



General Policies

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TRANSPORT POLICY

Thorverton Cricket Club policy is that parents or other responsible adults are responsible for transporting players to and from all matches and practice sessions and therefore the Club will not be registering Private Vehicles for the transportation of individuals in connection with any fixtures or practice sessions arranged by the Club.

The implementation of this policy is not intended to exclude any player from participation and parents or guardians should contact the Club Welfare Officer if they have any problems with the transportation of players to matches or practice sessions.

JUNIOR SUPERVISION AT TRAINING & MATCHES

Only children that are registered Colts of Thorverton Cricket Club are able to be left at the ground for training sessions or matches without parental/responsible adult supervision.

In any event children aged 8 years old and under must have a parent or responsible adult at the ground at all times.

PHOTOGRAPHY / VIDEO POLICY

Thorverton Cricket Club ('The Club') recognises the need to ensure the welfare and safety of all Young People in Cricket. As part of this commitment we will not permit photographs, video images or other images of Young People to be taken or used without the consent of the Parent/Guardian and the Young Player. The Club will follow the guidance issued by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on the use of images of Young People which is available on <http://www.ecb.co.uk>. The

Club will take steps to ensure that these images are used solely for the purpose they are intended, which is the promotion and celebration of the Club's cricketing activities. If you become aware that these images are being used inappropriately you should inform the Club Welfare Officer (James May) immediately.

If photographs or video e.g. team or action shots, are submitted to the Press or published on the Club website individuals will not be identified. In circumstances where there is a need to identify an individual player in the Press, parental permission will be sought beforehand.

Please note: the club understands that there are circumstances under which a parent would not wish their child to be photographed. Whilst the club will do all that it can to ensure the safety of children during games, it is the responsibility of the parent concerned to ensure that if necessary their child is not videoed or photographed. The club is unable to continuously oversee individual children in this respect during cricket activities or competitions.

MANAGING CHILDREN AWAY FROM THE CLUB

Thorverton Cricket Club will communicate the following to parent/carers:

- Why the trip is planned – its reason / purpose
- When the trip will take place, date, times including time of departure and estimated time of return
- Where the trip is to – destination, venue
- Meetings points – at the home and/or the away venue as appropriate
- Staffing arrangements – name and contact details for the team manager responsible for the trip
- Kit / equipment requirement
- Cost implications – i.e. competition fee, spending / pocket money, any cost of transport
- Name and contact number of the person acting as the 'Club Home Contact'
- Arrangements for food and drink

For trips/tours that entail an overnight stay, please see further policy, available on request.

MISSING CHILDREN

In the event of a child going missing Thorverton Cricket Club will take the following steps:

- Ensure that any other children in their care are looked after appropriately whilst they organise a search for the child concerned.
- Inform the child's parents if they are present at the event, or nominate an appropriate person to telephone them and advise them of the concern.
- Organise all available responsible adults by areas to be searched.
- Search the area in which the child has gone missing including changing rooms, toilets, public and private areas and the club grounds.
- Request all those searching to report back to a nominated person at a specific point

- The nominated person should remain at the specific reference point and must be making a note of the events, including detailing a physical description of the child including approximate height, build, hair and eye colour as well as clothing the child was wearing and where / when they were last seen, as this may be required by the police. If the search is unsuccessful the police will be informed.
- A report will go to the police no later than 20 minutes after the child's disappearance is noted, even if the search is not complete.
- Recommendations from the police will be followed.
- If at any stage the child is located all adults involved including the parents, searchers and police will be informed immediately.
- All missing child incidents will be notified to the Club Welfare Officer at the earliest opportunity, who in turn will notify the County Welfare Officer.

