**UNITED KINGDOM ARMED FORCES**

**ASSOCIATION OF CRICKET OFFICIALS**

**CONSTITUTION**

**1. Title**

1.1The Association shall be called the United Kingdom Armed Forces Association of Cricket Officials (UKAF ACO) and hereafter be referred to as The Association or UKAF ACO.

1.2 The Association will be affiliated to, and be a County member of, the ECB Association of Cricket Officials (ECB ACO).

1.3 The Association will be an active constituent member of United Kingdom Armed Forces Cricket Association (UKAFCA).

1.4 The Association has 3 forming associations whose membership, history, views, procedures, and traditions will all be considered in the activities of the UKAF ACO. Those forming associations are:

a) Royal Navy Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association (1963-2017).

b) Army Cricket Officials Association (1964-2017).

c) Royal Air Force Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association (1947-2017).

**2. Aims & Objectives**

**2.1** To promote the interest and participation of cricket officiating (umpires & scorers) in the United Kingdom Armed Forces by Service personnel, in co-operation with all recreational cricketing bodies and all other appropriate agencies within the Royal Navy, Army, Royal Air Force and nationally through ECB ACO.

**2.2** To develop a network of professionally qualified and experienced officials to improve availability and decrease reliance on civilian assistance in Service cricket while ensuring continuity through civilian Membership.

**2.3** To establish and maintain positive links with the UKAFCA and ECB ACO.

**2.4** To appoint members to officiate matches at the appropriate level, as required.

**2.5** To promote the participation of UKAF officials in the first-class game.

**2.6** To ensure a minimum number of officials are trained to cover annual requirements.

**2.7** To provide adequate trainers, assessors, observers, and verifiers for all The Association`s activities.

**2.8** Promote the safe conduct of cricket across UKAFCA and enforce appropriate levels of discipline to support the sport being played firmly in the spirit of the game.

**3. Membership and Appointments**

**3.1** There will be 3 member types of the UKAF ACO and each of these member types shall reside within one of 2 member groups:

a) Member Type 1: Active Service Member

b) Member Type 2: Former Service Member

c) Member Type 3: Non-Service Member

d) Member Status 1: Active

e) Member Status 2: Social

**3.2** At the discretion of the committee there will also be Life Membership status. This prestigious membership shall be bestowed on no more than 2 members of UKAF ACO annually. On receipt of Life Membership, the member may still play an active part in UKAF ACO but will be excused any annual subscription fees.

**3.3** Further details on membership and appointments can be found in Appendix A.

**4. Subscriptions**

**4.1** The ECB ACO will provide a portion of the annual subscription paid by ECB ACO members linked to the county by way of rebate. This rebate shall be used to promote and further The Association to the benefit of all members.

**4.2** A subscription fee shall be settled by Active and Social Members no later than 1 April, annually. The fee shall be decided and confirmed by The Association’s committee and communicated to all members no later than 1 March of the same year. If not communicated by 1 March, the fee shall remain as the previous year’s subscription for the calendar year.

**4.3** No member of UKAF ACO will be required to pay a subscription without the proposal first being voted by majority of the members.

**4.4** Where an Active member has not settled their subscription fee for the relevant year, they will not normally be appointed to UKAFCA matches in an official capacity.

**5. Management**

**5.1** The affairs of The Association shall be managed by the Officers who shall be elected by a majority of members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). They will have final authority on the interpretation application and running of the Association.

**5.2** The Officers shall be:

a) Chair\*

b) General Secretary\*

c) Membership Secretary

d) Finance Officer\*

e) Appointments Officer\*

f) Scorers Officer

g) Education and Training Officer

h) Development Officer

i) Royal Navy Representative\*

j) Army Representative\*

k) Royal Air Force Representative\*

l) Civilian Representative

m) Social Media Officer

n) Equipment and Clothing Officer

o) Vic Isaacs Statistician Officer

p) Safeguarding Officer (unelected but qualified position)

The Officers shall stand for election annually but are eligible for re-election. If a quorum is not present at the AGM such of the Officers as are willing to remain in office shall do so. Positions marked with \* must be occupied by a current Active Serving Member, Regular or Reserve. The single Service representative must be of the appropriate Service.

**5.3** The Committee shall consist of the Officers but shall also have powers to co-opt members, or other persons as necessary for such specific purposes as it may decide. Such co-opted members will be entitled to attend, speak and vote on behalf, at meetings of the Committee, but not at the AGM.

**5.4** Sub-Committees shall be formed as necessary. These will be chaired by the appropriate Committee Member and all Members, co-opted or otherwise, will be entitled to vote on matters pertaining to the objective of that sub-committee.

**5.5** The Committee shall have powers to nominate members of The Association to serve as delegates to other such appropriate bodies as they deem fit.

