



**EAST WOODHAY
CRICKET CLUB**

YOUTH CRICKET AT EAST WOODHAY CRICKET CLUB

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS 2022



Introduction

Youth Cricket has been played at East Woodhay for many years now, thanks to the hard work of so many of our club members who have over the years volunteered as coaches, managers, scorers and umpires. Without parental support we could not continue to provide the quality and quantity of activity we do today.

The fruits of this hard work can be seen on the pitch with the club now fielding three senior teams, with many of our players being current or former Woodhay youth players.

Running any youth organisation nowadays has to incorporate many additional requirements.

Cricket is no different, in 2013 East Woodhay adopted the ECB's "Safe Hands Policy", and achieved ClubMark accreditation demonstrating that the club takes issues like Child Safeguarding and Protection seriously, an achievement we are very proud of. We were assessed again by the ECB in 2017 and accredited for another term.

The club has produced this booklet, which hopefully informs every parent/guardian about what East Woodhay Cricket Club has to offer both you and your child.

Furthermore, it gives guidance on safety equipment requirements including those from the ECB which the Club has adopted. You can also find details of all the Club's policies and codes of conduct.

Our club has always been a family orientated club and we are committed to retain this status and continue as a strong village cricket club.

Within this booklet is a section on volunteer support. Like all clubs we rely heavily on volunteers and I would encourage all parents to consider how they can get involved with the club. We need help in a variety of ways; umpiring, scoring and managing junior teams or providing admin support or fundraising all play a vital role in the success of the club. Without these individuals, we cannot offer children the opportunity to play this great game.



Dominic Walters
Club Safeguarding Officer
East Woodhay CC

What the Club Offers

In 2022 East Woodhay CC will offer cricket in the following age groups:
Under 9, Under 11, Under 13 and Under 15.

As an inclusive club, we encourage girls to participate in cricket and in 2022 we hope to encourage more girls to play the game. We will offer club cricket for children from 8 years of age (school year 3) through to 16 years of age with plenty of opportunities to progress into adult cricket.

We will also provide All Stars Cricket Centre for ages 5-8 once again this year. The sessions will be on Saturday mornings from 9:15am for 8 weeks beginning on 14 May 2022. Registration is available through the ECB All Stars Website from 10 February 2022 for returning All Stars.

Indoor Training

We will be running Indoor Training Sessions at Cheam School, Headley, RG19 8LD on Sunday 27 February through to Sunday 10 April 2022.

The age groups will be:

U9 (years 3 & 4) 3pm
U11 (years 5 & 6) 4pm
U13 (years 7 & 8) 5pm

NB there will be NO training on Sunday 27 March

The U15s will train with the Senior sides on Thursday evenings from Thursday 10 March 2022 at Horris Hill School, Newtown, RG20 9DJ 7:30pm to 9:30pm.

Outdoor Coaching

This year we are hopeful of returning to a full Friday evening training schedule as follows:

From Friday 22 April

U9 & U11: 5:30pm to 6:50pm
U13 & U15: 7:10pm to 8:30pm

All of our coaching sessions are led by fully qualified cricket coaches who are all DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checked and have attended basic first aid and Safeguarding Children courses.

The club enters teams into the Berkshire Youth Cricket League in order that children can experience competitive cricket.

Most of the games are 20 overs a side. Children particularly in the U13 and U15 age groups are also encouraged to progress to playing adult cricket on a Saturday or Sunday.

In recent years the club has started to become successful winning many more matches and playing in a way that accords with the “Spirit of Cricket” we have received many plaudits from opposition coaches and parents about the sporting attitude our players bring to competitive matches.

The club has a website which allows parents/guardians and junior members to be kept informed of latest news, results and match reports, the website address is: www.eastwoodhaycc.co.uk in

We also issue a weekly email bulletin and Tweets on our Twitter feed @East_Woodhay_CC

Our View and Priorities for Youth Cricket

We believe that our younger members are an essential part of East Woodhay Cricket Club, vital to the Club’s present and future success. We aim to do all we can to encourage and include younger players and make them feel a valued part of the club, irrespective of their age, gender or level of ability or length of time with the Club.

We also expect that youngsters should be able to enjoy their cricket and develop their abilities in a safe environment, free from harassment, bullying or other risks.

