



WACC

**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
COUNTRY CRICKET**

**GENERAL RULES
FOR SENIOR MEN'S COUNTRY WEEK**

15th December 2023

GENERAL RULES FOR SENIOR MEN’S COUNTRY WEEK

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1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

1.1 Definitions

1.1.1 In these Rules:

- (a) **“Bona-Fide Country Resident”** means a person whose home address is in the country.
- (b) **“Bona-Fide Playing Member”** means a player who has played at least one (1) game for their Country Cricket Club in the current season.
- (c) **“CCB”** means Country Cricket Board.
- (d) **“Code of Conduct”** or **“CCB Code of Conduct”** means the CCB Code of Conduct set out in clause 4.2.3.
- (e) **“Competition”** or **“Competitions”** means any Competition.
- (f) **“Competition Referee”** means the person appointed by the CCB to secure uniform interpretation of these rules and playing conditions and to adjudicate, if necessary, should there be any dispute.
- (g) **“Country Cricket Coordinator”** means the person appointed by the CCB with responsibilities that include competition management tasks designated by the CCB under these Rules.
- (h) **“Cricket Clothing”** means shirts, T-shirts, skins, trousers, sweaters, caps, hats, helmets, wristbands, headbands, sunglasses or other headgear.
- (i) **“Country Pathway Competitions”** refer to Country XI Colts Team, Country XI or Regional Underage Talent Carnivals
- (j) **“Grand Final”** means the final game of the competition
- (k) **“PlayHQ”** means the Australian cricket competition management system and player database maintained by Cricket Australia for use by cricket Associations and cricket administrators.
- (l) **“Preliminary Round”** means any round of matches in a Competition before Finals.
- (m) **“Protest”** means a protest lodged under clause 4.5 of these General Rules.
- (n) **“Registered Player”** means a player registered with an Association in the PlayHQ database in accordance with clause 6.2.
- (o) **“Season”** means the cricket playing period from 1 September to 31 March (or such later date for which fixtures are arranged) in any calendar year in which Competition matches are played.
- (p) **“WAC”** means the Western Australian Cricket.

2. CCB ADMINISTRATION, RULES, AND ASSOCIATIONS

2.1 Status of General Rules

- 2.1.1 These General Rules are created under the CCB Constitution and are to be read together with the Playing Conditions referred to in clause 5.5.
- 2.1.2 These General Rules may be altered and repealed from time to time, in accordance with the CCB Constitution.

2.2 Competitions

- 2.2.1 The CCB will organise matches between affiliated Associations in Senior Men's Country Week Competitions classified as:
 - (a) One Day Matches.
 - (b) T20 Matches.

2.3 Team Nomination and Grading

- 2.3.1 Subject to its Constitution, the CCB may admit any country CCB affiliated Association to play in the Competitions.
- 2.3.2 When an Association is admitted it shall remain in the Competitions from season to season and it shall be deemed to have agreed to submit to the jurisdiction of the CCB in relation to the General Rules, Playing Conditions and Code of Conduct.
- 2.3.3 Nominated teams shall be graded into sections by the Country Cricket Coordinator based on previous Competition results.
- 2.3.4 The grading of teams shall be reviewed each year.

2.4 Duties of Affiliated Associations

- 2.4.1 All Associations will comply with the CCB Constitution, any Rules prepared in accordance with the CCB Constitution, the Insurance Policy adopted by Cricket Australia and other Policies determined from time to time by CCB. Those Policies may be included in these Rules or published separately.
- 2.4.2 Each Association playing in a CCB Competition for a Season must enter and keep up to date in the PlayHQ database:
 - (a) the names and details of all registered players for all Competitions; and
 - (b) the names and contact details of all registered Association officials.
- 2.4.3 Associations will ensure that they and their players comply with the registration, eligibility, and qualification requirements in clause 6.
- 2.4.4 It is the responsibility of each Association to ensure that all registered players are aware of the regulations and policies governing Competition matches, including the Playing Conditions (as modified by clause 5 of these Rules), the Laws of Cricket inclusive of the Spirit of Cricket and the Code of Conduct.
- 2.4.5 Associations will provide the Country Cricket Coordinator with a contact person and phone number for each nominated Team who must be contactable between 8:00am and 9:00pm.

3. CCB GOVERNANCE

3.1 Country Cricket Coordinator

- 3.1.1 The Country Cricket Coordinator will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Competitions in accordance with these General Rules.
- 3.1.2 Should the WAC provide one or more staff under agreement with CCB to assist with:
- (a) the administrative functions specified in these Rules; and
 - (b) management of the Competitions
- then, the person or persons authorised may each exercise any functions of the CCB delegated to them by power given under these Rules.
- 3.1.3 The CCB has complete authority to determine any question arising about the proper interpretation of these Rules but may refer a matter to the Tribunal.

3.2 Competition Referee

- 3.2.1 The Competition Referee is a person appointed by the CCB to secure uniform interpretation of these Rules and Playing Conditions and to adjudicate, if necessary, should there be any dispute.
- 3.2.2 The Competition Referee may raise a complaint against a team, player or official if they believe an act of omission or offence has occurred under these rules.
- 3.2.3 The Competition Referee may refer any matter of sufficient seriousness directly to the tribunal for determination.

4. SPIRIT OF CRICKET AND CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 Spirit of Cricket Awards

- 4.1.1 The CCB will reward those Teams that are judged to have best upheld the Spirit of the Game, as contained in the Spirit of Cricket. In essence, this is respect for a team's opponents, a team's own captain, the roles of the umpires and the game's traditional values.
- 4.1.2 The Spirit of Cricket votes will be determined by the officiating umpires who will assess the following criteria:
- (a) Captains' role: did the captain observe their responsibility under The Preamble to ensure that play was conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within The Laws?
 - (b) Respect: did the players demonstrate respect under The Preamble, for their opponents, their own captain and team, the role of the umpires and the game's traditional values?
 - (c) Acceptance of umpires' decisions: did the players accept the umpires' decisions throughout the match? Was there any undue pressure placed on the umpires?