**5.6** The permanent Sub-Committee shall be the Regulations Sub-Committee. This Sub-Committee shall be responsible for creating, editing, updating, distributing, and maintaining currency of all UKAFCA playing regulations. This Sub-Committee shall be made up of a minimum of 2 UKAF ACO committee members and as many members of UKAF ACO as required to discharge the duties effectively.

**6. Committee Meetings**

**6.1** The Committee shall meet as and when required but not less than twice a year.

**6.2** The Committee shall record and act upon any resolution made and approved.

**6.3** No business shall be conducted by the Committee unless all Committee members have been given due notice of a meeting and at least two of the Chairman, Finance Officer and Secretary, and at least two other Officers are present. This may be conducted via electronic means, or the business conducted via email and the records retained by the Secretary.

**6.4** A sub-committee will be deemed quorate when half the elected, but not co-opted, members are present.

**6.5** Votes on issues will be decided by a simple majority of entitled Committee Members present and voting. No position on the committee will exercise more than one vote on any matter. The Chair shall not normally vote on any matter unless a deciding vote is required.

**7. Finance**

**7.1** The Association Finance Officer shall be responsible for the accurate maintenance of The Association’s finances and will report at each Committee Meeting and to general meetings of The Association. This will be conducted in conjunction and collaboratively with the UKAFCA Secretary.

**7.2** The accounts of The Association shall be supported by the UKAFCA Secretary and shall be audited annually.

**7.3** The Auditor of the accounts shall be appointed and led by UKAFCA and the UKAF Sports Board.

**8. Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings**

**8.1** The AGM of The Association shall be held in the winter period between November and March. It shall not be convened before November or after March unless extraordinary or operational reasons dictate.

**8.2** Each member on 1 September preceding the AGM shall receive notice of the AGM to their last known e-mail no later than 31 October preceding the AGM.

**8.3** Nominations for Officers, resolutions for consideration at the AGM and proposed amendments to the Constitution must be received in writing or by e-mail by the Secretary no less than 10 days before the AGM. If being conducted remotely, this may be amended provided it is advertised at the notice given at para 8.2.

**8.4** An agenda including any such nominations, resolutions and proposed amendments shall be distributed to members, as in 8.2 above, no less than 5 days before the AGM.

**8.5** A quorum for the AGM shall be 15 members and travel shall be agreed in line with current MoD policy for Active Service Members of the UKAF ACO.

**8.6** In the case of an equal number of votes being cast on any motion being considered by the members at the meeting the Chair of the meeting shall then vote, and that vote will subsequently decide the majority. The Chair shall not vote until all other votes are cast.

**8.7** The business at the AGM shall be:

a) To receive apologies for non-attendance.

b) To approve the minutes of the previous AGM.

c) To consider any matters arising from the minutes.

d) To receive the Officers’ Reports.

e) To receive and approve the accounts for the past financial year (if applicable).

f) To elect Officers and Committee Members.

g) To transact any other business of which proper notice has been given.

h) To discuss any other matter in the interest and benefit to the association.

**8.8** An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by the committee at their option. However, they shall call an EGM on receipt of a written request signed by no less than 10 current members. The request must be posted to the Secretary and must specify exactly the business to be conducted at the EGM. In the case of a valid members’ request, notice of the EGM shall be given no later than 2 weeks after receipt of the request.

**8.9** Notice of the EGM shall be sent to all members as set out in 8.2 above but based on the latest available UKAF ACO membership list (held by the Membership Secretary UKAF ACO). Not less than 7 days’ notice shall be given, and the notice shall specify the date, time and venue of the EGM, and the business to be transacted.

**8.10** A quorum for the EGM shall be 15 members and clause 8.6 above shall apply equally to an EGM.

**8.11** A period of not more than 2 weeks following an AGM or EGM, the recorded minutes or record of decisions shall be distributed to members and placed on the UKAF ACO website.

**9. Safeguarding**

**9.1** The Association adopts the ECB Safeguarding Strategy and Child Protection Policy - `Safe Hands – Welfare of young people in Cricket’ and its succeeding ECB ACO policies and guidance on the safeguarding of young people and vulnerable adults.

**9.2** The UKAF ACO and its members will adopt and apply all direction and guidance given by ECB ACO Directives regarding safe play, age group and Ground, Weather and Light when officiating in ALL UKAF cricket matches. Any member found wilfully not applying these (and future applicable directives) will be permanently removed from the UKAF ACO.

**10. Dissolution of the Association**

**10.1** The Association shall not be dissolved except at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting convened for that purpose and carried by a simple majority of those present.

**10.2** In the event of The Association being wound-up a final statement of the accounts shall be prepared and audited by the Secretary UKAFCA and supported by the Finance Officer. Any non-attributable remaining funds shall be equally distributed to the 3 forming Service cricket associations in support of promoting cricket in the respective Service.

