

## **RULES AND CODE OF CONDUCT OF LIONS CRICKET**

### **1. POLICY STATEMENT**

- 1.1 Whilst the CLUB promotes cricket to be played in a competitive spirit, it expects it to be done within the framework of good sportsmanship, professional behaviour, the Laws of Cricket and within the laws of the Republic of South Africa.
- 1.2 The BOARD adopted a Code of Conduct for all Regulated Matches, which all PARTICIPANTS must comply with, without exception.

### **2. APPLICATION OF THE CODE**

- 2.1 The CODE shall apply to PARTICIPANTS who are participating in REGULATED MATCHES or have participated in REGULATED MATCHES within the preceding year.
- 2.2 The CODE, a breach of which may render a PARTICIPANT subject to disciplinary action, shall be enforced in accordance with procedures laid down in these RULES.
- 2.3 All PARTICIPANTS shall acquaint themselves and shall be deemed acquainted with the CONSTITUTION, the Lions Cricket BY-LAWS and RULES AND REGULATIONS of the Lions Cricket and this CODE.

### **3. DEFINITIONS**

In these RULES, unless the context indicates otherwise, words in capital letters listed below have the following meanings –

- 3.1 AFFILIATE means any association or body affiliated with Lions Cricket.
- 3.2 APPEAL BOARD – the APPEAL BOARD shall consist of no less than 3 (three) persons constituted and appointed by the CEO in his sole discretion, in accordance with the provisions of clauses 6.4 and 9 of this Code.
- 3.3 BOARD –Gauteng Cricket Board also known as Central Gauteng Lions (“Lions Cricket”)
- 3.4 CEO – the Chief Executive Officer of Lions Cricket.
- 3.5 INITIATOR – the BOARD and/or its appointed representative.
- 3.6 CAPTAIN – the captain of a team in a REGULATED MATCH.
- 3.7 CLUB – a CLUB affiliated to the Lions Cricket.

- 3.8 CODE – the code of conduct set out in clause 4 below.
- 3.9 DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER – the chairperson of the Disciplinary Panel as appointed by the President of the Board in consultation with the CEO who also perform the duties and functions as CONVENOR of the Disciplinary Panel.
- 3.10 DISCIPLINARY REPORT – a written complaint in the form prescribed and approved by the Lions Cricket from time to time.
- 3.11 LAWS – the Laws of Cricket as publicised by the Marylebone Cricket CLUB (MCC), from time to time.
- 3.12 OFFICIALS – members of the CLUB, Lions Cricket, and delegated sports representatives or officials of any company which provides sponsorship to a CLUB.
- 3.13 PARTICIPANTS – PLAYERS, UMPIRES, TEAM OFFICIALS, TEAM MANAGERS and persons associated with the CLUB, including spectators and the ground staff at which the REGULATED MATCH is played.
- 3.14 PLAYER – any person who holds himself/herself available for or is participating or about to participate in a REGULATED MATCH or any player who is contracted to play for the CLUB.
- 3.15 PLAYING CONDITIONS – conditions for the playing of Regulated Matches, as published by Lions Cricket from time to time.
- 3.16 REGULATED MATCH – any match, in any format, played under the auspices of Lions Cricket.
- 3.17 RULES – the rules of procedure and related matters made and promulgated by Lions Cricket as is set out in this document.
- 3.18 TEAM MANAGER – any person who holds himself / herself available as team manager of a team participating or about to participate in a REGULATED MATCH.
- 3.19 TEAM OFFICIALS – any person holding himself / herself out to be medical staff & assistants, coaches, technical assistants, and any other person associated with a team participating or about to participate in a REGULATED MATCH.
- 3.20 UMPIRE – any person holding himself / herself out to officiate in a REGULATED MATCH as contemplated in clause 15 (Appointment of Umpires) in the Lions Cricket By-Laws and Regulations.

