



Merisham Sports Club

Flood Street, Merisham, Ashford, Kent, TN25
6NX



Playing Cricket for Merisham Sports Club

We expect all our players to try their hardest for the good of the team, below is a guide to how expect players to play the game when representing Merisham Sports Cricket Club.

Batting & Bowling

Not everyone will get to bat and bowl in every game, this is the nature of cricket.

Captains and coaches will endeavour to ensure all team members have an active role during the match but players must appreciate this is not always possible and is not always in the best interest of the team, when you get a chance, make the most of it and prove what you can do to the best of your ability.

When Batting:

- Adapt to the conditions and game situation
- Bat for the good of team- not personal stats- if you get 50 and the team lose, you lose!
- Value your wicket- you cannot score runs in the pavilion.
- Think about your game and your strengths, think about the bowler and look at the field, where/how can you score runs?
- Put pressure on fielders and bowlers by looking for runs and backing up.
- Call loud, run hard, trust your partners call.
- Help and support your batting partner.

When Bowling:

- Have a plan to take wickets and save runs to put pressure on the batters.
- Help the captain to set your field and bowl to it.
- Think about your bowling- hit your line & length consistently, bowl to your plan.
- Use variations appropriately.
- Support and praise your fielder's efforts.

Fielding

Not everyone will get to bat/bowl, however, love it or hate it; **everyone must field**, for at least half of the game! This is where you (particularly young players) can really prove your worth to the team and your captain **and earn your right to bat/bowl**.

We expect all players to give 100% at all times in the field, **put your bodies on the line, do whatever you can to stop the ball, save runs, take catches, support and encourage team mates**.

Everyone will drop catches, miss field, and make mistakes, this is part of the game- a lack of effort is a choice.

When Fielding:

- Always listen to and support your captain.
- Contribute to the atmosphere and energy in the field by encouraging your teammates.
- Support other fielders.
- Every Ball:
 - Be in position, where the captain put you, make a mark if you need to.
 - EXPECT EVERY BALL TO COME TO YOU.
 - Walk in hard and be 'ready' as the ball is hit.
 - Watch the batter and anticipate where the ball is going.
 - Throw the ball back to the keeper after every ball (with intensity).
 - Back up- think about where the ball might go and how you can help your team.
- Look after the cricket ball- you might have to bowl with it!
- Jog into position for the next over- get through the overs quickly.
- Concentrate- time will go quicker, and you will enjoy it more.

DO NOT part take in 'sledging' at any time.