- 4.1.3 The officiating umpires will record points to be awarded to or deducted from each team at the end of the match, as follows:
- 4 points** Behaviour was very good at all times with some exceptional examples displayed. Prepared to respect and observe the true spirit of the game, even ahead of the fortunes of the team.
 - 3 points** Good respect shown to all game participants; played in good spirit for the entire game.
 - 2 points** Played hard but fair for the entirety of the game.
 - 1 point** Behaviour below standard with limited respect displayed towards opponents and/or umpires.
 - No points** Generally negative atmosphere created.
 - 1 point** Awarded by CCB if player or a team is found guilty of a Code of Conduct offence.

4.2 Player Code of Conduct and Offences

- 4.2.1 The Country Cricket Board (CCB) will adopt from time to time and modify as appropriate to its Competitions the Code of Conduct published by Cricket Australia and the International Cricket Council (ICC), which contains details of undesirable conduct. The CCB Code of Conduct is set out in clause 4.2.3.
- 4.2.2 All players, umpires and officials competing in CCB Competitions, or in matches organised by the CCB are bound by and required to comply with the CCB Code of Conduct published in these Rules.
- 4.2.3 The following offences are adopted from the Cricket Australia Code of Conduct and for illustrations of the application of each, reference should be made to the guidelines that accompany the Cricket Australia Code of Conduct (reproduced in the boxed section below each Offence below). The provisions of the Rule itself take precedence over any guidelines.

LEVEL 1 OFFENCES

- 1.1 Abuse cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings.

Includes actions outside the course of normal cricket actions such as hitting or kicking the wickets and actions which intentionally or negligently result in damage to the advertising boards, boundary markers or any part of or the contents or any building or structure at the ground.

- 1.2 Show dissent at an umpire’s decision.

Includes excessive, obvious disappointment with an umpire’s decision or with an umpire making the decision and obvious delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket.

This Rule does not prohibit the bowler involved in the decision or a team captain from asking an umpire to provide an explanation for a decision, or the captain from commenting on the umpires’ performance in their Captain’s report.

- 1.3 Use language that is obscene, offensive or insulting and/or the making of an obscene gesture.

This includes swearing and offensive gestures which are not directed at another person such as swearing in frustration at one’s own poor play or fortune.

The extent to which such behaviour is likely to give offence shall be taken into account when assessing the seriousness of the breach.

- 1.4 Engaging in excessive or unnecessary appealing.

Excessive shall mean repeated appealing when the bowler/fielder knows the batter is not out, with the intention of placing the umpire under pressure. It is not intended to prevent loud or enthusiastic appealing. However, the practice of celebrating or assuming a dismissal before the decision has been given may also come within this Rule.

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1.5 Point or gesture towards the pavilion in an aggressive manner upon the dismissal of a batter.

Includes charging or running up to the batter and "getting in his [or her] face".

1.6 Failure by a team to ensure that the condition of a ball is not changed in breach of Law 42.3.

LEVEL 2 OFFENCES

2.1 Show serious dissent at an umpire's decision.

Dissent should be classified as serious where the dissent is expressed by a specific action such as the shaking of the head, snatching cap from the umpire, pointing at pad or bat, other displays of anger or abusive language directed at the umpire or excessive delay in resuming play or leaving the crease.

This Rule does not prohibit the bowler involved in the decision or a team captain from asking an umpire to provide an explanation for a decision, or the captain from commenting on the umpire's performance in their Captain's report.

2.2 Engage in inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with other players or officials.

Without limitation, players will breach this Rule if they deliberately walk or run into or shoulder another player, official or match official.

2.3 Charge or advance towards the umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.

2.4 Deliberately and maliciously distract or obstruct another player or official on the field of play.

This is not intended to replace Law 42(4) and (5) of the Laws of Cricket.

Without limitation, players will breach this Rule if they deliberately attempt to distract a striker by words or gestures or deliberately shepherd a batter while running or attempting to run between wickets.

2.5 Throw the ball at or near a player or official in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner.

This Rule will not prohibit a fielder or bowler from returning the ball to the stumps in the normal fashion.

2.6 Use language that is obscene, offensive or of a generally insulting nature to another player, official or spectator.

This is language or gestures which are directed at another person. See comments under Rule 1.3 above in relation to the seriousness of the breach.

2.7 Change the condition of the ball in breach of law 42.3.

Prohibited behaviour includes picking the seam or deliberately throwing the ball into the ground for the purpose of roughening it up and the application of moisture to the ball other than perspiration and saliva.

2.8 Without limiting Rule 8, attempt to manipulate a Match in regard to the result, net run rate, bonus points or otherwise. The captain of any team guilty of such conduct shall be held responsible.

Prohibited conduct under this Rule will include incidents where a team bats in such a way as to either adversely affect its own, or improve its opponent's performance points or net run rate.

LEVEL 3 OFFENCES

3.1 Intimidate or attempt to intimidate an umpire or referee whether by language or conduct.

Includes appealing in an aggressive or threatening manner.

3.2 Threaten to assault another player, Team official or spectator.

3.3 Use language or gestures that offend, insult, humiliate, threaten, disparage or vilify another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, descent, sexuality or national or ethnic origin.