- 3.21 CLUB COUNCIL – the Council appointed by CGL that administers the playing conditions for Cricket in the region
- 3.22 MATCH REFEREE – a match REFEREE appointed by Gauteng Cricket Umpires’ Association to superintend a REGULATED MATCH.
- 3.23 In this Code of Conduct, words in the singular include the plural and the plural include the singular, and the masculine includes the feminine and the neuter.
- 3.24 Headings are included for ease of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation or construction hereof.
- 3.25 References to recitals, clauses, and schedules, unless a contrary intention appears, are to the recitals and clauses of and schedules to this Code of Conduct.
- 3.26 Whenever several days are prescribed in this Code of Conduct such number shall be calculated excluding the first and including the last day, unless the last day is a Saturday, Sunday, or Public Holiday, in which event the last day shall be next day which is a Business Day.
- 3.27 All references to gender shall incorporate for example “he”, “she”.

#### **4. CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 4.1 PARTICIPANTS shall abide by the LAWS, the Playing Conditions, RULES and Regulations, By-laws, and Contracts with the CLUB and Lions Cricket.
- 4.2 PLAYERS and TEAM OFFICIALS must always accept an UMPIRE’S decision and must not show dissent at an UMPIRE’S decision.
- 4.3 PARTICIPANTS shall not verbally abuse, assault, intimidate or attempt to assault or intimidate any other PARTICIPANT, nor shall any PARTICIPANT engage in any conduct, act towards or speak to any other PARTICIPANT in a manner which offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies that other person on the basis of that other person’s race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, language or sexual orientation and all PARTICIPANTS shall at all times act in the Spirit of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996;
- 4.4 PARTICIPANTS shall not use crude or abusive language nor make offensive gestures to any other PARTICIPANT or OFFICIAL.
- 4.5 PARTICIPANTS shall not engage in –
- 4.5.1 Acts of misconduct, or unruly behaviour or commit any criminal offence whilst participating in or about to or having participated in a REGULATED MATCH and

whilst within the precincts of the ground at which the REGULATED MATCH is played: or

- 4.5.2 Unbecoming or detrimental conduct which could bring them, the CLUB, Lions Cricket, or the game of cricket, into disrepute.
- 4.6 PARTICIPANTS shall not disclose or comment publicly or make any public pronouncement or media comment including all social media.
  - 4.6.1 which is detrimental to the game of cricket in general; or
  - 4.6.2 which is detrimental to a particular tournament or match in which they are involved; or
  - 4.6.3 which is detrimental to relations between the competing teams; or
  - 4.6.4 which is critical of or detrimental to the selection of any team for any REGULATED MATCH; or
  - 4.6.5 upon any alleged breach of the CODE or upon any hearing, DISCIPLINARY REPORT or decision arising from such a breach; or
  - 4.6.6 on any decision by an UMPIRE or DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER or APPEAL BOARD.
- 4.7 A PARTICIPANT shall not, directly, or indirectly, engage in, or give advice concerning, betting, gambling, or any form of financial speculation on the outcome of any REGULATED MATCH.
- 4.8 A PARTICIPANT shall not accept any form of inducement which is likely or calculated to affect his/her performance or the performance of any PARTICIPANT involved in any REGULATED MATCH adversely.
- 4.9 PARTICIPANTS shall not –
  - 4.9.1 whilst participating in a REGULATED MATCH, wear or use clothing and equipment other than that as is approved by the CLUB or Lions Cricket from time to time.
  - 4.9.2 at any time, wear or use or display commercial logos or other advertising material which is not approved by the BOARD.
  - 4.9.3 at any time, wear or use or display any clothing, material or signage containing any religious or political material or slogan.

- 4.9.4 Provoke any negative situation by conduct, verbal comment, or gesture.
- 4.10 Any PARTICIPANT who attempts to commit any breach of this CODE shall be deemed to have breached the CODE and shall be liable, on conviction, to the same penalties as are competent for a contravention of the CODE itself.
- 4.11 PARTICIPANTS shall not indulge in the use of alcohol or any other inhibiting substance, on or off the field. This applies before the game is about to commence, is in progress including when a game is disrupted because of weather or another delay. No PARTICIPANT (spectators excluded) shall be allowed to consume alcohol, irrespective of whether that PARTICIPANT is involved in the Regulated Match at that time or not. For example, the players on the batting side cannot indulge in the use of alcohol while waiting their turn to bat.
- 4.12 A PARTICIPANT shall not be involved in any form of handling, selling, or taking of drugs or substances which are unlawful in terms of South African legislation, and shall abide by the Doping Policy of Cricket South Africa.
- 4.13 A PARTICIPANT shall not engage in an media policy breaches as advised in the code .

