

## NOTES FOR UMPIRES AND SCORERS

1. The Umpire at the Striker's End shall answer all appeals for Hit Wicket, Stumped and Run Out when it occurs at the wicket keepers end. The Bowler's End Umpire shall answer all other appeals.

It is advised that where there is no official Umpire supplied by the competition, the Batting side Umpire, should stand at the bowlers end for the duration of their team batting.

2. Neither Umpire shall give a batter out, even though they may be out under the Laws, unless appealed by a fielder. A batter may leave their wicket without an appeal being made.
3. An umpire shall intervene if satisfied that a batter, not having been given out, has left their wicket under a misapprehension that they are out.
4. Only the Bowler's End Umpire may call and signal Wides and No balls. They may consult with the Striker's End Umpire for their opinion if they choose. Both Umpires should agree on how they will work together before the game.
5. UMPIRE'S SIGNALS (Law 3.14). All of these signals are to be made by the Bowler's End Umpire except that of a Short run, which is to be signaled by the Umpire at the end where short running occurs. However, the Bowler's End Umpire shall be responsible both for the final signal of Short runs to the scorers and for informing them as to the number of runs to be recorded.

The Umpire shall wait until each signal to the scorers has been separately acknowledged by the scorer before allowing play to proceed.

6. Scoring for RUN OUTS (Law 38.4) - Runs completed before a batter is run out are counted.
7. CAUGHT OUT (Law 32) - A batter will be given out caught if a ball delivered by the bowler, not being a No ball, touches their bat, their hand holding the bat or any part of the glove on the hand holding the bat. It is a fair catch if the ball is hugged to the body of the catcher or accidentally lodges in their clothing or in the case of the wicket keeper only, in their pads. However, it is not a fair catch if the ball lodges in the protective helmet of a fielder (Dead Ball).

Law 33. A batter can now be dismissed "caught" from a ricochet off a helmet worn by a fielder. Runs completed before a batter is caught are not counted.

## 8. WIDE BALLS (Law 25)

We DO NOT play the Wide Ball Law that is applied in ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL games that you see on television. That is a special playing condition JUST for those games. We use the Wide Ball Law as defined in the Laws of Cricket (Law 25), namely: "The ball will be considered as passing wide of the striker unless it is sufficiently within their reach for him to be able to hit it with their bat by means of a normal cricket stroke".

This means wider than the edge of most of the narrower Astro-pitches for most age groups on the off-side and 50 centimetres or more outside the leg stump (to be marked by umpires).

Remember it is the striker's reach, not the width of the pitch, which defines a Wide ball. Also note that a player can move to make a ball not wide by moving closer to it, but they cannot make a ball wide by moving away from it - that is unfair play!

If a batter hits a delivery with their bat it cannot be called a Wide.

A BATTER CAN ONLY BE GIVEN OUT TO A WIDE BALL in following ways:

- Run out;
- Stumped;
- Hit wicket;
- Handled the ball;
- Obstructing the field.

The Bowler's End Umpire shall call and signal a Wide ball as soon as the ball passes the striker's wicket. The Umpire shall repeat the signal to the Scorers when the ball is dead.

SCORING FOR A WIDE (Law 25): A penalty of one run shall be awarded instantly on the call of Wide ball. Unless the call is revoked, the penalty shall stand even if a batter is dismissed and shall be in addition to any other runs scored, any boundary allowance and any other penalties awarded.

EXAMPLE: Wide goes to the boundary, it will be scored as 5 Wides (penalty of 1 Wide plus the four runs to the boundary)

Apart from any award of a 5 run penalty, all runs resulting from a Wide ball shall be debited against the bowler.