**10.3** In the event of such dissolution any assets of The Association shall be apportioned to some other body concerned with cricket officials, UKAFCA or Service Cricket related charity.

**11. The Constitution**

**11.1** Alterations to the Constitution shall only be made at the AGM or at an EGM convened for that purpose.

**11.2** Every Member shall be provided with a current copy of the Constitution.

**11.3** Where not otherwise provided for in this Constitution, the guidance of the ECB ACO shall apply to the governance and support to The Association.

THE ORIGINAL CONSTITUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE MEMBERS PRESENT ON 10 MARCH 2017.

THIS CONSTITUTION WAS RATIFIED BY UKAFCA ON 6 APRIL 2017.

Signed by the Chair

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10 March 2017

**Appendix A Memberships and Appointments**

**Membership Types**.

1. **Type 1: Active Service Member**. This member is a current Serving member of the United Kingdom’s Armed Forces (or allied nation’s Armed Forces on temporary assignment to a UK post) in the Regular or Reserve of the Royal Navy, Army or Royal Air Force. Membership is automatic following qualification on a UKAF ACO delivered course or on confirmation of other county qualification and on application to UKAF ACO.

2. **Type 2: Former Service Member**. This member has served in the United Kingdom’s Armed Forces (or allied nation’s Armed Forces) on trained strength of the Regular or Reserve Royal Navy, Army or Royal Air Force. Membership is automatic following qualification on a UKAF ACO delivered course, cessation of eligibility of Type 1 membership or on confirmation of other county qualification and on application to UKAF ACO.

3. **Type 3: Non-Service Member**. This member has not served in either capacity that would see eligibility in Type 1 or 2 membership. This member may only join UKAF ACO when proposed and seconded by current members of UKAF ACO (at least 1 of which must be a Type 1 member), subject to no objections by any current member of UKAF ACO. Usually, non-Service officials will have had previous links with Services, Service cricket or one of the closely linked civilian county associations. For example, but not limited to; Hampshire, Surrey, Wiltshire, Lincolnshire and Berkshire. This is not mandatory for membership and each application will be judged on a case-by-case basis.

4. All members of the forming associations at their cessation, will automatically be considered as members of the UKAF ACO on its formation.

**Membership Status**

5. **Active Status**. An Active member will play a full part in officiating UKAFCA matches in their appropriate role.

6. **Social Status**. A Social member will remain a full member of UKAF ACO but will not normally be appointed to any UKAFCA match in an official capacity.

7. Both Active and Social members are entitled to vote on matters affecting The Association. Both Active and Social members shall be required to settle their subscriptions annually.

8. Active members shall not generally be appointed to UKAF cricket matches if their annual subscription is not up to date. Active Members must remain members of ECB ACO (or recognised partner cricket officials’ association, such as ICC) and where applicable be Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) current during the season they wish to officiate in UKAF cricket.

**Appointment Priorities**

9. When appointing any official to any Service cricket matches, it shall be conducted to ensure the right official, for the right game while following a priority system of appointing against availability. This is done to ensure The Association’s 1st aim is supported while also allowing opportunity to all members. The Appointments Officer shall exercise judgement in the fair and appropriate appointing of match officials throughout the season, both to the benefit of officials and of teams. The priority shall be:

a) Priority 1: Type 1 Member

b) Priority 2: Type 2 Member

c) Priority 3: Type 3 Member

9. The above system shall apply at all levels of Service cricket. At Inter Service tournaments and sS representative fixture (Level 1 and 2 fixtures) the appointments shall be made only from members of the UKAF Panel.

**UKAF Panel**

10. The UKAF Panel shall contain those officials with the suitable qualifications and experience to officiate at Level 1 and 2 fixtures. UKAF Panel membership is open to all 3 membership types. The minimum requirements for UKAF Panel membership are:

1. ECB Stage 2 (or previous ECB equivalent) and actively working toward next ECB Officials’ Qualification with an ECB ACO County, such as UKAF ACO.

Or

1. ECB Stage 3 (or previous ECB equivalent).

And

1. Minimum of 2 years of UKAF ACO membership.

11. The UKAF Panel shall be prepared and presented to UKAFCA AGM in December each year in preparation for the following season. Where it is not ready for the UKAFCA AGM, it should be distributed to all UKAFCA committee members electronically via the UKAFCA Secretary for out of committee confirmation.

**Life Membership**

12. Those members from paras 3.2, as proposed and voted by the Committee, who are granted Life Membership status shall be included in all UKAF ACO activities but are excluded from subscription payments. They may vote on The Association’s matters if in attendance at the relevant meeting.

