



CCC Youth Captain's: Standards & Code of Conduct

Developing Good Human Beings is the first process of developing good Cricketers, and Building a Great Club

Developing Leaders, Building Excellence

At Clontarf CC, being appointed Captain is more than a reward for technical skill; it is a responsibility to lead our culture. A Clontarf Captain balances a relentless drive for performance with the emotional intelligence to keep their team united.

By accepting this role, you commit to upholding the Youth Player Standards at the highest level while adhering to these specific leadership pillars:

1. The "Multiplier" Effect (Building Team Confidence)

Your primary job is to make the ten players around you better, not to make them feel smaller.

- **Constructive Communication:** Use "we" and "us" instead of "I" and "you." Give tactical feedback that helps a teammate solve a problem rather than merely criticizing a mistake.
- **Body Language Matters:** Your demeanor—both interior and exterior—sets the tone. Avoid eye-rolling, heavy sighing, kicking the ground or any negative gestures when a teammate makes an error. A Captain stays composed so the team stays confident.
- **Empowering Decisions:** Encourage teammates to voice ideas (e.g., field settings). Even if you choose a different path, making them feel heard builds their "Cricket IQ" and ensures they don't doubt their own knowledge.

2. Driving the Standard of Excellence

Participation and fun are only valuable when paired with an urge to compete and develop.

- **Work Ethic:** Be the hardest worker at training. Lead the warm-ups and be the first to assist with equipment.
- **Zero "Superstarism":** Never remind teammates you are "better" than them. Use your talent to lift the "Late Bloomers." Remember: you cannot take a wicket without a fielder or score a winning run without a partner.
- **Competitive Integrity:** In Cup games, lead with tactical sharpness and a "will to compete," but never at the expense of the Spirit of Cricket or the dignity of your teammates.

3. Building Future Leaders (Succession)

A great leader looks for leadership qualities in others to help the team and the club grow.

Appointments: Capitancy is not a status that comes from entitlement, it's a position of pride that you have to earn and maintain. To support this, we aim to follow a structured transition for leadership provided Lead Manager have the appropriate pool of players and options available to do so:

- **U9–U11 (Introduction):** Ideally, every player in the squad should be provided with an opportunity to lead to gauge potential.
- **U13 (Development):** Leadership should be shared among a small pool of players (typically 2–4 Co-Captains).
- **U15 Onwards (Formal Leadership):** Captancy becomes a formal appointment earned through merit and consistency, and positive attitude both on and off the field consisting of a Captain and two Vice-Captains.

We trust Lead Manager's judgment in applying these milestones based on the specific dynamics and readiness of your current squad.



Shadowing & Mentorship: Vice-Captains will "shadow" the Captain in duties—such as the toss, managing equipment, or coordinating fielders—to prepare them for future senior leadership.

Shared Responsibility: Encourage younger or less experienced players to take ownership of small tasks—like leading a specific drill or organising a huddle—to prepare them for future senior leadership.

Accountability: Take responsibility for the team's energy. A great Captain takes the blame when things go wrong and shares the credit when things go right.

4. Accountability & Leadership Review

Leadership is a continuous development process, and the club's culture must always come first. It's not an indefinite status.

- **Continuous Feedback:** The Lead Manager will provide regular feedback on your impact on team morale.
- **The Three-Step Review Process:** If a Captain's conduct—through "bad attitude" or dismissive demeanor—is found to be damaging the confidence of the squad:
 1. **Guidance:** A formal coaching conversation to set clear expectations for change.
 2. **Formal Warning:** A written or verbal warning noting that the Captaincy is at risk.
 3. **Rotation & Remove:** If the negative environment persists, the Club reserves the right to rotate or remove the Captaincy. This is to protect the long-term development of all players and the club's future senior teams.

**Executive, Cricket and Youth Committee
Clontarf Cricket Club**