

Washington Cricket League

Code of Conduct for Players and Match Officials

Judiciary Committee

(Effective 1st April 2021)

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Article 1: Scope and Application

- 1.1 All Players are automatically bound by and required to comply with all of the provisions of the Code of Conduct. Accordingly, by their participation (in the case of a Player) in a Match, such Players shall be deemed to have agreed:
- 1.1.1 That it is their personal responsibility to familiarize themselves with all of the requirements of the Code of Conduct, including what conduct constitutes an offense under the Code of Conduct;
 - 1.1.2 To submit to the jurisdiction of WCL Judiciary Committee, or WCL Executive Committee, or Appellate Committee convened under the Code of Conduct to hear and determine charges brought (and any appeals in relation thereto) pursuant to the Code of Conduct; and
 - 1.1.3 Not to bring any proceedings in any court or other forum that are inconsistent with the foregoing submission to the jurisdiction of the WCL Judiciary Committee, or WCL Executive Committee, or Appellate Committee.
- 1.2 All Players shall continue to be bound by and required to comply with the Code of Conduct until he/she has not participated in a Match for a period of 12 months from the date of his/her last participation and WCL shall continue to have jurisdiction over him/her under the Code of Conduct thereafter in respect of matters taking place prior to that point.
- 1.3 Without prejudice to Articles 1.1 and 1.2, WCL and its member Clubs shall be responsible for promoting Code of Conduct awareness and education amongst all Players.
- 1.4 It is acknowledged that certain Players may also be subject to other rules of member Clubs that govern discipline and/or conduct, and that the same conduct of such Players and/ may implicate not only the Code of Conduct but also such other rules that may apply. For the avoidance of any doubt, Players acknowledge and agree that:
- (a) The Code of Conduct is not intended to limit the responsibilities of any Player under such other rules; and
 - (b) Nothing in such other rules shall be capable of removing, superseding or amending in any way the jurisdiction of WCL Judiciary Committee, or WCL Executive Committee or Appellate Committee to determine matters properly arising pursuant to the Code of Conduct.
- 1.5 For the avoidance of any doubt:
- 1.5.1 All Umpires and Match Referees officiating in any Match are automatically bound by and required to comply with the provisions of the WCL Code of Conduct, where applicable; and
 - 1.5.2 Where a representative side of a Club participates in a Match against a domestic or invitational team, for the purposes of their participation in such Tour Match:
 - 1.5.2.1 All Players representing the Club's representative side are automatically bound by, required to comply with, and shall submit themselves to the jurisdiction of this Code of Conduct; and
 - 1.5.2.2 All players representing the domestic or invitational team shall not be bound by this Code of Conduct. Instead, such individuals will be bound by, required to comply with, and shall submit themselves to the jurisdiction of the relevant Club's or Team's own applicable rules of conduct.

Article 2: Code of Conduct Offenses

The Preamble of the WCL 40 Overs, and T20 Playing Conditions sets out the definition of the Spirit of Cricket as follows:

Preamble - The Spirit of Cricket

- Cricket owes much of its appeal and enjoyment to the fact that it should be played not only according to the Laws (which are incorporated within these Playing Conditions), but also within the Spirit of Cricket.
- The major responsibility for ensuring fair play rests with the captains, but extends to all players, umpires and, especially in junior cricket, teachers, coaches and parents.
- Respect is central to the Spirit of Cricket.
- Respect your captain, teammates, opponents and the authority of the umpires. Play hard and play fair.
- Accept the umpire's decision.
- Create a positive atmosphere by your own conduct, and encourage others to do likewise. Show self-discipline, even when things go against you.
- Congratulate the opposition on their successes, and enjoy those of your own team.
- Thank the officials and your opposition at the end of the Match, whatever the result.
- Cricket is an exciting game that encourages leadership, friendship and teamwork, which brings together people from different nationalities, cultures and religions, especially when played within the Spirit of Cricket.

The conduct described from Articles 2.1 to 2.22 amounts to conduct which breaches the Spirit of Cricket and therefore, if committed

by a Player shall amount to an offense by such Player under the Code of Conduct.

COMMENT: Where considered helpful, guidance notes have been provided in text boxes beneath the description of a particular offense. Such notes are intended only to provide guidance as to the nature and examples of certain conduct that might be prohibited by a particular Article and should not be read as an exhaustive or limiting list of conduct that may be prohibited by such Article.

The Code of Conduct offenses cover a variety of different behaviors and levels of seriousness. It is not intended to penalize trivial behavior. For determining the appropriate sanction for an offense, levels of charging have been assigned for each offense, ranging from Level 1 for conduct of a minor nature, up to Level 4 for conduct of an extremely serious nature. Where an offense is alleged to have been committed, the individual reporting the alleged offense must determine which of the assigned levels of offense is appropriate for the conduct in question. Reports can only be laid at the levels identified in respect of each particular offense below.

For the purposes of the Code of Conduct, the phrase “during a Match” should be interpreted broadly to cover all conduct which takes place at the ground on the day of a Match, and not just conduct which takes place on the field of play. It will therefore include conduct which takes place off the field of play, for example in the changing rooms, or during any of the intervals in the Match.

For the avoidance of doubt, WCL’s jurisdiction to take action against a Player under this Code of Conduct is limited to incidents which take place

- (i) during, or in relation to, a Match or
- (ii) during, or in relation to, a WCL Event

In circumstances where a Player is involved in an off-field incident, which may warrant action under this Code of Conduct and any code of conduct or disciplinary rules of the Player’s National Governing Body, WCL will consult with the relevant National Governing Body in order to determine what the most appropriate course of action against the Player should be.