## **5. CAPTAINS**

- 5.1 CAPTAINS are to acquaint themselves with the LAWS and CODE and are responsible, always, for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of the game of cricket as well as within the LAWS and in accordance with this CODE.
- 5.2 CAPTAINS shall, in the presence of the UMPIRES, formally agree BEFORE the commencement of a REGULATED MATCH that there will be no deviations from the CODE.
- 5.3 During the playing of a REGULATED MATCH, if an individual member of a team, who cannot be identified, breaches the CODE, then the CAPTAIN of that team may be sanctioned.
- 5.4 CAPTAINS shall throughout the match, satisfy themselves as to the correctness of the number of runs scored, the wickets that have fallen, and, where appropriate, the number of overs bowled.
- 5.5 CAPTAINS are responsible for the evaluation of the umpires. It is the responsibility of the captain to complete the evaluation form and sign it and submit it within the regulated time. (Failure to comply shall result in penalty point deductions).
- 5.6 CAPTAINS are responsible for ensuring that any time constraints are adhered to. Captains must interact with umpires during the game and cannot assume the umpire to take responsibility on this matter. In a match where slow over rate come into play, the

umpires and captains must sign the card reflecting this. This falls under the captain's responsibility.

- 5.7 In the event that a CAPTAIN has been identified as a repeat offender i.e., that more than two (2) disciplinary actions have been instituted against that CAPTAIN in a single season, the DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER may, if the CAPTAIN is found guilty of any offence, escalate the possible sanction to the next level, as provided for in this CODE.
- 5.8 CAPTAINS are responsible for ensuring if there are disciplinary issues, there is no media breach

## **6 DISCIPLINARY PROCESS**

### **6.1 The CONVENER shall:**

- 6.1.1 investigate any breaches of the CODE.
- 6.1.2 initiate DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS for any breaches of the CODE.
- 6.1.3 The CONVENER shall be empowered to, in his discretion, offer a "PLEA BARGAIN" to the reported PARTICIPANT should the reported PARTICIPANT plead guilty without a hearing. Such "PLEA BARGAINS" shall be standardized in the PENALTIES SECTION of this CODE and shall carry a lesser sentence than that which can be imposed by the DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER following a hearing.

### **6.2. DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER**

- 6.2.1 THE DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER shall also serve on the DISCIPLINARY PANEL have the power to adjudicate upon and impose penalties for any breaches of the CODE.
- 6.2.2 The CONVENOR may appoint any number of persons from the DISCIPLINARY PANEL to adjudicate in a particular disciplinary hearing.
- 6.2.3 The DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER and PANEL MEMBERS shall have the discretion to consider all possible sanctions as provided for in this CODE and may consider alternative sanctions, in so far as these alternative sanctions are provided for in this CODE.
- 6.2.4 In the event that a specific CLUB has been identified as a repeat offender, the DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER may provide a formal report to the Cricket Council of the Lions Cricket, and the Cricket Council may in their sole discretion sanction the Premier League Team of the CLUB with demerit points.

### 6.3. THE PANEL

- 6.3.1 The PANEL will comprise no less than 3 (three) persons who shall serve as PANEL MEMBERS in disciplinary and appeal hearings from time to time.
- 6.3.2 The PANEL will be appointed annually by the Lions Cricket not later than the first playing day of the new season.
- 6.3.3 The PANEL have the right to refer matters via the DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER to CLUB COUNCIL with a recommendation for a points deduction

### 6.4 THE APPEAL BOARD

- 6.4.1 The APPEAL BOARD shall comprise of no less than 3 (three) persons who shall sit as the APPEAL BOARD in Appeal Hearings when required.

The APPEAL BOARD shall be appointed by the CEO in consultation with the Cricket Council chairperson and shall comprise of one member of the PANEL who was a Member at the hearing, and/or anyone else as decided upon by the aforementioned.

