

Anthony Axford Bolton Cricket League

Disciplinary Penalty Guidelines to Clubs and League Official 2008

1. Abuse of Cricket equipment, clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings.

The knocking of stumps, or the throwing or kicking of a bat, ball, helmet, boundary flag, rope or any equipment on the field of play.

Penalty Minimum 1 Match Ban, Maximum 3 matches

2. Abuse of a player

Deliberate violent physical contact on a member of the opposing team.

Penalty minimum 5 matches, maximum 10 matches. The severity of the violence will influence the appropriateness of the length of sentence to be imposed.

After any warnings due from the captain whether or not initiated by the Umpires, a player found guilty of any form of abusive behaviour towards one or more members of the opposing team or of making gestures to one or more members of the opposing team or any act of violence on the field of play.

Penalty minimum 2 matches, maximum 5 matches.

3. Abuse of an Umpire (inclusive of intimidation whether by language or conduct).

Deliberate violent physical contact or threat of assault:

Penalty: - minimum 15 games. The severity of the violence will influence the appropriateness of the length of sentence to be imposed.

Verbal or written abuse (inclusive of using language that is obscene, offensive or insulting and/ or making of an obscene gesture):

Penalty: - Minimum 4 matches, Maximum 6 matches.

Dissent by action or verbal:

Penalty: - Minimum 2 games, Maximum 4 games.

4. Racial Abuse

Any racially abusive comment or action will result in suspension, i.e. using language or a gesture that offends insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person on the basis of that person's race religion, colour descent or national or ethnic origin.

Penalty: - Period will be decided by the Disciplinary Committee.

5. Mandatory reporting under the laws

The umpires after consultation are instructed to report transgressions under the following headings:

Law 18.5- Deliberate short runs

Law 24.2 (c) - Fair delivery-the arm

Law 42.3- Changing the condition of the match ball

Law 42.4- Deliberate attempt to distract the striker

Law 42.5- Deliberate distraction or obstruction of batsman

Law 42.6,7 and 8- dangerous and unfair bowling (deliberate)

Law 42.9- Time wasting by the fielding side

Law 42.10- Batsman wasting time

Law 42.11,12,13 and 14- Bowler, fielder or batsman damaging the pitch

Law 42.16- Batsman stealing a run

Law 42.18- Players conduct

Player failing to comply with the above laws

Penalty Minimum 1 match, maximum 3 matches.

The guilty player's captain is liable for a Minimum written reprimand or maximum 3 match Penalty if it is found that reasonable steps were not taken to ensure compliance by the player.

Appendix

1. Excessive appealing
2. Pointing or gesturing towards the pavilion in an aggressive manner by a bowler or other member of the fielding side upon the dismissal of a batsman.
3. Inappropriate and deliberate physical contact between players in the course of play.
4. Charging or advancing towards the umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.
5. Deliberate and malicious distraction or obstruction on the field of play.
6. Throwing the ball at or near a player, umpire or official in an inappropriate and dangerous manner.
7. Using language that is obscene, offensive or of a seriously insulting nature to a team official or spectator.

N.B: It is acknowledged that there will be verbal exchanges between players in the course of play. Rather than seeking to eliminate these

exchanges entirely, umpires will look to lay charges when this falls below an accepted standard. In this instance, language will be interpreted to include gestures.

8. Threat of assault on another player, umpire, team official or spectator.
9. Separate incidents in the course of a match will mean umpires will lay separate charges. If the Disciplinary Committee find the person charged of more than one offence, they will impose separate penalties in respect of each offence. Penalties are cumulative and not concurrent.

Additional Notes

1. Clubs are expected to convene an internal club enquiry within 96 hours of notification from the Disciplinary Chairman.
2. Penalties will be imposed in games commencing from Midnight Friday.
3. All matches within the auspices of the Anthony Axford Bolton League, Lancashire Knockout and National Knockout will be included.
4. For reports on junior matches any suspension imposed may include both Junior and senior matches.
5. Clubs and /or Disciplinary Committee will take into account the past history of a player's behaviour in deciding appropriate penalty.
6. Penalties imposed for a period which extends beyond the end of the season will continue into the following season with specific dates as defined in 2.
7. The disciplinary committee will call on umpires, players, independent witnesses and any other person(s) whom they may consider to be of assistance in their enquiries. The BLUA is to encourage its members to include details of independent witnesses within their report wherever possible.
8. There will be no suspended sentences issued by the Disciplinary Committee
9. The Disciplinary Committee has the ability should it so wish to increase or decrease the penalties within the procedure in exceptional circumstances
10. The captain is responsible for the actions/ words of his players if comments are made that the umpires have heard but do not know who has said it, for example from a huddle.

Appropriateness of Penalties

1. In all cases and for all offences an admission of guilt will almost certainly result in a lesser sentence being imposed than if the matter is contested- credit being given for the admission
2. Penalty of more than 6 games will be reported by the League to the Lancashire Cricket Board for National Circulation. Such suspensions will normally apply to all cricket played under the auspices of the ECB.