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| 2.1 Excessive appealing during a Match. | |
| Note: | For the purpose of Article 2.1, '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 This Article 2.1 is, however not intended to prevent loud or enthusiastic appealing. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| 2.2 Abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings during a Match. | |
| Note: | Article 2.2 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 damage to the advertising boards, boundary fences, dressing room doors, mirrors, windows and other fixtures and fittings. For example, this offense may be committed, without limitation, when a Player swings his/her bat vigorously in frustration and causes damage to an advertising board. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| 2.3 Use of an audible obscenity during a Match. | |
| Note: | Article 2.3 covers the use of words commonly known and understood to be offensive, obscene and/or profane (in any language) and which can be heard by the spectators and/or the viewing public whether by way of the stump microphone or otherwise. This conduct may include, for example, swearing in frustration at one’s own play or fortune. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| 2.4 Disobeying an umpire’s instruction during a Match. | |
| Note: | Article 2.4 includes any repeated failure to comply with the instruction or directive of an Umpire during a Match. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| 2.5 Using language, actions or gestures, which disparage or which could provoke an aggressive reaction from a batter upon his/her dismissal during a Match. | |
| Note: | Article 2.5 includes any language, action or gesture used by a Player and directed towards a batter upon his/her 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, Article 2.5 includes: (a) Excessive celebration directed at and in close proximity to the dismissed batter; (b) Verbally abusing the dismissed batter; and |

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| | (c) Pointing or gesturing towards the pavilion. Nothing in this Article 2.5 is, however, intended to stop Players celebrating, in an appropriate fashion, the dismissal of the opposing team's batter. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| 2.6 Using a gesture that is obscene, offensive or insulting during a Match. | |
| Note: | Article 2.6 includes, without limitation, obscene gestures, which are not directed at another person. When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the following factors (without limitation) shall be taken into account: (i) The context of the particular situation; and (ii) Whether the gesture is likely to: (a) Be regarded as obscene; (b) Give offense; or (c) Insult another person. This offense is not intended to cover any use of gestures that are likely to offend another person on the basis of their race, religion, gender, color, descent, national or ethnic origin. Such conduct is prohibited and must be dealt with according to the procedures set out therein. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| 2.7 Public criticism of, or inappropriate comment in relation to an incident occurring in a Match or any player, Match official or team participating in any Match, irrespective of when such criticism or inappropriate comment is made. | |
| Note: | Without limitation, Players will breach Article 2.7 if they publicly criticize 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 taken into account. For the avoidance of doubt, any posting by a Player of comments on a social media platform (including, without limitation, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and LinkedIn) shall be deemed to be 'public' for the purposes of this offense. Consequently, a Player may breach Article 2.7 where they criticize or make an inappropriate comment in relation to an incident occurring in a Match or any Player, Match Official or team participating in any Match in any posting they make on a social media platform. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| Level 2 | ✓ |
| 2.8 Showing dissent at an umpire's decision during a Match. | |
| Note: | Without limitation, Article 2.8 includes: (a) Excessive, obvious disappointment with an Umpire's decision; (b) An obvious delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket; (c) ; (d) Arguing or entering into a prolonged discussion with the Umpire about his/her decision. This offense is not intended to punish a batter showing his/her instinctive disappointment at his/her dismissal. 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 re-reference to the incident over time. It shall not be a defense to any charge brought under this Article to show that the Umpire might have, or in fact did, get any decision wrong. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| Level 2 | ✓ |
| 2.9 Throwing a ball (or any other item of cricket equipment such as a water bottle) at or near a player, umpire, Match referee or any other third person in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner during a Match. | |
| Note: | This offense 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. When assessing the seriousness of the offense, 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. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| Level 2 | ✓ |

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| 2.10 | Any of the following conduct which constitutes 'unfair play' under clause 41 of the WCL 40 Overs, and T20 playing conditions: 2.10.1 Deliberate attempt to distract striker. 2.10.2 Deliberate distraction, deception or obstruction of batter 2.10.3 Bowling of dangerous and unfair short pitched deliveries. 2.10.4 Bowling of dangerous and unfair non-pitching deliveries. 2.10.5 Bowling of deliberate non-pitching deliveries. 2.10.6 Bowling of deliberate front foot no balls. 2.10.7 Time wasting by any player or team. 2.10.8 Fielder causing deliberate or avoidable damage to the pitch. 2.10.9 Bowler running on protected area. 2.10.10 Batter causing deliberate or avoidable damage to the pitch. 2.10.11 Striker in the protected area. 2.10.12 Batter stealing a run. 2.10.13 Unfair actions not covered elsewhere in clause 41 of the WCL 40 Overs, and T20 playing conditions. |
| Note: | The offense supplements and does not replace the WCL 40 Overs, and T20 Playing Conditions clauses 41.4 to 41.19. When assessing the seriousness of the offense, 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'. |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| Level 2 | ✓ |
| 2.11 | Any attempt to manipulate a Match for inappropriate strategic or tactical reasons. |
| Note: | Article 2.11 is intended to prevent the manipulation of Matches for inappropriate strategic or tactical reasons (such as when a team deliberately loses a Match in a WCL Event in order to affect the standings of other teams in that WCL Event). It might also apply to the inappropriate manipulation of a net run rate or accumulation of bonus points or otherwise. Article 2.11 is not intended to cover any corrupt or fraudulent acts (including any use of inside information and/or related betting activity). Such conduct is prohibited and must be dealt with according to the procedures set out therein. The Team Captain of any team guilty of such conduct shall be held responsible (and subject to sanction) for any offense found to have been committed under this Article. |
| Level 2 | ✓ |
| 2.12 | Inappropriate physical contact with a player, umpire, Match referee or any other person (including a spectator) during a Match. |
| Note: | Any form of inappropriate physical contact is prohibited in cricket. Without limitation, Players will breach this regulation if they deliberately, recklessly and/or negligently walk or run into or shoulder 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. |
| Level 1 | Applicable only in the case of contact with Players, or any other person. |
| Level 2 | Applicable only in the case of contact with Players, or any other person. |
| Level 3 | Applicable only in the case of contact with Umpires and Match Referees. |
| Level 4 | Applicable only in the case of contact with Umpires and Match Referees. |
| 2.13 | Personal abuse of a player, umpire or Match referee during a Match. |
| Note: | Article 2.13 is intended to cover a Player directing language of a personal, insulting, obscene and/or offensive nature at any Player, Umpire or Match Referee during a Match. It is also intended to cover language of a personal, insulting, obscene and/or offensive nature relating to a family member of the Player, Umpire or Match Referee at whom it is directed. 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, Umpire, Match Referee or other person. This offense is not intended to cover any use of language that is likely to offend another person based on his or her race, religion, gender, color, descent, national or ethnic origin. Such conduct is prohibited and must be dealt with according to the procedures set out therein. |