**Appendix B Committee Responsibilities**

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| --- | --- |
| **Chair\*** | To conduct each meeting in accordance with good practice.  To represent the Association within UKAFCA and on appropriate County and National bodies and may, if unavailable, nominate a deputy to attend instead.  Liaise with local leagues, officials’ groups and other relevant bodies, as required.  Ensure the business of the Association is conducted in accordance with this constitution and directives from ECB ACO.  To uphold, encourage and demonstrate the values and traditions of UKAF ACO and its forming Associations.  Produce an annual report to UKAFCA on UKAF ACO business. |
| **General Secretary\*** | To assist the Chair with the above duties and to deputise as necessary.  To conduct all Association correspondence.  To keep minutes of all committee and general meetings.  To notify all members of meetings.  Notify ECB ACO of appointment and resignation of UKAF ACO officers. |
| **Membership Secretary** | To maintain a current list of all ECB & UKAF ACO Members.  To alert members to new items via email or other appropriate media.  To action any membership issue arising from the membership. |
| **Finance Officer\*** | To maintain the Association’s accounts.  To manage the Association’s bank account in accordance with current Service Funds Policies.  To receive all monies due to the Association from whatever source.  To pay all accounts in accordance with business plan and committee decisions.  Any exceptional payments in excess of £100 must be approved by the Chair and those in excess of £500 by the committee.  To ensure that the Association’s accounts are available for inspection by the Committee, UKAFCA, ECB ACO and Service funds audit, when required. |
| **Appointments Officer\*** | To co-ordinate the Appointments of all members within the UKAFCA using the available information, constitution direction and priorities from League and Cup Competitions, both within and outside UKAFCA.  Make such appointments as considered appropriate to the benefit of all members and UKAFCA  To support the Membership Secretary in ensuring an accurate record of UKAF ACO Umpires. |
| **Scorers Officer** | To work closely with the Appointments Officer and co-ordinate the Appointments of members within the UKAFCA using the available information, constitution direction and priorities from League and Cup Competitions, both within and outside UKAFCA.  To support the education and Training Officer in recruitment, training and retention of scorers.  To support the Membership Secretary in ensuring accurate record of UKAF ACO scorers. |
| **Education and Training Officer** | Representing the views, opinions, processes, and practices of UKAF ACO and its membership to their Regional Education Officer, (REO), for consideration by the Regional Council and the Education subcommittee of the ACO Board.  To oversee, support and implement the ECB ACO Education and Supported Development programmes plus the ECB ACO education policies and procedures within UKAF ACO.  To liaise with sS sports boards to ensure sufficient recruitment and training annually.  Plan, deliver and assure all UKAF ACO training courses with support from Scorer Officer and wider membership as appropriately qualified.  Consult with the Development, Lead Tutors and Scorer Officer, to inform and influence the Education and Supported Development programmes and assessment ‘best practice’ at all levels. |
| **Development Officer** | Represent the views, opinions, processes, and practices of UKAF ACO and its membership to the Regional Development Officer, (RDO), for consideration by the Regional Council and the Performance sub-committee of the ACO Board.  Coordinate the Supported Development ‘best practice’ programmes across UKAF ACO informing and supporting RDO to ensure an effective Assessment and Grading process within their County.  Support the Education & Training Officer in development and delivery of best practice education, training, development within UKAF ACO.  Ensure the effectiveness of the Supported Development programmes by coordinating the identification, recruitment, training and accreditation of suitable members to be match observers at the relevant levels, within UKAF ACO.  Work closely with other committee members to ensure appropriate grading in line wit ECB ACO guidance. |
| **Royal Navy Representative\*** | To uphold, encourage and represent the forming Association Royal Navy Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association at all matters of the UKAF ACO.  To represent all Royal Navy members, Regular and Reserve Active and Veteran at all matters of the UKAF ACO. |
| **Army Representative\*** | To uphold, encourage and represent the forming Association, Army Cricket Officials Association at all matters of the UKAF ACO.  To represent all Army members, Regular and Reserve Active and Veteran at all matters of the UKAF ACO. |
| **Royal Air Force Representative\*** | To uphold, encourage and represent the forming Association, Royal Air Force Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association at all matters of the UKAF ACO.  To represent all Royal air Force members, Regular and Reserve Active or Social and Veteran at all matters of the UKAF ACO. |
| **Civilian Representative** | To represent all civilian members, Active and Social at all matters of the UKAF ACO. |
| **Social Media Officer** | To update and develop the UKAF ACO’s website.  To maximise the awareness of UKAF ACO’s activities by use of all available outlets.  To draft and post newsletter items to members on the website or other media as appropriate.  To work closely with Membership Secretary in appropriate communication with all members on all matters relevant to UKAF ACO and the membership. |
| **Equipment and Clothing Officer** | To collate, manage, order and issue appropriate clothing in support of UKAF ACO.  To liaise with clothing providers to secure appropriate and branded equipment for UKAF ACO membership.  To report clothing and equipment registers and interests of membership to the committee. |
| **Vic Isaacs Statistician Officer** | To provide statistical analysis and reports to UKAFCA and its subsidiary associations as appropriate or requested.  To create and maintain records on an appropriate database that supports such reports. |
| **Safeguarding Officer (unelected but qualified position)** | To report and ensure accordance within UKAF ACO all current ECB, ECB ACO and UKAFCA safeguarding policies.  To work closely with the Membership Secretary to ensure accurate records of appropriately cleared membership. |

