



Felling Cricket Club

Code of Conduct for Junior Players Playing Open Age Cricket

Junior Players in Open Age Group Cricket Policy

Felling Cricket Club recognise that taking the step up from junior to open age group cricket is an important event in any player's cricket experience. The player's safety, personal development needs and overall cricket experience will be considered.

- Clubs, squad coaches and managers must take into account the ECB requirements on age detailed below
- Each case will be determined on an individual basis, depending on the player's ability and stage of cognitive and emotional maturity to take part in Open Age cricket The ECB minimum age guidance provided below MUST be followed.
- Juniors should be involved in all aspects of the game wherever possible i.e. socialising, team talks, practice, decision making and so on, so they feel part of the team.
- Children will often feel more comfortable and able to perform if they have a family member or friend also playing in the side
- We recognise 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.
- Children must be provided with an opportunity to show their talents in an appropriate way.
- Players must be supportive, at all times, for all forms of effort even when children are not successful. We will try and put them in situations where they will experience some success (however small) and ensure plenty of praise and encouragement.
- The captain must inform the Umpires of under 18s in the side.

Restrictions

ECB Helmets, Fast Bowling Directives

and Fielding Regulations should always be adhered to for junior players in Open age group cricket.

Minimum age

The minimum age for Open Age cricket is the U13 age group. Players must be in Year 8, and 12 years old on the 1st September of the preceding year.

This applies to all club and district players who are not in a county or area squad (or region in Wales) . Written parental consent is required.

Exceptionally, players who are selected in a County U12 squad in spring for a summer squad – are also eligible to play Open age cricket providing they are at least 11 years old, are in School Year 7 on 1st September in the year preceding the season, and have written parental consent to play.

Please be aware that at under 12 level the ECB recommends that the focus is on participation rather than Talent I.D, and many counties no longer run under 12 squads. Inclusion of ANY Under 12s in Open Age teams should be an exception and not an expectation.

It is essential clubs and coaches recognise the ‘duty of care’ obligations they have towards young players in Open Age cricket

The duty of care should be interpreted in two ways:

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.

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, ECB guidelines note the need for clubs and leagues to recognise the positive experience young players should have in open age cricket. Felling Cricket Club will provide an opportunity for players to show their talents in an appropriate way.

Agreed January 2025

Club Commitment

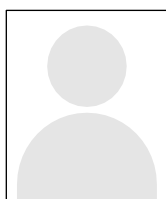
Felling CC are committed to this policy and will review it on an annual basis.

Date Completed - 01 February 2025

Signed by - Michael Vinton (Chairman) and Graham Wright (Safeguarding Officer) on behalf of Felling Cricket Club

Date of renewal - 01 February 2026

Our Club Safeguarding Officer's details are:



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