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| Level 2 | Not applicable in the case of personal abuse of an Umpire or Match Referee. |
| Level 3 | Applicable in all cases. |
| 2.14 | Changing the condition of the ball in breach of clause 41.3 of the WCL 40 Overs, and T20 playing conditions. |
| Note: | <p>This offense supplements and does not replace ICC Standard Test Match, ODI and T20I Playing Conditions clause 41.3.</p> <p>Any action(s) likely to alter the condition of the ball which are not specifically permitted under clause 41.3.2 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):</p> <p>(a) Deliberately throwing the ball into the ground for the purpose of roughening it up;</p> <p>(b) Applying any artificial substance to the ball; and applying any non-artificial substance for any purpose other than to polish the ball;</p> <p>(c) Lifting or otherwise interfering with any of the seams of the ball; and (d) scratching the surface of the ball with finger or thumbnails 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 3 | ✓ |
| 2.15 | Attempting to gain an unfair advantage during a Match. |
| Note: | <p>Article 2.15 is intended to cover any attempts to cheat or gain an unfair advantage during a Match (other than conduct prohibited under Articles 2.11 or 2.14 of the Code of Conduct).</p> <p>It includes, without limitation:</p> <p>(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);</p> <p>(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.</p> |
| Level 3 | ✓ |
| 2.16 | Intimidation of an umpire or Match referee whether by language or conduct (including gestures) during a Match. |
| Note: | <p>Article 2.16 is intended to cover any form or intimidation of an Umpire or Match Referee. It includes, without limitation:</p> <p>(a) Any form of continual verbal or physical harassment;</p> <p>(b) Any form of intentional behavior that would cause the person at whom it is directed to fear injury or harm; and</p> <p>(c) Attempts to impede or block movement.</p> |
| Level 3 | ✓ |
| 2.17 | Threat of assault on another player, umpire or Match referee or any other person (including a spectator) during a Match. |
| Note: | <p>Without limitation, Players will breach this Article 2.17 if they do or say anything which would cause the Player, Umpire, Match Referee 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 Player's family.</p> |
| Level 3 | Applicable in the case of threat of assault on anyone other than an Umpire or Match Referee. |
| Level 4 | Applicable in the case of threat of assault on Umpires and Match Referees only. Not applicable in the case of threat of assault on any Player, or other person. |
| 2.18 | Physical assault of another player, umpire, Match referee or any other person (including a spectator) during a Match. |
| Note: | <p>Without limitation, Players will breach this Article 2.18 if they intentionally or recklessly cause the Player, Umpire, Match Referee or the other person bodily harm or injury.</p> |
| Level 4 | ✓ |
| 2.19 | Any act of violence on the field of play during a Match. |
| Note: | <p>Without limitation, Players will breach this Article if they kick or punch or fight another Player, Umpire, Match Referee or any other person (including a spectator).</p> |
| Level 4 | ✓ |
| 2.20 | Conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game. |
| Note: | <p>Article 2.20 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 offenses set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct.</p> <p>By way of example, Article 2.20 may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) prohibit, without limitation, the following:</p> <p>(a) The use of an illegal bat or illegal wicket-keeping gloves; and</p> |

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| | (b) Failure to comply with the provisions of clause 6.3 of the WCL 40 Overs, and T20 Playing Conditions. When assessing the seriousness of the offense, the context of the particular 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 offense) up to conduct of an extremely serious nature (and hence a Level 4 offense)). |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| Level 2 | ✓ |
| Level 3 | ✓ |
| Level 4 | ✓ |
| 2.21 Conduct that brings the game into disrepute. | |
| Note: | Article 2.21 is intended to cover all types of conduct that bring the game into disrepute and which is not specifically and a dequately covered by the specific offenses set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct, including Article 2.20. By way of example, Article 2.21 may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) prohibit, without limitation, the following: (a) Public acts of misconduct; (b) Unruly public behavior; and (c) Inappropriate comments, which are detrimental to the interests of the game. When assessing the seriousness of the offense, the context of the particular 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 offense) up to conduct of an extremely serious nature (and hence a Level 4 offense)). |
| Level 1 | ✓ |
| Level 2 | ✓ |
| Level 3 | ✓ |
| Level 4 | ✓ |

Article 3: Reporting an alleged Offense under the Code of Conduct

- 3.1 Any one of the following individuals can report an alleged offense under the Code of Conduct by lodging a report in the manner described in Article 3.2, below (a **“Report”**):
- 3.1.1 An Umpire that officiated in the Match during which the alleged offense was committed;
 - 3.1.2 The Executive of either of the two Clubs whose representative teams participated in the Match during, or in relation to which, the alleged offense was committed, or his/her designee (provided that the identity of such designee is advised to WCL by the Club in advance of, or at least at the same time as, the Report is lodged);
 - 3.1.3 The WCL Executive; or
 - 3.1.4 Provided it is a Level 4 Offense that is alleged to have been committed (or a Level 1 Offense, Level 2 Offense or Level 3 Offense in relation to which the Match Referee was the victim of the alleged offense), the Match Referee that was appointed to officiate in the Match during which the alleged offense was committed. (For the avoidance of any doubt, the Match Referee is not entitled to lodge a Report in relation to an alleged Level 1 Offense, Level 2 Offense or Level 3 Offense unless he/she was the victim of the alleged offense).
- 3.2 All Reports must be completed on Form **“Rep 1”** (or such other form as may be made available for such purpose by WCL from time to time). All Reports must be signed and dated by the person lodging the Report with the WCL Judiciary Committee as follows:

| Reported by | Offense Level | On-Field or Off-Field | Reporting Deadline |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Umpire(s) | Level 1 or Level 2 | On-Field | Two (2) days from close of day’s play in the relevant Match |
| | | Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after: a) The commission of the alleged offense; or |

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| | | | b) The alleged offense was brought to his/her attention, save that the Report cannot be lodged more than Seven (7) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match. |
| | Level 3 | On-Field or Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after: a) The commission of the alleged offense; or b) The alleged offense was brought to his/her attention, save that the Report cannot be lodged more than Seven (7) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match. |
| | Level 4 | On-Field or Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match |
| Either Club Contacts | Level 1 or Level 2 | On-Field | Two (2) days from close of day's play in the relevant Match |
| | | Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after: a) The commission of the alleged offense; or b) The alleged offense was brought to his/her attention, save that the Report cannot be lodged more than Seven (7) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match. |
| | Level 3 | On-Field or Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after: a) The commission of the alleged offense; or b) The alleged offense was brought to his/her attention, save that the Report cannot be lodged more than Seven (7) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match. |
| | Level 4 | On-Field or Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match |
| WCL Executive | Level 1 or Level 2 or Level 3 | On-Field or Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match |
| | Level 4 | On-Field or Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match |
| Match Referee | Level 1 or Level 2 or Level 3 | On-Field or Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after: a) The commission of the alleged offense; or b) The alleged offense was brought to his/her attention, save that the Report cannot be lodged more than Seven (7) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match. |
| | Level 4 | On-Field or Premises Off-Field | Two (2) days after the conclusion of the relevant Match |

Note: For the purposes of Article 3.2 above, Reports should be lodged as soon as reasonably practicable. The time limits set out in the above tables constitute the latest time by which a Report can be lodged.

