

Old Sub Districts Cricket Association

Interim Covid 19 Precautions for Umpires 2020/21 Season

These suggestions are in addition to any new laws or Playing Conditions. They are not rules.

Like any public activity Cricket can get shut down, fined heavily, be on the news by not following good and safe practices and being inspected.

So that gives us reason to pay attention to this.

To stay safe everybody needs to stick to this: umpires, players, spectators...

The overall aim is to prevent unnecessary exposure to infectious materials.

The four principles are *(these apply everywhere, you are used to these by now...)*

- keep minimum 1.5m social distancing at all times
- wash your hands often and properly
- stay away if you're sick
- contact tracing

1. Covid19 Plans

- You should expect each ground and club to have written plans and procedures in place.
- Plans will be developed by each home club to suit local situations.
- Look online or ask home club members. Be ready to follow those plans and procedures.
- They're in place to keep everyone safe.

2. Unwell Players

- You can ask players and captains about their health.
- Umpires have NO authority to demand players stand down.
- Replacements Playing Regulation 23.2 allows for seriously ill players to be replaced in 2 days

3. Unwell Umpires

- If you have symptoms (sore throat, cough, runny nose, persistent headache, high temperature etc) do not hesitate to opt out from your appointment.
- Ring Tim, Mel, Bruce and let 'em know. (Then follow medical advice.)
- Healthy umpires, be ready for late reassignment in case of sick umpires.

4. Avoid handshakes.

- It's almost traditional in Aussie, white western culture. But we must not do it. Touch elbows, bump shoes, wave, make a joke... whatever but don't shake hands.
- Same goes for fistbumps, high fives, embracing.

5. Keep paperwork to yourself

- **Team lists** – copy the team lists into your own notebook OR use a camera phone OR use MyCricket website list (rare in Subbies cricket). **DO NOT** accept paper copies.
- **JLT Checklists** - Use the phone app or encourage the home club to do so. If you use a paper copy don't ask for signatures. **DO NOT** share the form.
- **Scorebooks** - ask the scorers to report scores from a safe distance. There is no need to sign score-books. (See Law 2.15). **DO NOT** touch the scorebook.

6. Coin toss

- **DO NOT** share coins. Home teams to use their own coin OR the umpire tosses his own coin.
- **TIP:** Early in the season get the toss in early (well before the 15 minutes) so as to allow for questions, discussions, negotiations.

- Make sure you discuss these changes to procedures with captains at or before the toss. The less surprises there are, the easier it will be for everyone.

7. Avoid handling the ball.

- Think about when the ball is normally handled - start of match/innings, at fall of wicket, at breaks, unfair play, injuries. Have the fielders place the ball on the ground behind the stumps.
- To inspect the ball - look, don't touch. Use a ziplock plastic bag (or something similar) if you must hold the ball for safekeeping (but normally fielding captains keep the ball end of day 1)

8. Social distancing

- Particularly in pavilions, shelters and clubhouses - keep your 1.5m social distance.
- Don't share chairs, keep your bags and gear away from other peoples'.
- Don't share cups, waterbottles.
- Bring your own drinks and snacks, canteens are likely not available.
- AVOID smorgasboard/bain-marie serving (if you're that lucky... you're not lucky)
- Shared sunscreen is a NO.
- This all still applies when it RAINS - shelter in your car (if you can)

9. On the field:

- Watch for bowlers and fielders using saliva on the ball. If they do it get 'em to clean it off with a soapy cloth or sanitiser. Warning: this might ruin the ball. See (and know) Law 41.3
- No sharing of equipment - helmets, pads, gloves, shoes, counters etc
- No holding hats, sunnies, jumpers – put 'em on the ground behind the keeper or behind the umpire or in the water hatch or over the boundary.
- Law 28.2.1.3 (Dead ball - 5 penalty runs) still applies if the ball hits discarded clothing.
Watch out for a Management Committee directive about this.
- **TIP:** Don't let the mound of player's equipment get too big. A hat, a jumper is ok. Drink bottle, car keys, phones, spare shoes... no, get it off the field.
- No spitting on the ground... this is cricket, not baseball...
- Stumps – Umpires only to remake stumps, clean 'em before start of play.
- Boundary markers, fielding circle markers – let the teams handle these.
- Bowling markers – players will be expected to provide their own bowling markers, don't use your own, don't let bowlers damage the grass.
- Player square leg umpires – don't share equipment, bats, hi vis vests, must avoid sharing drink bottles. As umpire be ready to allow extra time for batsmen to get drinks carried out.

