



NELSON CRICKET ASSOCIATION

GENERAL PLAYING CONDITIONS

ALL GRADES

All matches shall be conducted under the jurisdiction of the Nelson Cricket Association (NCA)

All cricket shall be played in accordance with:

- a) Nelson Cricket Association General Playing Conditions;
- b) Nelson Cricket Association specific Grade/Match Playing Conditions;
- c) New Zealand Cricket Playing Conditions;
- d) The Laws of Cricket (2017 Code – 3rd Edition 2022) of the Marylebone Cricket Club
www.lords.org/mcc/the-laws-of-cricket

LOCAL PLAYING CONDITIONS

1.1. FITNESS OF PITCH, GROUND, WEATHER AND LIGHT

In games with officially appointed Umpires prior to the commencement of play a decision as to the fitness of conditions shall be left to the officiating umpires, unless the Nelson City Council or the Tasman District Council or NCA have decided the grounds are unfit for play. Should it be necessary to cancel play on any day due to inclement weather conditions, **a communication will be provided over the NCA Facebook**. For games without officially appointed umpires, decisions as to the fitness of conditions shall be decided between the two team captains.

- 1.1.1. If there is no announcement by 9.00am on match days, matches will be played. When NCA has decided that cricket is to be played then any further decision regarding fitness of conditions (pitch, ground, weather, light) shall be dealt with as follows:
- 1.1.2. All decisions around matches continuing, or not, by umpires or captains shall be made with the best interest of player's wellbeing and safety, as well as reasonable pitch / ground preservation. In the case of a dispute over a game continuing in obviously unfit conditions, because of the failure of both captains to agree, the Club Contact should be consulted.
 - 1.1.2.1. If the teams fail to agree, NCA may declare the game a draw or abandoned. NCA reserves the right to;
 - 1.1.2.2. Call-off any game in progress if in their sole discretion the conditions

- are unfit for play.
- 1.1.2.3. Declare any completed games as abandoned should they have been played in unfit conditions.
- 1.1.2.4. Teams who play in unfit conditions and cause damage to grounds may be charged for repairs.
- 1.1.2.4.1. Games abandoned in these circumstances may result in participating teams not receiving any competition points.

1.2. DRINKS

- 1.2.1. Non-alcoholic drinks may be taken during any grade when agreed upon by both captains, and umpires. Each interval for drinks shall be kept as short as possible and, in any case, shall not exceed five minutes
- 1.2.2. No alcohol shall be permitted on Council grounds as per TDC and NCC By Laws
- 1.2.3. No alcohol will be consumed during hours of play by cricket teams in any grade of NCA competition

1.3. DEFINITIONS

- 1.3.1. The players, umpires and scorers in a game of cricket may be of either gender and the Laws apply equally to both. The use throughout the text, of pronouns indicating the male gender is purely for brevity. Except where specifically stated otherwise, every provision of the Laws is to be read as applying to women and girls equally as to men and boys.

1.4. HOME/AWAY GROUNDS

- 1.4.1. All Senior Competition home teams shall ensure:
 - 1.4.1.1. Lunch/afternoon tea is provided for both teams and officials.
 - 1.4.1.2. Coffee/tea making facilities are available for both teams and
 - 1.4.1.3. officials.
 - 1.4.1.4. Drinks are provided for both teams & officials.
 - 1.4.1.5. A working scoreboard is provided.
 - 1.4.1.6. PlayHQ App is made available and used.
 - 1.4.1.7. A full set of regulation stumps and bails are supplied & spares available in case of breakages
 - 1.4.1.8. Provide safety signs. The signs shall be positioned beyond the boundary where they are likely to be seen by the majority of spectators and public
 - 1.4.1.9. Serviced first aid kit and phone in case of emergency.
 - 1.4.1.10. The marked boundary is highlighted by flags or cones
 - 1.4.1.11. Clubs are required to provide appropriate and separate changing facilities for players and umpires; included in this requirement is a covered area for official scorers and clean and serviced toilet facilities.
 - 1.4.1.12. NCA reserves the right to move matches from the venue of any club that does not provide these facilities.