JUNIORS PLAYING IN ADULT MATCHES

Thorverton CC adheres to the ECB guidelines (Jan 2010) which cover the selection and participation of young players in open age cricket. These guidelines are designed with the welfare of the young cricketers in mind and will best help their cricketing development when they play within open age groups. They apply to boys and girls equally. Age groups are based on the age of the player at midnight on 31st August in the year preceding the current season (state school year groups)

Thorverton CC recognises that they have a duty of care towards all young players who are representing the club. This duty of care also extends to Leagues that allow the participation of young players in open age groups in their League. The duty of care should be interpreted in two ways:

1. Not to place a young player 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.
2. Not to create a situation that places members of the opposing side in a position whereby they cannot play cricket as they would normally do against adult players. In addition the following specific requirements apply to young players in open age cricket

In addition the following specific requirements apply to young players in open age cricket

1. Making the step up from junior to open age cricket is a significant event in any player's cricket Experience. TCC will ensure that the player's safety, personal development needs and overall cricket experience are considered.
2. There is no definitive age at which they should be introduced to open age cricket but determine each case on an individual basis dependent on their ability and stage of cognitive and emotional maturity to take part at this level, taking into account the requirement that **no Junior Cricketers younger than the age group of under 13 can play in open age cricket.**
3. **ECB Fast Bowling Directives and Fielding Regulations** will always be adhered to for junior players in open age cricket. All young players who have not reached their 18th birthday must wear a helmet with a faceguard when batting and either a helmet or faceguard when standing up to the stumps when keeping wicket. A young player acting as a runner must also wear a helmet even if the player they are running for is not doing so.
4. Any player in the Under 13 age group must have explicit written consent (see junior registration form) from a parent or guardian before participating in open age cricket.

5. TCC will provide an opportunity for players to show their talents in an appropriate way. Children who are just used as fielders will not fully experience the game.
6. TCC will be supportive at all times for all forms of effort even when children are not successful. Try and put them in situations where they will experience some success (however small) and ensure plenty of praise and encouragement.
7. TCC will try and involve them in all aspects of the game wherever possible i.e. socialising, team talks, practice, decision making etc. so that they feel part of the team.
8. TCC require that a parent, guardian or other identified responsible adult is present whenever a player in the Under 13 age group plays open age cricket. This could include the captain or other identified adult player.

Above all TCC believe that children's early experiences will remain with them always and will often determine whether they want to remain playing the game or give up and do something else!

WEARING OF CRICKET HELMETS BY PLAYERS

Thorverton Cricket Club adhere to the ECB Safety Guidance on the Wearing of Cricket Helmets by Young Players as follows:

The ECB has recently announced new helmet safety measures, which are being introduced with a view to reducing the risk of head and facial injuries within the game.

Players over the age of 18

The ECB strongly recommends that all adult recreational cricketers should wear helmets for certain activities, preferably which meet the most recent British Safety Standard (see below). This recommendation applies to batting against all types of bowling, wicket-keepers standing up to the wicket (who may as an alternative wear face protectors) and fielders fielding closer than eight yards from the batsman's middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side.

Under 18s

The position in relation to u18s currently remains unchanged, and is governed by the 'ECB Guidance on the Wearing of Cricket Helmets by Young Players' (www.ecb.co.uk/youngplayershelmetguidance). In essence, batsmen and wicket-keepers standing up to the stumps must wear head protection when playing or practising. That Guidance should be referred to in full for the position in relation to u18s.

British Safety Standard

The latest British Safety Standard is BS7928:2013 (for both adults and juniors). The full list of helmets meeting this standard is available at www.ecb.co.uk/helmets. For wicket-keeping face protectors the relevant British Safety Standard is BS7929-2:2009 (again, for both adults and juniors).