Other tips

- If you don't have to touch it, **don't** touch it. If something happens try to be ahead of it.
- Safety above everything for you and everyone.
- Bring your own hand-sanitiser and dry tissues. Don't rely on clubs to provide 'em.
- You're there to umpire not be a police officer. Teams and captains will be in the dark and seeking help and guidance as much as anyone, at least initially.

Is there anything else? Please don't hesitate to raise it. Email secretary@qsdca.com.au

Cricket Australia draft playing conditions for Covid19 are under consideration and may be released very soon. When that happens all clubs (and us) will be informed.

You should expect that some of this may change yet. This season certainly will be one to remember.

ABM 19.8.20

Old Sub Districts Cricket Association Inc.

**To All Secretaries and Umpires
QSDCA**

QSDCA Directive on Bowler's Hats in Season 2020/21

As is now well known public health safety measures put in practice for the COVID-19 pandemic will form an important part of the way QSDCA matches are played in Season 2020/21.

Guidelines issued for Community Cricket across Australia stress the need to avoid sharing any equipment. The Committee has decided to make the following directive about bowlers' hats, sunglasses, jumpers and other equipment.

For the 2020/21 season, the bowler may place their personal and other equipment (hat, sunglasses etc) on the ground behind the bowler's end umpire before beginning their over.

If the ball in play strikes the equipment umpires are directed that there will be no penalty under Law 28.2.1.3 (2017 ed) and play will continue.

This means:

- no dead ball
- no 5 penalty runs
- play on

for the ball in play hitting the bowler's hat, sunnies etc which were placed on the ground behind the bowler's end umpire's position at the start of the over.

Note:

1. This applies to the current bowler of the over in play only.
2. This penalty will still apply for not in use fielder's or wicket-keeper's helmets, discarded wicket-keeper's gloves, other players' hats, jumpers, or any other discarded fielder's items or objects on the ground which make contact with the ball in play.
3. Piles of equipment which include both fielders' and current bowler's items will not be exempted from dead ball, 5 penalty runs.

This will apply for all competitions for the 2020/21 Season.

Anthony Martin
QSDCA Assistant Secretary
On behalf of the QSDCA Management Committee
10 Sept 2020

'6S' Simple Approach to Safe Return to Play (Cricket Organisations)

1. SIGN UP

- Organisation officially adopt:
 - Industry COVID Safe Plan for Field Team Sports
 - Cricket Australia's COVID 19 Return to Playing guidelines and resources
- Appoint COVID Safety Coordinator(s), and complete any required [COVID Safe Training](#)
- Ensure all team members and officials 'sign up' to, and understand their COVID Safe responsibilities
- Ask teams and officials to download and 'sign up' to the COVIDSAFE App

2. SAFE VENUE

- Consult with your venue owner – usually local Council – to receive owner's consent to return to play
- Complete and display CovidSafe statement of compliance
- Ensure safe, separated/distanced, time-minimised attendance, entry to and exit from venue for all attendees
- Employ 'get in, play, get out' principles, to minimise player / game 'crossover'
- Check number of attendees allowed at venue. No limit, if venue allows 4 metres squared per attendee (players, officials, spectators included).
- Feeling sick? Don't attend!

3. SIGN IN

- ALL attendees (players, coaches, scorers, umpires and spectators) MUST register attendance, via MyCricket or on paper (minimum requirements and template example in the [Industry COVID Safe Plan for Field Sports](#) – Appendix 2)
- Clubs might also like to investigate the use of online/electronic data capture apps eg. TeamApp, [COVID Safe Sports](#) (local product) or Evacheckin.com for contactless QR Code Check-in for all attendees.

4. SANITISE

- Employ recommended hygiene practices (hand and equipment sanitising / no use of saliva or sweat to shine ball)
- Ensure hand sanitiser is available to all attendees
- Feeling sick? Don't attend!

5. SEPARATE

- Minimise physical contact. No unnecessary contact.
- Maintain 1.5 metre social distancing wherever possible
- Prevent intermingling of playing groups

6. SHARE (DON'T)

- Don't share equipment
- Don't share food or drinks
- Don't share transport to/from the game
- Don't share your germs. Feeling sick? Don't attend!

Qld Sub Districts Cricket Association

COVID-19 Precautions for Teams and Players 2020/21 Season

The overall aim is to prevent unnecessary exposure to infection.

Like any public activity Cricket can be shut down or fined heavily by government and health authorities if we do not follow good and safe practices.

