

## **RULE 14 FITNESS FOR PLAY AND EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

### **14.1 DETERMINING FITNESS FOR PLAY**

#### **14.1.1 *All matches not cancelled***

If the Pennant Committee has not cancelled all matches the fitness of conditions shall be determined as below.

#### **14.1.2 *Umpires sole judges***

The umpires together shall decide whether either the conditions of ground, weather or light or exceptional circumstances mean that it would be dangerous or unreasonable for play to take place.

- (a) Conditions shall not be regarded as either dangerous or unreasonable merely because they are not ideal.
- (b) Conditions shall be regarded as dangerous if there is actual and foreseeable risk to the safety of any player or umpire.
- (c) Conditions shall be regarded as unreasonable if, although posing no risk to safety, it would not be sensible for play to proceed.

#### **14.1.3 *Improvement of ground and pitch***

Before commencement of play on any day the umpires shall ensure all possible steps are taken to improve the ground or pitch to expedite play and shall not abandon play before the scheduled cessation time unless, in their opinion, the conditions make play impossible.

#### **14.1.4 *Suspension of play***

The umpires shall suspend play when they consider that conditions are dangerous or unreasonable for play to take place.

#### **14.1.5 *Inspection of ground on improvement of conditions***

After any suspension of play, the umpires, unaccompanied by any of the players or officials shall, on their own initiative, carry out an inspection immediately the conditions improve and shall continue to inspect at intervals. Immediately the umpires decide that play is possible they shall call upon the players to resume the game.

### **14.2 FITNESS OF GROUND**

The umpires shall consider the ground as unfit for play when it is so wet or slippery as to deprive the bowlers of a reasonable foothold, the fieldsmen of the power of free movement, or the batsmen of the ability to play their strokes or to run between the wickets. Play should not be suspended merely because the grass and the ball are wet and slippery.

## **RULE 15 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **15.1 THE TOSS, NOMINATION OF TEAM, PLAYER PARTICIPATION**

#### **15.1.1 *Toss for Choice of Innings***

Captains shall toss on the field of play no earlier than 45 minutes and no later than 15 minutes before the scheduled or delayed time for start of play. Immediately after the toss the winning captain must notify the other captain of his decision to bat or field.

#### **15.1.2 *Nomination of Teams: All XIs***

Before the toss for innings the captain shall nominate his players. The nominations shall be in writing and may not thereafter be changed without the consent of the opposing captain except as provided in **Error! Reference source not found.**

#### **15.1.3 *Player Participation: Women's 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and Men's 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> XI Matches***

In all Women's 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and Men's 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> XI matches a captain shall have the option to nominate twelve players. The following conditions shall apply:

- (a) One player in each side shall not bat and only eleven fieldsmen shall be on the field at any one time. With the consent of the umpires unlimited interchange of fieldsmen from the twelve nominated players shall be allowed between overs or after intervals and interruptions.
- (b) The bowling restriction under Law 2.5 shall not apply to a nominated player returning to the field to replace another nominated player. However, the restriction shall apply to a returning nominated player for whom a substitute, other than one of the nominated twelve, has been used.

### **15.2 DELAY - IN START OR CONTINUATION OF PLAY**

If for any reason for which a club is responsible, excluding those covered by **Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.**, play on any day does not start within ten minutes of the time appointed or cannot be continued during the match, the umpires, on appeal, shall award the match to the other side if play cannot proceed

immediately following the appeal. The Pennant Committee shall determine the points to be awarded.

**15.3 INSUFFICIENT PLAYERS: FORFEITURE OF MATCH**

A side which has fewer than four players in attendance at 10 minutes after the time appointed for a match to commence shall forfeit the match and the Pennant Committee shall have power to award appropriate points and/or impose on the forfeiting club a fine, the amount of which the Pennant Committee shall determine.

**15.4 UMPIRES' MATCH REPORT**

At the conclusion of each match the umpires shall together lodge an Umpires' Match Report on MyCricket within 48 hours of the conclusion of the match.

**15.5 LATE START OF MATCHES**

If play did not commence within 10 minutes of the time appointed and there is no explanation deemed satisfactory by the Pennant Committee, an offending club shall be fined a sum to be determined by the Pennant Committee.