### 6.5 MEDIA

- 6.5.1 A Member of the PANEL and /or APPEAL BOARD shall not write for the press or commentate for television and/or radio during or about any REGULATED MATCH.
- 6.5.2 PARTICIPANTS are precluded from engaging in any social or other media interaction on all media/digital platforms ,relevant to any disciplinary matters . This would be tantamount to a media breach.

## **7 PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH DISCIPLINARY MATTERS**

### **7.1 DISCIPLINARY REPORTS**

- 7.1.1 The CONVENER shall always have the right to investigate any incident, whether it is the subject of a DISCIPLINARY REPORT.

- 7.1.2 Eligibility to lodge a DISCIPLINARY REPORT.

An alleged breach of the CODE or other offence can be reported by:

- 7.1.2.1 The UMPIRES, including the reserve and fourth UMPIRE.

- 7.1.2.2 The MATCH REFEREE, other than in respect of Level 1 offences.

7.1.2.3 Either TEAM MANAGER (in his own right or on behalf of any of his PLAYERS).

7.1.2.4 Either one of the CAPTAINS participating in the match in which an alleged breach occurs.

7.1.2.5 The CLUB'S President/Chairperson.

7.1.2.6 Either TEAM COACH (in his/her own right or on behalf of any of his/her PLAYERS).

7.1.2.7 Any Lions Cricket BOARD member.

#### 7.1.3 On-Field DISCIPLINARY REPORTS

Should any person eligible to do so decide to report a PARTICIPANT for an alleged breach of the CODE or other offence, he/she must, no later than 18:00 hours of the day following the match (or such further period as the DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER may in due course in his discretion allow), complete a DISCIPLINARY REPORT and submit it to the Lions Cricket Manager: Club Services (or delegate) and the reported PARTICIPANT. The Lions Cricket Manager: Club Services (or delegate) shall inform the CLUB chairperson of the reported matter, which in terms of due process may be elevated to the Disciplinary CONVENOR.

#### 7.1.4 Off-Field DISCIPLINARY REPORTS

i) If an UMPIRE, TEAM MANAGER, TEAM COACH, CAPTAIN, CLUB PRESIDENT/CHAIRPERSON decides to report a person for an alleged breach of the CODE, he/she must complete a DISCIPLINARY REPORT and deliver or send it to the CLUB administrator as soon as possible, but by no later than 18h00 of the day following the Regulated Match.

ii) If a PLAYER is the subject of such a report, the Lions Cricket CLUB administrator shall inform the CLUB chairperson of the implicated player of the reported matter.

iii) If a Player contravenes any of the LAWS, not otherwise mentioned by this Code, the DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER and PANEL MEMBERS shall have the discretion to hear such alleged breach, and impose, should the Player be found guilty, an appropriate sanction considering the seriousness of the alleged contravention, the facts and circumstances, but always subject to the maximum sanctions prescribed by this Code.



## 7.2 HEARINGS

- 7.2.1 The CONVENER shall decide whether a report received creates a prima facie basis for a hearing to be held.

After a DISCIPLINARY REPORT has been received, and after due consideration as to the credibility of the report and whether a prima facie basis exists for a hearing to be held and proper notification given, the following procedures must be carried out:

- 7.2.1.1 The CONVENER must notify the PANEL concerned and arrange the hearing as soon as possible and practicable, bearing in mind that, unless there are exceptional circumstances, a decision whether to have a hearing should be made no later than 3 days after the receipt of the DISCIPLINARY REPORT or not.
- 7.2.1.2 Upon the issuing of a Disciplinary Notice to the PARTICIPANT that is subject to a possible L3 or L4 sanctioning i.e., serious possible infringement, the PARTICIPANT is thereby suspended from participating in the REGULATED MATCH immediately prior to the Disciplinary Hearing. If the PARTICIPANT is found guilty, any such suspension will be considered in reaching a decision on the appropriate sanction.
- 7.2.1.3 A Disciplinary Hearing shall commence, within 21 (twenty-one) days of the conclusion of the day's play, in which the alleged incident occurred, or such longer period as the CONVENER may, in his discretion, allow.
- 7.2.3 The hearing may be attended by the reported PARTICIPANT, his/her chosen representative, who may be his/her CAPTAIN, TEAM COACH, Team Manager or fellow player, and the initiator of the Disciplinary Report and / or his chosen representative, who may be his/her CAPTAIN, Team Manager, or fellow player, and/or UMPIRE, as the case may be, none of whom may be denied the right to appear at the hearing.
- 7.2.4 The PANEL may continue with the hearing if the reported PARTICIPANT or his representative, having received notice of the hearing, fails to attend.
- 7.2.5 Unless provided otherwise in this CODE, the PANEL must hear details of the alleged breach of the CODE and adjudicate thereon.
- 7.2.6 In any hearing, but subject to the provisions of these RULES, the PANEL must adhere to the principles of natural justice.