## 9. NO BALLS (Law 24)

NO BALLS ARE CALLED WHEN:

- a ball is delivered in an unsafe way (Refer to Rule 9 Unfair bowling)
- when the ball rolls along the pitch or bounces more than once before reaching the popping crease (batter's crease). If the ball bounces for a second time between the batters' crease and the stumps it is NOT a No ball.
- when any part of the bowler's front foot (grounded or raised) is not behind the popping crease (batting crease) on their delivery stride.
- the bowler's back foot has not landed within the return crease.
- when the bowler breaks the bowler's end wicket on their delivery
- when on the bowler's delivery, more than 2 fielders, not counting the wicket keeper are behind the popping crease (batter's crease) on the on side.
- when any part of the wicket keeper is in front of the stumps at the time of delivery and before ball touches the striker's bat or person or attempts to run or it passes the striker's wicket.
- when any fielder is encroaching on the pitch between the time the bowler starts their run up until the ball has made contact with the striker's bat or person or has passed the striker's bat.

If a player hits a No ball which has landed on the grass beside the wicket, it is still a No ball.

A BATTER WILL ONLY BE GIVEN OUT TO A NO BALL ONLY in the following ways:

- Run out
- Obstructing the field
- Handled the ball
- Hit the ball twice.

SCORING FOR A NO BALL (Law 24) – A penalty of one run shall be awarded instantly on the call of a No ball. Unless the call is revoked, the penalty shall stand even if the batter is dismissed. It shall be in addition to any other runs scored, any boundary allowance and any other runs awarded for penalties.

The one run penalty shall be scored as a No ball extra.

Any runs completed by the batter or any boundary allowance shall be credited to the striker if the ball has been struck by the bat; otherwise they shall be scored as No Ball

Apart from any award of penalty runs, all runs resulting from a No ball, whether as No ball extras or credited to the striker shall be debited against the bowler.

**EXAMPLE 1:** A batter hits a No ball and it goes to the boundary. A penalty of one run is recorded as a No ball and the batter is credited with 4 runs. 5 runs are debited against the bowler (4 runs plus one No ball penalty)

**EXAMPLE 2:** A No ball is called; the ball is NOT struck by the batter; but the ball goes through allowing the batters to run 2 runs. 3 No balls are recorded: 2 runs plus the penalty of one run for a No ball. 3 No ball penalty runs are debited against the bowler.

## 10. LEG BEFORE WICKET (LBW) DECISIONS (Law 36)

The LBW Law applies to Under12s and above.

As we are considering Junior Cricket, the LBW Law should be used sparingly – Many LBW decisions given in junior cricket are an incorrect interpretation as a lot of people who do not administer or Umpire Cricket, know how to correctly administer the law.

Consideration should be given for Under 11 s to 13s in deciding an LBW as an age group, thereafter the LBW Law should be read and understood by Coaches, Managers and or any other person, if they are standing as Umpires.

The section below is a helpful guide to the LBW law:

In Reference to the MCC Law 36, for a batter to be given out LBW the umpire must first carefully consider:

- a) Was the delivery a No Ball?
- b) Did the ball strike the bat (or glove holding the bat) of the batter before hitting any other part of the batter?
- c) Did the ball pitch outside the line of the leg stump?
- d) Did the ball hit the batter outside the line of the off stump and the batter was playing a shot?

If the answer to any ONE of the above is “YES” then the batter CANNOT be given out LBW.

- e) Would the ball have hit the wicket if it hadn't hit the batter? (Remember to check height as well)
- f) Did the ball pitch (or would have pitched) on the imaginary straight-line path between wicket and wicket or on the off side?
- g) Did the batter get hit in the imaginary path between wicket and wicket (or if not playing a shot, outside the off stump)?

**If the answer to ALL of (e) to (g) is “YES” and NONE of the answers to (a) to (d) is “YES” then the batter should be given out LBW.**

#### 11. Scoring OVERTHROWS (Law 19)

If a boundary results from an overthrow the runs scored shall be the allowance for the boundary as well as the runs completed by the batter, together with the run-in progress if they had already crossed at the instant of the throw.

#### 12. Measuring and Scoring a BOUNDARY FOUR & SIX (Law 19)

An imaginary straight line between the inside of boundary markers is the line where a boundary four is measured and scored. Sixes are to be awarded in all age groups.

