

# Cricket Far North Code of Conduct

## **The Cricket Far North Code of Conduct is applicable to:**

- All competitions organised or sanctioned by Cricket Far North (CFN)
- Any spectator, player, or official involved with Cricket Far North, including participation in competitions, tours, or training camps. The policy is in effect from the time individuals leave their usual residence for an event until they return.
  - The term “official” encompasses team managers, coaching, medical, fitness staff, team selectors and anyone else acting in an official role for Cricket Far North.

## **Who may report a violation of the Code of Behaviour:**

- Any individual who has witnessed an incident they feel has breached our code of conduct, including, but not limited to:
  - Umpires
  - Opposition players, teams, supporters, and/or club officials
  - Members of the public
- Reports can be sent via clubs in general, however any statements of ‘wording heard or actions seen’ must have the person who reported it name provided with the report for verification if required.

## **How to lodge a report:**

- A report must be submitted via the 'forms' page on the CFN website ([www.cricketfarnorth.com.au](http://www.cricketfarnorth.com.au)) using the 'lodge a report' link.
- No report will be accepted by any other format including written or email.
- The form allowed for attachment in the form, if you wish to provide letters, photos, screenshots, videos or emails as support.
  - We strongly discourage (however will still accept) handwritten reports in the event of hard to read handwriting.
  - If you wish to provide frogbox evidence, please provide a link rather than attach video due to the size of the video.

## **Who assesses the report:**

- All reports are lodged and assessed by the Match Review Committee who will verify that the charge corresponds to the correct breach and determine the severity of the charge.
- All ‘disputes’ are also assessed by the Match Review Committee.
- All ‘appeals’ are run as a hearing by one of CFN Commissioner/s.
- The match review committee holds the right for more serious breaches to send any report direct to a hearing to be chaired by the commissioner/s and skip the initial reporting stage.

## **Conflict of interest:**

- No member that has a direct conflict of interest to the report is permitted to be involved in the initial charge, dispute process or appeal process.
- A member can be removed during the process if it is decided or comes to light that they are a

‘conflict of interest’ to this particular matter by a member of the CFN executive or CFN board.

- Example of direct conflict are, but not limited to:
  - From the same club
  - Family/close friends
  - Anything else a member of the CFN executive or CFN board decide is a direct conflict of interest in the matter at hand.

### **Opposition/Umpire Dealing with Situation During Match.**

- The umpire is authorised to take any of the following actions if they suspect a breach of the Code of Conduct. Umpires are encouraged to report the incident at the completion of the game:
  - Issue a first and final warning which shall apply to all members of the team for the remainder of the match.
  - Award 5 penalty runs. The umpire may apply this penalty multiple times during the match as deemed appropriate.
  - Report player/s (As per ‘timeline for lodging a report’ below)
  - Direct the captain to remove the offending player immediately from the field of play for a period of 10 overs as part of a ‘cool-down’ period.
    - If there are less than 10 overs remaining for the innings, then the suspension continues into the start of the next innings (change of innings) until the 10 overs are served.
      - This would apply for any dismissed batter, or if a batter was dismissed whilst an incident occurred, however if there are more than 10 overs remaining in the innings, then the player may resume from the start of the next innings (change of innings) even though they were out.
        - If a team is ‘all-out’ less than 10 overs since the incident, the player must remain off field until 10 overs across both innings are served, at which point the player may then return to the game.
      - If there are less than 10 overs left in the match, then the player will not be permitted to return for the remainder of the match.
    - If the offending player is part of the fielding team, a substitute will not be allowed for him/her.
    - The offending player may return to the field of play after serving the period of suspension and may bowl immediately.
    - If a bowler is suspended mid-over, then that over must be completed by a different bowler, who shall not have bowled the previous over nor shall he/she bowl the next over.
    - If the offending player is suspended while batting, he/she shall be replaced by another member of his/her team.
    - If the offending player is a member of the batting side, who has not been dismissed, he/she may bat or return to bat after having served the suspension, only at the fall of a wicket.
    - If no batter is available to bat during a batsman’s suspension, the innings is completed.
    - If the offending player was suspended while batting and does not continue his/her

- innings for whatever reason, he/she is to be recorded as Retired – not out.
  - The umpire has the right to upgrade this to a full match suspension if the player continues to breach the code of conduct after leaving the field.
  - This suspension wouldn't be considered as part of punishment if a report is lodged and whilst being assessed by CFN, and purely is an action from the umpire during the match to prevent escalation.
- Direct the captain to remove the offending player immediately from the field of play for the remainder of the match.
  - This suspension wouldn't be considered as part of punishment if a report is lodged and whilst being assessed by CFN, and purely is an action from the umpire during the match to prevent escalation
- In games with no official umpires, teams cannot award 5-run penalties for these incidents, however captains can come together and discuss together a serious situation and come to a collaborative decision of either a 10 over or a full game suspension.
  - It is encouraged a report is lodged if this was to occur.
  - If both captains can't come to a collaborative decision and one captain feels the game should not continue due to safety concerns, then they have a right to end the match and send to CFN to make a ruling on the result.
    - CFN will have the right to rule a win to either team or leave it continue as a draw depending on the match situation, the conversation between the captains and the seriousness of the offending player behavior.
- Captain refusing to remove a player from the field/Player refusing to leave the field
  - If a captain refuses to carry out an instruction to remove a player from the field, or if the player refuses to leave the field as directed by the captain, the umpires shall invoke Law 16.2 of the CFN playing regulation and award the match to the opposition team.