LEVEL 4 OFFENCES

- 4.1 Threaten to assault an umpire or referee.
- 4.2 Physically assault another player, umpire, referee, official or spectator.
- 4.3 Engage in any act of violence on the field of play.
- 4.4 Use language or gestures that seriously offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages, or vilifies another person on the basis of that person’s race, religion, colour, descent, sexuality or national or ethnic origin.

LAWS OF CRICKET AND ‘SPIRIT OF THE GAME’

- 5. Players must obey the ‘Laws of Cricket’ and play within the spirit of the game.

This is meant as a general Rule to deal with situations where the facts of, or gravity or seriousness of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by the Level 1 to 4 offences set out above.

Conduct which will be prohibited under the Rule includes time wasting and any other conduct which is considered "unfair play" under Law 41 of the Laws of Cricket.

This Rule is not intended to punish unintentional breaches of the Laws of Cricket.

Reference may be made to any statement or explanation of the Spirit of Cricket published in conjunction with the Laws of Cricket.

Nothing in this Rule or the Code alters the onus on the captain to ensure that the Spirit of the Game is adhered to as stated and defined in the preamble to the Laws of Cricket.

UNBECOMING BEHAVIOUR

- 6. Without limiting any other rule, players and officials must not at any time in a cricket related situation engage in behaviour unbecoming to a player or official that could bring them or the game of cricket into disrepute or be harmful to the interests of cricket.

This is also meant as a general Rule to deal with situations where the facts or, or the gravity or seriousness of the alleged incident are not adequately or clearly covered by the Level 1 to 4 offences set out above.

It is intended to include serious or repeated criminal conduct, public acts of misconduct, unruly public behaviour and cheating during play.

4.3 Recommended Penalties for Code of Conduct Breaches

- 4.3.1 In respect to the Code of Conduct, the following are the recommended penalties for Level 1 to 4 offences:
 - (a) Level 1 - Official reprimand and/or a fine of up to \$250 and/or a ban of up to 1 match.
 - (b) Level 2 - A ban of 1 or 2 matches.
 - (c) Level 3 - A ban of 2 to 4 matches.
 - (d) Level 4 - A ban of 5 or more matches, or a life ban.
- 4.3.2 In respect to the Code of Conduct, the following are the recommended penalties for Level 5 and 6 offences (which may be imposed individually or in combination):
 - (a) a ban from participating in any match.
 - (b) a fine for a person of any amount up to \$1,000; and
 - (c) a reprimand.

4.4 Code of Conduct Offences and Reporting

- 4.4.1 Under these Rules, a contravention of the Code of Conduct is an offence.
- 4.4.2 Umpires must warn a team, player or official for a contravention of the Code of Conduct and report the matter to the other umpire and the player’s team captain.

- 4.4.3 Umpires must notify a team, player or official of any intention to lodge a Code of Conduct complaint, and the nature of the offence committed, within 30 minutes after stumps have been drawn on the day on which the offence is alleged to have been committed.
- 4.4.4 Umpires must lodge Code of Conduct complaints with the CCB within 1 hour (preferably as soon as possible) following completion of a match in which the alleged offence occurred. The Competition Referee may allow an extension to the deadline if he deems appropriate.
- 4.4.5 Any player reported by an Umpire must have the complaint referred to the Competition Referee who shall:
- (a) Consider the complaint and the level of offence, if any, for which the team, player or official is alleged to have committed; and
 - (b) Offer the team, player or official a penalty, open for acceptance for a definite period, in lieu of referring the matter to the Tribunal; or
 - (c) Refer the matter to the Tribunal in accordance with clause 4.10.
- 4.4.6 The Competition Referee may lodge a Code of Conduct complaint or refer a matter directly to the tribunal in accordance with clause 3.2.
- 4.4.7 A Code of Conduct complaint shall be referred to the Tribunal in accordance with clause 4.10 unless the player, team or official accepts a lesser penalty from the Competition Referee within the time specified in any offer made pursuant to clause 4.4.5(b).

4.5 Protests and Calculated Unfair Conduct

- 4.5.1 The Competition Referee shall have the power to enquire into and decide all disputes and questions arising out of, or in connection with, Competition matches but it may refer any matter to the CCB or Tribunal.

4.6 Tribunal Jurisdiction

- 4.6.1 The Tribunal will hear any matter referred to it by the CCB in relation to:
- (a) Appeals of decisions made by the CCB.
 - (b) Appeals from penalties imposed by the CCB for infringements.
 - (c) Offences for breach of the Code of Conduct.
 - (d) any eligibility complaints.
 - (e) any clearance or permit disputes; or
 - (f) any matters deemed appropriate by the CCB.
- 4.6.2 If, for exceptional circumstances, a matter cannot be referred to the Tribunal, the CCB Chairman, or his representative, shall have the power to decide the matter.
- 4.6.3 The tribunal will only hear matters referred to it under rule 4.6.1 within 14 days of notification of a decision.

4.7 Tribunal Membership

- 4.7.1 The Tribunal will be comprised of three members; one of whom shall be a member of the WAC Cricket Operations Unit (who shall be Chairman) and at least one of whom will be a member of the CCB, unless the Tribunal is hearing an appeal under clause 4.6.1(a) or (b).
- 4.7.2 The CCB shall select the persons to constitute the Tribunal for each sitting.

4.7.3 A person shall not sit on the Tribunal if that person or that person’s Association is involved in the complaint or matter before the Tribunal or is related to any of the parties.