- 1.4.2. All Youth & Junior Competition home teams shall ensure:
 - 1.4.2.1. A working scoreboard is provided.
 - 1.4.2.2. PlayHQ App is made available and used.
 - 1.4.2.3. Safety signs are provided. The signs shall be positioned beyond the boundary where they are likely to be seen by the majority of spectators and public
 - 1.4.2.4. The marked boundary is highlighted by flags or cones
 - 1.4.2.5. One set of playing stumps & one backup set of stumps are provided
 - 1.4.2.6. Ensure their team knows they are to bring their own lunch & Drinks
- 1.4.3. All Youth & Junior Competition AWAY teams shall ensure
 - 1.4.3.1. One working set of stumps are provided.
 - 1.4.3.2. Ensure their team knows they are to bring their own lunch & Drinks

1.5. NEUTRAL GROUNDS:

- 1.5.1. Where matches are played on neutral grounds, the team named first in the match draw shall be the **home** team.
 - 1.5.1.1. Senior Competition Home teams responsibilities:
 - 1.5.1.1.1. Two sets of spring stumps are provided (The second set is in case of breakages)
 - 1.5.1.1.2. A portable scoreboard is provided.
 - 1.5.1.1.3. PlayHQ App is made available and used.
 - 1.5.1.1.4. Ensure their team knows they are to bring their own lunch & Drinks
 - 1.5.1.1.5. Provide safety signs. The signs shall be positioned beyond the boundary where they are likely to be seen by the majority of spectators and public
 - 1.5.1.2. Away teams responsibilities:
 - 1.5.1.2.1. A set of spring stumps are provided.
 - 1.5.1.2.2. Ensure team knows they are to bring their own lunch & drinks
 - 1.5.1.3. Youth & Junior Competition Home teams responsibilities:
 - 1.5.1.3.1. Two set of spring stumps are provided (The Second set is in case of breakages)
 - 1.5.1.4. Youth & Junior Competition Away teams responsibilities:
 - 1.5.1.4.1. One set of spring stumps are provided.

1.6. USE OF COVERS

- 1.6.1. Covers must be used in Premiers , and they must be accessible during the duration of the match. (The covers must provide maximum protection to the pitch in the proper spirit of the game. The covers must be at least 30m x 6m in dimensions, and be fit (i.e. the covers must not leak) for the purpose of keeping water off the playing surface. The covers must be suitably anchored to the ground with enough metal pegs to ensure that the wind cannot lift the covers from their set position.
- 1.6.2. Hessian must be used in all grades that are required to use covers.

- 1.6.3. If it is not raining on the evening prior to the commencement of play the pitch shall be covered no later than 8.00pm to provide the necessary protection from the weather. Every endeavour should also be made to protect the pitch against adverse weather conditions in the days prior to the commencement of the match.
- 1.6.4. Covers shall be removed with due care to ensure that no surface water is left on the match pitch or playing block. The covers shall be removed on the morning of the match no earlier than 5am and no later than 3 hours prior to the scheduled start time, unless it rains, or rain is threatening. (90 minutes prior to the start if covers are on wheels.) In Division 2 matches the covers must be removed by 7.30am (rather than 3 hours prior to the start of the match)
- 1.6.5. The host club is responsible for the carrying out of 1.6.1), 1.6.2), 1.6.3) and 1.6.4) above.
- 1.6.6. In appropriate circumstances, NCA will inform the clubs that the covers may be left off the pitch on the night prior to the commencement of play to assist in drying of the pitch
- 1.6.7. Random inspections of covers will be occurring during the season by NCA.

1.7. ARTIFICIAL PITCHES

- 1.7.1. If a ball, after delivery by the bowler, pitches on the grass or the edge of the composition strip it shall be ruled as “no-ball”.
- 1.7.2. If a bowler does not have at least one foot on the composition pitch at the moment of delivery, a “no-ball” shall be called.
- 1.7.3. Spikes or studded footwear must not be worn while playing on artificial wickets. Offending teams are liable to a fine at the discretion of NCA.
- 1.7.4. Games must take place on pitches allocated by NCA.