In all circumstances where a Report is to be lodged with the WCL Judiciary Committee or the WCL Executive Committee if, for logistical reasons, it is impractical to lodge the Report with the WCL Judiciary Committee or the WCL Executive Committee, it shall be lodged with the WCL Board within the same deadline.

3.3 Where it is alleged that a Player has committed more than one offense under the Code of Conduct during, or in relation to a Match or during, or in relation to a WCL Event (whether on the field of play or otherwise), whether arising out of the same set of facts or otherwise, then a separate Report should be filed in accordance with this Article 3 for each of the offenses that are alleged to have been committed.

NOTE: For the avoidance of doubt, only one Report should be laid per offense. As such, where the incident in question could fall within more than one offense under Article 2, for example Article 2.7 (public criticism or inappropriate comment) and Article 2.21 (conduct that brings the game into disrepute) a Report should be laid only in respect of the offense which most specifically covers the relevant conduct (in the example above, Article 2.7) and not both offenses.

Article 4: Notification Procedure

Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3.

- 4.1 Where the WCL Judiciary Committee receives a Report lodged under Article 3.2 for Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 Offenses, he/she must review the Report and determine whether the Player named in the Report has a case to answer in relation to the offense identified in the Report. Where the WCL Judiciary Committee determines that there is a case to answer, the Committee must promptly provide a copy of the Report, together with a completed Form "Not 1", (such documents comprising the "Notice of Charge"), to the WCL Executive Secretary, who in turn shall communicate the same via email with the following individuals:
- 4.1.1 The Player named in the Report, or, where appropriate in the case of an offense under either Article 2.11 (Manipulating a Match), 2.14 (Changing the condition of the ball), the Relevant Team Captain; and
 - 4.1.2 The Captain of the relevant Player named in the Report.
- 4.2 Where the WCL Judiciary Committee receives a Report lodged under Article 3.2 for a Level 4 Offense, he/she must promptly conduct a review to determine whether the Player named in the Report has a case to answer in relation to the specific type and/or level of offense identified in the Report (i.e. to determine, in the WCL Judiciary Committee's opinion, whether the specific type and level of offense noted in the Report is properly identified when reviewed against the conduct complained of).
- 4.3 If the initial review of the Report reveals that there is no case to answer in relation to the specific type and/or level of offense, then the WCL Judiciary Committee shall notify the person who filed the Report of that fact, advising them of the reasons that such a determination has been made and, where applicable, providing guidance on which specific type and level of offense the WCL Judiciary Committee considers to be appropriate. Upon receipt of such a decision, the person who filed the Report shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3.2 and having considered the WCL Judiciary Committee's guidance in good faith, within a period of **One (1) day** from the time of notification by the WCL Judiciary Committee, notify the WCL Judiciary Committee whether he/she wishes to:
- (a) Revise the specific type and/or level of the offense charged, in which case a revised Report must be lodged with the WCL Judiciary Committee within such twenty-four (24) period;
 - (b) Proceed on the basis of the original Report lodged; or
 - (c) Withdraw the Report.
- 4.4 If the initial review of the Report reveals that there is a case to answer, or a revised Report is lodged with the WCL Judiciary Committee pursuant to Article 4.3, then the WCL Judiciary Committee shall promptly provide a copy of the Report, together with a completed Form "Not 1" (such documents comprising the 'Notice of Charge'), to the WCL Executive Secretary, who in turn shall communicate the same via email with the following individuals:
- 4.4.1 The Player named in the Report; and
 - 4.4.2 The Captain of the relevant Player named in the Report; and
 - 4.4.3 The Club Contact to which the relevant Player is affiliated.
- 4.5 The Notice of Charge shall specify that the Player shall have the following three options:
- 4.5.1 He/she may admit the offense charged and accede to the proposed sanction specified in the Notice of Charge (which sanction shall be strictly at the WCL Judiciary Committee's discretion, but at all times within the appropriate range for the level of offense). In such circumstances, and provided that such admission has been received by the WCL Judiciary Committee prior to the commencement of the hearing at the time/place specified in the Notice of Charge, the hearing before the WCL Judiciary Committee shall not be required and no further action shall be taken, save that WCL shall promptly issue a public statement confirming:
 - (a) The commission of an offense under the Code of Conduct; and
 - (b) The imposition of the applicable sanction specified in the Notice of Charge; or
 - 4.5.2 He/she may admit the offense charged but dispute the proposed sanction specified in the Notice of Charge, in which case the matter shall proceed to a hearing in accordance with:
 - (a) Article 5.1 in the case of Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 Offenses;
 - (b) Article 5.2 in the case of Level 4 Offense; or
 - 4.5.3 He/she may deny the offense charged, in which case the matter shall proceed to a hearing in accordance with:
 - (a) Article 5.1 in the case of Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 Offenses;
 - (b) Article 5.2 in the case of Level 4 Offense.

Article 5: The Disciplinary Procedure

NOTE: Where a member of the WCL Judiciary Committee appointed to adjudicate any matter brought under this Code of Conduct is not physically present at the relevant Match (and therefore required to perform his/her duties remotely) or his/her appointment to that season of Matches has ended and thus he/she is no longer in the same location as the Clubs, then all hearings arising under Article 5.1 will be held by telephone conference or video conference (if available) and the provisions of Article 5.1 are to be interpreted accordingly.