### **Serious Breaches of Code of Conduct:**

- A serious breach may cause delays in the reporting and assessment process. If a resolution isn't reached quickly after a serious breach, the following groups:
  - CFN Management Committee
  - CFN Board
  - CFN Match Review Committee
  - CFN Umpires Association Management Committee Membercan request a CFN commissioner to review the available information and consider imposing an immediate automatic suspension on the person being charged.
- This action can be taken when there is clear evidence of the breach, or it's highly likely that the breach will result in a minimum suspension long enough to justify the immediate application of an automatic suspension being applied under this rule.

### **Suspended Sentences**

- If a final verdict is not reached before the next weekend's matches, or if an appeal is lodged, the following measures will be enacted:
  - A provisional suspended suspension will be automatically imposed on the alleged offender.

- This suspended sanction will remain in effect until a decision on the allegation is reached and the Committee has notified their club of the outcome.
- If the alleged offender is reported for another violation of the Code of Conduct before a resolution is reached on their initial breach, the suspension will be activated and no longer suspended.
- The player will remain suspended until all outstanding reported breaches are resolved.
- Once the Committee reaches a decision, the suspended sanction will be lifted, and the decision will be conclusive.
- Any matches missed due to suspension will be deducted from the total length of the final suspension imposed.

#### **Timelines for Lodging a Report:**

- When an **umpire** plans to report an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct from a match they have officiated, it is advisable (although not compulsory) to inform the team captain or a club official that a report will be lodged as soon as practicable, ideally within 24 hours of the match's conclusion or the occurrence of the breach.
- All reports should be lodged promptly, ideally within 72 hours after the match ends, however submission is possible up to 30 days following the match.
  - If no report is received within 30 days of the breach, it will be considered void unless for extreme circumstances where the commissioner can give approval for a report to be considered even though outside of the 30 days of breach period.
- A report may be requested to be re-written, or can have additional commentary or evidence provided along with it, provided that no changes are made without the consent, approval and signature of the person who originally lodged the report by any member of the following:
  - CFN Management Committee
  - CFN Board
  - CFN Match Review Committee
  - CFN Umpires Associating Management Committee Member
- Assistance can be provided to the person who's lodging the report, and modifications can be made after submission, provided the final version used for assessing charges is entirely accurate from the submitter's perspective. The individual submitting must tick the box at the bottom of the form, sign it themselves to verify it's true and accurate, and cannot have someone else sign on their behalf.
- A report and/or charge can be changed at any time if a report comes in after the initial lodgement as long as the new information is received within the timelines above.

#### **Once a report is received and accepted:**

- CFN executive (Executive elected and administration team) as soon as possible, ideally within 48 hours, but no later than 7 days from when the report was received will notify the reported player or person via their club or association and inform them that the report has been received.
- The report, along with any evidence, will be passed to the Match Review Committee by the CFN executive as soon as possible, ideally within 48 hours, but no later than 7 days from when the report was received.
- The Match Review committee will deliberate, either in writing or verbally, and provide their

findings to CFN executive as swiftly as possible, ideally within 48 hours, but no later than 7 days from when they received the report.

- The Match review committee will ensure the charge is under the correct breach and decide on the level of charge.
- The committee may request an extension from the CFN executive, which will be automatically approved if required to gather more information, particularly if the committee believes the available information is insufficient to make a charge.
  - The CFN executive will notify the reported player or person via their club or association and inform them of the delay ideally within 48 hours, but no later than 7 days.
  - The CFN executive will act to source the additional information as soon as possible, ideally within 48 hours, but have up to 7 days to obtain the requested information.
- The CFN Match Review Committee will reach a final decision as soon as possible, ideally within 48 hours, but up to 7 days from when they receive any additional information.
- The Match review committee will present their findings by a majority rules vote. In the case of a tie, the committee must deliberate more until a majority is found.
- A member of the CFN match review committee must be nominated to send findings to the CFN executive and this can be via the 'forms' page on the CFN website ([www.crickETFarnorth.com.au](http://www.crickETFarnorth.com.au)) under sub-committee forms using the 'Charge Findings Form' link.
- CFN executive must pass on the findings as soon as possible, ideally within 48 hours, but up to 7 days from when they receive the final findings from the match review committee.

### **Storage of Reports and Findings/Charges**

- All reports and final outcomes (even if no charge is made) will be stored:
  - In the CFN Code of Conduct report document (Brief overview of all incident and charges)
  - In CFN's secure online storage.
- Full access granted to the CFN executive.
- All reports will be held for at least 5 years.

### **Response upon receiving the findings from the Match Review Committee:**

- The club and/or the reported individual will determine their course of action concerning the incident. They must initially respond using the 'Charge Response - Form 1' on the CFN website ([www.crickETFarnorth.com.au](http://www.crickETFarnorth.com.au)) within 48 hours of receiving the report to indicate their chosen course of action. An additional 48 hours is provided to complete the detailed response if this is the route taken. Available actions include:
  - a. Accept the charge, where charges will apply, as outlined in the Code of Conduct breach chart.
  - b. Dispute the entire report and plead 'not guilty'. A 'failed dispute penalty' will be imposed if the dispute is unsuccessful.
  - c. Acknowledge fault but dispute the grading and/or level of the charge and asking for a downgrade. A 'failed dispute penalty' will be imposed if the dispute is unsuccessful.
- If the club chooses action (b) or (c), they must submit their detailed response using the 'Charge Response - Form 2' within 48 hours after completing 'Charge Response - Form 1'.
- Any person who wishes to provide supporting evidence can do so by completing the 'Charge Response - Form 2' within 48 hours of the person being charged completing 'Charge Response -

Form 1' under the 'forms' page on the CFN website.