1.8. OVERLAPPING BOUNDARIES

- 1.8.1. When two or more matches are being played on the same ground and the boundaries for adjoining pitches overlap, the following will apply:
 - 1.8.1.1. If the ball in play is stopped or obstructed, whether deliberately or otherwise, by anyone other than a member of the fielding side, except where the ball shall strike the umpire, the umpire will, if, in his opinion, the ball if not stopped or obstructed would have reached the boundary, signal the boundary in the usual manner and the ball shall then deemed to be ‘dead’.
 - 1.8.1.2. If the ball would not, in the opinion of the umpire, have reached the boundary, play will continue as if it had not been obstructed or stopped, but in such case the striker shall not be then liable to be given out caught.

1.9. BOWLING LOADS

- 1.9.1. NZC First Class Playing Conditions shall apply to all Grades.

1.10. PRACTICE ON THE FIELD

- 1.10.1. There shall be no practice on any block.

1.11. BALLS

- 1.11.1. Only Kookaburra balls shall be used in official NCA competition matches.
- 1.11.2. Teams in Junior / Youth grades must use a ball of a reasonable standard but does not have to be brand new for each game.
- 1.11.3. Teams in Senior grades must use a new ball (unless otherwise stated).

2. ADMINISTRATION RULES

2.1. PENALTIES

- 2.1.1. NCA may, at its discretion from time to time, suspend a player, team or team official, impose a fine or loss of points as a penalty. Where there are no points earned from the round of play concerned, a loss of points, as deemed appropriate from the competition in question, may be imposed.

2.2. PLAYING DATES SCHEDULED

- 2.2.1. NCA will determine the scheduled playing dates prior to the start of the season.
- 2.2.2. No variation from the scheduled playing dates is permitted unless authorized by NCA.

2.3. ENTRY FEES

- 2.3.1. Each Club and School shall pay in each season an competition fee, which may be fixed from time to time by NCA.

2.4. GROUNDS

- 2.4.1. All playing grounds for grade matches shall be approved by NCA and each club or school shall provide one half pitch for each team entered in the grade competitions.
- 2.4.2. It is expected that pitches prepared by clubs will always be fit for play unless NCA is notified otherwise. NCA can at any time during the season withdraw a ground if it is considered unfit for play, and will only reinstate that ground after re-inspection.

2.5. GRADING OF TEAMS

- 2.5.1. NCA shall, in consultation with clubs and schools, determine for which grade championship each team entered shall compete. NCA may divide any grade into sections.
- 2.5.2. NCA shall have the final determination on all matters relating to the grading of teams and this will be at their sole discretion following consultation.

2.6. TWO OR MORE TEAMS IN THE SAME GRADE

- 2.6.1. Where two or more teams from any club or school are competing in any one grade, no player shall be allowed to play in multiple of such teams during any one season without the consent of NCA . NCA may require team lists to be submitted. The penalty for any club, school or team breaching this rule will be the full loss of points obtained from that particular match(es).

2.7. SIMULTANEOUS MATCHES

- 2.7.1. No player shall be allowed to take part in simultaneous matches.

2.8. PLAYER PLAYING UNFAIRLY OUT OF GRADE

2.8.1. All grades

- 2.8.1.1. If a team has any doubt about the eligibility of one of its players, it should seek a ruling from the NCA by 12pm on the Thursday prior to the start of the match.

2.8.2. Premiership Grade

- 2.8.2.1. *Intent* This is to prevent a player(s) playing unfairly out of their grade.

2.8.3. Process

- 2.8.3.1. A list of the top team (12 players known as “listed players”) of a club that is participating in the Premiership Grade must be submitted to NCA prior to the start of the season. Contracted players to New Zealand Cricket and Central Districts Cricket are not included.
 - 2.8.3.1.1. However, contracted players to New Zealand Cricket and Central Districts Cricket may only play in the Premier Grade.
- 2.8.3.2. None of the “listed players” can play in a lower grade without gaining dispensation from NCA.
- 2.8.3.3. A written request must be submitted to NCA via dustin@nelsoncricket.org.nz by 12pm on the Thursday prior to the start of the match to attain a dispensation. For the avoidance of doubt, the player only receives dispensation once NCA replies in writing approving the request.
- 2.8.3.4. In the Premiership Grade, team captains must submit their team list on the appropriate form to the match umpires and opposing captain at the toss, and to the team scorers.
- 2.8.3.5. If a Premier team is playing, there is no reason to gain clearance for any **non-listed** players that drop down a grade due to not making the Premier side. (With the exception of 2.10 – 2.10.2)
- 2.8.3.6. NCA reserves the sole right to determine what constitutes a Premiership player and to resolve any dispute that may arise from abuse of this rule.