**Appendix C UKAFCA Code of Conduct**

UNITED KINGDOM ARMED FORCES CRICKET ASSOCIATION

CODE OF CONDUCT

***(Players & Team Officials)***

**Reference**

1. The source documents for the UKAF Cricket Association Code of Conduct are:

1. The ECB Code of Conduct and Spirit of Cricket.
2. MCC The Laws of Cricket.

c. The ICC Code of Conduct.

**Persons/Matches Covered**

2. This Code of conduct shall apply to:

a. Players.

b. Team Officials (managers, coaches, etc.).

c. Match Officials.

3. This Code of Conduct shall apply to all UKAF Cricket Association matches and is ratified as part of the UKAF ACO constitution.

**Rules of Conduct – Offences and Penalties**

4. Players and/or Team Officials shall always play within the spirit of the game as well as within the Laws of Cricket and the Captains are always responsible for ensuring that this is adhered to (Rule 11.1 deals with the application of and penalties for breach of this rule).

5. Players and Team Officials shall at no time engage in conduct unbecoming to their status as a participant in the match or their military position which could bring them or the game into disrepute (Rule 11.1 deals with the application of and penalties for breaches of this rule).

6. The Rules of Conduct for Offences and Penalties are separated into 4 different Levels and each level of offence has a stipulated penalty.

**Level 1**

7. The Offences set out in 7.1 to 7.6 are Level 1 offences. The penalty for a Level 1 offence shall be a minimum of an official reprimand.

7.1 Abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings.

7.2 Showing dissent at an umpire’s decision by action or verbal abuse.

7.3 Using language that is obscene, offensive or insulting and/or making an obscene gesture.

7.4 Excessive appealing.

7.5 Pointing or gesturing towards the pavilion in an aggressive manner by a bowler or other member of the fielding team upon the dismissal of a batter.

7.6 Public criticism of, or inappropriate comment on, a match related incident or match official.

**Level 2**

8. The Offences set out in 8.1 to 8.9 are Level 2 offences. The penalty for a Level 2 offence shall be a minimum of 1 match suspension from all UKAFCA matches.

8.1 Repeat of any Level 1 offence within 12 months of such offence.

8.2. Showing serious dissent at an umpire’s decision by action or verbal abuse.

8.3 Serious public criticism of or inappropriate comment on a match related incident or match official.

8.4 Inappropriate and deliberate physical contact between Players in play.

8.5 Charging or advancing towards the umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.

8.6 Deliberate and malicious distraction or obstruction on the field of play.

8.7 Throwing the ball at or near a player, umpire or official in any inappropriate and/or dangerous manner.

8.8 Using language that is obscene, offensive or of a seriously insulting nature to another player, umpire, Tournament Director, Team Official or spectator (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 acceptable standard. In this instance, language will be interpreted to include gestures).

8.9 Changing the condition of the ball in breach of Law 41.3.

**Level 3**

9. The Offences set out in 9.1 to 9.4 are Level 3 offences. The penalty for a Level 3 offence shall be a minimum of a 2-match ban from all UKAFCA matches.

9.1 Repeat of any Level 2 offence within a 12month period.

9.2 Intimidation of an Umpire or Official whether by language or conduct.

9.3 Threat of assault on another Player, Official or Spectator.

9.4 Using language or gestures that offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person on the basis of that person’s race, religion, sex, gender, colour or national or ethnic origin.

**Level 4**

10. The Offences set out in 10.1 to 10.6 are Level 4 offences. The penalty for a Level 4 shall be a ban of between 4 matches up to a life ban for the Player or Official concerned.

10.1 Repeat of any Level 3 offence within 12 months of such an offence.

10.2 Threat of assault on an Umpire or Official.

10.3 Physical assault of another Player, Umpire, Official or Spectator.

10.4 Any act of violence against another player on the field of play.

10.5 Using language or gestures that seriously offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person on the basis of that person’s race, religion, sex, gender, colour or national or ethnic origin.

**Notes**

11.1 Where the facts of or the gravity or seriousness of an alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, the person laying the charge may allege one of the following offences:

a. Breach of Rule 4 – conduct contrary to the spirit of the game; or

b. Breach of Rule 5 – conduct that brings the game into disrepute.