4.7.4 The Country Cricket Coordinator will be responsible to convene the tribunal.

4.8 Powers of Tribunal

4.8.1 In the course of hearing or dealing with any complaint or matter referred to it the Tribunal may:

- (a) require the attendance of any person before it.
- (b) administer an oath and hear evidence.
- (c) re-open or rehear any complaint or matter previously dealt with by it.
- (d) if any person fails to answer any questions or acts in an unseemly or obstructive manner, impose a fine not exceeding \$500 and may suspend that person from participating in a game of cricket administered by CCB.
- (e) impose a fine not exceeding \$500 on any person or team who has, in the opinion of the Tribunal, made a complaint which is trivial, frivolous or vexatious.
- (f) suspend any person from playing in a game of cricket, acting as a coach of a team or acting as a team official for any period and/or impose a fine not exceeding \$1,000 on any person or Team who has in the opinion of the Tribunal contravened these Rules, contravened the Constitution of CCB, contravened any Laws of Cricket, brought the game of cricket into disrepute or failed to comply with any order or direction of the Tribunal;
- (g) order the forfeiture of a game of cricket.

4.8.2 In imposing a suspension or disqualification, the Tribunal may impose that penalty by reference to:

- (a) a number of cricket games in a particular Competition; or
- (b) a time-period suspension or disqualification.

4.9 Tribunal pre-hearing procedures

4.9.1 The CCB shall give notice of a Tribunal hearing if:

- (a) the Competition Referee decides to refer a Code of Conduct complaint to the Tribunal directly; or
- (b) a player does not accept the penalty offered by the Competition Referee; or
- (c) another complaint or Protest is made under these Rules in respect to a matter for which the Tribunal has jurisdiction.

4.9.2 Prior to giving notice of a Tribunal hearing, the CCB shall:

- (a) arrange a date and time for the Tribunal to hear the matter in accordance with these Rules, if possible, no later than the next fixture; and
- (b) cause copies of the complaint or Protest and the notice to be provided to the Tribunal members, the parties and to the originator of the Complaint (e.g., umpires or teams).

4.9.3 Notices shall be given to:

- (a) a player by forwarding to the player and his or her Association; and
- (b) a team by forwarding to the team manager.

- 4.9.4 The notice advising of the Tribunal hearing shall include:
- (a) A copy of any notice, complaint, or Protest.
 - (b) A copy of any offer made by the Competition Referee.
 - (c) Details of the date, time, and place of the Tribunal hearing.
- 4.9.5 Tribunal Members will be given a copy of the notice, a briefing paper by the CCB and, if requested, a copy of these Rules.

4.10 Tribunal Hearing Procedure

- 4.10.1 In respect to a complaint with regard to a Code of Conduct offence, a CCB representative will present the case on behalf of the CCB as Complainant. The CCB may be represented by the Competition Referee or his representative.
- 4.10.2 In the case of a Protest, the protesting team will present the case as Complainant and the opposing team will be the Respondent.
- 4.10.3 In the case of a Code of Conduct Complaint or a Protest:
- (a) a player Respondent may appear at the hearing or be represented by a person other than a legal practitioner or law clerk.
 - (b) a team that is a Complainant or a Respondent may be represented by a member of its committee other than a legal practitioner or law clerk.
- 4.10.4 The Complainant and the Respondent may call witnesses to support the case. For the avoidance of doubt, the person representing a player or team may not give evidence at the hearing as a witness.
- 4.10.5 The Tribunal procedure is as follows:
- (a) the Complaint will be represented by the Competition Referee, or a person delegated authority by the CCB, and witnesses in support may be called and then cross-examined by the other party.
 - (b) if the Tribunal is of the opinion that the respondent has a case to answer, then the respondent’s case may be presented, witnesses in support may be called and then cross-examined by the other party.
 - (c) at the conclusion of the hearing, the Complainant’s representative may address the Tribunal, and then the Respondent or its representative may address the Tribunal in Reply.
- 4.10.6 For a Protest, the Tribunal may dismiss the protest or uphold the Protest.
- 4.10.7 For a Code of Conduct complaint, the Tribunal must consider whether the Complainant has proved an offence under these Rules.
- 4.10.8 For a proven Code of Conduct offence, the Tribunal:
- (a) may impose such penalty or make such order as it thinks fit; and
 - (b) in making its order, must have regard to any recommended penalty or order in clause 4.3 of these Rules, as applicable.
- 4.10.9 When imposing a fine or penalty, the Tribunal may take into account any circumstance it considers relevant, including:
- (a) the seriousness of the breach.
 - (b) the harm caused by the breach.
 - (c) the person’s seniority and standing in the game.
 - (d) the remorse shown by the person and the prospect of further breaches.
 - (e) the person’s prior record; and
 - (f) the impact of the penalty on the person.

4.11 Tribunal Decisions

- 4.11.1 All decisions of the Tribunal must be reported to the CCB and the CCB Chairman give effect to the decision. Each decision shall be recorded in the minutes of the CCB.
- 4.11.2 The CCB must notify all persons and Clubs concerned of the Tribunal's findings and publish the nature of the complaint and the decision, unless the Tribunal considers this is undesirable.

