

SWCC General Guidelines for Junior age group Managers

The aim of this document is to summarize those arrangements put in place for the Junior section of SWCC, in order to ensure the club is run efficiently and in a transparent manner. Should the below not take place, please bring it to the attention of the Junior Chairperson, or anyone else from the SWCC Executive.

Ethos

SWCC's overall aim with the Junior Section (up to u13), is one of development through participation.

There is no "prize" for winning any Saturday league match, so the focus at these matches must always be to ensure ALL the children in the group gets the opportunity to fully DEVELOP. This includes batting, bowling, keeping, captaincy and playing according to the Laws of Cricket, which is achieved by rotation and retirement. This is sometimes a frustrating process for competitive parents, but is in the best interest of all the children.

We follow a very different approach when taking part in tournaments, where our focus changes from development, to winning. The difference between League Matches and Tournament Matches will be explained below.

Selections

Team Selections for Saturday League matches are done in the following order:

1. Paid up subs
2. Practice attendance
3. Practice absence with excuses
4. If still all equal, manager to use own discretion, taking rotation into consideration.

Team selections for Tournaments are done in the following manner:

1. Paid up subs
2. Must have played for the club at least three times during the season.
3. Merit with specific roles in mind
4. Practice attendance.

Saturday League Matches

There is no "prize" for winning all the Saturday matches, so the manager's focus here should be to ensure ALL the children in his group get the opportunity to fully develop. This includes batting, bowling, keeping, captaincy and playing according to the Laws of Cricket.

Home/Away: All players must get an equal amount of home and away matches

Bowling: Each player to bowl two overs. The captain to decide who can bowl more than two overs.

Keepers: Try to encourage more boys to be keepers. Keepers can keep for half a game and still get to bowl, thereby developing plenty of backup keepers.

Captains: Rotate captaincy but only for children who would like to be captain.

Batting: The manager still decides on the batting order and this is not left up to the captain. This is tricky to get right but managers must ensure boys get a chance to bat every second innings. Managers have to keep a list of who did not get a chance to bat in the previous innings and place them in the top five batsmen for the next match, taking into consideration that not all boys might be comfortable opening an innings.

Retirement: All kids who are retired can come back to bat when there is only one other wicket left.

U10: 30 legal balls faced for 30 over games. 25 legal balls faced for 25 over games. 20 legal balls faced for 20 over games.

U11: The manager can decide whether he will do ball counting (as per u10) or retire at 35 runs.

U12: During the first term, the kids will be either be retired as per ball counting, or after 35 runs. During the fourth term, the kids will be retired after 50 runs.

U13: During the first term, the kids will be retired after 50 runs. During the fourth term, the kids will not be retired.

Tournament Matches

The focus when taking part in tournaments is to win/do as well as we possibly could.

When playing tournament matches, children will play in the role they have been selected for, i.e. either as a batsman or a bowler or an all-rounder or a keeper etc. There is no guarantee that a child will get a chance to both bat and bowl but he must be used in the role he was selected for, in other words either as a bowler or a batsman. That said, no player must return from a tournament being used as a fielder only.

Playing For an Invitational Team

A member may play for an invitational team.

An invitational team is defined as:

1. Does not represent a fully constituted Cricket Club (A club which has fields and senior teams which is affiliated to the WPCA).
2. That the team is publicly known as an invitational team.
3. A club playing in a tournament (Not league game) is allowed to form an Invitational team but this team must be named as an invitational side. (I.e. Western Province Cricket Club U13 Invitational)
4. It is preferred that the club players do not play for an Invitational side in the same league.

Games played for an invitational side do not constitute as a game for SWCC. So these stats will not be taken into consideration for the club and can be captured as "Internal game" in our system for reference.

Players playing for an invitational side must let the manager know no later than Tuesday prior to the game of their unavailability to play a club game.

SWCC kit not to be worn outside of SWCC league or tournament scheduled games.

Administration

The Club uses a member management system “CrickStats” to manage its members.

“Crickstats” offers the following functionality to team managers

1. Managing fixtures
2. Making players available
3. Setting up teams for rotational, home and away games and stats entry
4. Practice attendance
5. And many other features
6. An Android APP “ClubManGo” is available to do these functions via a mobile device

Confirm on the Monday (***before Tuesday evening***) with the opposition whether they have team available. If it is a Home game, confirm the field allocated ASAP but no later than a Thursday. The Junior Chairperson to confirm fields as soon as possible. Through the APP or Crickstats mark players available as per responses from your “WhatsAPP” group

Please do not request fields without confirmed opponents, this complicates field allocations.