- Accepting the charge (a) will finalise the matter, and the charge will be effective immediately unless the Match Review Committee specifies otherwise in the charge report.

#### **Failed Dispute Penalty:**

- When a charge isn't accepted and challenged either in its entirety or for a downgrade, if unsuccessful, the following penalties will apply.
  - If the initial charge penalty was demerit point/s, then an additional demerit point will be added.
  - If the initial charge penalty was suspension point/s, then an additional suspension point will be added.
  - If multiple charges are issues, the penalty applies to each charge that is disputed and unsuccessful.
- Contesting the report could result in a higher penalty if the individual is subsequently found guilty of a more serious offence than originally charged.
  - This can occur if additional information emerges, indicating that the initial charge was too lenient, either during the dispute or on appeal.

#### **Dispute the report:**

- The dispute will be forwarded to the Match Committee along with the statement of dispute for evaluation.
- The Match Committee may decide to pose additional questions in writing, or through an interview conducted in person, online, or via telephone to:
  - Captain, players or representatives from the club that the alleged offender is at.
  - The alleged offender(s),
  - Captain, players or representatives from the club of the opposition.
  - the umpire.
  - or any other individual they consider appropriate. The Committee will reach a decision based on a majority vote and then submit their findings to the CFN Executive Committee. The Executive will:
- The Match review committee will then rule the dispute either unsuccessful or modify the initial charge under the same guidelines and timelines outlined in the 'Once a report is received and accepted'.

#### **Appeal of decision**

- Any individual dissatisfied with the penalties outlined in the Charge Report may challenge the decision by notifying the Administration Officer within 48 hours of receiving the Charge Report.
  - An appeal can't be lodged until the full process of dispute is followed first, and can only appeal if they don't agree with the dispute outcome.
  - Any appeal lodged after the 48-hour appeal notice period will be considered null and void unless under special circumstances at which the commissioner/s may or may not allow.
- If the match review committee referred on an incident directly to a hearing, an appeal can be made and would be held by:
  - Another commissioner, who was not involved in the original hearing.

- If no commissioner is available, a hearing by 3 members of the match review committee.
    - If three members can't be found, then CFN executive is able to request club executives to fill these roles until 3 members are found.
- The CFN executive committee will appoint at least one CFN Commissioner to participate in the hearing.
  - Where more than one commissioner is appointed, the CFN executive will appoint one of the commissioners to chair the appeal hearing
  - Any number of commissioners, from just one to three, may be appointed to attend the hearing.
- The chair commissioner will notify the complainant of the hearing date, which should be set within five days of the appeal notification.
- If all Commissioners are unavailable to handle a charge, the executive may appoint a temporary substitute. These substitutes can be selected from any management committee member of any club, provided they have no connection to the alleged transgressors or club, or from other appropriate sources.
- If both the CFN executive and the alleged offender agree, the hearing may be scheduled after five days to accommodate the availability of a commissioner, but it should be held as soon as possible.
- Upon receipt of the Appeal Notice, the complainant's club will be charged an Appeals fee of \$300.
  - If the Appeals fee is not paid within 48 hours of the invoice being issued, the Appeal Notice may be null and void.
  - If an appeal is successful, the club will receive the \$300 returned by invoice from CFN.
- Final outcomes will be made by:
  - If only one commissioner, then that commissioner alone.
  - If more than one commissioner, they will come to a decision collectively after deliberation.
- The hearing will be closed to the public. Attendees allowed are:
  - Commissioner/s appointed
  - Alleged perpetrator
  - Alleged perpetrator representative
    - The alleged transgressor is automatically entitled to representation by an Executive member of their Club or Association, provided that person is not a Solicitor, Barrister, or paralegal, unless otherwise specified.
    - Representation by a Solicitor, Barrister, or paralegal may be allowed if deemed appropriate by the Commissioner in consultation with the Match Review Committee.
      - Such a request must be submitted in writing no later than 12 hours before the hearing.
  - Member from the perpetrator club (None speaking role)
  - Up to 2 members of the CFN executive or match review committee (None Speaking role)
  - Person/s lodging report
  - Anyone else invited by the commissioner including but not limited to witnesses including umpires, team members or opposition members.
- Ideally the hearing will be face-to-face, but may be conducted virtually (e.g., via Microsoft

Teams) if necessary.

- The commissioner/s will have received and reviewed all reports and evidence before the hearing.
- Non-Attendance:
  - If an alleged transgressor or complainant is summoned but:
    - fails to appear in person, or
    - fails to send a representative
    - then, the commissioner may assume a guilty plea and impose the maximum penalty, or,
      - The commissioner may consider any extreme circumstances post-event for non-representation and may reschedule a hearing.