- 7.2.7 Subject to clause 7.2.3, the PANEL must allow the reported PARTICIPANT (should the PARTICIPANT wish to exercise this right) to give evidence in his/her defense and produce evidence, either orally or in writing and to call witnesses.
- 7.2.8 The PANEL may also call such witnesses as it may deem necessary or allow such witnesses evidence to be admitted in writing.
- 7.2.9 The PANEL shall be entitled to adjourn the hearing if it considers that further evidence needs to be obtained, that further time is needed to consider the evidence in advance of the hearing or for any other reason deemed appropriate, in its discretion.
- 7.2.10 Subject to these RULES, the PANEL shall, in its sole discretion, determine the procedure, date, and time for the hearing and shall notify all involved parties accordingly.
- 7.2.11 The PANEL has the discretion to request a PARTICIPANT to be in attendance when other witnesses are being cross examined.
- 7.2.12 The PANEL has the discretion to request any ACCUSED to be in attendance when other witnesses are being cross examined. (over the age of 18)
- 7.2.13 The PANEL has the discretion to formulate new charges against any alleged perpetrator ,if such evidence comes to light in the hearing .

### **7.3 RESULT**

- 7.3.1 The PANEL may make its decision at the end of the hearing or, subject to Clause 7.3.3, at any time thereafter.
- 7.3.2 Subject to Clause 9, the DISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONER'S decision shall be final and binding.
- 7.3.3 As soon as reasonably possible, and within 5 working days of the decision, the PANEL shall inform the Manager: Cricket Services of its decision and submit all reports and evidence to the Manager: Cricket Services, its ruling to the parties involved, unless the PANEL believes the decision should not be made public and indicate the reason why the decision should not be made public.
- 7.3.4 If the PANEL elects not to make its decision public, the Manager: Cricket Services shall inform the reported PARTICIPANT of the decision.

- 7.3.5 The CONVENER shall transmit the decision to Lions Cricket. Club Administrator who will advise the Cricket Council and the person lodging the DISCIPLINARY REPORT, and all affected parties.

## 8 OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

### 8.1 ON AND OFF -FIELD AND MATCH-RELATED OFFENCES

- 8.1.1 Subject to the provisions of clauses 8.2, 8.3, 8.4 and 8.5 below, the PANEL may impose an appropriate penalty in the form of a reprimand and/or a fine and/or a match suspension and may further, in its discretion, suspend the operation of such penalty for a period the PANEL deems appropriate, and, on such conditions, it deems fit.
- 8.1.2 For the purposes of determining an appropriate penalty, the PANEL may, in its discretion consider the PARTICIPANT`s previous convictions, if any, and in such instances the PANEL has the discretion to decide to impose, if found guilty, a penalty commensurate with the level of offence immediately above the level of the alleged offence. With reference to clauses 8.2, 8.3, 8.4 and 8.5 below, in the event of the PARTICIPANT having been found guilty of the same / similar offence in the preceding 12 (twelve) months, the PANEL may impose a penalty at the next level, to the offence the PARTICIPANT was found guilty of.
- 8.1.3 With reference to 8.1.2 above the PANEL shall advise the PARTICIPANT at the hearing of his/her intention to invoke the provisions of this rule, in which circumstances the penalty against the PARTICIPANT shall be dealt with as a penalty at the next level above such offence for the purposes of this CODE.
- 8.1.4 Where this CODE does not specify a penalty for a particular offence, the PANEL shall in its discretion impose an appropriate penalty for such offence, having due regard to:
- i) all the relevant circumstances; and
  - ii) penalties for similar offences as provided for in the CRICKET SOUTH AFRICA RULES AND CODE OF CONDUCT or the INTERNATIONAL CRICKET COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT.