Our priorities for all aspects of youth cricket, including coaching, youth matches and adult matches involving youngsters, are:

- The safety and welfare of the individual;
- Enabling youngsters to enjoy the game;
- Coaching and encouraging younger players to help them develop their cricketing skills;
- Helping children to establish self-confidence, both on and off the field, and develop enthusiasm for the game of cricket.

Our Expectations

We expect youth members to behave in a reasonable and sociable way to others, including their peers, coaching staff and other youth and adult members.

When representing the club we encourage our junior members to wear the club shirt and wherever appropriate a club cap, both these items are available to purchase from the online club shop which is hosted by Serious Cricket.

We expect junior members to play adult cricket for East Woodhay on a Saturday or Sunday and not for other league clubs. Likewise, all adults who have responsibility for youth cricket in any way at East Woodhay Cricket Club are expected to respect individuals and conduct themselves appropriately.

It is a policy of East Woodhay Cricket Club that ALL youth coaches and any others who might reasonably have contact with youth members have received clearance via the Disclosure and Barring Service. In addition, all coaches will be required to attend specific training in child welfare (e.g. implementing the ECB's "Safe Hands - Welfare of Young People in Cricket Policy" and the provisions of the Child Protection Act).

Selection Policy

In keeping with the value and ethos of the club selection for matches is based on the following principles:

Mandatory

- Player must be a bona fide paid up member of the club
- Player must have sufficient ability not to be a danger to him/ herself or others and ensure the continuity of the game is not unduly impacted

Discretionary

- Players ability
- Players general attitude to being coached and to fellow team members
- Players attendance at training
- General contribution to the club

Club Clothing

Our Club kit sponsor is BRICKELL POOLS based in Newbury
www.brickellpools.co.uk

Club shirts and caps are available from the EWCC Club Shop which is hosted by Serious Cricket.

Serious Cricket is based in Dummer and all items of team wear can be found at www.seriouscricket.co.uk, follow the links to Team Stores and then to the East Woodhay club shop.

When representing the club in matches junior members are expected to wear both a club cap and shirt.

Other clothing is also available from the site, including: Sweaters, Cricket trousers, Training shirts, Polo shirts, Tracksuits, Sweatshirts, Hoodies and shorts.

Membership

Youth Cricket at East Woodhay is popular and subject to the club being able to fulfil its obligations with coach and supervision ratios, new members are always welcome.

To become a Junior Member of East Woodhay Cricket Club, you will first need to complete a junior membership form which can be obtained from the Club's website at www.eastwoodhaycc.co.uk

Parents are also encouraged to contact Youth coordinator, Adrian Batchelor on 07803 519765.

The Annual Junior Membership fee is £75 which is payable by the end of April, this fee is inclusive of insurance, winter nets, summer coaching. We do not charge any match fees in Junior Cricket.

Key Contacts

The key contacts for youth cricket of all ages at the club are detailed below. The full list of contacts is available on the club's website at www.eastwoodhaycc.co.uk

Club Safeguarding Officer	Dominic Walters	dominic.walters@bdo.co.uk
Youth Section Coordinator	Adrian Batchelor	adrianebatchelor@aol.com
U9 Coach	Tim Hill	trhill@talk21.com
U11 Coach	Paul Jacobs	aus.pom@btopenworld.com
U13 Coach	Simon Rutt	simonrutt61@gmail.com
U15 Coach	Mark Chapman	markchapman24953@gmail.com

Getting Involved/Volunteer Support/Sports Makers

We always welcome additional help in the running of our youth coaching and youth matches. Coaching assistants (who will be supervised by qualified coaches) do not need to hold formal qualifications. We do require anyone helping with youth coaching to have received DBS clearance - this is straightforward and at no cost and the Club's Safeguarding Officer can give advice on this.

For those wishing to take a formal coaching qualification, Coaching courses are available in the winter and the club will assist with the cost of these. As well as helping our younger members develop their skills, coaching is a great way to get involved with the club.

For those individuals who cannot help in this way there are many other roles away from coaching where help is always need with the running of our youth teams. If you would like to help, please contact our Youth Coordinator, **Adrian Batchelor**.

You can help the running of our youth section by offering financial assistance. As you will appreciate the cost of running a youth cricket club is not cheap, for example the club provides fully qualified coaches and cricket equipment across every age group. Financial support can be made in a variety of ways, either through donations or sponsorship.