### Hearing Process:

- The commissioner may run the hearing process as they wish, however, the person being charged and/or representative must be allowed to comment on their version of the events and why they are appealing the charge.
- The person appealing charge is also allowed limited cross-examination at the discretion of the Commissioner. Any cross-examination will be strictly regulated by the Commissioner and may be ceased for the remainder of the hearing at any time by the commissioner.
- Once the commissioner/s determine that they have gathered sufficient information:
  - If there is only one commissioner, they must request everyone to leave the room for privacy while they deliberate and make a decision. No one is to remain in the room.
  - If there are multiple commissioners, they must request that everyone, except the commissioners, leave the room so they can deliberate and reach a final decision.
- A decision will be reached at that time, and once the commissioners have made their final determination, all members will be summoned back into the room to hear the outcome. Results from appeal hearing will take effect immediately.
- The chair commissioner will issue a findings report within 48 hours after the hearing concludes that is to be completed via the website under 'forms' using the 'Charge Findings Form' that will be passed onto the club and person appealing.

### Finals:

- If incidents occur during finals or prior to finals, CFN have the right to reduce timelines for responses to 24 hours to have an outcome prior to the final.
- CFN has the right to lodge to the commission for an immediate suspension if they believe a serious breach has occurred before finals as per the '**Serious Breaches of Code of Conduct**'.

### Representative Cricket:

- The match review committee, commissioner/s or CFN executive have the right to apply and suspension to representative cricket if the suspended period occurs during representative match dates.
- A single match suspension would be equivalent to an entire tournament/weekend even if more than one match is played.
- This would be up to the discretion of the match review committee, commissioner/s or CFN executive if these penalties are to apply for representative matches or not and the severity of



breach should come into consideration when these penalties are being considered.

- If incidents occur during a representative match or prior to representative match/es, CFN have the right to reduce timelines for responses to 24 hours to have an outcome prior to the representative match/es.
- CFN has the right to lodge to the commission for an immediate suspension if they believe a serious breach has occurred before finals as per the '**Serious Breaches of code of conduct**'.

#### **Final Findings:**

- All decisions made after an appeal are final and no further appeals will be considered.

#### **Demerit Point/Suspension Point Accumulation:**

- Demerit Points will remain on a Player or Player Support Personnel's disciplinary record for a period of 3 years (36-months) from their imposition, following which they shall be immediately expunged.
- Where a Player or Player Support Personnel accumulates four (4) Demerit Points in a 3 year (36-month period), these Demerit Points shall be converted into one (1) Suspension Point.
  - As an example, should a Player accumulate five (5) Demerit Points, four (4) Demerit Points will be converted into one (1) Suspension Point and served at which they are then cleared, whilst the remaining one (1) Demerit Point will remain on the Players record for a period of 3 years (36 months).
- When separate incidents occur and additional demerit points are added to existing demerit points, the initial demerit points are always applied first and continue to be applied in the chronological order of the charges. This means if any demerit points are applied and remain (such as the 5 demerit combined which has 1 demerit remain in the example above), then the remaining points are from the most recent charge, and the 3-year record will start from that incident.

## Code of Conduct Breach Chart

The following guidelines relate to all levels of offences. They add extra detail to the Law 42 – Player Conduct levels of offence, explaining how these can impact upon player conduct.

These guidelines are a reference for the CFN Executive Committee, the Commissioner, the Clubs and the match review Committees when deciding suitable penalties for any player, official or spectator who breaches any level of these offences.

1.1	<b>Excessive appealing during a Match.</b>	
<i>Note:</i>	<i>For the purpose of Appendix 1.1, 'excessive' may include (a) repeated appealing of the same decision; (b) repeated appealing of different decisions when the bowler/fielder knows the batter is not out with the intention of placing the Umpire under pressure; (c) charging or advancing towards the Umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing; or (d) celebrating a dismissal without appealing to the Umpire when a decision is required. It is not intended to prevent loud or enthusiastic appealing. For example, this offence may be committed, without limitation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Level 1 could be if it happens on the once of situation.</i></li> <li>• <i>Level 2 could be if it continue happens after a warning.</i></li> </ul>	
<i>Level 1</i>	√	<i>1 Demerit Point</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	√	<i>2 Demerit Point</i>
<i>Level 3</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	-
<i>Level 4</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	-

1.2	<b>Abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings during a Match.</b>	
<i>Note:</i>	<p><i>Appendix 1.2 includes any action(s) outside the course of normal cricket actions, such as hitting or kicking the wickets and any action(s) which deliberately (i.e., intentionally), recklessly or negligently (in either case even if accidental) results in or had the potential to result in damage to the advertising boards, boundary fences, dressing room doors, mirrors, windows and other fixtures and fittings.</i></p> <p><i>When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the following factors (without limitation) shall be considered: (i) the context of the incident. (ii) whether the player had been warned for poor behaviour prior to the incident. (iii) provocation or reaction to an opposition taunts. (iv) the amount of damage and is it to there own equipment, or a third part equipment.</i></p> <p><i>For example, this offence may be committed, without limitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Level 1 when a Player bangs their bat into the ground or against a fence, or if a Player throws their bat or gloves.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 2 could be where a Player smashes stumps or a fence or door, but there is no apparent damage.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 3 could be where a player causes damage to a third party property.</i></li> </ul>	
<i>Level 1</i>	√	<i>1 Demerit Point</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	√	<i>2 Demerit Point</i>
<i>Level 3</i>	√	<i>1 Suspension Point</i>
<i>Level 4</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	-

