

RETURN TO PLAYING PRACTICAL GUIDELINES

These practical guidelines have been developed to assist Competition Managers in providing safe guidelines to managing the game within their local area.

These guidelines provide support for the cricket community however the advice provided by your relevant Government Chief Medical Officers and Department of Health will be the ultimate authority on dealing with COVID-19 within each State and Territory.

The following scenarios below have been developed in response to our learnings so far and also too are in response to frequently asked questions from State and Territory Stakeholders. These situations that are likely to arise throughout the upcoming season. In response, the practical guidelines provide a foundation from which Competition Managers can navigate a safe return to play for all participants.

Please note these are recommendations which can be implemented in full or adapted by each Association as they see fit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SCAN ME





GENERAL ETIQUETTE

FOOD & DRINK

- Bring your own drink bottle
- Bring your own food and snacks – sealed and pre-packaged only

TRANSPORT

- Drive in where possible
- Do not carpool with other players or staff unless you live with them
- Do not use public transport unless absolutely necessary

TRAINING ETIQUETTE

- Do not use saliva
- Do not use sweat from the face or neck, as it can contain aerosols from mouth/nose.
- Avoid shaking hands, high-fives , congratulate etc.
- Maintain a physical distance > 1.5m where possible
- Bring your own drink

CRICKET EQUIPMENT

- Always follow your State and Territory Government guidance to understand whether sharing is permitted. Where guidance is not provided by your State and Territory Government, Cricket Australia recommend that it must be cleaned prior to sharing.





EQUIPMENT SHARING

CAN WE SHARE EQUIPMENT?

S&T GOVERNMENT HAS A POSITION TO SAY SHARING OF SPORTING EQUIPMENT IS OKAY.

CA RECOMMEND:

- Sanitise hands before/after handling equipment.
- Clean equipment with alcohol-based disinfectant wipes.
- Leave equipment to rest in sunlight for 30 minutes before using again.

S&T GOVERNMENT HAS A POSITION TO SAY SHARING OF SPORTING EQUIPMENT IS NOT ALLOWED OR RECOMMENDED.

CA recommend following that guidance.

S&T GOVERNMENT DOES NOT HAVE A STATE POSITION ON SHARING EQUIPMENT.

CA strongly recommend that people avoid sharing equipment where possible:

- Sanitise hands before/after handling equipment.
- Clean equipment with alcohol-based disinfectant wipes.
- Leave equipment to rest in sunlight for 30 minutes before using again.





THE CRICKET BALL

CLEANING OF THE BALL

- Every 40 minutes (or at a stoppage prior to the forty-minute mark i.e. at a drinks break), play is to be stopped so that the ball can be cleaned with an antimicrobial alcohol-based wipe.
- This process needs to be completed at the fall of every wicket and during breaks.
- The bowling team captain must complete this under the supervision of the umpire or team coach or match manager for Junior Matches.

CHECKING THE CONDITION OF THE BALL

- If the cricket ball needs to be inspected, the fielding captain needs to present the ball to the umpire who will check the condition.
- Umpire can inspect the ball personally if it requires further attention.
- Umpire should wear gloves while completing any work to the ball and sanitise their hands immediately after completing work on the ball.

PLACING OF THE BALL AT THE TAKING OF A WICKET OR END OF A SESSION

- At the fall of a wicket or end of a session / drinks break, the player who last fielded the ball is responsible for placing it next to the stumps where the next over will be bowled from.
- At conclusion of a session there are two options,
 1. Fielding captain place the ball in its original box (that the ball was in at the commencement of the match) and provide it to the umpire.
 2. Umpire take(s) possession of the ball for the purpose of placing it in its original box, however must be wearing gloves to do so.

TRANSFERRING THE BALL AT THE COMPLETION OF AN OVER TO A NEW BOWLER

- At completion of each over the fielder who fielded the ball last will be responsible for placing it next to the stumps at the end of the pitch where the next over will be bowled.





STORAGE OF EQUIPMENT DURING PLAY

BOWLER FIELDING ON THE BOUNDARY

- At no stage should the umpire be required to hold/handle players equipment during the match*.
- At the conclusion of the previous over, the new bowler must place their equipment to the nearest boundary point where they are currently fielding.
- At completion of the over that individual can then collect there equipment.

BOWLER FIELDING IN THE INFIELD

At the conclusion of the previous over, the new bowler, currently fielding in the infield, can undertake either of the following actions (whichever is the quickest option);

- Place their equipment, that would normally be provided to the umpire (hat, sunglasses, vest etc), on the ground directly behind the wicketkeeper (like a fielder's helmet). The bowler is responsible for the storage and collection of the material from this area. Should the ball strike this equipment during play, the ball shall be called dead, as normally this material would not be stored in this area;

or

- Place their equipment, that would normally be provided to the umpire (hat, sunglasses, vest etc), over the nearest boundary point to the end they are bowling from.

WICKETKEEPER/FIELDERS HELMET

- No change from the normal playing conditions and laws of cricket around the storage of equipment on the field. However, everyone is responsible for the carrying of their own equipment to and from the normal storage position.





MATCH CENTRE

STUMPS PRIOR / DURING MATCH

- Umpire(s) shall be responsible for the maintenance of the set of stumps at their end of the pitch prior/during the match.
- Each umpire will be required to set up the stumps at their end at the commencement of play. Additionally, the responsible umpire will be the only person allowed to remake the stumps during play.
- Where only one (1) umpire is appointed they shall be responsible for both sets of stumps.
- At conclusion of each session the umpire shall be responsible for wiping down the stumps and bails with an antimicrobial wipe.

SCORING MATCHES

- It is recommended that scoring is completed by e-scoring via an individual tablet, who is ideally the only user of that device and is responsible uploading data live or at conclusion of match.
- Should another user be required to score, the device must be sanitised prior to the next user operating the device.
- Should a paper scorebook be required, to minimise additional contact there should ideally be only one-person utilising the book throughout the duration of the match.
- If another individual is required to score please sanitise pens if you do not have your own.
- Umpires are not required to physically handle the book however will verify details visually.
- Scorers should adhere to physical distancing requirements (1.5m apart) at all times when undertaking their duties. Please set up accordingly.



TEAM SHEETS AND COIN TOSS

- At the coin toss, each umpire and both captains must maintain physical distancing requirements (1.5m) with the umpire to supply their own coin and be responsible for the toss of the coin.
- Please upload team sheets into MyCricket system to allow for sighting by Umpires and opposing captains to sight a digital copy.

MATCHES IMPACTED BY COVID-19

- Given the current climate facing the Australian community there may be instances where matches are impacted by either a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19.
- Each State and Territory Chief Medical Officer will be able to provide specifics relating to testing and quarantine protocols in your relative State or Territory. However, given this situation is external to cricket, and often no fault can be attributed to participants who are suspected of having or have a confirmed case of COVID-19, it would be recommended that any match impacted by COVID-19 would be determined as a draw.

PLAYER & STAFF COVID-19 ETIQUETTE FOR TRAINING & MATCHES

Regularly use alcohol-based hand sanitiser, especially after touching any equipment

- Hand sanitiser should be available at the cricket facility but players and volunteers are encouraged to carry their own hand sanitiser with them

Minimise physical contact

- Avoid shaking hands, high-fives, congratulate etc.
- Maintain physical distance where possible (minimum 1.5m space)