## 8.2 LEVEL 1

### 8.2.1 Offences

The offences set out below are **Level 1** offences,

- i) Breach of the CLUB/Lions Cricket's rules regulating the use of clothing and equipment, commercial logos, and advertising material.
- ii) Showing dissent at an umpire's decision.
- iii) Using language that is obscene, offensive, or insulting and/or the making of an obscene gesture.
- iv) Excessive appealing, after having been warned by the umpires.
- v) Pointing or gesturing towards the pavilion in an aggressive manner by a bowler or other member of the fielding side upon the dismissal of a batsman.
- vi) Time-wasting, after having been warned by the umpires.
- vii) Where the facts of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, the Laws of Cricket shall apply.

### 8.2.2 Penalties

The penalty for a Level 1 offence shall be at least an official reprimand, or at most) a suspension of 1 (one) week of Regulated Match that will apply to the next Regulated Match, unless otherwise provided by the PANEL to be played following the finding of the PANEL.

## 8.3 LEVEL 2

### 8.3.1 Offences

The offences set out below are **Level 2** offences:

- i) Showing serious dissent at an umpire`s decision and comments.
- ii) Public criticism of, or inappropriate comments on a match-related incident or match official including social media.
- iii) Abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings.
- iv) Inappropriate and deliberate physical contact between players in the course of play.
- v) Advancing towards the umpire in an aggressive manner.
- vi) Throwing the ball at or near a PARTICIPANT in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner.
- vii) Using language/a gesture that is seriously obscene, offensive, or insulting to another PARTICIPANT, a spectator or match official.
- viii) Playing more than ascribed number of over age players in junior leagues, or underage players in senior leagues.
- ix) Continues time-wasting after having been advised by the UMPIRES.
- x) A repeated breach of Lions Cricket Clothing and Equipment Regulations during a match relating to a 'Commercial Logo' or a 'Player's Bat Logo' as those terms are defined.
- xi) Deliberate and malicious distraction or obstruction on the field of play during a match.
- xii) Any attempt to manipulate a match for inappropriate strategic or tactical reasons.
- xiii) Playing players who are not registered with the CLUB or Lions Cricket.
- xiv) Players playing for two CLUBS simultaneously without the necessary permission from Lions Cricket.
- xv) Serious or repeated breach of minimum Over-Rate of 16 Overs per Hour as per Lions Cricket. Playing Conditions and/or Byelaws. (Captains responsibility).
- xvi) Other issues related to a Captain where he/she has not acted within the spirit of the game and/or had not used his power to control elements of the game, which resulted in a disciplinary hearing due to his negligence/willful conduct.
- xvii) Where the facts of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, the Laws of Cricket shall apply.
- xviii) Any media policy breach

### 8.3.2 Penalties

The minimum penalty for a Level 2 offence shall be a suspension for a minimum of 2 (two) weeks of Regulated Matches, and a maximum of 4 (four) Regulated Matches that will apply to the next Regulated Match to be played following the finding of the PANEL, unless otherwise provided by the PANEL. The PANEL may decide to partially suspend any sentence of a Level 2 Offence.

## 8.4 LEVEL 3

### 8.4.1 Offences

The offences set out below are **Level 3** offences:

- i) Intimidation of an UMPIRE or MATCH REFEREE whether by language or conduct.
- ii) Threat of assault on another PARTICIPANT.
- iii) Using language or a gesture that offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages, or vilifies another person based on that person`s race, religion, gender, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin.
- iv) Changing the condition of the ball in breach of Law 42.3 of the Laws of Cricket, as modified in the Match Playing Conditions clause 42.1.
- v) Charging towards the umpire in an aggressive manner.
- vi) Where the facts of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, the Laws of Cricket shall apply.