1.3	<b>Use of an audible obscenity during a Match.</b>	
<i>Note:</i>	<p><i>Appendix 1.3 covers the use of words commonly known and understood to be offensive, obscene and/or profane (in any language) and includes obscene or offensive language which would have been able to be heard by any person situated outside the field of play, or language that would be likely to offend any person whether within or outside the field of play. This conduct may include, for example, swearing in frustration at one's own play or misfortune. For example, this offence may be committed, without limitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Level 1 could be if it happens on the once of situation.</i></li> <li><i>Level 2 could be if it continue happens after a warning.</i></li> </ul>	
<i>Level 1</i>	√	<i>1 Demerit Point</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	√	<i>2 Demerit Point</i>
<i>Level 3</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	-
<i>Level 4</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	-

1.4	<b>Disobeying an Umpire's instruction during a Match</b>	
<i>Note:</i>	<p><i>Appendix 1.4 includes any repeated failure to comply with the instruction or directive of an Umpire during a Match.</i></p> <p><i>For example, this offence may be committed, without limitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Level 1 could be if it happens on the once of situation.</i></li> <li><i>Level 2 could be if it continue happens after a warning.</i></li> </ul>	
<i>Level 1</i>	√	<i>1 Demerit Point</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	√	<i>2 Demerit Point</i>
<i>Level 3</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	-
<i>Level 4</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	-

1.5	<b>Using language, actions or gestures which disparage, or which could provoke an aggressive reaction from a batter upon his/her dismissal during a Match.</b>	
Note:	<p><i>Appendix 1.5 includes any language, action or gesture used by a Player or Player Support Personnel and directed towards a batter upon their dismissal which has the potential to provoke an aggressive reaction from the dismissed batter, whether or not any reaction results, or which could be considered to disparage or demean the dismissed batter, regardless of whether the batter him/herself feels disparaged or demeaned (in other words, a 'send-off'). Without limitation, Appendix 1.5 includes: (a) excessive celebration directed at and near the dismissed batter; (b) verbally abusing the dismissed batter; and (c) pointing or gesturing towards the pavilion.</i></p> <p><i>When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the following factors (without limitation) shall be considered: (i) the context of the situation. (ii) language used towards the batter; (iii) if the bowler/fielder changed direction or ran at the batter and (iv) proximity of the bowler/fielder to the batter when the action took place.</i></p> <p><i>Nothing in this Appendix 1.5 is, however, not intended to stop Players celebrating, in an appropriate fashion, the dismissal of the opposing team's batter.</i></p> <p><i>For example, this offence may be committed, without limitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Level 1 when a Player gives a minor sendoff that could get a reaction from the outgoing batter or non-striker.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 2 could be where a Player gives a sendoff that could include swearing and could see the player advance to the outgoing batter or non-striker, rather than team to celebrate the wicket.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 3 could be where a player makes the decision to go out of there way and travel a fair distance away from team to go to the outgoing batsman or non-striker and give a sendoff, or could be they use a personal attack in sendoff.</i></li> </ul>	
Level 1	√	1 Demerit Point
Level 2	√	2 Demerit Point
Level 3	√	1 Suspension Point
Level 4	Not applicable	-

1.6	<b>Using a gesture that is obscene, offensive, or insulting during a Match.</b>	
Note:	<p><i>Appendix 1.6 includes, without limitation, obscene gestures which are not directed at another person.</i></p> <p><i>When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the following factors (without limitation) shall be considered: (i) the context of the particular situation; and (ii) whether the gesture is likely to: (a) be regarded as obscene; (b) give offence; or (c) insult another person.</i></p> <p><i>This offence is not intended to cover any use of language that is likely to offend another person based on their race, religion, gender, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin. Such conduct is covered in Appendix 1.22. For example, this offence may be committed, without limitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Level 1 could be if it happens on the once of situation.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 2 could be if it continue happens after a warning.</i></li> </ul>	
Level 1	√	1 Demerit Point
Level 2	√	2 Demerit Point
Level 3	Not applicable	-
Level 4	Not applicable	-

1.7	<b>Public criticism of, or inappropriate comment in relation to an incident occurring in a Match or any Player, Player Support Personnel, Match Official or team participating in any Match, irrespective of when such criticism or inappropriate comment is made.</b>	
Note:	<p><i>Without limitation, Players and Player Support Personnel will breach Appendix 1.7 if they publicly 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 assessing the seriousness of the breach, without limitation, the context within which the comments have been made and the gravity of the offending comments must be considered.</i></p> <p><i>For the avoidance of doubt, any posting by a Player or Player Support Personnel of comments on a social media platform (including, without limitation, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, TikTok and LinkedIn) shall be deemed to be 'public' for the purposes of this offence. Consequently, a Player or Player Support Personnel may breach Appendix 1.7 where they criticize or make an inappropriate comment in relation to an incident occurring in a Match or any Player, Player Support Personnel, Match Official or team participating in any Match in any posting they make on a social media platform.</i></p> <p><i>For example, this offence may be committed, without limitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Level 1 could be when a Player provides comment on a post criticising a situation without the chance of much offence caused.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 2 could be where a Player makes a post criticising or provides a comment that could cause offence.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 3 could be where a player makes a post or provides a comment that could cause serious offence or is extremely critical.</i></li> </ul>	
Level 1	√	2 Demerit Point
Level 2	√	1 Suspension Points
Level 3	√	2 Suspension Points
Level 4	Not applicable	-

