

NORTHERN CRICKET UNION

BYE-LAWS

The following Bye-Laws shall apply, all Laws or parts of Laws inconsistent with the Bye-Laws being suspended:

- (a) The Umpires shall ring a bell 5 minutes before the time arranged for the match to start and 5 minutes before the re-start after any interval or stoppage where the players leave the field. After the bell has been rung, no player shall practise on the field of play, or off the field of play in such a way as to interfere with the game.
- (b) Law 14.1 shall not apply: no innings may be declared closed.
- (c) The tea interval shall not exceed 30 minutes and should, preferably, be taken between innings.
- (d) A continuous white line or a rope shall mark the boundary on all grounds. Runs awarded for boundaries shall be standardised as 4 runs and 6 runs respectively..
- (e) The number of completed overs shall be shown on the scoreboard and updated at the end of each over. In matches in the First Division, the number of overs bowled by each bowler shall be displayed clearly and kept up to date.
- (f) Quartered balls shall be used in all matches.
- (g) Where covers are available, the pitch may be completely covered during a match, provided the Captains agree before the toss and the Umpires are informed accordingly.
- (h) In the Challenge, Junior and Schools' Cups, and in all matches in the First Division and in Section I of the Second Division, at the instant of delivery a minimum of four fieldsmen (plus the bowler and wicket-keeper) must be within an area bounded by two semi-circles centred on each middle stump (each with a radius of 30 yards) and joined by a parallel line on each side of the pitch.

In addition, in the Challenge Cup only,

- (i) the maximum number of fielders outside that marked area in the first 15 overs shall be two.
- (ii) two inner circles shall be drawn on the field of play. The circles have as their centres the centre point of the popping creases at either end of the pitch. The radius of each of the circles is 15 yards. The field restriction area shall be marked by 'dots'. The segment of the circles reserved for the slip positions shall not be demarcated. (The final mark of the 15 yard radius shall be a line placed at an angle of 45 degrees, measured from the centre of the popping crease). In the first 15 overs of each innings there shall be a minimum of 2 stationary fieldsmen (excluding the wicket-keeper) within the 15 yard restriction at the striker's end at the instant of delivery. The two stationary fieldsmen may be permitted to stand deeper than 15 yards (in the un-demarcated area) provided only that they are standing in slip or leg slip positions.

The fielding circle shall be marked by painted white dots at 5-yard intervals and each dot covered by a white plastic or rubber (but not metal) disc measuring 7 inches in diameter.

In the event of an infringement, the striker's end Umpire shall call and signal 'No Ball'.

- (i) In addition to the provisions of Law 42.6, the following shall apply:
If the ball passes, or would have passed, above the shoulder height of the striker standing upright at the crease, the umpire shall call and signal "no-ball".
- (j) at the instant of delivery there shall not be more than five fieldsmen on the leg side. In the event of an infringement, the striker's end umpire shall call and signal "no-ball".

- (k) In the event of a bowler breaking down, or being for some other reason unable to complete an over, the remaining balls shall be bowled by another bowler. Such part of an over shall count as a full over only in so far as each bowler's limit is concerned.
- (l) Under-arm bowling is not permitted.
- (m) Umpires are instructed to apply a strict and consistent interpretation of the Law on wide bowling, in order to prevent negative bowling wide of the wicket. As a guide, **if the ball passes either side of the wicket sufficiently wide to make it virtually impossible for the striker to play a normal cricket stroke both from where he is standing and from where he should normally be standing at the crease, the Umpire should call and signal 'Wide ball'.**

Players umpiring matches involving teams from the Second and Third Divisions should apply a somewhat less strict interpretation, remembering that the purpose of the Bye-Law is to prevent deliberate negative bowling rather than to over-penalise young and inexperienced bowlers for lack of control.

- (n) In 50-over fixtures, where official umpires are standing, they shall advise the fielding captain when his side has taken more than 3 hours [not including drinks interval(s)] to complete an innings, and shall report the time taken to the Union.
- A side that is so reported for a second time in a league fixture shall be fined £25 if it has taken between 3 hours and 3 hours 15 minutes and shall have one match point deducted if it has exceeded 3 hours 15 minutes. On each subsequent occasion on which a side is reported in a league fixture, the monetary tariff shall be doubled if the side has taken between 3 hours and 3 hours 15 minutes to complete an innings, the penalty for exceeding 3 hours 15 minutes will be deduction of one match point.

A side that is so reported for a second time in a cup fixture shall be fined £25 if it has taken between 3 hours and 3 hours 15 minutes and £50 if it has exceeded 3 hours 15 minutes. On each subsequent occasion on which a side is reported in a cup fixture, the appropriate monetary tariff shall be doubled.