**15.6 PLACEMENT AND MOVEMENT OF SIGHTSCREENS**

- (a) No part of any sight screen is to be within the field of play and boundary lines shall be marked so sufficient space is provided for screens to be repositioned when required.
- (b) The batting team will be responsible for positioning the sight screens at the commencement of its innings.
- (c) The fielding team will be responsible for moving the sight screen should it be requested by the batsmen at the crease when a new bowler is brought on to bowl.
- (d) The movement of the sight screen as a result of a single incidence of a bowler choosing to change his line of attack (from over the wicket to round the wicket or from round the wicket to over the wicket) will be the responsibility of the fielding team.
- (e) Movement of the sight screen for a bowler alternating between over and round the wicket will be the responsibility of the batting team.

**15.7 USE OF BALLS**

**15.7.1 Red Balls**

In all matches played under **Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.** the balls shall be red and the following conditions shall apply:

- (a) A new ball shall be used for the first innings of each side.
- (b) For a second innings a new ball shall be used but if both captains agree, a ball of previous use may be used provided that the umpires approve the suitability of such previously used ball.
- (c) A fielding side shall have the option to take a new ball after the completion of 80 overs in matches as follows:
  - Programmed Series - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XIs
  - Finals Series - All XIs.

**15.7.2 White Balls**

White balls are to be used in all matches played under **Error! Reference source not found.**, and **Error! Reference source not found.**. A new ball shall be used in each innings.

**15.7.3 Provision and Size of Balls**

Unless prior Pennant Committee approval has been obtained, CV-approved Kookaburra Regulation balls shall be used in all matches. Balls shall be 156g for Men's and 142g for Women's matches. The home club shall provide the umpires with the new balls and a range of used balls.

**15.8 UNAUTHORISED PERSON HANDLING BALL WITHIN THE FIELD OF PLAY**

If an unauthorised person enters the playing area and handles the ball, the umpire at the bowler's end shall be the sole judge of whether the boundary allowance shall be scored and whether the ball be treated as still in play or be called "dead ball" if a batsman is liable to be put out as a result of the unauthorised person handling the ball.

**15.9 UMPIRES UNAVAILABLE: FIVE RUNS PENALTY VARIATION**

- (a) If only one officially approved umpire is appointed to a match he shall have sole responsibility for the awarding of all five-runs penalties under the Laws of Cricket.
- (b) If no officially approved umpires are appointed all provisions in the Laws for the award of five penalty runs, except in Laws 41.2, 41.3 and 41.4 shall be disregarded.

**15.10 UNDERAGE PLAYERS - OVERS LIMIT FOR BOWLERS OF MEDIUM AND FAST PACE**

**15.10.1 Bowling Type Definition**

Bowlers of medium pace or faster, as determined by the umpire, are broadly defined as those for whom the wicketkeeper would normally stand back or as any bowler who is not considered to be a spinner.

**15.10.2 Age of Player**

A player's age shall be determined as that at 1st September preceding a cricket season and the appropriate bowling limitations shall apply to the player for that entire season regardless of the age group or level of competition being played.

**15.10.3 Bowling Limitations**

- (a) Bowlers shall be limited to a maximum of consecutive overs in any one spell and to a maximum daily quota as follows:

AGE GROUP	CONSECUTIVE OVERS	DAILY QUOTA
Under 19	8	20
Under 17	6	16
Under 15	5	10
Under 14	4	8

- (b) A part of an over bowled under the provisions of Law 22.8 shall be treated as one full over in the limit for any underage bowler concerned in the over.

**15.10.4 Break Between Spells: Length of Break**

- (a) The break between spells shall be a minimum of 60 minutes in a match of two or more days and 30 minutes in a match of one day, including scheduled intervals and any unscheduled breaks in play.
- (b) A bowler who has bowled a spell of less than the maximum spell permitted (for their age as defined in 15.10.3) may resume bowling prior to the completion of the necessary break but this shall be considered an extension of the same spell and the maximum spell limit for that age of player shall still apply. Following the completion of the extended spell, the normal break between spells as in 15.10.3(a) shall apply with the break within the spell to be disregarded.
- (c) If a change of innings occurs, and a bowler commences bowling in the new innings within 60 minutes of bowling in the previous innings, this shall be considered an extension of the same spell and the maximum spell limit and daily limits for that age of player shall still apply.
- (d) If any break in play or the end of a day's play results in an over not being completed then that part of the over bowled after the break shall constitute one over for the purposes of calculating the bowler's spell and daily limit. If this over is completed at the start of a new day the over shall be considered the first over of a new spell for that bowler and the first over of the new daily limit.

