



# Prestwich Cricket Club



## Club Policy – Substance Misuse

### Policy Statement

Prestwich Cricket Club, with support from the LCF and ECB, is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for all participants in recreational cricket. The misuse of alcohol, drugs (including performance-enhancing substances), and other harmful substances is not tolerated, as it compromises individual welfare, team integrity, and the wider reputation of the game.

This policy outlines our approach to preventing and responding to substance misuse across players, volunteers, coaches, and supporters.

### Scope

This policy applies to:

- All players (junior and senior)
- Coaches, managers, and volunteers
- Match officials
- Spectators and parents/guardians
- Visitors and external service providers

It covers club grounds, changing rooms, transport to / from matches, events and all activities under the club's name.

### Definitions

Substance misuse refers to the use of:

- Illegal drugs (e.g. cannabis, cocaine, ecstasy)
- Legal highs or psychoactive substances
- Prescription drugs for non-medical purposes
- Alcohol in inappropriate settings (e.g. youth matches)
- Solvents or inhalants used recreationally
- Performance-enhancing drugs or supplements not approved by the ECB

### Objectives

- Promote education and awareness on substance misuse
- Prevent the use of substances that impair judgement or endanger health
- Support individuals who may be experiencing substance related issues

- Ensure disciplinary action is fair, proportionate, and in line with ECB guidance

### **Junior Cricket & Safeguarding**

- Under no circumstances is the use or promotion of any substance permitted at junior events, including matches, training, or tournaments
- Alcohol must not be consumed by adults while supervising or coaching under 18s
- Any adult found under the influence of alcohol or drugs while in a position of trust will be subject to immediate removal and safeguarding referral

### **Senior Cricket Expectations**

- Senior players must not arrive or participate in cricket under the influence of drugs or excessive alcohol
- Post-match social events should promote responsible behaviour and comply with licensing laws
- Clubs must ensure bar staff are trained to refuse service to intoxicated persons and monitor underage drinking risk

### **Responsibilities**

#### Club Management / Committee

- Implement and review the policy annually
- Communicate expectations to all members
- Manage incidents confidentially and fairly

#### Captains and Coaches

- Lead by example and promote healthy behaviour
- Challenge misuse and report concerns

#### Players and Volunteers

- Take responsibility for personal behaviour
- Report substance related concerns via the Club Safeguarding Officer

### **Responding to Incidents**

All incidents will be handled sensitively and may involve:

- Initial warning (for low-risk or first-time issues)
- Suspension or exclusion from club activities
- Referral to external support services
- Safeguarding referral (for incidents involving under-18s)
- Notification to the ECB / County Safeguarding Lead (where serious breaches occur)

## Support and Education

- Lancashire Cricket Foundation encourages a supportive, not punitive approach:
- Signpost individuals to drug and alcohol support services
- Offer welfare discussions via the Club Safeguarding Officer
- Arrange occasional awareness talks or signposting via the ECB, LCF or Public Health partners

This policy will be reviewed annually or in line with changes to ECB guidance or UK legislation

