



South Australian Cricket 'Spirit of Cricket' Round

- Sat/Sun 16/17 and 23/24 February for two day rounds
- Sat/Sun 23/24 February for one day rounds

1. Pre-match:

- a. Coin Toss – SACA encourages both team captains to wear full playing attire (whites) as a display of respect for the traditions of cricket – coin toss to take place in front of umpire/s where appointed
- b. Teams are asked to line up adjacent to the pitch 5 minutes prior to commencement of match

Umpire/s (where appointed) and team captains to position themselves together in front of the two teams.

Umpire (where appointed) or Home team captain (in the absence of an appointed umpire) to read the following prior to the coin toss:

As you may be aware, SACA has encouraged all cricket teams in South Australia to celebrate a 'Spirit of Cricket' round this weekend. This initiative is one of several being piloted this season following a commitment from community cricket association and club volunteers in December.

The pledge made by these key volunteers is *"We commit to creating an enduring legacy for South Australian Cricket, by ensuring it is played with honour, dignity and respect, in a fun and safe environment for all".*

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws but also within the Spirit of the Game. In fact, the Spirit of Cricket preamble is included in the Laws of Cricket and includes: -

- i. The major responsibility for ensuring fair play rests with the captains, but extends to players, umpires and, especially in junior cricket, teachers, coaches and parents
- ii. Respect is central to the Spirit of Cricket – you need to respect your captain, team-mates, opponents, and the authority of the umpire/s
- iii. Play hard and play fair
- iv. Always accept the umpire's decision
- v. Create a positive atmosphere by your own conduct and encourage others to do likewise, even when things go against you
- vi. Thank the officials and opposition at the end of the match, whatever the result

Today as your umpire/s (where appointed) and home and visiting team captains, we are accepting of our responsibilities and committing to being leaders and ambassadors for fair play in cricket.

Thank you and have a great game.



SACA

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2. During the Match (some of these suggestions may already be in place):

- a. Home teams are encouraged to provide afternoon tea during the tea/innings break, with the opposition invited to join them
- b. SACA encourages other initiatives be considered including:
 - i. Players from both teams acknowledging 50's, 100's, 5 wickets in an innings and other pieces of outstanding play
 - ii. The fielding team acknowledges the arrival of the batting team captain by clapping when they reach the batting crease.
 - iii. Perhaps take the opportunity to make this a heritage round and invite past players to attend the game. As the Spirit of Cricket Round will become an annual event, in future seasons teams may consider wearing vintage caps/uniform etc.
 - iv. Observe the traditional order of entering the field of play:
 1. Umpires first
 2. Followed by the fielding team led by captain
 3. Followed by the two batters
 - v. Observe the traditional order of leaving the field of play:
 1. Batters
 2. Fielding team led by captain or player that has enjoyed an outstanding performance
 3. Umpires

3. Post-Match:

- a. Fielding team to thank and shake hands with umpires in the centre of the ground upon completion of the match
- b. Following this, the fielding team captain to lead players in a line towards the batting team – umpire/s to join in at the rear of the line of players from the fielding team
- c. Batting team captain leads players in a line to thank and shake hands with fielding team and opposition players
- d. If there was a moment during the match that a player exemplified the Spirit of Cricket, this could be recognised by umpires/captains at the end of the match.
- e. The home team is encouraged to provide post-match refreshments and invite opposition players and umpires to join them. SACA fully appreciates that players are encouraged to support their own club bar/sponsor, but for this one occasion, we encourage away teams to support the home team's post-match acknowledgement.

Please be sure to share your Spirit of Cricket moments, both on and off the field, on social media using **#spiritofcricketsa** and/or sending in your stories to spiritofcricket@saca.com.au