



## **SHERWOOD CRICKET CLUB**

TO: All Team Captains, Vice Captains, Coaches and Youth Player Parents/Carers

### **Missing Youth Guidelines**

If a Youth for whom Sherwood Cricket club has responsibility goes missing, the following guidelines have been devised to clarify actions that should be taken.

- Ensure the other Youths in your care are looked after appropriately while you organise a search for the youth concerned.
- Inform the Youth's parents if they are present at the event, or nominate an appropriate person to telephone them and advise them of the concern. Reassure them you are doing all you can to locate their child. Remember that the person concerned may contact the parents directly so this is very important.
- Organise all available responsible adults by areas to be searched. It is best to take a short time to organise the search properly so that all places are searched fully.
- Search the area in which the Youth has gone missing including changing rooms, toilets, public and private areas and the club grounds.
- Request all those searching report back to a nominated adult at a specific point.
- This nominated person should remain at this specific reference point and must be making a note of the events, including detailing a physical description of the Youth including approx. height, build, hair and eye colour as well as clothing the Youth was wearing and where / when they were last seen, as this will be required by the police. If the search is unsuccessful you should then report the concern to the police.
- A report should go to the police no later than 20 minutes after the Youth's disappearance is noted, even if the search is not complete.
- If the police recommend further action before they get involved, follow their guidance.
- If the police act upon the concern always be guided by them in any further actions to take.



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- At any stage when the missing person is located, ensure you inform all adults involved including the parents, searchers and police if they are by then involved.
- All missing child incidents **MUST BE** notified at the very earliest opportunity to the Club Welfare Officer, who must immediately notify the County Welfare Officer, and they must then notify the ECB Child Protection Team.

A Youth going missing could be an extremely traumatic event – for adults and for other team members. However, if everyone is aware of some simple pre-defined guidelines, panic levels can be minimised, and even more critically, the missing person can hopefully be found in an organised and efficient way. Hopefully no Youth member will ever go missing from your team/event. If they do, please remember most missing persons are found within a few minutes of their disappearance.