4.12 Infringements and Penalty Schedule

- 4.12.1 Under these Rules, contravention of the following clauses are infringements, and the penalties are specified in the clause to which the infringement relates:
- (a) Playing an unqualified Player (clause 6.1) – *match points and/or max \$200.*
 - (b) Playing an unregistered Player (clause 6.3) – *match points and/or max \$100.*
 - (c) Playing an ineligible or unqualified Player in Finals (clause 6.2) – *forfeit and promotion is not automatic.*
 - (d) Failure to enter squad players into PlayHQ match data (clause 9.1.1) – *max \$100.*
 - (e) Failure to lodge match results and/or captains report (clause 9.2.1 and 9.2.2) – *match points and/or max \$100.*
 - (f) Failure to lodge player scores (clause 9.2.3) – *max \$100.*
 - (g) Failure to commence Match on time (clause 5.2.2) – *max \$20 for 15 minutes and max \$20 for subsequent 10 minutes and/or match points.*
 - (h) Wearing coloured clothing without approval of the CCB (clause 8.1.3) – *max \$200.*
 - (i) Failure to comply to comply with Junior Player Bowling Restrictions (clause 5.9.3) – *max \$200.*
 - (j) Use of unapproved cricket balls (clause 5.6) – *max \$200.*
 - (k) Smoking/Vaping on the field during a match (clause 10.2.1) – *max \$200.*
 - (l) Failure to provide contact person and phone number for each team (clause 2.4.5) – *max \$200.*
 - (m) Forfeiture of a match (Clause 5.2.2) – *match points and/or \$500*
 - (n) Forfeiture of a match in a Grand Final match (Clause 5.2.2) – *max \$1000*

5. LAWS OF CRICKET AND PLAYING CONDITIONS

5.1 Application of Laws of Cricket to Competitions

- 5.1.1 The Laws of Cricket and the Spirit of Cricket in the preamble to the Laws of Cricket will apply to all Competitions but may be modified, supplemented, or excluded by these Rules and the Playing Conditions.
- 5.1.2 These Rules shall apply to the management of all matches under the control of the CCB.

5.2 Forfeits

- 5.2.1 If a Team is unable to play in a match arranged by the CCB the Team must give notice to the Country Cricket Coordinator.
- 5.2.2 If a match does not commence within 15 minutes of the time scheduled the Team at fault may be fined. If the match does not commence within a further 10 minutes the Team is liable to a fine and loss of match points as an infringement to which clause 4.12 applies.

5.3 Teams

- 5.3.1 Teams consist of 12 players, but there is a minimum of 8 players required to take the field to commence play.
- 5.3.2 Only 11 players shall take the field at any one time.
- 5.3.3 Only 11 players are permitted to bat.
- 5.3.4 12 players are permitted to bowl.

5.4 Fixtures and Sections

- 5.4.1 The Competition shall be divided into sections which shall be known as A, B, C, etc.
- 5.4.2 Each section shall comprise 8 teams in 2 divisions of 4 teams. Byes shall only be created in the lowest section.
- 5.4.3 The grading of teams will be based on the placings in the most recent tournament (see rule 9.4.2)
- 5.4.4 The lowest placed team in each section will be relegated to the section immediately below it for the following season and the winner of each section will be promoted to replace them.
- 5.4.5 In the event of no nominations being received from a graded team in the Competition in any particular section, then the lowest placed team in that section will not be relegated. If no nomination is received from multiple graded teams, further teams may be promoted from the section below, based on their gradings.
- 5.4.6 In the event of an Association nominating lesser Teams than the previous Competition, that Association's lowest Team(s) shall be withdrawn.
- 5.4.7 The grading of teams shall be reviewed each year.
- 5.4.8 The Country Cricket Coordinator will prepare fixtures for all teams for the Competition based on the format outlined in rule 9.4.
- 5.4.9 The Country Cricket Coordinator may at their discretion use a different format for fixturing the lowest section if there are less than eight entries received.
- 5.4.10 The CCB will publish all official fixtures using the PlayHQ system prior to the commencement of the Competition and these will be updated from time to time as necessary.

5.5 Applicable Playing Conditions

- 5.5.1 All Competition cricket matches will be played in accordance with the:
 - (a) One Day Playing Conditions
 - (b) T20 Playing Conditionsand as fixtured by the CCB or as required by these Rules.

5.6 Approved Equipment

- 5.6.1 Only Kookaburra cricket balls approved by the CCB may be used in the Competitions.

Approved Ball	Competitions
Kookaburra Regulation 4-piece Red, Kookaburra Regulation Reject 4-piece Red	A Section (All Matches), B Section (All Matches), C Section (Turf Pitches Only), D Section (Turf Pitches Only), E Section (Turf Pitches Only), F Section (Turf Pitches Only)
Kookaburra Special Test 156g 2-piece Red, Kookaburra, Tuff-Pitch 156g 2-piece Red	C Section (Synthetic Pitches Only), D Section (Synthetic Pitches Only), E Section (Synthetic Pitches Only), F Section (Synthetic Pitches Only)

5.7 Ground Weather and Light procedure

- 5.7.1 In general, Law 2.7 of the Laws of Cricket will apply, and it will be for the Umpires to decide if grounds are unfit for play in a match.
- 5.7.2 Matches will proceed unless the CCB have called off the round prior to the commencement of fixtures. If there has been no general cancellation by CCB, umpires shall determine fitness for play when they assume control of matches.

5.8 Umpires

- 5.8.1 The CCB will provide umpires for all matches in the Competitions.
- 5.8.2 Umpires will be appointed prior to the commencement of each match by the Country Cricket Coordinator and appointments entered into the PlayHQ system.
- 5.8.3 If an Umpire proposes to lodge a complaint against player, Association or official under these Rules, the Umpire must:
- notify the player, Association or official of the nature of the complaint within 30 minutes after stumps have been drawn on the day on which the incident occurred; and
 - lodge his report with the Competition Referee within 1 hour after the completion of the match.
- 5.8.4 If only one appointed umpire is present, that umpire alone shall determine questions of fitness for play of the ground, weather and light (GWL).
- 5.8.5 Umpires are to be paid as follows:

Senior Men’s Country Week		
A & B Sections	60 overs a side	\$180
C, D, E & F Sections	50 overs a side	\$140
All Sections	T20s (Non-Seeding G. Finals)	\$70
All Sections	60 overs/50 overs (Solo)	\$210
All Sections	T20s (Solo)	\$100

- 5.8.6 Umpires shall award Spirit of Cricket points at the end of the match in accordance with clause 4.1.