Email your team list to parents by no later than Thursday evening if at all possible. This allows parents to plan should they have to play away/arrange lifts etc.

Each team must have a scorer and umpire. Ensure they get a match ball, scorebook and wickets on the Friday before the match.

Using Electronic scorings WEBCricket is preferred as it is endorsed by WPCA.

Collect scoresheets and enter the stats into “CrickStats”. Send out the scoresheets with a short summary of the matches to all parents by Monday. Also email a very short summary to the Club Secretary for newspaper / Facebook purposes, detailing the team results and who the top batsmen and bowlers were.

Tours and Tournaments

SWCC is well known as a club that tours regularly, usually during the October holidays. There are a number of tours and tournaments where we compete in on an annual basis, which is something both the managers and players look forward to.

The SWCC junior membership fees cover the costs incurred by the club in order to allow our entire junior group to practice and play regularly during the season, as well as the annual junior prize-giving and some other items.

Tours and non-WPYCA tournaments are not covered by the annual SWCC junior membership, as not all our members get to take part in these and we cannot have non- participants subsidizing those that do get selected to go on tours or play in tournaments.

Managers must please present ideas for tours and tournaments to the Junior Chairperson for approval before accepting an entry to a tournament or tour. This is to keep the Junior Exec informed, but to also ensure we do not enter tournaments with questionable credentials or that are not sanctioned by WPCA.

Executive Committee: R Jacobs (Chairman), R Venter (Vice Chairman), P Roux (Hon Secretary), A Gans (Hon Treasurer), L Morkel (Club Captain), F Haughney (Junior Rep).

Managers of Tours must please compile a tour planning document including travel and accommodation arrangements, as well as a breakdown of costs to Junior Chairperson and the Treasurer before it may be circulated to parents.

A Reconciliation of the funds used on tour must also be presented to the Treasurer after the conclusion of the tour. The handling of Tour Finances have in the past led to major unhappiness by both managers and parents alike. In order to eradicate this issue, a post tour summary of finances needs to be done in order to make sure everything is above board.

Hosting of SWCC Teams during tours

SWCC touring teams are sometimes hosted by very generous families while on tour. This is something that reduces costs dramatically, which is great. However, the hosts need to ensure that it is a calm and safe environment for all the kids being hosted. Hosts must please ensure that no excessive drinking and partying by the adults happens where the team is being hosted.

Managers must also please ensure on what basis teams are hosted, i.e. are there any costs involved, what meals will be served and who is paying for those meals before accepting hosting offers.

Monies and Finances

SWCC officials must please try and refrain from taking cash from parents, junior practices are usually quite hectic and this sometimes leads to unnecessary tension when payments are not recorded properly.

Collecting money from members should only be done in one of two ways:

1. The preferable choice would be to have all monies due to SWCC paid into the SWCC bank account.
2. Alternatively, money can be paid to the barman inside the clubhouse who will then issue the member with an official (hand written) blue receipt. Please request members to send a copy of the receipt to the age group manager.

No money for any SWCC function, whether it is for Tours or Tournaments or whatever, is to be paid into a SWCC official's personal bank account by any of the SWCC members or their parents. All money for any SWCC purpose is to be paid into the official SWCC bank account.

In those cases where members need to pay for their participation in a non WPYCA tournament, the money should be paid into the SWCC bank account using a specific payment reference agreed to between the particular manager and the Treasurer to keep track of the relevant payments.

This process is to be managed by the manager involved and he should tell the Treasurer when all money due has been paid into the account at which point the Treasurer will then pay the entry fee over to the organizers.

Please ensure that only paid up members are used in these tournaments.

Junior Achievement Patches

The basis of the SWCC Junior section is fair opportunities for all our members, regardless of their abilities. That said, we do feel it is important to acknowledge the personal achievements of our members. We have thus implemented the personal achievement patch system. We award patches for the following achievements.