- 5.1 Where a matter proceeds to a hearing under Article 4.5.2 or 4.5.3, then, subject to Article 5.7 below, the case shall be referred to the WCL Judiciary Committee for adjudication in accordance with the following procedure:
- 5.1.1 In the case of a Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 Offenses, subject to the discretion of the WCL Judiciary Committee to order otherwise for good cause shown by the Player:
- (a) Hearings shall take place at the time specified in the Notice of Charge (which should take place as soon as practicable and, in the absence of exceptional circumstances), no more than **Three (3) days** after the receipt by the Player of the Notice of Charge). For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Article 5.1.1 prevents a hearing from being convened at a time during which the Match in relation to which the alleged offense took place, remains in progress.
 - (b) Hearings shall take place in the state in which the alleged offense was committed.
 - (c) The composition of the WCL Judiciary Committee members shall be conforming to Section 4.01, Article IV, Appendix H of Judiciary Committee - Jurisdiction, Regulations and Guidelines.
- 5.1.2 In the case of a Level 4, subject to the discretion of the WCL Judiciary Committee to order otherwise for good cause shown by the Player:
- (a) The preliminary hearing should take place as soon as possible by telephone conference call unless the WCL Judiciary Committee determines otherwise. Preliminary hearing shall take place with the individual lodging the Report pursuant to Article 3.1 (the Complainant) and his/her legal representatives (if any), together with the Player and his/her legal representatives (if any).
 - (b) The non-participation, without compelling justification of the Player or his/her representative at the preliminary hearing, after proper notice of the preliminary hearing has been provided, shall not prevent the WCL Judiciary Committee from proceeding with the preliminary hearing, whether or not any written submissions are made on behalf of the Player.
 - (c) Where the initial Report was lodged by someone other than the WCL Executive, the WCL Executive shall be notified and invited to participate in any such preliminary hearing convened by the WCL Judiciary Committee through its representative. The purpose of the preliminary hearing shall be to allow the WCL Judiciary Committee to address any preliminary issues that need to be resolved prior to the hearing date. In particular (but without limitation), the WCL Judiciary Committee shall:
 - 5.1.2.1 Determine the date(s) upon which the full hearing shall be held. Save in exceptional circumstances or where the parties otherwise agree, the full hearing should take place no longer than **14 days** after the receipt by the Player of the Notice of Charge.
 - 5.1.2.2 Establish dates reasonably in advance of the date of the full hearing by which:
 - (a) The Complainant shall submit an opening brief with argument on all issues that the Complainant wishes to raise at the hearing and a list of the witnesses that the Complainant intends to call at the hearing (and a summary of the subject areas of the witness's anticipated testimony), and enclosing copies of the exhibits that the Complainant intends to introduce at the hearing;
 - (b) The Player shall submit an answering brief, addressing the Complainant's arguments and setting out argument on the issues that he/she wishes to raise at the hearing, as well as a list of the witnesses that he/she intends to call at the hearing (and a summary of the subject areas of the witness's anticipated testimony), and enclosing copies of the exhibits that he/she intends to introduce at the hearing; and
 - (c) The Complainant may (at its discretion) submit a reply brief, responding to the answer brief of the Player and listing any rebuttal witnesses that the Complainant intends to call at the hearing (and a summary of the subject areas of the witness's anticipated testimony), and enclosing copies of any other exhibits that the Complainant intends to introduce at the hearing; and
 - 5.1.2.3 Make such order, as the WCL Judiciary Committee shall deem appropriate in relation to the production of relevant documents and/or other materials between the parties.
- 5.1.3 The procedure followed at the hearing shall be at the discretion of the WCL Judiciary Committee, provided that the hearing is conducted in a manner which offers the Player a fair and reasonable opportunity to present evidence (including the right to call and to question witnesses by telephone or video-conference where necessary), address the WCL Judiciary Committee and present his/her case.
- 5.1.4 The hearing before the WCL Judiciary Committee shall be in English, and certified English translations shall be submitted of any non-English documents put before the WCL Judiciary Committee. The cost for such translations shall be borne by the party offering the document(s). If required by the WCL Judiciary Committee (at his/her discretion), WCL shall make arrangements to have the hearing recorded or transcribed. The cost for such recordings and transcriptions shall be borne by WCL. If requested

- by the Player, the WCL shall also arrange for an interpreter to attend the hearing. The cost for such interpretations shall be borne by the requesting party.
- 5.1.5 Where video evidence of the alleged offense is available at the hearing before the WCL Judiciary Committee, then it may be relied upon by any party, provided that all other parties shall have the right to make such representations in relation to it that they may see fit.
- 5.1.6 Unless exceptional circumstances apply, each of the following individuals must attend any hearing before the WCL Judiciary Committee:
- (a) The Player who has been charged with the alleged offense; and
 - (b) The person who lodged the Report (or, in the case of the WCL Executive, his/ her representative/nominee).
- Where any such individual has a compelling justification for his/her non-attendance, then they shall be given the opportunity to participate in the hearing before the WCL Judiciary Committee by telephone or video conference (if available). In addition, a representative of the WCL Legal Counsel shall be entitled to attend any such hearing.
- Without prejudice to the Player's ability to call and to question such witnesses as may be necessary and/or to be represented by such other person of his/her own choosing pursuant to Article 5.1.7, one of the Team Captain, Team Vice-Captain or Club Contact of the team that the Player represents may also attend such a hearing to provide additional support and assistance to the Player.
- 5.1.7 Each of the individuals described in Article 5.1.6 (a) and Article 5.1.6 (b) shall have the right (at his/her or its own expense) to be represented at the hearing before the WCL Judiciary Committee by such representative (including legal counsel) of his/her or its own choosing. Where the person lodging the Report is an Umpire that officiated in the Match in question or the WCL Executive, then such person shall be entitled to be represented prior to, and during, the hearing (if he/she considers necessary) by a representative of the WCL Legal Counsel.
- 5.1.8 The non-attendance of the Player or his/her representative at the hearing, after proper notice of the hearing has been provided, shall not prevent the WCL Judiciary Committee from proceeding with the hearing in his/her absence, whether or not any written submissions are made on his/her behalf.
- 5.1.9 At the end of a hearing, where the WCL Judiciary Committee considers that further evidence is necessary or further time is required to consider the evidence that has been presented, he/she shall adjourn the hearing for an appropriate period of time and make such directions as may be necessary.
- 5.1.10 Alternatively, at the end of a hearing:
- 5.1.10.1 Brought under Article 4.5.2:
 - (a) As soon as possible after the conclusion of the hearing (and, in any event, no later than **Two (2) days** thereafter), the WCL Judiciary Committee will confirm the Player's admission that he/she had committed a Code of Conduct offense and announce the substance of his/her decision. Within **Five (5) days** after the conclusion of the hearing, the WCL Judiciary Committee shall issue his/her written decision, with reasons, setting out:
 - (a) What sanctions, if any, are to be imposed (including any fines and/or period of suspension);
 - (b) The date that any period of suspension shall come into force and effect; and
 - (c) Any rights of appeal that may exist pursuant to Article 8.
 - 5.1.10.2 Brought under Article 4.5.3 (or where the Player has failed to respond in a timely fashion to the Notice of Charge):
 - (a) The WCL Judiciary Committee shall adjourn the hearing (for a period of no less than ten (10) minutes and no more than **One (1) day**), following which he/she will reconvene the hearing and verbally announce his/her finding as to whether a Code of Conduct offense has been committed;
 - (b) Where the WCL Judiciary Committee determines that a Code of Conduct offense has been committed, the Player may request a short adjournment (of no more than thirty (30) minutes) to prepare any submissions that he/she might wish to make in relation to the appropriate sanction that ought to be applied; and
 - (c) As soon as possible after the conclusion of the hearing (and, in any event, no later than **One (1) day** thereafter), the WCL Judiciary Committee will announce the substance of his/her decision. Within **Five (5) days** after the conclusion of the hearing, the Match Referee shall issue his/her written decision, with reasons, setting out:
 - (a) The finding as to whether a Code of Conduct offense had been committed;
 - (b) What sanctions, if any, are to be imposed (including any finding and/or period of suspension);
 - (c) The date that any period of suspension shall come into force and effect; and
 - (d) Any rights of appeal that may exist pursuant to Article 8.
- 5.1.10 A copy of the written reasoned decision will be provided to the Player, the Club Contact of the Player, and the WCL Executive Committee.
- 5.1.11 Subject only to the rights of appeal under Article 8, the WCL Judiciary Committee's decision shall be the full, final and complete disposition of the matter and will be binding on all parties.