5.9 Junior Player Bowling Restrictions

- 5.9.1 Junior Players must comply with these Pace Bowling restrictions and any additional conditions in the Playing Conditions for matches.

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5.9.2 A Junior Player’s age is calculated at midnight 30 June immediately preceding the Competition.

5.9.3 Bowlers who are Junior Players shall be limited to a maximum number of consecutive overs in any one spell and to a maximum daily quota as follows:

	U14	U15	U17	U19
Max overs (Pace bowling)	8 overs per day	10 overs per day	16 overs per day	20 overs per day
Max spell (Consecutive overs, Pace bowling)	4 overs	5 overs	6 overs	8 overs
Rest between spells	30 minutes	30 minutes	30 minutes	30 minutes

5.9.4 It is the responsibility of the Umpires to calculate the number of overs that may be bowled by a Junior Player, to inform the fielding team when the maximum number of overs has been bowled or this clause is being breached, and when the relevant rest period has been completed. It is the responsibility of the captains, Junior Players and Umpires to ensure this clause is complied with.

5.9.5 A bowler who has bowled less than their maximum over spell may resume bowling prior to the completion of the mandatory break, but this will be considered an extension of the same spell and the limit of overs in total for the spell will still apply.

5.9.6 In this clause:

- (a) “Pace Bowler” means any bowler to whom, in the opinion of the umpires, the wicket keeper would normally stand back, and “Pace Bowling” has a corresponding meaning. An over of Pace Bowling is any over in which one or more balls of Pace Bowling occur.
- (b) “Slow Bowler” means any bowler to whom, in the opinion of the umpires, the wicket keeper would normally stand up to the wicket and “Slow Bowling” has a corresponding meaning.
- (c) Rest between spells is inclusive of any intervals or breaks.

5.10 Procedure for Handling Suspect Bowling Action

5.10.1 As at the date of these Rules, the following Law 24 (No Ball) contained these provisions regarding the role of the arm in a valid delivery:

For a delivery to be fair in respect of the arm the ball must not be thrown (excerpt from Law 24.2); and

A ball is fairly delivered in respect of the arm if, once the bowler’s arm has reached the level of the shoulder in the delivery swing, the elbow joint is not straightened partially or completely from that point until the ball has left the hand. This definition shall not debar a bowler from flexing or rotating the wrist in the delivery swing (Law 24.3).

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- 5.10.2 In all CCB Competitions this Law is modified so that a “no-ball” will only be awarded for a breach of Law 24 if it is considered by the umpire that the bowler deliberately threw the delivery, but not because of doubt about the player’s general bowling action for which the player has not received a warning under clause 5.10.3.
- 5.10.3 In the interests of the player concerned and CCB Competitions, it is permissible during a match for the umpire to warn the bowler, captain or coach that he considers the bowler’s action to be unfair and if he continues to bowl his action may qualify for a “no-ball” call under Law 24, note it on the match report and advise the Competition Referee.
- 5.10.4 Separate investigation may be undertaken by the CCB, the WAC and the Association after receiving notice on the match report of a bowler’s unfair arm action, or if an Association instigates its own investigation of the player’s bowling action.
- 5.10.5 If the player is subsequently reported by an umpire for breach of Law 24 in respect to the arm action, the player will not be allowed to bowl in a CCB Competition until a subsequent re-assessment as per clause 5.10.4.

6. PLAYER REGISTRATION AND QUALIFICATION

6.1 Player Qualification

- 6.1.1 No person shall be allowed to play unless they are a bona fide playing member of a Country Club, except pursuant to these Rules. A Country Club is defined as a cricket club with its home ground located in a Country Region as determined by the relevant department of the Western Australian Government (currently the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries).
- 6.1.2 To be eligible to participate in Senior Men’s Country Week, a player must have played greater than 50% of their current season’s total games in a country competition prior to the first date of Senior Men’s Country Week
 - a) Matches played for Country XI and or Country Colts will not be considered as matches in either a Country or Metropolitan competition for the purposes of qualification under this clause.
 - b) A player attending boarding school can be considered for an exemption from Rule 6.1.2 on application to the Competition Referee.
- 6.1.3 Subject to 6.1.1 and 6.1.2, a player residing in a Country town not represented in the Senior Men’s Country Week, or who is not required by their local Association, may play with another country Association after obtaining written permission from their local Association prior to the competition. A copy of the written document must be provided to the CCB with the team registration.

6.2 Eligibility for Finals

- 6.2.1 A player must play in at least 2 matches prior to the Grand Final in order to be eligible to participate in the Final. The Competition Referee can investigate any eligibility concerns over a player who may not have legitimately played in any match. Any player found not to comply with this clause will see the team subject to penalty as per 4.12.
- 6.2.2 A player who has not played in a team in 2 or more matches may seek permission to play in the grand final. Such a request must be in writing to the Country Cricket Coordinator acquainting the CCB with the circumstances surrounding such an application.

6.3 Player Registration with an Association using PlayHQ

- 6.3.1 All Associations must register a list of players, in teams on PlayHQ, by no later than 14 days prior to the commencement of the first match of the competition. Players must be registered with their first name, middle name (if possible), last name and Date of Birth. The details must correspond to the details on the birth certificate, passport or other official document.
- 6.3.2 Additional players may be registered at any time provided such registrations are affected before the players take part in any match. This registration must be on PlayHQ.