**15.10.5 Change of Bowling Type**

- (a) If a bowler begins with medium pace or faster and changes to slow bowling during a day's play that bowler remains subject to the playing condition throughout the day.
- (b) If a bowler begins with slow bowling and changes to medium pace or faster the playing condition applies from the time of the change, and any overs bowled prior to the change shall not be taken into account in either the current spell or the daily limit.

**15.10.6 Notification of Age**

Captains must notify the umpires on the team sheet for the match those players to whom this playing condition applies and the ages of such players.

**15.10.7 Responsibility of Captains and Umpires**

- (a) It is the responsibility of the captains and umpires to ensure this playing condition is upheld.
- (b) Where umpires become aware of breaches of this playing condition they are to direct the captain to take the bowler off forthwith and if an over is in progress another bowler is to complete the over. That bowler must not have bowled the previous over, and shall not bowl the subsequent over.
- (c) Should a dispute or uncertainty regarding the application of this playing condition occur during play the umpires shall make the final decision on its application based on information available from the scorers or other sources.

**15.10.8 Penalties**

Penalties for bowling in excess of the number of overs permitted per spell or for daily limits by underage players regardless of the competition level shall be .05 match points per over or part thereof for each over in excess of the spell or daily limits.

**15.11 UNDERAGE PLAYERS - HELMETS**

Players under the age of 19 at 1st September in the current season must wear a cricket helmet with a faceguard when batting, fielding close to the bat (defined as closer than 10 metres to the stumps except slips, gully and wicketkeeper), or when wicket keeping up to the stumps.

**15.12 COUNTING OF OVER BOWLED IN PARTS**

An over bowled in accordance with Law 22.8 and treated under 15.10.3(b) or **Error!**

**Reference source not found.** as one full over for each bowler concerned, shall be counted as a single over for all other over requirements of Rules 16 to 20.

**15.13 COLOURED CLOTHING IN LIMITED OVER GAMES**

Players shall be permitted to wear coloured clothing and/or equipment, as approved in advance by Cricket Victoria, for all one-day and Twenty20 matches in all grades.

**RULE 16 OVER RATES**

**16.1 MINIMUM OVERS REQUIREMENT**

In each innings of a match the overs bowled shall be not fewer than the number listed on the Calculation Table in **Error! Reference source not found.** (Two-Day Matches) or in **Error! Reference source not found.** (One-Day Matches) for an adjusted batting time calculated by deducting any allowances under 16.2.2 from the actual batting time. Overs bowled less than the calculated match minimum shall be recorded as "Penalty Overs".

**16.2 PENALTIES: PROGRAMMED SERIES MATCHES**

**16.2.1 *Bowling Side: Penalty Assessment***

A side that bowls fewer overs than required under 16.1, shall be penalised when its accumulated number of Penalty Overs for the programmed series exceeds 9. A penalty of 0.1 points for each Penalty Over for the series shall be deducted from its Cricket Victoria Shield match points. A side that reaches 10 Penalty Overs shall immediately have 1 point (10 x 0.1) deducted plus 0.1 point for any additional Penalty Overs accrued throughout the remainder of the series.

However, Penalty Overs shall not be accrued in matches:

- (a) under **Error! Reference source not found.** where a side is dismissed and the adjusted batting time taken did not exceed 200 minutes for 1st and 2nd XIs or 175 minutes for 3rd and 4th XIs; or
- (b) under **Error! Reference source not found.**, where a side is dismissed or an innings is completed and the adjusted batting time taken did not exceed that listed in the One Day Calculation Table for the overs which would have applied to compulsorily close the innings.

**16.2.2 *Allowances for On-field Delays***

The allowances to the bowling side shall be actual times for injuries requiring treatment or assistance to leave the field, ball-drying or replacement, other delays unrelated to adverse conditions or time wasting and tardiness in starting or resuming play and any wilful time wasting for which the batting side is to be penalised under 16.2.3.

**16.2.3 *Batting Side: Penalty Assessment***

A batting side shall be penalised at the same rate per over as in 16.2.1 for the number of overs relative to the amount of actual batting time wilfully wasted by it in each innings including undue time taken by an incoming batsman to reach his wicket.

**16.2.4 *Notification of Penalties***

Penalty Overs accrued shall be notified to clubs by the Premier Cricket Department.

**16.3 PENALTIES: FINALS SERIES MATCHES**

Clubs accruing Penalties Overs in any Finals Matches in any grade shall be fined \$50 per over.