2.8.4. 2nd Grade

- 2.8.4.1. A player playing down from Premier Grade will be deemed to be playing unfairly out of grade if they;
 - 2.8.4.1.1. Are a listed player. Or
 - 2.8.4.1.2. Have played 3 or more consecutive games in Premier Grade, and there is no Premier Grade cricket that weekend.

2.8.5. 3rd Grade

- 2.8.6. A player will be deemed to be playing unfairly out of grade in 3rd Grade if they have played 3 or more consecutive games in a higher grade (regardless of whether that is 2nd Grade, Premier, or a mix).

2.9. REPLACEMENT PLAYER

- 2.9.1. Any named player, who arrives late due to his/her sitting an examination of a University or other tertiary institution on the day of play, will have full playing rights from the time of their arrival. The umpires and opposing team captain should be informed at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the day’s play.
- 2.9.2. NCA has sole authority to resolve any dispute regarding possible abuse of this rule.

2.10. FINAL ELIGIBILITY

2.10.1. PREMIER GRADE

- 2.10.1.1. All current club members who have played a minimum of Five matches for the club throughout the regular season are permitted to play in any Premier Grade Semi Final & or Final
 - 2.10.1.1.1. For avoidance of doubt, the round robin games within the Tasman Premier League (TPL) will count towards a player's minimum number of games required. The semi-final and Final of the TPL **will not** count.
- 2.10.1.2. Both teams will be required to submit their team list of their Premiership/2nd Grade teams as if they were playing simultaneously.
- 2.10.1.3. NCA reserves the right to grant dispensation in exceptional circumstances.
 - 2.10.1.3.1. Clubs must submit their dispensation requests to dustin@nelsoncricket.org.nz by 12pm on the Thursday before the semi-final or final.
- 2.10.1.4. NCA shall be the final judge on who constitutes a 2nd Grade or 3rd Grade Player.
- 2.10.1.5. If games are washed-out / abandoned, they can still count towards a players required games in 3.10.1.1 provided they are entered into PlayHQ by the deadline in clause 4.1.2.
- 2.10.1.6. First Class cricket matches and Nelson representative matches which fall on ordinary playing days shall count towards a players total matches in 3.10.1.1.
- 2.10.1.7. Student Eligibility
 - 2.10.1.7.1. Students, **who are returning to their hometown**, are permitted to play for a club in Nelson despite being a member of another club in their respective study region. However, they are only eligible for finals if they too have played the five-match minimum requirement.
 - 2.10.1.7.2. Clubs must have a completed permit on PlayHQ at by the time the team sheet is due that week for someone to play for the club if they are currently signed to another club in New Zealand.

2.10.2. RESERVE GRADES

- 2.10.2.1. Players selected must have played in a minimum of 4 matches for the club in the respective grade or lower. There is no restriction on players playing up a grade.
- 2.10.2.2. The clubs involved are to submit a playing list plus team lists of those higher teams in their club as if they were playing on the same day as the Semi/Final.
- 2.10.2.3. NCA reserves the right to grant dispensation in exceptional circumstances, and shall be the final judge of who constitutes a player in that grade.
 - 2.10.2.3.1. Clubs must submit their dispensation requests to dustin@nelsoncricket.org.nz by 12pm on the Thursday before

the semi-final or final.

2.11. TRANSFERS (CLUB CRICKET ONLY)

- 2.11.1. The club transfer form must be completed and signed by all parties before a player may transfer from one club to another, and before he/she can play for the new club. This applies during the club cricket season and outside the season.
- 2.11.2. No player, having played for a club in a grade competition organised by NCA, shall be allowed to transfer to another club during the course of the same season except where both clubs agree, or where special circumstances exist. This applies to transfers between Nelson clubs as well as players transferring into Nelson from another Association. The application must be approved by NCA.
- 2.11.3. If a player and club are in breach of this Condition (3.11.1 and 3.11.2), the club will be fined \$100 for its non-compliance. This transfer process goes back no further than the 5 seasons.