11.2 The person laying such a charge must specify the level of the breach to accompany the charge: for example, “conduct contrary to the spirit of the game – Level 2” or “conduct that brings the game into disrepute – Level 1”.

11.3 In deciding the penalty the Disciplinary Board (DB) is entitled to and should consider the prior record of the person charged.

11.4 If property is damaged, the DB may order compensation to the aggrieved party as part of the penalty.

11.5 Penalties are to be applied in the form of matches in which the player is likely to play. The penalty will take immediate effect and be applied to the next match (es) in any Tournament or carry over into the following seasons Tournament. The DB is to specify the number of matches the player is banned for.

11.6 Where there are separate incidents in the course of a match, the official reporting should lay separate charges. If the DB finds the person charged guilty of more than one offence, they should impose separate penalties in respect of each offence. Penalties in such cases are cumulative and not concurrent.

11.7 Plea bargaining is not permitted. It is open to the DB to find a player guilty of an offence in a level lower that in which he is charged where the consistent elements of the lesser offence are the same. For example, if a player is charged with serious dissent under 7.2, it is open for the DB to find the player guilty under clause 6.2 of dissent rather than serious dissent.

11.8 Nothing in this Code of Conduct alters the responsibility of the Captain to ensure that the spirit of the game is adhered to as stated and defined in the preamble to the Laws of Cricket.

11.9 All 3 single Service Cricket Association Chairs, UKAFCA Secretary, the UKAFCA Chair, both the UKAF Cricket Officials Association (UKAF ACO) Chair and Secretary shall be notified (or appointees as applicable) of all Players penalised under the Code of Conduct and are to ensure that any ban is served.

11.10 A Player or Official shall be entitled to appeal against a finding and/or a penalty imposed in respect of Level 2-4 offences.

**The Disciplinary Board**

12. The UKAFCA Executive shall appoint the Disciplinary Board (DB) and the DB shall have no less than three members on that Board with one member being an UKAF ACO member.

* 1. The Disciplinary Board shall:

a. Ensure the full implications of Laws 41 and 42 are properly understood and upheld.

b. Ensure the Code of Conduct, together with the Rules of Conduct therein, is upheld.

c. Investigate and adjudicate upon alleged breaches of the Rules of Conduct notified to them.

d. Ensure the appropriate sanction is applied to any person found to be in breach of the Rules of Conduct.

e. Report to the UKAFCA on matters relating to player safety at the ground; the pitch and out-field preparations.

12.4 The Disciplinary Board shall have full powers in respect to investigating and imposing sanctions for breaches of the Rules of Conduct.

12.5 The Disciplinary Board has the authority to listen to and decide upon any appeal against any penalties imposed.

12.6 All breaches of the Code of Conduct and Rules of Conduct contained therein shall be investigated and resolved immediately after the match in which any offence was committed.

12. 7 Impress on the importance of the Code of Conduct and the seriousness of any of the Rules of Conduct contained therein. Inform the Captain that in the event of an alleged breach of the rule 7.10 where it is not possible to identify the Player who is in breach, the Captain may be the person charged and subjected to any sanction which would otherwise have been imposed on the Player responsible, had that Player been identified.

12.8 Any Tournament Director/Referee (including 3rd Umpire(s) acting in this role) appointed shall have the powers of the Disciplinary Board and act accordingly within in the UKAFCA Code of Conduct when appointed to any Tournament/Festival hosted/held by the UKAFCA. In this instance the Tournament Director/Referee must include the senior member of each attending team in the deliberation and decision process.

**Reporting Procedure**

13. General

13.1 An alleged breach of the Rules of Conduct can be reported by:

a. The Umpires, including the 3rd umpire (if appointed) and Scorer Officials.

b. The Team Manager, either on their own or on behalf of any of their Players participating in the match.

c. The Chief Executive of either side participating in the match.

13.2 A report must be made in writing to the Disciplinary Board, signed and dated by the person(s) making the report and, if possible, be on an appropriate form, sample on last page of this document.

13.3 The Disciplinary Board should be notified ASAP in the event that a report is going to be submitted.

13.4 All reports are to be completed either during the Match or immediately upon the conclusion of the match and submitted to the Disciplinary Board ASAP after the close of play.

13.5 The Disciplinary Board upon receiving a report should notify the appropriate Team Manager/Corps Sec that a report has been submitted, who it is against and that investigative and possible punishment will be administered ASAP after the close of play/end of match within 3 days.

**Disciplinary Procedure**

14.1 As soon as reasonably possible after play has concluded (in a Tournament) the Disciplinary Board shall hold a hearing to investigate the alleged breach. A report submitted to the DB during the season (after a match), then the DB shall both convene and produce a decision/outcome within 21 days excluding weekends and bank holidays.