If any parent or employer is keen to support the running of the youth section in this or any other way, please do not hesitate to contact Adrian Batchelor on 07803 519765.

Coaching Programme

Our coaches produce a programme for both our summer and winter sessions. Coaching sessions will start with a warm-up and comprise a mixture of technique demonstration and practice, skill and fitness games and practice matches.

Parents/guardians are requested to ensure that players bring the necessary equipment (See Safety & Protective Equipment section) for all training sessions.

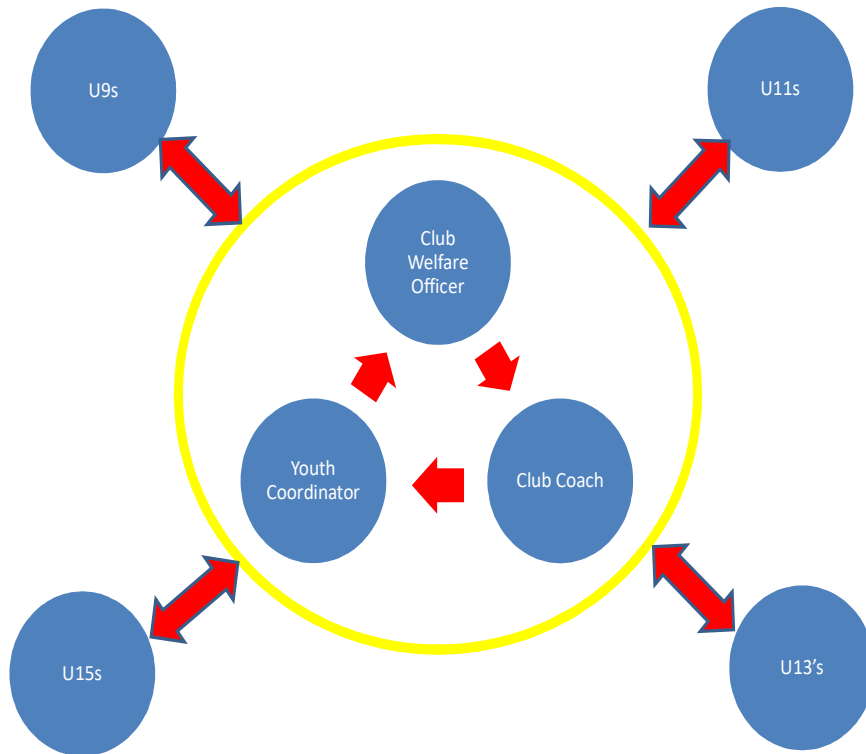
Throughout all the coaching sessions we will cover the following cricket skills, particularly with U9, U11, U13 and U15 age groups:

- Fielding - techniques of retrieving, intercept and throwing
- Batting - repertoire of attacking and defensive strokes

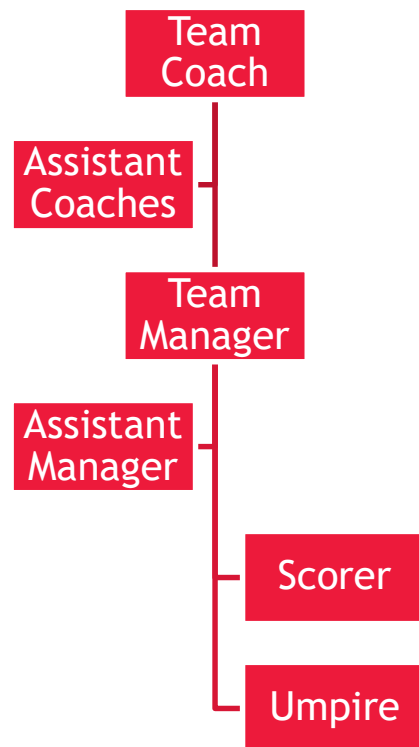
- Bowling - bowling action plus introduction to spin and swing bowling

In addition, we will cover the basics of fielding positions, umpiring signals, laws of the game, club and cricket general knowledge and history.

EWCC – Junior Section Org Chart



EWCC Team Structure (for all age groups)



Safety and Protective Equipment

Safety during coaching sessions and matches is paramount. We ask all parents to ensure their children are suitably dressed and bring the necessary protective equipment. Not only does this ensure the game can be played safely, but it also increases the enjoyment of the game and promotes greater confidence.

