



NMCA

POLICY

## NMCA POLICY – PLAYER MANAGEMENT

There is widespread discussion and focus on unsporting behavior in cricket. Clubs and the Umpires Association are required to advertise the policy at club level to captains and players.

Ignorance of this policy will not be accepted as an excuse from Captains, Players or Umpires.

1. **Low Tolerance policy on “sledging”:-**

Any comments or actions directed to, or about a player, which is designed to distract him or erode his confidence. If left unchecked this behavior almost always escalates tension in a cricket match which inevitably leads to further on field management problems for captains and umpires.

Captains can expect a warning from the Umpire if comments or actions fall within the broad definition.

2. **Zero Tolerance on Abusive or Offensive Language:-**

Umpires need to use discretion as in some cases personal abuse by players to other players may be considered serious enough to report (without warning).

Any abusive language to or about an umpire should be reported (without warning).

3. **Zero Tolerance on “Send Offs”:-**

Provocation of an outgoing batsman by a member/s of the fielding team.

All Send Offs should result in a Report

4. **Zero Tolerance on the questioning of decisions after appeal:-**

In the course of the match the umpire is not under any obligation to explain a decision. He either raises his finger or says “Not Out”.

**Umpires & Captains Field Technique:-**

- Umpires will remind Captains of their obligations at the Toss in each match.
- Captains are urged to take action against players breaching behavior codes. Don't wait for the Umpire – the Laws of Cricket place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the Captain.
- When behavior becomes unacceptable, the umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, and instruct the latter to take action.
- In most case a warning will be sufficient, but if necessary Umpires will follow up unheeded warnings with Reports.
- Umpires must carefully note incidents, including names and times and the role of the Captain.
- Umpires will report cases of send offs, personal abuse, vilification, or abusive language to or about an umpire. If in doubt – report and the Match Review Panel will decide if a penalty is appropriate.
- The onus is on Captains to seek clarification of any issue. Umpires are under no obligation to notify clubs of reports or to issue an “all clear”.



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**Reporting Procedures – Umpires:-**

- Umpires are required to carefully note details of player reports which will be required at consequent reviews, investigations, hearings or appeals.
- Umpires are required to report the facts. The MRP will decide the level of penalty.
- Where two umpires are standing and a reportable incident takes place, the umpire must notify the other umpire and the captain. The report is then made by BOTH umpires.
- Umpires are under no obligation to inform players that they have been reported.
- The only report form is the on-line report. Any questions about a report are to be directed to the General Manager.

**Reporting Procedures – Captains:-**

Captains, as part of their normal post match assessment will be asked to comment on the Umpire's performance in the context of this policy.

**The Match Review Panel (MRP):-**

- The Match Review Panel (appointed by the Board) will review reports and decide on appropriate review procedures and penalties. Umpires, captains and players may be asked questions by phone, email or SMS as part of the review procedure.
- The MRP will contact clubs regarding charges, advocacy reports, penalties and the right of appeal.
- Umpires and players must make themselves available for any hearings or appeals that may be convened.

The full Rules as they apply to misconduct cases are available to read or download on the NMCA website.