1. **50 Caps.** Players who have played in 50 matches for SWCC gets a 50 cap patch. Managers needs to record all matches players has physically played in. A match or a cap is recorded for all WPYCA matches played in as well full length matches (20 overs or more) during tours or tournaments or preparation for tournaments. Once off matches of 20 overs or more is also recorded as caps. Short format tournaments like Durbanville Nite-bash or Blue Bells Super-strikers is recorded as one cap for the entire tournament regardless of the number of matches played in the tournament. Match cancelled due to opponents not arriving or weather cancellations does not count as a cap as no play took place.
2. **100 Caps.** The same methodology for determining the number of caps applies as above. The player involved in his 100th match can also pick 4 team mates to play in the team with him. He can also pick where he wants to bat or bowl in the match. He can also Captain the side if he is comfortable doing it. Each player playing his 100th match will get a personalized cap with his name on as well as the wording 100 Caps plus the date on which it was achieved embroidered on the side of the cap.
3. **50 Runs.** This is awarded to a player for the first individual score of 50 or more he scored during a calendar year. A Player can only get one 50 runs patch in a calendar year.
4. **4 Wickets.** This is awarded to a player if he takes 4 or more wickets in a particular innings during a calendar year. The same applies as for the 50 runs patch as a player can only get one of these during a calendar year. This only applies for wickets taken by a ball bowled by the particular bowler. Run-outs do not count as a bowler's wicket.

A Player will be awarded a personalized cap by SWCC when he earns his first achievement patch. Parents must then please sew the earned patches onto this particular cap. This is also the reason why we do not allow parents to have their child's name embroidered onto their SWCC caps by themselves. Personalized caps are recognition of commitment for the number of caps achieved or an individual achievement by a player and should therefore only be worn by players that have earned the privilege.

We have purposefully not added a 100 runs patch as scoring 100 runs will almost be impossible if the SWCC rotation policy is applied correctly.

Conduct of SWCC Officials

We realize that all SWCC officials do the job for the love of cricket and to also create opportunities for their own and other children to play regular cricket. SWCC aims to create a friendly environment, with the emphasis on participation and enjoyment. We ask all SWCC match officials to keep this in mind when managing a team.

Discipline and structure is important but it must be applied in such a way that our kids' enthusiasm towards cricket and SWCC is not stifled. Kids generate noise when they are having fun and this is fine if it does not have a negative impact on the match being played. We encourage children to be supportive of team mates on the field, and healthy cheering etc. is allowed.

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SWCC does not have a “win at all cost” mentality. Very few other clubs have a rotation and retirement policy like we do, which means we might sometimes lose a match in the name of rotation or retirement. The key thing to remember is that our goal is to develop all of the children that play at SWCC. From experience, we have seen the huge difference rotation and retirement makes to kids by the time they get to High School.

Many clubs play with a “win at all cost” mentality, which is of course their right as well. Please do not confront another club about the way they play the match, as we have no right to impose our policies on them.

All clubs have undisciplined players who are still learning the right way to play the game of cricket. They are still young and sometimes need guidance on the right way to do things, please help them in a caring way. A gentle word away from his friends will go a long way in helping him understand this. Please do not humiliate players in front of their team mates. It might be the way someone does it at home, but it’s not acceptable when you manage a SWCC team.

No SWCC member, player or supporter should get involved in any confrontation with opposing players, managers or supporters. Managers need to focus on our own team and our own conduct and not the opposition. If an issue arises at a match, the complaint needs to be addressed through our officials to the other club’s officials and no other way.

It is expected that all officials, players, supporters or anyone else for that matter, treat the opposing teams, their management and supporters with the utmost respect. Please ensure this happens if you are managing a side.

SWCC Kit (shirts, caps etc.)

The club uniform to be worn for all WPYCA league fixtures on Saturdays are: a white SWCC player’s shirt, a blue SWCC player’s cap and either white cricket pants or white shorts. In those cases where white shorts are worn, the player must also please wear long white socks.

In those cases where a player has recently joined the club and is still within his or her probation period they can be allowed to wear their school’s white cricket shirt until they have joined SWCC.

Players are welcome to wear wide brimmed hats which can either be a plain white hat or the blue SWCC wide brimmed hats if they are available. Managers must please ensure that all junior players wear hats when they are fielding. Please be lenient when a player does not have a SWCC hat, but such players must be persuaded to purchase the right hat or cap please.

Coloured SWCC playing kit can only be used for tours and non-WPYCA tournament and or matches. No coloured playing kit is allowed for any of the WPYCA matches. It is important however to ensure that all the selected players in the team, do own coloured kit, as it is not a must have item for the entire club. If the entire teams do not own coloured shirts, the team must play in club whites.

The SWCC coloured shirts are designed and made by the SWCC Exec or someone appointed by them. No coloured shirts other than the official one can be worn for any match or tournament in which a SWCC team is to compete in. Should a team wish to have clothing made for a specific match/tournament/event, this must first be approved by the SWCC Executive Committee.

Members are not allowed to add anything to their SWCC clothing items after purchase (e.g. embroidery, badges etc.). In those cases where we need to acknowledge an achievement, only official badges etc. may be used - see acknowledgement of achievements above.