**Preston Cricket Club**

**ENSURING CAPTAINS KNOW THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS JUNIOR PLAYERS**

Preston Cricket Club has a duty of care to all juniors who participate in cricket. This is why every club has to appoint a trained Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) and is a requirement of a club’s membership to ECB and Hertfordshire Cricket. Failure to have a trained CSO negates the club’s membership and the club could then be penalised as per league rules.

**In open age cricket, the captain is responsible for ensuring that the club’s duty of care towards junior members is put into practice.**

It is recommended that clubs now have an early season meeting whereby the clubs welfare officer meets all the clubs open age team captains, to explain the Clubs responsibilities according to ECB requirements and ensure that the captains have a greater understanding of their roles and responsibilities, on and off the field.

These directives relate to open age matches whether they are league or friendly or any day of the week.

* Team sheets to be used in ALL matches to make opposition aware of junior players.
* All regular adult team captains, vice, umpires and scorers must have a current DBS check on the day of the match
* All under 18s on the day of the match must wear a helmet when batting or standing up when keeping wicket
* All fielding restriction to under 18s (age as at 31st August in previous year) must be implemented
* All Fast Bowling directives to under 18s (age as at 31st August in previous year)must be implemented
* The captains should understand the clubs policies for :- Changing rooms, showering and photography (juniors should be able to shower alone)
* Transporting juniors to and from matches (no one to one transport, minimum two adults)
* Social media, text and emails (no junior contact via social media, telephone or text. Only make arrangements via parents or guardians)
* Data Protection
* Anti bullying, ensure juniors are actively encouraged when playing.
* The ECB restriction for juniors playing in Open Age Cricket must be observed (no under 13’s to play for Preston, unless prior written clearance from CSO)
* The Captain should also know the clubs various codes of conduct, reporting procedures and emergency details which are available on the notice boards and website.
* Juniors should not be asked to umpire when senior players are available to do so. Where a senior player is not available, a junior must only stand at the square leg position.
* **Under no circumstances may juniors be offered alcohol, tobacco or similar. Senior players must not drive juniors** **after consumption of alcohol.**

As a captain or vice captain, you are responsible for the conduct of your team and for ensuring the proper treatment of junior members. It is recommended that you also inform your team members of these directives at the start of each season

**Preston Cricket Club**

**January 2024**