Law 19 states the following;

##### 19.7 Runs scored from boundaries

19.7.1 A Boundary 6 will be scored if and only if the ball has been struck by the bat and is first grounded beyond the boundary without having been in contact with the ground within the field of play. This shall apply even if the ball has previously touched a fielder.

19.7.2 A Boundary 4 will be scored when a ball that is grounded beyond the boundary

- whether struck by the bat or not, was first grounded within the boundary, or
- has not been struck by the bat.

19.7.3 When a boundary is scored, the batting side, shall be awarded whichever is the greater of

19.7.3.1 the allowance for the boundary

19.7.3.2 the runs completed by the batters together with the run-in progress if they had already crossed at the instant the boundary is scored.

#### 13. Calling, Signaling and Scoring LEG BYES (Law 26) –

If a ball delivered by the bowler first strikes the person of the striker, runs shall be scored only if the Umpire is satisfied that the striker has either (i) attempted to play the ball with their bat or (ii) tried to avoid being hit by the ball.

If neither of these conditions has been met, then Leg Byes shall NOT be awarded.

In this case, the Umpire shall call and signal Dead ball as soon as one run is completed, or the ball reaches the boundary. The run or boundary shall be disallowed. A batter can still be run out before the ball is called Dead.

#### 14. PENALTY RUNS (Law 42.17)

In the IWHCA competition, 5 penalty runs shall only be awarded in these cases:

- Where a ball, struck by a batter, hits a protective helmet of the fielding side positioned on the ground in the field of play.
- Where a fielder (other than the wicket-keeper) catches or stops a ball with equipment (e.g., a cap) that is not part of their person.

15. MCC Law 20:

If a live ball having already touched the ground becomes lodged in a helmet being worn by a fielder, the ball is no longer to be considered dead.

16. MCC Law 30:

A Batter will no longer be run out if the bat having safety made its ground then bounces in the air at the moment the wicket is broken.

17. Batters are not permitted runners in any matches.

Injury to Junior players at the game or prior the game must be taken into consideration as an OH&S issue and duty of care to young players. No junior player should be on the field if they suffer an injury in any circumstances, be it muscular or even head injury. Players that suffer the latter must be taken to appropriate medical care immediately the injury occurs. It is the responsibility of the Coaches and or Managers from both teams and they need to report such incidents to the committee.

Refer to By- law D Prevention of Injury.

18. Law 38 A batter can now be dismissed “run Out” from a ricochet off a helmet worn by a fielder.

19. Law 39 A batter can now be dismissed “Stumped” from a ricochet off a helmet worn by the wicket keeper.

20. Law 41.5 The Act of “Mock fielding” is now banned. This is where a fielder feigns to field the ball and or feigns to throw a non-existent ball in an attempt to deceive the batter. A breach will require the Umpire to call dead ball, allowing the runs completed so far, plus the run-in progress, the further award of 5 penalty runs, and the player in question reported. The ball in question shall not count as one of the over and the batter can choose who will face the next ball.

21. CORRECTNESS OF SCORES.

Regular consultation between Scorers and Umpires is essential. The umpires shall agree with the scorers at every interval and at the conclusion of the match. Umpires should check that scorers are recording necessary TIMES for the match.

## 32. THE SCORERS

**Appointment of Scorers:** Two Scorers shall be appointed to record all runs scored, all wickets taken, number of overs bowled and all necessary TIMES.

**Correctness of Scores:** The Scorers shall frequently check that their records agree. They shall agree with the Umpires at every interval and at the conclusion of the match. Scorers should record all necessary TIMES and both sign scorebooks on agreement and at the completion of the match.

**Acknowledging Signals:** The Scorers shall acknowledge all instructions and signals given to them by Umpires.

**Scorers Responsibility:** It is the responsibility of scorers to record the number of balls that a batter has received and notify the umpires when the quota of balls has been reached. Scorers are to record each ball faced.

Except as varied here under, the Laws of Cricket (2017 Code, 3rd Edition - 2022) shall apply.