General Principles of Procedure

- 5.2 Where a Report is filed by more than one of the individuals described in Article 3.1 in relation to the same alleged offense under the Code of Conduct, then the Player alleged to have committed the offense will only be served with one Notice of Charge in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 4. However, all persons who filed a Report (or, in the case of the WCL Executive, his/her representative/nominee) in relation to the alleged offense are required to attend the hearing before the WCL Judiciary Committee unless there is a compelling justification for his/ her non-attendance, in which case they shall be given the opportunity to participate in the hearing by telephone or video conference (if available).
- 5.3 Where two or more Players are alleged to have committed offenses under the Code of Conduct, they may both be dealt with at the same hearing where the proceedings arise out of the same incident or set of facts, or where there is a clear link between separate incidents, as follows:
- 5.3.1 Any number of Level 1 Offenses and/or Level 2 Offenses and/or Level 3 Offenses can all be determined by the WCL Judicial Committee at the same hearing; and
 - 5.3.2 Any number of Level 4 Offenses can all be determined by the WCL Judiciary Committee at the same hearing; and
 - 5.3.3 A Level 1 Offense and/or Level 2 Offense and/or Level 3 Offense can be determined by the WCL Judiciary Committee at the same hearing as a Level 4 Offense; but
 - 5.3.4 A Level 4 Offense cannot be determined by a WCL Judiciary Committee at the same hearing as a Level 1 Offense or a Level 2 Offense or a Level 3 Offense, and separate proceedings should therefore be issued in relation to each alleged offense.
- 5.4 Where a Player is alleged to have committed more than one breach of the Code of Conduct during, or in relation to the same Match, then all of the alleged offenses may be dealt with at the same hearing, as follows:
- 5.4.1 Any number of Level 1 Offenses and/or Level 2 Offenses and/or Level 3 Offenses can all be determined by the WCL Judicial Committee at the same hearing; and
 - 5.4.2 Any number of Level 4 Offenses can all be determined by the WCL Judiciary Committee at the same hearing; and
 - 5.4.3 A Level 1 Offense and/or Level 2 Offense and/or Level 3 Offense can be determined by the WCL Judiciary Committee at the same hearing as a Level 4 Offense; but
 - 5.4.4 A Level 4 Offense cannot be determined by a WCL Judiciary Committee at the same hearing as a Level 1 Offense or a Level 2 Offense or a Level 3 Offense, and separate proceedings should therefore be issued in relation to each alleged offense.
- 5.5 Any failure or refusal by any Player to assist the WCL Judiciary Committee in connection with any charge made pursuant to this Code of Conduct may constitute a separate offense (depending upon the seriousness and context of such failure or refusal) under Article 2.20 of the Code of Conduct.
- 5.6 Where a Match Referee lodges a Report with the WCL Judiciary Committee pursuant to Article 3.2, and, pursuant to Article 4.2, the WCL Judiciary Committee determines that there is a case to answer, the hearing shall be scheduled and all of the remaining procedure will apply accordingly. The composition of the WCL Judiciary Committee members shall be conforming to Section 4.01, Article IV, Appendix H of Judiciary Committee - Jurisdiction, Regulations and Guidelines.
- 5.7 In addition to, and notwithstanding, Article 5.6 above, where a member of the WCL Judiciary Committee member is, or becomes, unwilling or unable to hear a case (for example, where he/she finds him/herself in a position of conflict), then the WCL Judiciary Committee shall have the discretion to appoint another member to the committee as deemed to be appropriate in all the circumstances.
- 5.8 WCL will issue a public announcement regarding any decision of the WCL Judiciary Committee made under the Code of Conduct, as soon as is reasonably practicable after the decision has been communicated to the parties. The public announcement of the decision may include details of the offenses committed under the Code of Conduct and of the sanctions imposed, if any. Until such time as a public announcement is published, all parties and participants in the proceedings shall treat such proceedings as strictly confidential. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Article shall prevent any party (or any relevant Club) publicly confirming the date of the hearing, the offense that is alleged to have been committed and/or the name of the Player charged.