All coaches can provide guidance on what protective and other equipment is suitable. As a minimum, we suggest:

- Clean Trainers with good grip for indoor/outdoor surfaces
- Appropriate sports clothing
- Abdominal protector (“box”) plus briefs or jock-strap (boys)
- For U11s we suggest thigh pads are worn, for U13s and above these are strongly recommended

The Club adheres to the safety guidance issued by the ECB on the wearing of safety helmets. The Club will provide helmets when these are required, although some players may find it more convenient to obtain their own. These are generally reasonably priced, advice on stockists and sizes can be obtained from coaches.

The Club also enforces the England and Wales Cricket Board’s ECB’s fielding regulations and fast bowling directives, again summarised further on. We will

be using soft balls; tennis ball, wind ball, for younger age group coaching, a hard ball may be used for net practice for older age groups.

A hard ball will generally be used for youth matches (except in Under 9 games where an incrediball is used).

We suggest all youth players bring their own drink; water or soft (not fizzy) drink with them to all coaching sessions and matches.

Parents/guardians are asked to ensure that the membership form is completed in regard to any medical condition which might affect their child's performance or which might require specific attention (e.g. asthma), or of any injury which may prevent a child from taking part in elements of training (e.g. sprain).

Age Groups

The year starting date of midnight on the previous 31st August is assumed throughout the following Directives.

ECB Guidance Notes

A. The wearing of cricket helmets by young players

In February 2000 the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) issued safety guidance on the wearing of helmets by young players up to the age of 18. This original guidance document can be found at www.playcricket.com/helmets. In brief, the guidance recommends that:

- helmets with a faceguard or grille should be worn when batting against a hard cricket ball in matches and in practice sessions
- young players should regard a helmet with a faceguard as a normal item of protective equipment when batting, together with pads, gloves and, for boys, an abdominal protector (box)
- Young wicket keepers should wear a helmet with a faceguard when standing up to the stumps.

With the assistance of schools, cricket clubs and leagues, the wearing of helmets by young players is now standard practice. In cricket throughout England and Wales, helmets are widely available and are covered by a British Standard (BS7928:2013).

This guidance applies to all players up to the age of 18, both in open age group cricket and in all junior cricket played with a hard cricket ball. The guidance also applies during all practice sessions. Any individual taking

responsibility for players should take all reasonable steps to ensure that this guidance is followed at all times.

The ECB asks that the guidance is communicated to the parents or guardians of all young players through clubs and schools, and that young players are **not** allowed to bat or stand up to the stumps when keeping wicket against a hard ball without wearing appropriate protection.

B. Fielding Regulations

The ECB Fielding Regulations are as follows:

No young player in the Under 15 age group or younger shall be allowed to field closer than 8 yards (7.3 metres) from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side, until the batsman has played at the ball.

- For players in the Under 13 age group and below the distance is 11 yards (10 metres).
- These minimum distances apply even if the player is wearing a helmet.
- Should a young player in these age groups come within the restricted distance the umpire must stop the game immediately and instruct the fielder to move back.
- In addition any young player in the Under 16 to Under 18 age groups, who has not reached the age of 18, must wear a helmet and, for boys, an abdominal protector (box) when fielding within 6 yards (5.5 metres) of the bat, except behind the wicket on the off side. Players should wear appropriate protective equipment whenever they are fielding in a position where they feel at risk.
- These fielding regulations are applicable to all cricket in England and Wales.

C. ECB Fast Bowling Rules

AGE:	MAX. OVERS PER SPELL	MAX. OVERS PER DAY
Up to 13	5	10
U14, U15	6	12
U16,U17,U18,U19	7	18

For the purpose of these Directives a fast bowler is defined as a bowler to whom a wicket keeper in the same age group would in normal circumstances stand back to take the ball.

Having completed a spell the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until the equivalent number of overs to the length of his* spell have been bowled from the same end. A bowler can change ends without ending his current spell provided that he bowls the next over that he legally can from the other end. If this does not happen his spell is deemed to be concluded.

If play is interrupted, for any reason, for less than 40 minutes any spell in progress at the time of the interruption can be continued after the interruption up to the maximum number of overs per spell for the appropriate age group. If the spell is not continued after the interruption the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until the equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell before the interruption have been bowled from the same end.