6.4 Movement of players between Association Teams

- 6.4.1 If an Association has entered two or more teams in the competition and through accident, injury or any other circumstances it wishes to relegate a player or players during the qualifying matches it shall adopt the following procedure:
- (a) For a player to be transferred to a lower grade the Association shall apply for permission, in writing, via the Country Cricket Coordinator. They shall provide details surrounding the circumstances thereof.

6.5 Penalty for Ineligible or Disqualified Players

- 6.5.1 If the CCB is satisfied that an Association has played a player that is ineligible or disqualified, the Association is liable to a fine and/or loss of match points as an infringement to which clause 4.12 applies.

6.6 Player disqualification

- 6.6.1 A player that is serving a suspension or disqualification to play issued by the CCB, the Tribunal, Cricket Australia or any member association of WAC or Cricket Australia is automatically disqualified from participation in CCB Competitions for the duration of that suspension or disqualification.
- 6.6.2 If the CCB is satisfied that an Association has played a player who is unqualified or disqualified, despite being registered to play on the PlayHQ system, the Association is liable to a fine and loss of match points as an infringement to which clause 4.12 applies.

7. GROUND FACILITIES

7.1 Equipment

- 7.1.1 In the possible absence of equipment being provided, teams are required to carry as part of their equipment:
- (a) a set of boundary markers and a measuring device.
- (b) bowler’s markers.
- (c) a first aid kit; and
- (d) a set of stumps and bails.

8. ASSOCIATION COLOURS AND PLAYER CLOTHING

8.1 Standard Cricket Attire

- 8.1.1 Unless the playing conditions for a particular match format specify otherwise players shall wear:
- (a) normal cricket attire (e.g., white, or cream shorts or long trousers, white or cream shirts with collars, predominately white shoes and cream or white socks).
 - (b) Association colours and predominately white jumpers.
 - (c) caps and helmets that are in Association colours, or white (or otherwise by agreements by captains if no other helmet is available for a player);
 - (d) spiked footwear if playing on turf (if possible); and
 - (e) spiked footwear must not be worn if playing on synthetic.
- 8.1.2 The wearing of logos must be approved by the CCB.
- 8.1.3 Teams wishing to wear coloured clothing in matches must have their design and colour scheme approved by the CCB.

9. MATCH AND COMPETITION RESULTS

9.1 PlayHQ Team Entry

- 9.1.1 All teams are required to enter squad players into the PlayHQ match data the day prior to the start of the match in each round.

9.2 Post-match Reports

- 9.2.1 The winning team shall be responsible for the lodgement of the total match result via PlayHQ no later than 30 minutes after the match finishes.
- 9.2.2 The winning team shall be responsible for submitting a Captain's Report, including umpire ratings, via PlayHQ by 9:00am the following day.
- 9.2.3 Both competing teams must input player scores via PlayHQ by no later than 9:00am the following day. All player scores must include batting, bowling, and fielding statistics including player names.
- 9.2.4 Associations that have not complied with this Rule may be ineligible to receive points for the match.

9.3 Ladders

- 9.3.1 Ladders for each Competition shall be calculated in PlayHQ by setting the points system equal to the points designated in the relevant Competition Rules for win, draw, tie or loss.
- 9.3.2 If a bye occurs in any section and every team does not have a bye, that section shall be decided on percentages based on match points only.
- 9.3.3 To determine the ranking of teams otherwise equal on points, in Ladder setup in the PlayHQ system, the following PlayHQ quotient calculation will be selected:

(Total runs scored / total wickets lost)

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(Total number of runs scored against / total number of wickets taken)

9.4 Finals

- 9.4.1 Teams will play in pool crossover games based on the ladder positions in their respective pools to determine their place in the final grading games in the following format:
- (a) Semi-final 1 – A1 v B2
 - (b) Semi-final 2 – B1 v A2
 - (c) Consolation final 1 – A3 v B4
 - (d) Consolation final 2 – B3 v A4
- 9.4.2 Placings for the tournament will be determined by the results of the final grading games, to be played in the following format:
- (a) Grand final – Winner SF1 v Winner SF2
 - (b) 3rd/4th Play-off – Loser SF1 v Loser SF2
 - (c) 5th/6th Play-off – Winner CF 1 v Winner CF2
 - (d) 7th/8th Play-off – Loser CF1 v Loser CF2
- 9.4.3 If the final cannot be played or, if started, cannot be completed due to GWL, the teams shall be joint winners.
- 9.4.4 In the event of a tie the teams shall be joint winners.
- 9.4.5 The winner of each section shall be awarded a trophy and the players shall be awarded medallions.

9.5 Team of the Week

- 9.5.1 The Team of the Week will be determined on the following points system, to apply to both first and second innings:
- (a) 1 point for each run
 - (b) 10 points for each catch or stumping
 - (c) 15 points for each wicket
- and in accordance with the following Section weightings:
- (d) A Section: 2.0
 - (e) B Section: 1.8
 - (f) C Section: 1.6
 - (g) D Section: 1.4
 - (h) E Section: 1.2
 - (i) F Section or lower: 1.0
- 9.5.2 The Team of the Week shall consist of five batsmen, one all rounder, one wicket keeper and five bowlers.
- 9.5.3 Batsmen shall be calculated on runs made; bowlers on wickets taken; all rounders on runs made, wickets taken and catches; and wicket keepers on catches and stumpings made. If the wicket keeper position is tied, then runs will be the deciding factor.

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- 9.5.4 Only Players in the Association’s highest graded Team shall be eligible for selection in the Team of the Week.