Article 6: Standard of Proof and Evidence

- 6.1 Unless otherwise described herein, the standard of proof in all cases brought under the Code of Conduct shall be whether the WCL Judiciary Committee is comfortably satisfied, bearing in mind the seriousness of the allegation that is made, that the alleged offense has been committed. This standard of proof in all cases shall be determined on a sliding scale from, at a minimum, a mere balance of probability (for the least serious offenses) up to proof beyond a reasonable doubt (for the most serious offenses).
- 6.2 The WCL Judiciary Committee shall not be bound by judicial rules governing the admissibility of evidence. Instead, facts relating to an offense committed under the Code of Conduct may be established by any reliable means, including admissions.
- 6.3 The WCL Judiciary Committee may draw an inference adverse to the Player who is asserted to have committed an offense under the Code of Conduct based on his/her refusal, without compelling justification after a request made in a reasonable time in advance of the hearing, to appear at the hearing (either in person or telephonically as directed by the WCL Judiciary Commissioner) and/or to answer

any relevant questions.

Article 7: Sanctions on Players

COMMENT: The aim of the sanctioning regime under this Code of Conduct is to

- (a) Sanction those Players found to have committed an offense under the Code of Conduct, and
- (b) To act as a deterrent to other Players to deter them from conducting themselves improperly on and off the "Field of Play".

WCL believes that the threat of a suspension and or monetary penalties is the strongest deterrent to bring about a change in behavior, hence is included in the Code of Conduct.

- 7.1 Where the WCL Judiciary Committee determines that an offense under the Code of Conduct has been committed, he/she will be required to impose an appropriate sanction on the Player.
- 7.2 In determining the appropriate sanction, the WCL Judiciary Committee shall take into account any factors that he/she deems relevant and appropriate to the mitigation or aggravation of the nature of the Code of Conduct offense before determining, in accordance with the table set out below, what the appropriate sanction(s) should be.

| Level of Offense | Range of Permissible Sanctions |
|------------------|---|
| Level 1 | Warning or imposition of a fine up to \$100.00 and/or suspension up to 3 matches. |
| Level 2 | Imposition of a fine up to \$300.00 and/or suspension from 1 to 3 matches. |
| Level 3 | Imposition of a fine up to \$500.00 and/or suspension from 4 to 10 matches. |
| Level 4 | Imposition of a fine up to \$1000.00 and/or suspension from 8 matches to expulsion for life from WCL. |

- 7.3 For the avoidance of any doubt:
 - 7.3.1 The WCL Judiciary Committee will have no jurisdiction to adjust, reverse or amend the results of any Match;
 - 7.3.2 Where a Player is found guilty of committing two separate Code of Conduct offenses that do not relate to the same incident or set of circumstances arising during a Match and sanctioned separately for each offense, then any sanctions should run cumulatively (and not concurrently);
 - 7.3.3 Where a Player is found guilty of committing two Code of Conduct offenses in relation to the same incident or set of circumstances arising during a Match and sanctioned separately, then any sanctions imposed should run concurrently (and not cumulatively);
 - 7.3.4 Nothing in this Code of Conduct shall permit plea bargaining in relation to any alleged offense committed under this Code of Conduct;
 - 7.3.5 Where the WCL Judiciary Committee finds a Player not guilty of the offense allegedly committed under the Code of Conduct, then it remains open to him/her, at his/her discretion, to find the Player guilty of an offense of a lower level than that with which he/she has been charged. For example where a Player has been charged with (but been found not guilty of) 'showing dissent at an Umpire's decision' (Article 2.8) at Level 2, the WCL Judiciary Committee may, instead, find the Player guilty of the same offense at Level 1 and impose an appropriate sanction; and
 - 7.3.6 Where a fine and/or costs award is imposed against a Player, then such fine and/or costs award must be paid:
 - (a) By the Player (and not any other third party, including a Club);
 - (b) To the Player's Club (for onward transmission to WCL) within one calendar week of receipt of the decision imposing the fine or before next Match the Player's Club is scheduled to play, whichever happens sooner.However, the WCL will consider any request from any Player to make the payment of such fines and/or costs over a prolonged period of time on the grounds of financial hardship. Should any fine and/or costs award (or agreed part-payment or instalment thereof) not be paid to the relevant Club within such deadline or by the time of the next agreed payment date, the Player may not play, coach or otherwise participate or be involved in any capacity in any Match until such payment has been satisfied in full.
- 7.4 Where a Player has been suspended for a fixed period of time, he/she may not play, coach or otherwise participate or be involved in any capacity in the Match(es) which take place during the fixed period of his/her suspension.

NOTE: For the avoidance of any doubt, a Player who has been suspended for a fixed period of time shall not, during the Matches which are covered by his/her Suspension Points or the period of suspension:

- a) Be nominated as, or carry out any of the duties or responsibilities of, a substitute fielder or
- b) Enter any part of the playing area (which shall include, for the avoidance of doubt, the field of play and the area between the boundary and perimeter boards) at any time, including during any scheduled or unscheduled breaks in play.

In addition, so sanctioned shall not be permitted to enter the Players' dressing room (including the viewing areas) during any Match covered by his/her Suspension Points or the period of suspension. Players so sanctioned will, however, be permitted to enter the players' dressing room provided that the players' dressing room (or any part thereof) for the relevant Match is not within the player area described in b) above (for example, no such Player shall be permitted access to an on-field 'dug-out').

Finally, any Player so sanctioned shall not be prevented from attending any post-match ceremonies or presentations taking place anywhere on the field of play or otherwise following the conclusion of a Match covered by his/her period of suspension unless the suspension has been imposed in respect of a Level 3 or Level 4 Offense under this Code of Conduct. In such circumstances, the Player shall not be permitted to attend such ceremonies or presentations.

- 7.5 Once any fixed period of suspension has expired, the Player will automatically become re-eligible to participate in Matches provided that he/she has paid, in full, all amounts forfeited under the Code of Conduct, including any fines, compensatory awards or award of costs that may have been imposed against him/her.

Article 8: Appeals

NOTE: For the avoidance of doubt, the right of appeal will be determined by reference to the level of offense which the decision of the WCL Judiciary Committee (as applicable) relates to, and not necessarily the Level of offense originally reported.

By way of example, the WCL Judiciary Committee may have been asked to determine a Level 4 Offense, but in coming to his/her decision, he/she has exercised the right afforded to him/her in Article 7.3.5 and found the Player concerned not guilty of the Level 4 Offense, but guilty of a Level 3 Offense. In such circumstances, the right of appeal shall be determined on the basis of the Level 3 Offense and thus in accordance with Article 8.2.

