the stronger batsmen are likely to spend more time in the middle and the stronger bowlers will deliver more overs.



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Also, since each age group covers a two-year cycle, it is natural that those players in the second year of each cycle will tend to play a more prominent role than those in their first year. That is part of a player's development.

Our coaches and team managers observe the following guidelines in the several age categories:

Under 10's and Under 12's

At this stage the emphasis is entirely upon having fun and ensuring virtually equal participation for all. For example, every player, save the wicket-keeper, must bowl two overs before anybody bowls again. Batsmen retire compulsorily at 25 runs in the Under 10's and 30 runs in the Under 12's; managers may retire other batsmen before they attain these goals in order to ensure that each player bats in every game. In these age groups each player must bowl 2 overs before any other bowler can bowl their 3rd over.

Under 14's

Much the same policy is adopted at this level, except that there may be a degree of standardisation in the batting and bowling order: obviously, it makes sense for the stronger players to bat and bowl against the opposition's strongest, and for our younger and less experienced players to perform against their counterpoints in other sides, where they are more likely to achieve a degree of success and play a valuable part in the teams performance. Nevertheless, no player will find himself permanently at the bottom of the pile, and every player bats and bowls in each game. Compulsory retirement for batters is 50 runs.

Under 15's

At this age group there is a slight shift in emphasis: not everybody will necessarily bat and bowl in every match; games follow more closely the structure of adult cricket; nevertheless, managers try to ensure that each player is involved in at least one of the two principal disciplines in each game. Batsmen retire compulsorily at 100, although managers may choose to retire a player earlier to ensure that others have the opportunity to contribute.

Under 17's

The process continues further at this stage and our Under 17 cricketers play highly competitive cricket. Even at this level, our policy is that each player is given the opportunity to make a real contribution, although the more talented players will naturally assume a progressively major role.



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CAPTAINS

The Match Day Coach and Team Manager appoints a captain for his team. In the Under 10's and Under 12's, the manager/umpire takes most of the decisions, while giving the captain his first taste of responsibility. The captain may be selected on a match by match basis. At Under 14 level, a captain is generally appointed for the season and he is accorded progressively more decision-making, while the manager still ensures that every player is given a fair opportunity. The process continues in the older age groups; by Under 17's level, the captain will take the majority of on-field decisions for his team. Even at this stage, the players are still children and matters such as team selection and conduct remain in the provenance of the Junior Committee, headed by the Junior Coordinator.

SQUADS & TEAM SELECTION

At the start of each season squads are formed in each age category. New members may join subsequently. Depending upon demand, some squads may comprise up to fourteen players. At the younger age groups there is no limit to the number of players who may represent a team but, from Under 15's onwards, only eleven may play, plus a twelfth man who may not bat. Thus, one or two players may have to be rested for each match. This will be done on a rotational basis. The rotational policy will continue, even when a team reaches the semi-final or final of its competition. Selection for semi-finals and finals shall be made by the Team Manager in consultation with the Junior Coordinator and the Junior Coach.

EXPECTATIONS

All players are expected to attend training once a week whenever possible at the appropriate times.

In the 2016/2017 season Training will be held at Goodwood Oval on Friday afternoons:

Under 10's - 4:00 to 5:30pm

Under 12's - 4:30 to 6:00pm

Under 14's - 5:00 to 6:30pm

Under 15's - 5:30 to 7:00pm

Under 17's - 5:45 to 7:15pm



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Players are also expected:

- i) to work hard during the training sessions,
- ii) to behave in a proper manner
- iii) to cooperate with their coaches
- iv) always to play the game in a sporting manner

Players wear Goodwood shirts and hats when representing the Club.

All players must wear a helmet and abdominal protector when batting and when standing up to the stumps while wicket-keeping, both at training and in match play. This requirement follows Cricket Australia's guidelines.

HEAT POLICY - MATCH DAYS

Under 10's, Under 12's and Under 14's

As per ATCA Policy, if on Sunday at 5.20am on the BOM website the forecast for day is 38 degrees or higher, all play for that day will be called off. The website is www.bom.gov.au

Under 15's and Under 17's

The ATCA shall cancel play in Under 15 and 17 grades when the forecast temperature for match day is predicted to be 38 degrees or higher at 9am. Team managers will be notified if this decision is made, and then they will pass this info onto parents/players.

HEAT POLICY - TRAINING DAYS

For all Junior age groups, if the temperature is predicated at 9am on the day of training to be 38 degrees or higher, training will be cancelled.

As a duty of care, when there has been a continuous period of hot temperatures leading up to training day, parents can always exercise discretion not to send their child to training if they feel the weather conditions are not suitable.

Training may also be called off if it is overly wet, but you will be notified by the club if this is the case.



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PARENT PARTICIPATION & SUPPORT

Goodwood has always relied upon the children's parents and relations to play a key supporting role in the working of the Club, that includes assisting with scoring, umpiring and any other duties required by the Team Manager. We expect parents to foster the concept of team play. Not every person can be a champion cricketer, but he can be a champion participant, sharing in the fun and excitement of cricket, win or lose. We rely upon parents to encourage their children to show respect for the opposition and for the umpires. The Spirit of Cricket is in the hands of all Club participants and supporters.

Goodwood Cricket Club
Junior Committee