If the interruption is of 40 minutes or more, whether scheduled or not, the bowler can commence a new spell immediately. Once a bowler covered by these Directives has bowled in a match he cannot exceed the maximum number overs per day for his age group even if he subsequently bowls spin.

He can exceed the maximum overs per spell if bowling spin, but cannot then revert to bowling fast until an equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell have been bowled from the same end. If he bowls spin without exceeding the maximum number of overs in a spell the maximum will apply as soon as he reverts to bowling fast.

Captains, Team Managers and Umpires are asked to ensure that these Directives are followed at all times. For guidance it is recommended that in any 7 day period a fast bowler should not bowl more than 4 days in that period and for a maximum of 2 days in a row.

Age groups are based on the age of the player at midnight on 31st August in the year preceding the current season.

*Any reference to he/his should be interpreted to include she/her.

Club Policies

Safeguarding Policy Statement

East Woodhay Cricket Club (The Club) is committed to ensuring that all Children (*) participating in cricket have a safe and positive experience. (*The word “Children” should be taken to mean all persons under the age of 18.) We will do this by:

- Recognising that all Children participating in cricket (regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability) have a right to have fun and be protected from harm in a safe environment.
- Ensuring that individuals working within cricket at or for our club provide a safe, positive and fun cricketing experience for children.
- Adopting and implementing the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) “Safe Hands - Cricket’s Policy for Safeguarding Children” and any future versions of the policy.
- Appointing a Club Safeguarding Officer and ensuring that they attend all current and future training modules required by the ECB & the NSPCC, so that they have the necessary skills to be able to undertake their role effectively.
- Ensuring that all people who work in cricket at or for our club, (such as Staff, Officials, Volunteers, Team Managers, Coaches etc.) understand that the Safe Hands Policy applies to them according to their level of contact with children in Cricket.
- Ensuring that all individuals working within cricket at or for the club are recruited and appointed in accordance with ECB guidelines.
- Ensuring that all individuals working within cricket at or for the club are provided with support through education and training so that they are aware of and can adhere to good practice and code of conduct guidelines defined by both the ECB, and by the club.
- Ensuring that the name & contact details for the Club Safeguarding Officer is available - as the first point of contact for parents, children & volunteers / staff within the club,
- as a local source of procedural advice for the club, its committee & its members,
- as the main point of contact within the club for the ECB County Safeguarding Officer and the ECB Child Protection Team, and

- as the main point of contact within the club for relevant external agencies in connection with child welfare.
- Ensuring that correct and comprehensive reporting procedures exist for raising and managing safeguarding and child protection concerns. Such procedures recognising the responsibility of the statutory agencies and in accordance with pre defined safeguarding and child protection procedures as defined by the ECB, Statutory Agencies and Local Safeguarding Children Board LSCB guidelines and policies.
- Providing everyone connected with the club (including parents, children and volunteers) with the opportunity to voice any concerns which they have (about possible suspected child abuse, and/or about poor practice) to the Club Safeguarding Officer.
- Ensuring that all suspicions, concerns and allegations are taken seriously and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.
- Ensuring that access to confidential information relating to child welfare matters is restricted to the Club Safeguarding Officer and the appropriate external authorities as specified within ECB Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures.

Policy on Bullying

Statement of Intent

East Woodhay Cricket Club is committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our children so they can train and play in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our club.

If bullying does occur, all children should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a TELLING club. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the coaches and officials.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim. Bullying can be:

- Emotional: being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding kit, threatening gestures)
- Physical: pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist: racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual: unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic: because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal: name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber: All areas of internet, such as email and internet chat room misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls.
- Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera and video facilities

Club Procedures

1. Any bullying incidents should be reported to the Club Safeguarding Officer. The Club Safeguarding Officer's telephone number is shown on the Club notice board and on the Club's website.
2. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be reported to the ECB Child Protection Team for advice via the County Safeguarding Officer.
3. Parents will be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem.
4. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted.
5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying will be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.

6. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour. In cases of adults reported to be bullying cricketers under 18, the ECB will be informed and will advise on action to be taken.

Policy on Changing Rooms and Showering

If children are uncomfortable changing or showering with at the Club, no pressure will be placed on them to do so. Children should be encouraged to do this at home in these circumstances.

Adults will not change or shower at the same time using the same facility as children.

Adults will try to change at separate times to children during matches i.e. when padding up.