The Umpires may make allowance for time lost through any occurrence outside the control of the fielding side.

- (o) Matches in Division 3 and in the Lindsay (Minor) and Minor Qualifying Cups may be played on non-turf pitches provided that the visiting team is informed at least 48 hours in advance.
- (p) Players' clothing shall be white.

In the event of names and/or numbers of players being carried on the shirts, they shall correctly reflect the identity of the player. The number on the shirt shall be between 25cm (9.75 inches) and 35cm (13.65 inches) in height, clearly legible, positioned in the centre back of the shirt and entirely visible when the shirt is tucked into the trousers. The numbers shall be sewn on or fixed by heat transfer and not affixed by Velcro or any temporary means. The names must be positioned above or below the number on the back of the shirt and the letters used must be between 6cm (2.34 inches) and 7.5cm (2.93 inches) in height and clearly legible. The names and numbers may not contain any advertising elements.

Advertising logos are permitted only on shirts and sweaters and only as follows:

On shirts – a maximum of two identical commercial logos, which may appear in any two of three available positions (chest, sleeve, and collar), provided that not more than two logos are visible when sweaters are worn. The maximum aggregate area of each logo shall not exceed ten square inches.

On sweaters – only one commercial logo. On a sleeveless sweater, it may appear on the chest only. On a long-sleeved sweater, it may appear on the chest or sleeve. The maximum aggregate area of the logo shall not exceed ten square inches.

A commercial logo is either:

- (i) the logo of a sponsoring company or commercial organisation other than a manufacturer of cricket clothing or equipment; or
- (ii) the logo of a manufacturer of cricket clothing or equipment who is acting as a sponsor.

The design of the playing shirts shall be uniform to all members of the same team.

- (q) In the absence of at least one officially appointed umpire, penalty runs shall be awarded only in respect of Law 41 (illegal fielding, including the ball striking a fielder's helmet on the ground).
- (r) Every affiliated Club must advise the Union whether its team(s) is/are prepared to play fixtures on Sundays in the relevant season. This declaration shall apply to all of the Club's teams, but may distinguish between home and away matches.
- (s) In applying Law 2 Section 1(b) to matches continued on a weekday evening, umpires shall regard as acceptable a delay of up to 30 minutes in the arrival of a player who is coming to the match direct from work.
- (t) In any competition in which the Duckworth/Lewis method is to be used to determine the result of matches curtailed by adverse weather, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (i) the home team shall ensure that there is available at the ground a computer loaded with the necessary software, a compatible and operational printer with a sufficient supply of paper, and a proficient operator;
 - (ii) at the end of the first innings, and at any subsequent interruption that results in overs being lost, the operator shall produce an up-to-date par score printout, and shall provide copies to each captain, the umpires and the scorers;
 - (iii) at each interruption of play in the second innings where overs are lost, the umpires shall inform the operator of the number of overs lost at least 15 minutes before play is due to resume, in order to allow sufficient time for the production and distribution of the par score printouts; and
 - (iv) where play is interrupted and overs are lost, and the home club fails to provide the par score printouts as required above, the umpires shall award the match to the visiting team.
- (u) For the purposes of Competition Rule 27(c)(i), a team's run rate shall be calculated as follows:
 - (i) A team's net run rate is calculated by deducting from the average runs per over scored by that team throughout the competition, the average runs per over scored against that team throughout the competition.
 - (ii) In the event of a team being all out in less than its full quota of overs, the calculation of its net run rate shall be based on the full quota of overs to which it would have been entitled, and not on the number of overs in which the team was dismissed.
 - (iii) Only those matches where results are achieved will count for the purpose of net run rate calculations. Where the second innings is curtailed, but a result is achieved under Duckworth-Lewis, for net run rate purposes Team 1 will be credited with Team 2's Par Score on curtailment off the same number of overs faced by Team 2. Where a match is concluded, but with Duckworth-Lewis having been applied at an earlier point in the match, Team 1 will be credited with 1 run less than the final Target Score for Team 2 off the total number of overs allocated to Team 2 to reach the target.
- (v) In each match in Sections I and II of the First Division, and in the Challenge Cup, when the teams are nominated to the Umpires, each captain shall also designate a suitably competent and experienced person (who shall not be one of the nominated players or the twelfth man) as the team's scorer. The designated scorer shall officiate throughout the match. In the event of illness or sudden emergency, or where the match is continued on another day, the designated scorer may be changed, subject to the approval of the Umpires. If this Bye-Law is breached, the Umpires shall inform the General Secretary and the offending club(s) shall be fined £25.