1.8	<b>Showing dissent at an Umpire's decision during a Match.</b>	
Note:	<p><i>Without limitation, Appendix 1.8 includes: (a) excessive, obvious disappointment with an Umpire's decision; (b) an obvious delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket; (c) shaking of the head in an excessive or prolonged manner; (d) pointing or looking at the inside edge when given out lbw; (e) pointing to the pad or rubbing the shoulder when caught behind; (f) snatching the cap from the Umpire; (g) requesting a referral to the 'Third Umpire'; (h) aggressively hitting/kicking the ground, or recklessly falling onto the ground in disbelief when a batter is not given out; and (i) arguing or entering into a prolonged discussion with the Umpire about his/her decision.</i></p> <p><i>This offence is not intended to punish a batter showing his/her instinctive disappointment at his/her dismissal.</i></p> <p><i>When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the following factors (without limitation) should be considered: (i) whether the conduct contains an element of anger or abuse which is directed at the Umpire or the Umpire's decision; (ii) whether there is excessive delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket; or (iii) whether there is persistent reference to the incident over time.</i></p> <p><i>It shall not be a defense to any charge brought under this Appendix to show that the Umpire might have, or in fact did, make an error.</i></p> <p><i>For example, this offence may be committed, without limitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Level 1 could be when a Player provides a comment saying they hit it, or point at their bat, snatching hat from umpire, etc.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 2 could be where a Player swears after a decision.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 3 could be where a player makes a statement that could cause serious offence or is extremely critical of a situation.</i></li> </ul>	
Level 1	√	2 Demerit Point
Level 2	√	1 Suspension Points
Level 3	√	2 Suspension Points
Level 4	Not applicable	-



1.9	<b>Throwing a ball (or any other item of cricket equipment such as a water bottle) at or near a Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Official or any other third person in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner during a Match.</b>	
Note:	<p><i>This offence will not prohibit a fielder or bowler from returning the ball to the stumps in the normal fashion, or from throwing the ball at the stumps or to a teammate when attempting a run out.</i></p> <p><i>When assessing the seriousness of the offence, the following factors (without limitation) shall be taken into account: (i) the context of the particular situation, including, without limitation, whether the action was deliberate, reckless, negligent, and/or avoidable; (ii) whether the ball/object struck the other person; (iii) the speed at which the ball/object was thrown; and (iv) the distance from which the ball/object was thrown.</i></p> <p><i>For clarity, throwing the ball towards the stumps when the batter has not left his/her ground is not justified as attempting a run out.</i></p> <p><i>For example, this offence may be committed, without limitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Level 1 could be when a bowler throws a ball at the batsman direction and they were standing in there crease the entire time. .</i></li> <li><i>• Level 2 could be where a Player throws a ball at the batsman maliciously but then deescalates the situation by apologies immediately.</i></li> <li><i>• Level 3 could be where a player throws a ball at an opposition support player, spectator, umpire maliciously, or at the batsman maliciously and shows no immediate remorse that could escalate the situation.</i></li> </ul>	
Level 1	√	2 Demerit Points
Level 2	√	1 Suspension Points
Level 3	√	2 Suspension Points
Level 4	Not applicable	-

1.10	<p><b>Any of the following conduct which constitutes ‘unfair play’ under clause 41 of the Laws of Cricket:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>deliberate attempt to distract striker.</b></li> <li>• <b>deliberate distraction, deception, or obstruction of batter</b></li> <li>• <b>bowling of dangerous and unfair short-pitched deliveries.</b></li> <li>• <b>bowling of dangerous and unfair non-pitching deliveries.</b></li> <li>• <b>bowling of deliberate front foot no balls.</b></li> <li>• <b>time wasting by any Player or team.</b></li> <li>• <b>fielder causing deliberate or avoidable damage to the pitch.</b></li> <li>• <b>bowler running on protected area.</b></li> <li>• <b>batter causing deliberate or avoidable damage to the pitch.</b></li> <li>• <b>striker in the protected area.</b></li> </ul>	
Note:	<p><i>The offence supplements and does not replace clauses 41.4 to 41.15 of the Laws of Cricket.</i></p> <p><i>When assessing the seriousness of the offence, the following factors (without limitation) shall be taken into account: (i) the context of the particular situation, including, without limitation and where relevant, whether the action was deliberate, reckless, negligent, and/or avoidable; (ii) the potential of the action to injure an opponent; and (iii) the degree of advantage offered by the ‘unfair play’.</i></p>	
Level 1	√	2 Demerit Point
Level 2	√	1 Suspension Points
Level 3	√	2 Suspension Points
Level 4	Not applicable	-

1.11	<b>Any attempt to manipulate a Match for inappropriate strategic or tactical reasons.</b>	
Note:	<p><i>Appendix 1.11 is intended to prevent the manipulation of Matches for inappropriate strategic or tactical reasons (such as when a team deliberately loses a Match to affect the standings of other teams in the competition). It might also apply to the inappropriate manipulation of a net run rate or accumulation of bonus points or otherwise.</i></p> <p><i>The team captain of any team guilty of such conduct shall be held responsible (and subject to sanction) for any offence found to have been committed under this Appendix.</i></p>	
Level 1	Not applicable	-
Level 2	√	1 Suspension Points
Level 3	√	2 Suspension Points
Level 4	Not applicable	-

