**Payneham Cricket Club Junior Policy**

**WELCOME**

Thanks for joining us at Payneham Cricket Club – the Dukes.

We have been supporting the community for over 150 years by providing a safe and fun environment in which to learn and play the great game of cricket!

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF YOUR CLUB**

Since it’s foundation year of 1868.Payneham Cricket Club has existed to provide the opportunity for the playing and enjoyment thereof regards the game of cricket for players of all ages and abilities.

As we enter season 2019/20 we shall fielding up to 14 teams across junior and senior ranks with players aged 8 to 55+. Underpinning all our efforts is to play and promote the spirit of cricket whenever we take the field.

**CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT**

The Club’s Child Safe Officer is Mark Colley, Secretary of the Club, and he can be contacted on 419 602 724 or by email at mark@pingideas.com.au

The Payneham Cricket Club concurs with the DECD principles pertaining to the provision of a child safe environment at all times

All volunteers, coaches, team managers and committee members will be required to undergo WWCC police checks before they can undertake a leadership role

The Child Safe Officer will:

* Be the first point of contact for parents who have concerns about the safety and treatment of their children
* Hold regular child safe environment training session for all volunteers, coaches
* Monitor the administration and conduct of the Clubs junior programs
* Deal with disputes and concerns that might arise in the conduct of junior practice sessions and fixtures
* Refer any concerns and allegation of parents about the behavior of coaches and volunteers that threaten the safety and welfare of children

**JUNIOR CRICKET PHILOSOPHIES**
Payneham Cricket Club is a community cricket club who aims are:

1. To provide a safe and nurturing environment that enhances participation, promotes friendships and to foster a love of cricket in young people
2. To teach the skills of the game
3. To teach and observe the Spirit of Cricket
4. To strive to win cricket matches – it is our view that that no game is worth playing unless one seeks to defeat the opposition. However, this is not a “win at all costs” attitude.
5. To ensure that every player from the weakest to the strongest becomes an integral part of the team and is given opportunity to demonstrate his or her skills on the field of play

On field we adhere to these base objectives throughout the age groups however we do work to reflect the gradual shift in emphasis between them as the players grow older.

In the early years participation is paramount and results are secondary. In the older years the team’s potential can be and is managed to achieve success.

We appreciate that all are not born equal – some have greater talent than others – and consequently the stronger batsmen are likely to spend more time in the middle and the stronger bowlers will deliver more overs.

Also, as the grades are in two-year cycles it is natural that players in the second year of each cycle will tend to play a more prominent role than those in their first year. This is a part of a player’s development.

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

* **U10 and U12**
	+ The emphasis is entirely upon having fun and ensuring virtually equal participation for all.
	+ Every player bats and bowls.
	+ Coaches and managers make most of the decisions and a captain is appointed for each game to ensure that this first taste of responsibility is evenly shared.
* **U14**
	+ Much the same policy as for the younger group except there may be a setting of a standard batting and bowling order. It makes sense to have the stronger batters and bowlers to bat and bowl against the opposition’s stronger players, and for the younger and less experienced to play against their counterparts in the opposition. Nevertheless, no player will find himself or herself at the bottom of the list every game.
	+ Coaches and managers will appoint a captain for the team and often this can be for the season.
* **U16 and U18**
	+ There is a slight change in emphasis – not everyone bats and bowls; games tend to follow more of a structure of adult cricket however coaches and team managers work to ensure that the team remains inclusive and that all players are involved in either batting or bowling in every game.
	+ Coaches and team managers will appoint a captain for the season and he or she will make the on-field decisions, often in consultation with the Coach.

**SELECTION POLICY**

Teams and squads are allocated at the commencement of each season. Some squads may contain as many as fourteen or fifteen players. This may mean that a playing roster is needed to ensure that players get as many games as is possible.

This decision is made solely by the Coach and Team Manager.

**TRAINING**

Our junior teams train at either Payneham Oval or Trinity Gardens Primary School. Training times and venues are the province of the Coach and team manager for the respective teams.

Our U16 team will also train with the senior team on occasions at Payneham Oval.

All our junior players are also expected to:

* Work hard at training sessions
* Behave in a proper and respectful manner to their Coach, Team manager, team members and the opposition players
* Cooperate with their Coach at training and on game day
* Always play the game in a sporting manner
* All players must wear helmets when batting or wicket keeping.

**PARENTS**

We expect parents of our junior players to foster the connect of team play and encourage their children and the team to show respect for the opposition, the umpires and the game itself.

As a community Club we also expect parents to assist us by assisting with the scoring, umpiring, the provision of morning and afternoon teas and generally ensuring the players can have all the support they need to play the game.