The ECB understands that there is currently no specific women's helmet and as a consequence no specific standard for women's cricket helmets. As the size of the standard women's cricket ball is between the standard men and junior balls, it is recommended that women use helmets that have been tested against both the men's and junior sized ball, or at least against the junior size ball (as that could potentially get through the gap above the face guard on a men's helmet). The original guidance allowed parents or guardians to give their written consent to allow a young player not to wear a helmet. **However, now parental consent not to wear a helmet should not be accepted in any form of cricket.**

CHANGING POLICY

Best practice principles to be adopted by clubs, wherever possible, are as follows:

- Adults must not change, or shower, at the same time using the same facility as children
- Adults should try to change at separate times to children during matches, for example when children are padding up
- If adults and children need to share a changing facility, the club must have consent from parents that their child(ren) can share a changing room with adults in the club
- If children play for Open Age teams, they, and their parents, must be informed of the club's policy on changing arrangements
- Mixed gender teams must have access to separate male and female changing rooms
- Mobile phones must not be used in changing rooms
- If children are uncomfortable changing or showering at the club, no pressure should be placed on them to do so. Suggest instead that they may change and shower at home.

To follow best practice guidance Thorverton Cricket Club will adopt set changing time before and after each match where Junior Team Members can change without Senior Team Members being in the changing room. This will be a 15 minute period in each instance.

FAST BOWLING MATCH DIRECTIVES

Thorverton Cricket Club has adopted the ECB Fast Bowling Directive as follows:

Age	Maximum Overs Per Spell	Maximum Overs Per Day
Up to 13 years	5 overs per spell	10 overs per day
U14, U15	6 overs per spell	12 overs per day
U16, U17, U18, U19	7 overs per spell	18 overs per day

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

Having completed a spell, the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until the equivalent number of overs to the length of his* spell have been bowled from the same end. A bowler can change ends without ending his current spell provided that he bowls the next over that he legally can from the other end. If this does not happen his spell is deemed to be concluded. If play is interrupted, for any reason, for less than 40 minutes any spell in progress at the time of the interruption can be continued after the interruption up to the maximum number of overs per spell for the appropriate age group. If the spell is not continued after the interruption the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until the equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell before the interruption have been bowled from the same end. If the interruption is of 40 minutes or more, whether scheduled or not, the bowler can commence a new spell immediately.

Once a bowler covered by these Directives has bowled in a match he cannot exceed the maximum number overs per day for his age group even if he subsequently bowls spin. He can exceed the maximum overs per spell if bowling spin, but cannot then revert to bowling fast until an equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell have been bowled from the same end.

If he bowls spin without exceeding the maximum number of overs in a spell the maximum will apply as soon as he reverts to bowling fast.

Captains, Team Managers and Umpires are asked to ensure that these Directives are followed at all times.

For guidance it is recommended that in any 7 day period a fast bowler should not bowl more than 4 days in that period and for a maximum of 2 days in a row

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

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

ANTI BULLYING POLICY

Thorverton Cricket Club is committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our members (adult and children) so they can train and play in a relaxed and secure atmosphere.

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our club. If bullying does occur, all members (adult and children) should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

We are a 'telling' club. This means that 'anyone' who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff and officials.

- All officials, coaching and non-coaching staff, children and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is, what the policy is and what should happen if bullying arises.
- Thorverton Cricket Club will not tolerate bullying.
- Thorverton Cricket club will take bullying seriously. All members (adult and children) should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Members should report any bullying to the Club Welfare Officer (James May).
- In cases of serious bullying, the incident will be reported to the ECB Child Protection Team for advice via the County Welfare Officer.
- Parents should be informed, where appropriate, and should be asked to attend a meeting to discuss the problem.
- If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted.
- The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.
- An attempt will be made to help the bully/bullies change their behaviour.
- In cases of adults reported to be bullying cricketers under the age of 18, the ECB will be informed and will advise on action to be taken.

Bullying Can Be:

- Emotional: being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding kit, threatening gestures).
- Physical: pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence.
- Verbal: name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.
- Cyber: all online media (e.g. email, internet chat rooms, Facebook); threats by text messaging, calls, or social media platforms; misuse of associated technology (e.g. camera and video facilities).
- Racist: because of, or focusing on the issues of race/ethnicity (e.g. racial taunts, graffiti, gestures).
- Sexual: unwanted physical contact, or sexually abusive comments or gestures.
- Homophobic: because of, or focusing on the issues of sexuality.