14.2 In addition to the Disciplinary Board the persons present at the hearing shall be:

a. The person charged

b. The person lodging the report if not an umpire. Umpires/Officials are to be present/called upon as and if required by the Disciplinary Board following liaison with the UKAFCA Committee/TD.

c. If the person charged is a Player, their Captain and Team Manager

d. If the Player charged is the Captain, then the vice-captain should be present.

e. Any other person the Disciplinary Board decides pertinent.

**Disciplinary Board Decision**

15.1 In the event that a report is made relating to an incident in a Tournament, it shall be dealt with within the Tournament to a conclusion, including the serving of any imposed penalty. In this instance, the report, deliberation and findings shall be audited by UKAFCA Chair and Secretary for the confirmation of parity.

15. 2 A report submitted to the Disciplinary Board during the season, the DB shall both convene and produce a decision/outcome within 21 days excluding weekends and bank holidays.

15.3 At the end of the hearing the Disciplinary Board should take a short adjournment (min 5 minutes) prior to the announcement of the decision.

15.4 After the Disciplinary Board has given a decision the person charged shall be given the opportunity to make a statement prior to the announcement of any sanction/penalty.

15.5 After listening to any statement from the charged person the Disciplinary Board shall pronounce any sanction imposed and the consequence of his decision.

15.6 The decision can be given orally but must be followed up with a written notification of his decision and sanctions.

15.7 In the event of the Disciplinary Board determining that a Player or Team Official is in breach of the Rules of Conduct the Disciplinary Board shall inform the Chair of their finding and the sanction imposed.

15.8 The Disciplinary Board decision is final and binding.

**Penalties to be imposed by the Disciplinary Board**

16.1 The maximum ban that can be imposed is a life ban from Service cricket, which will mean a ban until the end of that person’s service career.

16.2 If necessary, any ban will carry over into subsequent Inter Services Tournaments and all UKAF cricket played.

16.3 Any bans on players will be imposed at the same or higher level that the infraction took place.

**Penalties – General**

17.1 Once the Disciplinary Board has informed the person found to be in breach of the Rules of Conduct of the sanction, if any, the Disciplinary Board shall inform the UKAFCA Chair of the sanction to be imposed. In the event of a ban the UKAF ACO/Disciplinary Board is to inform, the UKAFCA Sec, UKAF ACO Chair, and the pertinent Service Chair and Secretary.

17.2 The Disciplinary Board is to:

a. Clearly identify when any ban commences and concludes.

b. Clearly identify the name of any person to whom the sanction applies.

**Miscellaneous**

18.1 Every reference in this Code of Conduct in the masculine shall be deemed, for the purposes of interpretation, to include a reference to the feminine gender.

18.2 Where the context so permits reference in the singular shall be deemed to include references in the plural even though not expressly stated.

