



KNEBWORTH PARK CRICKET CLUB

Statement of intent: Knebworth Park Cricket Club is committed to the development of young people in cricket and will be encouraging juniors with relevant ability, and where appropriate, to play in senior cricket. It is recognised that these early experiences will remain with them always and will often determine whether they want to remain playing. Therefore the following measures will be in place to ensure that the interests of juniors are protected:

Appropriate experience/ age: There is no definitive age at which a player should be introduced to senior cricket. Each case should be determined on an individual basis depending on ability and stage of cognitive and emotional ability to take part at that level. That aid the following must be taken into account; Players who are selected in a county U12 squad in spring for a summer squad or in another squad deemed by the ECB performance managers to be of a standard above district level for that season are eligible to play open age cricket. This is providing that they are at least 11 years old, are in school year 7 on 1st September in the year preceding the season and have written consent to play. In allowing these players to play in open age cricket Knebworth Park Cricket Club recognises the “duty of care” obligations they have towards these young players. This means that boys and girls who are county squad and area squad payers, are able to play open age group cricket if they are in an U12 age group and are a minimum of 11 years old on 1st September in the year preceding the season. District and club players who are not in a county or area squad must wait until they reach the U13 age group, be in year 8 and be 12 years old on 1st September of the preceding year before being able to play in any open age group cricket before being able to play in any open age group cricket. As before written parental consent must be obtained.

Duty of care: A young player should not be placed in a position that involves an unreasonable risk to that young player taking account of the circumstances of the match and the relative skills of the player. No situation should be created that places members of the opposing side in a position whereby they cannot play cricket as they would normally do against adult players.

ECB fast bowling and fielding regulations should always be adhered to for juniors in open age group cricket.

Open-age teams policy



Opportunities should be provided for juniors to show their talents in an appropriate way. Children who are just used as fielders will not fully experience the game.

Seniors will be supportive at all times for all forms of effort even when children are not successful. Where possible juniors will be put in a position where they will experience some success, however small, and will be given plenty of praise and encouragement.

Where possible they will be involved in all aspects of the game – socialising, team talks, practice, decision making so that they will feel part of the team.

Transport to and from matches: Parents will be expected to transport their children to and from matches. If this is not possible appropriate lift sharing should be arranged. This should never involve an adult on their own in the car with a child and should start and finish at the cricket club. Where it is not a parent who is transporting the junior, parents must be on time to collect their child from the cricket club. The captain for the relevant team will have all the contact and medical details for the junior.

Showering arrangements: Juniors will not shower with adults. As there are rarely separate showering facilities for juniors this should mean that usually juniors will shower at home. Where this is not possible juniors should shower separately from the seniors. Adults playing with juniors should take care to ensure that the privacy of juniors is protected. Where possible adults should try to change at separate times from children.