So no matter how many sick people you see there is good reason to pay attention to this. Some of this may have legal force. Some of this will be non-negotiable.

These suggestions are in addition to any new laws or Playing Conditions. They are not rules. You should expect that some of this may change over the course of the season.

But to stay safe everybody needs to stick to this: umpires, players, spectators... If you think this does not apply to you, then you're wrong.

This season certainly will be one to remember.

The four principles are:

- keep minimum 1.5m social distancing at all times
- wash your hands often and properly
- stay away if you're sick
- contact tracing
- *These apply everywhere: work, school, gyms, pubs... you are used to this by now...*

1. COVID-19 Safe Plans

- Each ground and club is required to have appropriate written plans and procedures in place.
- Plans will be developed by each home club to suit local situations but there are minimum legal requirements.
- It must be a public plan. Every player and participant needs to be able to see the plans and procedures and will be ready to follow them.
- They're in place to keep everyone safe.

2. Contact Tracing

- All players should expect to record their name, address, contact phone, time of arrival and departure (at least) for each day's play.
- It's not meant to annoy. It's required by the law.
- If any person at the game is later found to be sick then this is how you will be notified.
- Clubs/Teams will maintain contact trace record lists for 56 days after each playing day.
- MyCricket could work for players but will not work for spectators, visitors and friends. All these people must be contact traced also. (No need to bother with passers-by.)
- Some clubs may use QR Code check-in schemes but there must also be a paper record for all those who cannot use their mobile phones (for any reason).

3. Unwell Players

- Anyone who has symptoms (sore throat, cough, runny nose, persistent headache, high temperature etc) should never hesitate to opt out of their game.
- Unwell people are advised to seek medical advice.
- Anyone can ask players and captains about their health. It's not rude.

- Umpires have NO authority to demand players stand down. We have to rely on people to be sensible.
- **Replacements Playing Regulation 23.2** allows for seriously ill players to be replaced in 2 days. Possible COVID-19 is considered definitely serious enough.
- It might be a great idea to line up some players to act as late replacements just in case.

4. Social Distancing

- Mostly you'll be ok when out on the field. Cricket is not a contact sport.
- Particularly in pavilions, shelters and clubhouses - keep your 1.5m social distance.
- Clubhouses may be closed or access restricted to minimise this problem.
- Don't share chairs. Clean 'em before someone else uses it.
- Expect change rooms to be unavailable. You may need to travel wearing your cricket gear.
- Keep your bags and gear away from other peoples'.
- This all still applies when it RAINS – prepare to shelter in your car (if you can)

5. Things to avoid

- Handshakes, fistbumps, high fives etc etc (actual personal contact is out)
- Swapping paperwork – team lists, scorebooks, JLT Matchday checklists. Keep it to yourself. Use a camera phone or write it in your own notebook. Nobody wants your snotty paperwork, thanks!
- Unclean changes of scorers – clean up the chairs and tables, clean the pencils, use fresh pencils,
- Swapping coins at the coin toss.
- Bowler damaging the grass in their runup – umpires will not share bowling markers, bowlers will be using their own markers.
- Spitting on the ground.
- Using saliva (spit) on the ball – There will be a new law in cricket soon that prohibits this but the reason should be obvious.
- Handing the ball to the umpire – umpires are instructed to avoid handling the ball
- Handing bowlers' hats, sunnies, jumpers to the umpire - umpires are instructed to avoid handling these.
- Put 'em on the ground behind the keeper or behind the umpire or in the water hatch or over the boundary. Law 28.2.1.3 (Dead ball - 5 penalty runs) still applies if the ball hits discarded clothing. **Watch out for a Management Committee directive about this.**
- Remaking the stumps – Umpires are instructed to do this only.
- Sharing of: helmets, pads, gloves, bats, hi vis vests, shoes, counters, chairs, cups, waterbottles, drinks, snacks, sunscreen, pens and all the things I haven't thought of.

6. Other tips

- If you don't have to touch it, **don't** touch it.
- Safety above everything for you and everyone.
- EVERYONE is advised to bring their own hand-sanitiser and dry tissues. Don't rely on clubs to provide 'em.
- Wash your hands – especially when you arrive, before you eat or drink, when you leave
- Bring your own water, drinks, food. Don't rely on canteens. They're likely unavailable.
- Captains and Umpires will have some things to discuss before the match especially early in the season.

Is there anything else? Please don't hesitate to raise it with your team, your club, or the Association (Email secretary@qsdca.com.au)