1.12	<b>Inappropriate physical contact with a Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Official or any other person (including a spectator) during a Match.</b>	
Note:	<p><i>Any form of inappropriate physical contact is prohibited in cricket. Without limitation, Players will breach this regulation if they deliberately, recklessly and/or negligently makes inappropriate physical contact with another Player or Umpire. When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the following factors (without limitation) shall be taken into account: (i) the context of the particular situation, including, without limitation, whether the contact was deliberate (i.e. intentional), reckless, negligent, and/or avoidable; (ii) the force of the contact; (iii) any resulting injury to the person with whom contact was made; and (iv) the person with whom contact was made.</i></p>	
Level 1	√	1 Suspension Points
Level 2	√	2 Suspension Points
Level 3	√	4 - 6 Suspension Points
Level 4	√	8 - 12 Suspension Points

1.13	<b>Personal abuse of a Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire or Match Official during a Match.</b>	
Note:	<p><i>Appendix 1.13 is intended to cover a Player or Player Support Personnel directing language of a personal, insulting, obscene and/or offensive nature at any Player or Player Support Personnel (Level 2), Umpire or Match Official (Level 3) during a Match.</i></p> <p><i>It is also intended to cover language of a personal, insulting, obscene and/or offensive nature relating to a family member of the Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire or Match Official at whom it is directed.</i></p> <p><i>When considering the seriousness of the breach, the following factors (without limitation) shall be considered: (i) whether such language was excessive and/or orchestrated; and (ii) the person at whom the language was directed, i.e. whether they were a Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Official or another person.</i></p> <p><i>This offence is not intended to cover any use of language that is likely to offend another person based on their race, religion, gender, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin. Such conduct is covered in Appendix 1.22.</i></p>	
Level 1	Not Applicable	-
Level 2	√ Level 2 is not available in the case of personal abuse of an Umpire or Match Official.	1 Suspension Points
Level 3	√ Level 3 is available in all cases	3 Suspension Points
Level 4	√ Level 4 is available in all cases	5 Suspension Points

1.14	<b>Changing the condition of the ball.</b>	
Note:	<p>Any action(s) likely to alter the condition of the ball which are not specifically permitted in the CFN playing conditions may be regarded as 'unfair'. The following actions shall, therefore, not be permitted (this list of actions is not exhaustive but included for illustrative purposes): (a) deliberately throwing the ball into the ground for the purpose of roughening it up; (b) applying any artificial substance to the ball; and applying any non-artificial substance for any purpose other than to polish the ball; (c) lifting or otherwise interfering with any of the seams of the ball; and (d) scratching the surface of the ball with finger or thumb nails or any implement.</p> <p>The Umpires shall use their judgment to apply the principle that actions taken to maintain or enhance the condition of the ball, provided no artificial substances are used, shall be permitted. Any actions taken with the purpose of damaging the condition of the ball or accelerating the deterioration of the condition of the ball shall not be permitted.</p>	
Level 1	Not Applicable	-
Level 2	Not Applicable	-
Level 3	√	3 Suspension Points
Level 4	Not Applicable	-

1.15	<b>Attempting to gain an unfair advantage during a Match</b>	
Note:	<p>Appendix 1.15 is intended to cover any attempts to cheat or gain an unfair advantage during a Match (other than conduct prohibited under Appendixes 8.11 or 8.14 of the Code of Conduct). It includes, without limitation: (a) deliberate attempts to deceive an Umpire (for example by claiming a catch when the Player concerned knew that he/she had not caught the ball cleanly); or (b) taking a foreign object onto the field whose most likely reason for being there is to change the condition of the ball.</p> <p>When assessing the seriousness of the breach, consideration should be given to whether the conduct was deliberate, reckless and/or negligent on the part of the relevant Player or Player Support Personnel.</p>	
Level 1	√	2 Demerit Points
Level 2	√	1 Suspension Points
Level 3	√	3 Suspension Points
Level 4	Not Applicable	-

1.16	<b>Intimidation of an Umpire or Match Official whether by language or conduct (including gestures) during a Match.</b>	
Note:	<i>Appendix 1.16 is intended to cover any form or intimidation of an Umpire or Match Official. It includes, without limitation: (a) any form of continual verbal or physical harassment; (b) any form of intentional behaviour that would cause the person at whom it is directed to fear injury or harm; and (c) attempts to impede or block movement.</i>	
Level 1	Not Applicable	-
Level 2	Not Applicable	-
Level 3	√	3 Suspension Points
Level 4	√	5 Suspension Points

1.17	<b>Threat of assault on another Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire or Match Official or any other person (including a Spectator) during a Match.</b>	
Note:	<i>Without limitation, Players or Player Support Personnel will breach this Appendix 1.17 if they do or say anything which would cause the Player, Player Support Personnel (Level 3), Umpire, Match Official (level 4) or other person to whom such action was directed to fear harmful or offensive contact, for example and without limitation, threatening to hit the relevant individual while at the same time raising a fist, or threatening to physically harm another person's family.</i>	
Level 1	√	1 Suspension Points
Level 2	√	3 Suspension Points
Level 3	√	5 Suspension Points
Level 4	√	8 - 12 Suspension Points

