



JUNIOR PLAYERS - WHAT IS THE PLEDGE NOT 2 SLEDGE?

The Pledge not 2 Sledge is a commitment we are asking you, our junior players and your team officials to make. It comes at a time when Cricket Australia has been given advice on how its players should behave. Winston Hills CC believes that poor on field behaviour should be stopped at junior level, otherwise it is allowed to continue into some of the incidents we have seen at International level.

WHAT IS SLEDGING?

Sledging is bullying: any remarks designed to break the batter's concentration or confidence is sledging.

DON'T DO IT.

Sledging is not: positive things like talking up the field, encouraging the bowler and good-natured talk amongst the fielding side. These are all encouraged as a positive aspect of teamwork.

DO IT.

While some professional cricketers have developed notoriety for sledging, the Winston Hills CC Committee believes there is no place for sledging in junior cricket (or any form of cricket for that matter). We see it as a form of bullying.

Bullying is anything done verbally, physically or emotionally with the intention of hurting or unsettling another person.

EVERYBODY HAS THE RIGHT TO BE TREATED WITH RESPECT AND DIGNITY.

Sledging is mostly thought of as behaviour directed towards your opponents, but it can also be directed at your own team mates.

- **It is not acceptable to sledge players in an opposing team.**
- **It is not acceptable to sledge a member of your own team.**
- **Remember the Golden Rule - Don't do to others what you don't want them to do to you.**

Sledging or bullying a member of your own team is just as unsporting as sledging or bullying a member of an opposing team.

Winston Hills CC will not tolerate its members bullying members of any team.

Cricket is a team sport, without all your team mates, you cannot play cricket. Members of Winston Hills CC who are bullying anyone need to learn different ways of behaving. If someone from your

own team sledges or bullies you, notify your coach and ask them to talk to the player concerned to explain why what they said is unacceptable and is actually sledging.

WHY DOES WINSTON HILLS CC WANT TO TAKE A STAND AGAINST SLEDGING?

Sledging kills the fun of cricket! It's just not cricket.

The Spirit of Cricket, in the MCC Laws of Cricket, stipulates that teams shall not “direct abusive language towards other players or an umpire.”

Cricket Australia’s own playing guidelines state that cheating can be “Seeking to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one’s own side”

The rhymes designed to unsettle opposing batsmen fall into this category. Instead of the whole team saying, “big swing, no ding” or “dot, dot, dot, that’s all he’s got”, all players should be congratulating the bowler on bowling excellent deliveries, or the fielders on stopping the runs.

WHAT IF OTHER TEAMS SLEDGE YOU?

We can’t control the behaviour of other teams. We can only ensure a fair and respectful standard in our own game which we hope will be returned in kind by our opponents.

If an opposition team engages in sledging, notify your coach so that they can mention it to the other coach or umpire, if there is an umpire and they can then speak to the player concerned, asking them to stop and to play cricket in the right spirit of the game.

Fielders are not allowed to speak while the bowler is running in. This is very bad sportsmanship. If this happens, notify your coach immediately.

**JOIN US IN OUR
PLEDGE NOT 2 SLEDGE**