If Adults and children need to share a changing facility, the Club must have consent from the Parents that their child(ren) can share a changing room with Adults in the club

If children play for Adult Teams, they and their Parents must be informed of the Club's policy on changing arrangements
Mixed gender teams must have access to separate male and female changing rooms

Mobile phones must not be used in changing rooms.

Policy on Transport to/from matches (including adult matches) & training

Details of all Coaching Sessions both winter and summer are available from the Club's website in order that Parents/Carers have an opportunity to make appropriate arrangements.

Details of all Fixtures are published on the Club's website and in a Fixture booklet at the beginning of the season in order that Parents/Carers have an opportunity to make appropriate arrangements.

Parents/Carers should be aware that youth fixtures are sometimes re-arranged at short notice for a variety of reasons. The Club website is updated regularly so parents/carers are encouraged to view the website during the season.

Coaches and Club Staff will be responsible for the children in their care at Coaching sessions organised by the Club or on arrival at the ground for both home and away fixtures.

It is not the responsibility of the Coach or Team Manager to transport, or arrange to transport, the children to and from the Club for matches or training.

By completing the Junior Membership form, Parents/Carers have agreed that their child can participate in away fixtures if selected. In the event of circumstances changing the parent/carer must notify the club in writing.

In the event of an emergency, at an away game, the first point of contact at the club is either the Club Safeguarding Officer or the Youth Coordinator. Their contact numbers are available in the Club's fixture booklet and on the Club's website.

Policy on Use of Cameras/Video Equipment during matches & training

By signing and completing the Club's Junior Membership form parents/carers agree to the club's policy on use of cameras/video equipment during matches and at training.

Representatives from the Club will only take photographs at matches/training sessions for the purpose of promoting the game and the club in the local press or on the Club's website.

Any photographs shown on the Club's website or released to the press will not show the names of children unless prior agreement has been obtained from the parents/carers.

In the event that a member of the press is present to take photographs the children and parents/carers will be informed in advance of the activity and their agreement sought.

The children should be informed that if they have concerns they can report these to the coach or team manager.

Whilst the ground at East Woodhay is a private cricket club it is not possible for the club to police the use of cameras and video equipment. If however, any child or parent has concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography, they should inform the Coach/Team Manager in the first instance or at a later date to the Club Safeguarding Officer.

Cameras or other photographic equipment (including video recorders/camera phones) are not permitted in toilets or areas where children are getting changed for activities.

The club will occasionally use video equipment for the purpose of coaching. In such instances the club will seek agreement from the parent/carer that they agree to the use of this equipment for this purpose for their child.

Codes of Conduct

Code of Conduct for Junior Members

EAST WOODHAY CRICKET CLUB is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members.

The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others.

Members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with the Club Safeguarding Officer, **Dominic Walters**, Club Chairman and Youth Development Officer, **Adrian Batchelor**.

As a member of EAST WOODHAY CRICKET CLUB you are expected to adopt the following code of conduct:

- All members must play within the rules and respect officials and their decisions.
- All members must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- All members must respect the Club's equipment and facilities
- Members should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions or inform their coach or team manager if they are going to be late.
- Members must wear suitable kit for training sessions and in matches are expected to wear (where possible and appropriate) the club cap and shirt.
- Members must pay any fees for training or events promptly.
- Members are not allowed to smoke on club premises or whilst representing the club at competitions.
- Members are not allowed to consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the club.

**REMEMBER MEMBERSHIP OF EAST WOODHAY CRICKET CLUB
IS A PRIVILEGE NOT A RIGHT**

Code of Conduct for Parents & Legal Guardians

EAST WOODHAY CRICKET CLUB is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members and promoting the spirit of cricket.

The club believes that as a parent or legal guardian of a junior member you have a key role to play in this regard and expects you to abide by the following code of conduct;

- Encourage your child(ren) to learn the laws of cricket and play within them
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials
- Help your child(ren) to recognize good performance, not just results
- Publicly accept officials' judgments whether it be an umpire or your team's coach
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances to all
- Set a good example by not cheering or applauding at mistakes made by a member of an opposing team
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport
- Help promote the club ethos, by making every effort to ensure your child(ren) does not wear other clubs/schools/district kit for East Woodhay matches
- Pay membership and coaching fees promptly
- Help the Team manager by notifying availability as early as possible
- Take an active role in supporting the club