1.18	<b>Physical assault of another Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Official or any other person (including a spectator) during a Match</b>	
<i>Note:</i>	<i>Without limitation, Players or Player Support Personnel (Level 2 and 3) will breach this Appendix 1.18 if they intentionally or recklessly cause the Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Official (Level 4) or the other person bodily harm or injury.</i>	
<i>Level 1</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	<i>√ Level 2 is available in the case of assault on anyone other than an Umpire or Match Official.</i>	<i>3 Suspension Points</i>
<i>Level 3</i>	<i>√ Level 3 is available in the case of assault on anyone other than an Umpire or Match Official.</i>	<i>5 Suspension Points</i>
<i>Level 4</i>	<i>√ Level 4 is available in the case of threat of assault on Umpires and Match Officials only.</i>	<i>8 - 48 Suspension Points</i>

1.19	<b>Any act of violence on the field of play during a Match</b>	
<i>Note:</i>	<i>Without limitation, Players or Player Support Personnel will breach this Appendix 1.19 if they kick or punch or fight another Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Official or any other person (including a spectator).</i>	
<i>Level 1</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	√	<i>3 Suspension Points</i>
<i>Level 3</i>	√	<i>5 Suspension Points</i>
<i>Level 4</i>	√	<i>8 - 48 Suspension Points</i>

1.20	<b>Conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game.</b>	
<i>Note:</i>	<p><i>Appendix 1.20 is intended to cover all types of conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game, and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct.</i></p> <p><i>By way of example, Appendix 1.20 may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) prohibit, without limitation, the following: (a) the use of an illegal bat or illegal wicket-keeping gloves; (b) questioning the legitimacy of an opposition payer's bowling action in a loud and/or demeaning manner, (c) showing disrespect to a Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Official by word or action, and (d) failure to comply with the provisions of the CFN Playing Conditions and Regulations.</i></p> <p><i>When assessing the seriousness of the offence, the context of the situation, and whether it was deliberate, reckless, negligent, avoidable and/or accidental, shall be considered. Further, the person lodging the Report shall determine where on the range of severity the conduct lays (with the range of severity starting at conduct of a minor nature (and hence a Level 1 offence) up to conduct of an extremely serious nature (and hence a Level 4 offence)).</i></p>	
<i>Level 1</i>	√	<i>2 Demerit Points</i>
<i>Level 2</i>	√	<i>1 Suspension Points</i>
<i>Level 3</i>	√	<i>3 Suspension Points</i>
<i>Level 4</i>	√	<i>5 Suspension Points</i>



1.21	<b>Conduct that brings the game into disrepute</b>	
Note:	<p><i>Appendix 1.21 is intended to cover all types of conduct that bring the game into disrepute, and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct, including Appendix 1.20.</i></p> <p><i>By way of example, Appendix 1.21 may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) prohibit, without limitation, the following: (a) public acts of misconduct; (b) unruly public behaviour; and (c) inappropriate comments which are detrimental to the interests of the game.</i></p> <p><i>When assessing the seriousness of the offence, the context of the situation, and whether it was deliberate, reckless, negligent, avoidable and/or accidental, shall be considered. Further, the person lodging the Report shall determine where on the range of severity the conduct lays (with the range of severity starting at conduct of a minor nature (and hence a Level 1 offence) up to conduct of an extremely serious nature (and hence a Level 4 offence).</i></p>	
Level 1	√	2 Demerit Points
Level 2	√	1 Suspension Points
Level 3	√	3 Suspension Points
Level 4	√	5 Suspension Points

1.22	<b>Racial/Religious/Gender/Disability/Sexuality abuse of a Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire or Match Official during a Match.</b>	
Note:	<p><i>Appendix 1.22 is intended to cover a Player or Player Support Personnel directing language or gesture that may offend, humiliate, insult, intimidate, threaten, disparage, or vilify another Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Official or Spectator on the basis of that person's race, religion, gender identity, disability, colour, descent, sexuality or national or ethnic origin.</i></p> <p><i>NOTE: this breach will not be managed by the Match Review Committee (Level 1 and 2) nor the Commissioner (Level 3 and 4).</i></p> <p><i>The Cricket Far North Executive will manage this misdemeanour and enact similar procedures under the <a href="#">Queensland Cricket Policy on Racial and Religious Vilification</a>.</i></p>	
Level 1	Not Applicable	-
Level 2	√	-
Level 3	√	-
Level 4	√	8 - 12 Suspension Points

### Suspension and demerit point guideline charts.

<i>Suspension Points</i>	<i>Corresponding Match Suspension</i>
1	1-Match Suspension (4-demerit points)
2	2-Match Suspension (8-demerit points)
3	3-Match Suspension (12-demerit points)
4	4-Match Suspension (16-demerit points)
5	5-Match Suspension (20-demerit points)
6	6-Match Suspension (24-demerit points)
7	7-Match Suspension (28-demerit points)
8	8-Match Suspension (32-demerit points)
9	9-Match Suspension (36-demerit points)
10	10-Match Suspension (40-demerit points)

<i>Demerit Points</i>	<i>Corresponding Suspension Points</i>	<i>Corresponding Match Suspension</i>
4	1	1-Match Suspension
8	2	2-Match Suspension
12	3	3-Match Suspension
16	4	4-Match Suspension
20	5	5-Match Suspension