## **WICKET AND OVAL RATING GUIDELINES**

	WICKET RATING	OVAL RATING
SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS	grass cover 100% along pitch no thatch (thick matting of grass runners) minimum crease damage over whole match completely level pitch for full length of block good consistent bounce all days creases swept & remarked @ intervals	grass cover 100% surface is completely level mown low (12-15mm) regularly with stripes, patterns only desired grass species present (monostand) turf well irrigated with no brown areas
EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS	consistant grass cover (>90%) crease to crease no thatch (thick matting of grass runners) no weeds on pitch minimum crease damage (both days) completely level pitch from stump to stump good consistent bounce plays true both days prepared the same for both days crease markings last all day	grass cover 100% turf may appear brown from lack of water minor undulations that don't interfere with play ball tracks true across the oval surface various species of grass present but mown level smooth gradient from wicket oval onto the pitch oval covers/heads correctly fitted & flush with turf surface no moist areas around irrigation heads/ water outlets sightscreens cover bowlers arm both sides of pitch sightscreens are in very good condition black screens are fitted securely & taut, with no gaps boundary clearly defined with rope or continuous thick white line
MEETS EXPECTATIONS	good grass cover (80/20) along pitch no thatch (thick matting of grass runners) no weeds on pitch minor cracking of creases good consistent bounce completely level pitch between popping creases plays true both days small variation in preparation between days crease markings last all day	grass cover >90% but may have minor bare recovery areas oval mowed @ correct height (12-15mm) all grass clippings collected from oval surface turf may appear brown from lack of water minor undulations that don't interfere with play various species of grass present but mown level sightscreens cover all wickets for bowlers arm sightscreens are in good condition boundary clearly defined with rope of continuous line
BELOW EXPECTATIONS	grass coverage (60/40) along pitch small soil platelets may pull out of greases small high & low areas may be evidentpitch may have too much thatch generally plays true on both dayssmall variable bounce during the day may be less bounce later in the day crease markings fade during the day	grass cover >80% but minor bare areas are evident oval mowed @ 15-20mm most grass clippings collected from oval surface some undulations can interfere with fielding the ball turf may be brown due to lack of watering sightscreens generally cover all wickets black screens are loose & may not fully cover with white backing boundary line very pale with cones at regular spacings
WELL BELOW EXPECTATIONS	patchy grass cover (<50%) along pitch creases/pitch may crumble during the match dry bare areas are evident uneven pitch (undulating) pitch condition may vary between days pitch may play low & slow on each day pitch may be underprepared weeds & crowning grass evident & in play crease markings don't last the day unfair to batsmen & bowlers	grass cover <70% & large bare areas are evident oval not mowed or grass too long (>25mm) grass clippings left in ribbons on oval undulations interfere with fielding the ball holes &/or divots interfere with fielding covers & or lids are missing or are not fitted level with turf surface ball jumps &/or deviates across the oval surface excessive incline from the oval onto the pitch lack of sightscreens interferes with play boundary only marked with cones