**UKAF CRICKET ASSOCIATION CODE OF CONDUCT – FURTHER GUIDANCE**

**Guidance for Offences**

The schedule of offences contained in the UKAF Cricket Association Code of Conduct has been drafted in clear and plain English. These guidelines are intended as an illustrative guide only and in case of any doubt as to the interpretation of the Code; the provisions of the Code itself shall take precedence over the provisions of the guideline. The guidelines should not be read as an exhaustive list of offences or prohibited conduct.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Level 1** | Guidelines |
| 7.1 Abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings. | Includes action outside the course of normal cricket actions such as hitting or kicking the wickets and actions, which intentionally or negligently result in damage any part of the ground or buildings including fixtures and fittings. |
| 7.2 Showing dissent at an umpire’s decision by action or verbal abuse. | Includes excessive, obvious disappointment with an umpire’s decision or with an umpire making the decision. Obvious delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket or field of play. |
| 7.3 Using language that is obscene, offensive or insulting and/or making an obscene gesture. | Includes swearing and obscene gestures, which are not directed at another person such as swearing at one’s own poor play or fortune. Not intended to penalise trivial behaviour, the extent to which such behaviour is likely to give offence shall be taken into account. |
| 7.4 Excessive appealing. | Repeated appealing when bowler/fielder knows batsman is not out with the intention to put the Umpire under pressure. Not intended to prevent loud enthusiastic appeals. However, celebrating a dismissal before the decision has been given may constitute excessive appealing. |
| 7.5 Pointing or gesturing towards the pavilion in an aggressive manner by a bowler or other member of the fielding team upon the dismissal of a batsman. | Self explanatory. |
| 7.6 Public criticism of, or inappropriate comment on a match related incident or match official. | Without limitation, everyone will breach this rule if they public ally criticise the match officials or denigrate a player or team against which they have played in relation to incidents which occurred in a match. When accessing the seriousness of the breach, the context within which comments have been made and the gravity of the offending comments must be taken into account. This also includes inappropriate interaction with the scorers. |
| **Level 2** |  |
| 8.1 Repeat of any Level 1 offence within 12 months of such offence. |  |
| 8.2 Showing serious dissent at an umpire’s decision by action or verbal abuse. | Dissent should be classified as serious where the dissent is expressed by a specific action such as the shaking of the head, snatching a cap from umpire, pointing at pad or inside edge, other displays of anger or abusive language directed at the umpire or excessive delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket. |
| 8.3 Serious public criticism of. Or inappropriate comment on a match related incident or match official. | Same as 7.6 |
| 8.4 Inappropriate and deliberate physical contact between Players in the course of play. | Without limitation, players will breach this regulation if they deliberately walk or run into or shoulder another player. |
| 8.5 Charging or advancing towards the umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing. | Self explanatory. |
| 8.6 Deliberate and malicious distraction or obstruction on the field of play. | Self explanatory. |
| 8.7 Throwing the ball at or near a Player, umpire or official in any inappropriate and/or dangerous manner. | This will not prohibit a bowler/fielder from returning the ball to the stumps in the normal fashion. |
| 8.8 Using language that is obscene, offensive or of a seriously insulting nature to another player, umpire, Tournament Director, Team Official or spectator. (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 acceptable standard. In this instance, language will be interpreted to include gestures). | Any language or gesture, which is directed at another person(s). In exercising his judgement as to whether the behaviour has fallen below an acceptable standard, the umpire shall be required to take into account the context of the particular situation and whether the words or gesture are likely to:  Be regarded as obscene; or  Give offence; or  Insult another person.  This offence is not intended to penalise trivial behaviour. The extent to which such behaviour is likely to give offence shall be taken into account when assessing the seriousness of this breach. |
| 8.9 Changing the condition of the ball in breach of Law 42.3. | Deliberately throwing the ball into the ground for the purpose of roughening it up and the application of moisture to the ball save for perspiration and salvia shall not be permitted. |
| **Level 3** |  |
| 9.1 Repeat of any Level 2 offence within a 12 month period. |  |
| 9.2 Intimidation of an Umpire or Official whether by language or conduct. | Includes appealing in an aggressive or threatening manner. |
| 9.3 Threat of assault on another Player, Official or Spectator. | Self explanatory. |
| 9.4 Using language or gestures that **offends**, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person on the basis of that person’s race, religion, gender, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin. | In assessing the seriousness of a breach to the degree, which the behaviour was likely to give offence (to the ordinary person), and whether it was directed specifically towards any person(s) shall be taken into account. |
| **Level 4** |  |
| 10.1 Repeat of any Level 3 offence within 12 months of such an offence. |  |
| 10.2 Threat of assault on an Umpire or Official. |  |
| 10.3 Physical assault of another Player, Umpire, Official or Spectator. |  |
| 10.4 Any act of violence on the field of play. |  |
| 10.5 Using language or gestures that **seriously offends**, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person on the basis of that person’s race, religion, gender, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin. | See 9.4. |
| Conduct Contrary to the Spirit of the Game | General catch all clause. Conduct which s prohibited under this cause includes using an illegal bat, wicket keeping gloves, time wasting, cheating during play (includes deliberate attempt to mislead the umpire) and any conduct which is considered “unfair play” under Law 42. |
| Conduct unbecoming their status or which brings the game into disrepute. | Another catch all clause and intended to include serious or repeated criminal conduct, public acts of misconduct, unruly behaviour, inappropriate public comment which is detrimental to the interests of the game. In this respect any comment, which denigrates another player, official, umpire or scorer shall be prohibited under this regulation. |

**UKAF Cricket Association**

### Incident Report Form

(This form is to be completed immediately after the match and forwarded to the Disciplinary Board)

This form can also be used by Umpires for the use of the Reporting Procedure in accordance with Law 42 Unfair Play as applicable

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Person Raising Report** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Name** |  | | | **Position/Appointment** | | |  | | |
| **Name of Umpires** | | | | | | | | | |
| **1** | | | | | | **2** | | | |
| **Match Details** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Home Team Away Team**  **V** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Captain Name** | | |  | | | **Captain Name** | | |  |
| **Executive Name**  **Position**  (Reported to yes/no) | | |  | | | **Executive Name**  **Position**  (Reported to yes/no) | | |  |
| **Date of Match** | | |  | | | **Code Violation** | | |  |
| **Person(s) involved in incident** | | | | | **Venue** | | | | |
| **Name** | |  | | | | | **Team** |  | |
| **Name** | |  | | | | | **Team** |  | |
| **Name** | |  | | | | | **Team** |  | |
| **Name** | |  | | | | | **Team** |  | |
| **Give details (FACTS) of the incident including any verbal instruction or warnings issued to captain(s), name(s) of offenders and action taken at the time:-**  **Date / / Signed: Umpire 1 Umpire 2**  **Reporter if not Umpire** | | | | | | | | | |