9.6 Barry Shepherd Medal

- 9.6.1 The Barry Shepherd Medal shall be awarded to the most outstanding Player in Senior Men’s Country Week.
- 9.6.2 A selection panel of 3 shall be chosen by the CCB who will determine the outstanding Player of the Competition.
- 9.6.3 A Player must be playing the Association’s first team to be eligible.
- 9.6.4 Performances in qualifying rounds and finals will be taken into consideration.
- 9.6.5 The selection panel is to consider the impact of a Player’s performance in impacting the results of matches or the impact of a Player’s contributions in a losing team.
- 9.6.6 The decision is not to be based solely on the points system in clause 9.5.1, but may be at the discretion of the aforementioned Selection panel as chosen in clause 9.6.2.

9.7 John Rutherford Medal

- 9.7.1 The John Rutherford Medal shall be awarded to the most outstanding Player in Senior Men’s Country Week A Section Final.
- 9.7.2 The John Rutherford Medal shall be awarded by the two umpires appointed to the Senior Men’s Country Week A Section Final.
- 9.7.3 The John Rutherford Medal shall be presented at the conclusion of the Senior Men’s Country Week A Section Final.

10. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

10.1 Consumption of Alcohol Policy

- 10.1.1 Associations should follow the Liquor Licensing legislation requirements for Responsible Service of Alcohol, even if it is not directly binding on them or in certain unlicensed parts of their premises, such as changing rooms. In particular, Associations should ensure that alcohol is not provided to under-age players and patrons. Where possible, alcohol should be consumed so that players, spectators and officials can consume in a licensed area and not in player change-rooms.

10.2 Smoke Free Environment Policy

- 10.2.1 The CCB recognises that smoke free environments protect non-smokers from the harmful effects of environmental tobacco smoke (ETS). The CCB will enforce that all indoor areas and outdoor viewing areas at CCB venues are smoke-free and that all official events are smoke-free.

10.3 Extreme Weather Policy

- 10.3.1 The CCB refers Associations to guidelines in relevant documents, such as the Cricket Australia Junior Cricket policy documents.
- 10.3.2 In exceptionally hot weather, Law 15.9 is modified so that drinks breaks may be scheduled as frequently as required subject to the overall minimum period of

play between two drinks breaks, or between a drinks break and the start or conclusion of an off-the-field interval, being 20 minutes.

- 10.3.3 The additional rules in thunderstorm situations are as follows:
- (a) If the ‘flash to bang’ time (the time between the lightning and thunder) is less than 30 seconds leave the field and seek appropriate shelter immediately.
 - (b) Only consider the resumption of play and do not venture outside until there has been a gap of 30 minutes from the last clap of thunder.
- 10.3.4 These general considerations apply to CCB Competitions:
- (a) There is imminent danger of a lightning strike if you feel your hair standing on end, there is crackling in the air, you see lightning in the clouds or the flash to bang time is 20 seconds or less.
 - (b) Go indoors immediately if you see lightning strike the ground or structure nearby.
 - (c) Do not waste time covering the pitch, go near or move metal framed pitch covers or machinery, bunch together as you leave the field or shelter under a tree.
 - (d) Consider resuming play 30 minutes after the last thunderclap but if in doubt stay indoors and do not leave shelter to inspect the ground.

10.4 Helmet Policy

- 10.4.1 A batter must wear a British Standard 7928:2013 compliant helmet at all times when batting, regardless of the pace of the bowler.
- 10.4.2 A wicketkeeper must wear a British Standard 7928:2013 when keeping up to the wickets.
- 10.4.3 The umpire(s) are responsible for ensuring that a helmet is worn when required by clause 10.4.1 and 10.4.2 but are not responsible for ensuring that the helmet being worn by the batter is compliant with British Standard 7928:2013.
- 10.4.4 The umpire(s) must not allow the match to continue during any period in which a batter fails to wear a helmet when required by this clause.
- 10.4.5 After the fall of a wicket or the retirement of a batter, the incoming batter must, unless Time has been called, be in a position to take guard, or for the other batter to be ready to receive the next ball within 3 minutes of the dismissal or retirement and be wearing a British Standard 7928:2013 compliant helmet as required by clause 10.4.1.
- 10.4.6 If this requirement is not met the umpires(s)/Team Captains are to direct the batter to comply with clause 10.4.1.
- 10.4.7 If, having entered the field of play not wearing a helmet, a batter leaves the field in order to comply with clause 10.4.1, there shall be no loss of time/overs to the match solely due to this delay. If a batter does not to comply with this direction:
- (a) The umpire shall call time, if necessary
 - (b) The umpires shall summon and inform the offending players captain of his/her refusal to comply with clause.
 - (c) The umpire shall award 5 penalty runs to the fielding team.
 - (d) The umpires together shall report the occurrence as soon as possible after the match to the CCB, who shall take such further action against the player, the captain, any other individuals concerned and, if appropriate, the team.

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- 10.4.8 If after the action in clause 10.4.7 the batter continues to not comply with clause, then:
- (a) The batter will be given out, Timed Out
 - (b) In the event of a Timed-Out dismissal, the bowler does not get credit for the wicket.
- 10.4.9 In the event of an extended delay in which either no batter comes to the wicket wearing a British Standard 7928:2013 compliant helmet or a batter fails to wear a British Standard 7928:2013 compliant helmet and also fails to leave the wicket having been given out in accordance with clause 10.4.12, the umpires shall adopt the procedure of Law 16.3 (Umpire(s) awarding a match). For the purposes of that Law the start of the action shall be taken at end of clause 10.4.11.
- 10.4.10 The umpires shall report the occurrence of clause 10.4.12 to the CCB.
- 10.4.11 For the purpose of this law no time/overs shall be lost to the game after the completion of any of the actions described in Clauses 10.4.8 to 10.4.9.