### 8.4.2 Penalties

The penalty for a Level 3 offence shall be a suspension of a minimum of 4 (four) weeks of Regulated Matches, and a maximum of 8 (eight) Regulated Matches that will apply to the next Regulated Match to be played following the finding of the PANEL, unless otherwise provided by the PANEL. The PANEL may decide to partially suspend any sentence of a Level 3 Offence.

## 8.5 LEVEL 4

### 8.5.1 Offences

The offences set out below are **Level 4** offences:

- i) Physical assault of another PARTICIPANT.
- ii) Any act of violence.
- iii) Threat of physical assault or physical assault on an UMPIRE or MATCH REFEREE.
- iv) Using language or gestures that seriously offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages, or vilifies another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, gender, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin.
- v) Where the facts of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by any of the above offences, the Laws of Cricket shall apply.

### 8.5.2 Penalties

The penalty for a Level 4 offence shall be a suspension of a minimum of 10 (ten) weeks of Regulated Matches, and a maximum of a life ban for the PARTICIPANT concerned, which suspension shall apply to the next Regulated Match to be played following the finding of the PANEL, unless otherwise provided by the PANEL, the PANEL may decide to partially suspend any sentence of a Level 4 Offence.

## 8.6 Sanctions for Plea Bargains

8.6.1 Subject to clause 6.1.3, the CONVENER shall be entitled to offer a plea bargain to any PARTICIPANT, which, if accepted, shall entitle the CONVENER to deviate from the prescribed sentences provided for in this Code. Nevertheless, the PANEL shall only have the power to, in case of plea bargain:

8.6.1.1 Issue a formal reprimand; or

8.6.1.2 Suspend a PARTICIPANT for a set number of games in line with the deemed minimum prescribed level for offences as set out above; and/or

- 8.6.1.3 Order corrective action to be taken by the PARTICIPANT with a duty to report on completion of the corrective action to the PANEL; or
- 8.6.1.4 Partially suspend any sanction imposed in terms of a plea bargain.
- 8.6.1.5 If for any reason, evidence comes to account in the hearing/ or prior that the PARTICIPANT to whom the plea bargain was given was involved in more serious issues, then the panel have the right to retract the plea bargain and sanction the participant accordingly.

## 9. APPEALS

- 9.1 Any PARTICIPANT found to be in breach of the CODE has the right to appeal against any finding, penalty or decision made by the PANEL.
- 9.2 The duty to hear an appeal shall vest in the APPEAL BOARD and to no other body or person.
- 9.3 All decisions, penalties, rulings, determinations, or findings of the APPEAL BOARD shall be final and binding on the person or persons concerned.
- 9.4 The APPEAL BOARD shall not be obliged to provide any person with any proof of their authority to act.
- 9.5 The APPEAL BOARD, on hearing an appeal, shall have the powers:
  - 9.5.1 to grant or dismiss the appeal.
  - 9.5.2 to substitute any finding or decision of the PANEL as it deems fit or substitute a penalty of the PANEL as it deems fit, including any increased penalty.
  - 9.5.3 to make an order to remit the decision of the PANEL for the hearing of further evidence.
  - 9.5.4 to hear further evidence itself.
  - 9.5.5 to make such rulings as it, in its sole discretion, shall determine including postponing or adjourning any appeal.
- 9.6 PROCEDURE IN APPEALS
  - 9.6.1 Any person who wishes to appeal ("the appellant") shall give notice in writing of his/her intention to appeal ("Notice of Appeal") to the CONVENER within 72 (SEVENTY-TWO) hours from the date on which the decision of the PANEL was



communicated to him/her, which Notice of Appeal shall include grounds for such appeal.