In circumstances where the application of this note would lead to the same level of adjudicator hearing the appeal as heard the first instance case, then the relevant adjudicatory body shall be the higher body. By way of example, in the example listed above, an Appellate Committee would have the jurisdiction to hear the appeal against the Level 3 Offense even though technically under the Code of Conduct a WCL Judiciary Committee would hear the appeal, as the first instance hearing was held before WCL Judiciary Committee. The terms of this Article 8 should therefore be construed accordingly.

8.1 Appeals from decisions in relation to a Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, or Level 4 Offense

- 8.1.1 Decisions made under the Code of Conduct by the WCL Judiciary Committee in relation to Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, or Level 4 Offense may be challenged solely by appeal as set out in Article 8.1. Such decision shall remain in effect while under appeal unless the WCL Judiciary Committee properly convened to hear the appeal orders otherwise.
- 8.1.2 The only parties who may appeal a decision of this nature shall be:
- (a) The Player found guilty of the offense or, where appropriate in the case of an offense under either Article 2.11 (manipulation of a Match), 2.14 (changing the condition of the ball), the relevant Team Captain;
 - (b) The person who lodged the Report pursuant to Article 3.1; and
 - (c) The WCL Executive (or his/her designee).
- 8.1.3 Any notice to appeal under this Article must be lodged with the WCL Executive Committee within **Two (2) days** of receipt of the written decision of the WCL Board. The WCL Executive Committee shall then forward the appeal to the WCL Board. In all cases, a copy of such notice will also be provided to the WCL Judiciary Committee, the Club Contact to which the Player is affiliated, and the person who lodged the Report pursuant to Article 3.1. Thereafter, the following will apply:
- 8.1.3.1 Upon filing a Notice of Appeal pursuant to this Article 8.1, the party appealing the decision shall pay to the WCL, an appeal fee of US \$50.00.
- 8.1.3.2 Within **Two (2) days** of receipt of a notice to appeal, the WCL Judiciary Committee will provide a written statement to the WCL Board setting out any relevant facts (to be copied to the Player).
- 8.1.3.3 The provisions of Articles 5.1.3 to 5.1.11, applicable to proceedings before the WCL Judiciary Committee, shall apply mutatis mutandis (i.e. with changes deemed to have been made as required to reflect the different context) to appeal hearings before the WCL Board.
- 8.1.3.4 In the case of a Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, or Level 4 offenses, the appeal for hearing with WCL Board shall not take the form of a de novo hearing but shall instead be limited to a consideration of the appropriateness of the process followed to arrive at the decision, or if an erroneous decision is being appealed.
- For the avoidance of doubt:
- (a) WCL Board hearing shall solely be a review of the sanctions imposed by the WCL Judiciary Committee and shall not be to hear the matter over again, from the beginning.
 - (b) WCL Board shall be limited to determining the appropriateness (or otherwise) of the sanction imposed at first instance, and that the sanction must be within the permitted range of sanctions set out in the table in Article

7.2.

- 8.1.3.5 The sanctions proposed by the WCL Judiciary Committee to suspend the offending Player(s), and/or offending Club(s) for a fixed period of time, shall remain in effect and implemented as is, unless determined otherwise by the WCL Board. During this fixed period of time, offending Player(s), and/or offending Club(s) may not play, coach or otherwise participate or be involved in any capacity in the Match(es) which take place during the fixed suspension period.
- 8.1.3.6 Appeal hearings pursuant to this Article 8.1 should be completed expeditiously by the Appellate Committee. Save where all parties agree or fairness requires otherwise, the appeal hearing shall be commenced no later than **Seven (7) days** after filing of the appeal notice..
- 8.1.3.7 Any decision made by the Appellate Committee under this Article 8.1, shall be the full, final and complete disposition of the matter and will be binding on all parties.

8.2 **No Appeal in relation to an accepted sanction**

- 8.2.1 For the avoidance of doubt, where a Player admits the offense charged and accedes to the proposed sanction specified in the Notice of Charge in accordance with the procedure described in Article 4.5.1, the Player waives his/her right to any appeal against the imposition of such a sanction.

Article 9: Recognition of Decisions

- 9.1 Any hearing results or other final adjudications under the Code of Conduct shall be recognized and respected by WCL and its member Clubs automatically upon receipt of notice of the same, without the need for any further formality. Each of WCL and its member Clubs shall take all steps legally available to it to enforce and give effect to such decisions.
- 9.2 It shall be a condition of membership of WCL that all Clubs shall comply with the Code of Conduct .

Article 10: Sanctions and Costs assessed against Clubs

- 10.1 Where 5 or more Players representing one Club commit at least 5 separate Code of Conduct offenses in a Match, that Club shall be deemed to have failed to ensure that their Players uphold the Spirit of Cricket and consequently the WCL Judiciary Committee may, in its absolute discretion, impose a fine on the Club (from \$500.00 up to a maximum of US \$3000.00)

Article 11: Amendment and Interpretation of the Code of Conduct

- 11.1 The Code of Conduct may be amended from time to time, with such amendments coming into effect on the date specified by WCL.
- 11.2 The headings used for the various Articles of the Code of Conduct are for the purpose of guidance only and shall not be deemed to be part of the substance of the Code of Conduct or to inform or affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.
- 11.3 The Code of Conduct shall come into full force and effect on 1st April 2021 (the "Effective Date"). It shall not apply retrospectively to matters pending before the Effective Date; provided, however, that any case pending prior to the Effective Date, or brought after the Effective Date but based on an offense that is alleged to have occurred before the Effective Date, shall be governed by the predecessor version of the Code of Conduct in force at the time of the alleged offense, subject to any application of the principle of lex mitior by the hearing panel determining the case.
- 11.4 If any Article or provision of this Code of Conduct is held invalid, unenforceable or illegal for any reason, the Code of Conduct shall remain otherwise in full force apart from such Article or provision which shall be deemed deleted insofar as it is invalid, unenforceable or illegal.
- 11.5 The Code of Conduct is governed by and shall be construed in accordance with US Law. Strictly without prejudice to the arbitration provisions of Articles 5 and 8 of the Code of Conduct, disputes relating to the Code of Conduct shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of US Courts.