- 9.6.2 In the event that the appellant fails to comply with the time period as set out in 9.6.1 above, the appellant may apply to the CONVENOR for condonation for the late filing of the Notice of Appeal.
  - 9.6.3 All reports, evidence and exhibits which form part of the record of the decision appealed against, shall be made available via electronic correspondence, or such other method of service as requested by the appellant, upon receipt of a request of same within 5 (FIVE) days of receipt of the Notice of Appeal by the CONVENOR.
  - 9.6.4 Upon receipt of the Notice of Appeal, the Lions Cricket Manager: Club Services will advise the APPELLANT and CLUB when and where the appeal is to be heard.
  - 9.6.5 The APPEAL BOARD, when hearing an appeal, shall adopt such procedures as it, in its sole discretion, may determine and shall determine the place, date and time for the hearing of any appeal and shall notify all interested parties accordingly. All appeals must be heard as soon as possible.
  - 9.6.6 In the event of any appellant not appearing at the appeal hearing, the appeal may proceed in his/their absence or may be postponed at the APPEAL BOARD'S sole discretion.
  - 9.6.7 Subject to rule 9.6.3, the appellant and the CLUB (and their respective representatives) shall be bound by and confined to the record of the proceedings before the PANEL.
- 9.7 The operation of the finding, penalty or decision of the PANEL concerned shall be suspended –
- 9.7.1 during the period referred to in rule 9.6.4; and/or
  - 9.7.2 when a Notice of Appeal has been lodged, pending the final determination of such appeal by the APPEAL BOARD, or the lapsing or withdrawal of the appeal.

## **10. RECORDS**

The CONVENOR is responsible for –

- 10.1 maintaining a register of all DISCIPLINARY REPORTS and actions taken pursuant thereto and decisions taken by any PANEL or APPEAL BOARD.

## 11. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 11.1 No indulgence granted by the BOARD, the CONVENER, the PANEL or APPEAL BOARD shall constitute a waiver or abandonment of rights under the CODE or these RULES.
- 11.2 The failure of any person to comply with any procedures laid down in terms of these RULES shall not invalidate any action or decision taken or made, by such person, nor shall any penalty imposed in terms of the CODE and these RULES be invalidated because of any such non-compliance, provided that such failure has not materially prejudiced any other person concerned.
- 11.3 No person shall have any claim of any nature whatsoever and howsoever arising (including, without limitation, legal or other costs) against the BOARD, any members of arising, from any act or omission in connection with the administration, operation, or regulation of cricket, whether in terms of the CODE, these RULES or not, including but not limited to a Hearing.
- 11.4 All acts done in good faith by –
- 11.4.1 The Lions Cricket PANEL or the APPEAL BOARD shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the composition, election, or appointment of such body, be as valid as if such body had been duly constituted, elected, or appointed.
- 11.4.2 Any members of the Lions Cricket, the CONVENER or the PANEL shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the election or appointment of such individual, be as valid as if every such individual had been duly elected or appointed.
- 11.6 Any person shall be deemed to have been given proper notice if a communication in writing dispatched to the address recorded with the CLUB, and he/she shall be deemed to have received such notice within 7 (seven) days of dispatch. Emails, and text messages shall be deemed to be a proper means of communication if accompanied by proof of submission (being the latest updated contact details provided). It shall be deemed to have been received by the addressee within 24 (twenty-four) hours of sending.
- 11.7 The English version of the CODE and the RULES is the official version. All hearings and appeals shall be conducted in English, provided that any party or witness in any such hearings or proceedings shall be entitled to the services of a translator approved by the body concerned.

- 11.8 If any provision in a definition in clause 3 constitutes a substantive provision conferring rights or imposing obligations on any person or body, notwithstanding that the provision is only contained in clause 3, effect shall be given to it as if it were a substantive provision contained in the body of the CODE.
- 11.9 Should a PLAYER who represents any CSA affiliate at any level be found guilty of an offence, the PANEL can rule that the player will not be eligible for selection until his sentence has been served.
- 11.10 Where in this CODE any power, duty, function, or discretion is given or is to be carried out or exercised by the Chief Executive Officer of Lions Cricket, such power, duty, function, or discretion may be carried out or exercised by another person nominated by the CEO.
- 11.11 It is acknowledged where a Card system exists relevant to UMPIRES determining a breach of the code in a regulated match. As such, the UMPIRES in their discretion, will determine the severity of the breach, and issue such cards as required. If a green card is issued, there will be no further sanctioning required by the UMPIRES, whilst if Yellow and/or red cards are issued, further sanctioning may be necessary once the matter is reported in terms of the reporting of such breaches.