2.12. DEFAULTS

2.12.1. ADULT GRADES

- 2.12.1.1. No team in Premier Grade, can default. Clubs must fill sides in the higher grades first in the case of defaults.
- 2.12.1.2. If a default occurs in any of these grades, the team defaulting will lose 4 competition points, and the club fined \$200. Their opponent will gain the maximum points accrued in the grade for the round in question.
- 2.12.1.3. NCA must be informed of any default by the secretary, club captain or chairman of the defaulting team no later than 12pm on the Friday prior to the match.
- 2.12.1.4. In the event of a “no show” (that is, a team failing to show up at a game without informing NCA and the opposition), the club of that team will be fined \$400. The opposition will be awarded maximum points from that round and the defaulting team will lose 6 points.
- 2.12.1.4.1. **2nd / 3rd grade.** In the event of a default before 12.00pm on the last working day of the week preceding the match, the defaulting team must inform NCA. The team defaulting will incur a loss of 4 points, a \$75 fine, and their opponent will gain maximum points..
- 2.12.1.5. In the event of a “no show” (that is, a team failing to show up at a game without informing NCA and the opposition), the club of that team will be fined \$200. The opposition will be awarded maximum points from that round and the defaulting team will lose 6 points.
- 2.12.1.5.1. If a team defaults on two or more playing days, that team may be withdrawn from the competition by NCA, at NCA’s sole discretion.

2.12.2. JUNIOR AND YOUTH CRICKET

- 2.12.2.1. The deadline for advising the default of Junior and Youth teams will be by 12.00pm on the Friday preceding the day of the match.
- 2.12.2.2. In the event of a default after 12.00pm on the Friday preceding the match, the defaulting team will have 4 points deducted (if

- appropriate) from its competition total. The Club will be fined \$100.
- 2.12.2.3. Clause 3.12.1.4. and 3.12.1.5. in Adult Grades apply to Junior and Youth Grades. In the event of a “no show” (that is, a team failing to show up at a game without informing NCA and the opposition), the club of that team will be fined \$200. The opposition will be awarded maximum points from that round and the defaulting team will lose 6 points (if appropriate).

2.13. DRESS AND BEHAVIOUR

- 2.13.1. The appropriate dress for players shall be white, or clothing approved by NCA, and all players at all times, during all matches, while on the field of play are to appear appropriately dressed.
- 2.13.2. Sponsorship names on the clothing must be in accordance with the rules regarding sponsorship. (Condition 3.15)
- 2.13.3. Touch or softball shoes must not be worn while playing on any pitches.
- 2.13.4. Alcohol is not to be consumed on, or carried onto, the field of play by players, umpires or supporters.
- 2.13.5. There is no smoking or vaping allowed on the field of play by players, umpires or supporters
- 2.13.6. Teams are responsible for their own rubbish and ensuring the facility is left in a clean and tidy condition.
- 2.13.7. At no time must the game be brought into disrepute under the Spirit of the Game and the NCA Code of Behaviour by players, umpires or team supporters.
- 2.13.8. Any infringement of these conditions will result in a penalty of a loss of points, fine, suspension of individual, team or team supporter at the discretion of NCA.

2.14. SPONSORSHIP

- 2.14.1. Clubs or schools may use a sponsor’s name in their titles and/or for their grade teams. These names must be submitted to NCA for approval and NCA has the right to prohibit the use of any name.
- 2.14.2. An advertising insignia in the form of the company name or logo, or both, can be used on shirts and sweaters by all members of the team (there can be no exclusion or separate arrangements for individual players). The insignia should be placed in one position only: on the collar, sleeve, or the front pocket of a shirt. If on a sweater it should be placed on the sleeve. Advertising may be allowed on the back of shirts if approved by NCA. More than one company’s insignia may be permitted on any shirt or sweater for each team in any one season. The height of each letter of a company or brand name should not exceed 5cm. The size of the insignia should be contained within:
- 2.14.2.1. a rectangle of 8cm x 8cm; OR
- 2.14.2.2. a maximum area of 64cm² Any exceptions to the above must be submitted to NCA for approval.
- 2.14.3. The design for the insignia must be submitted to NCA for approval and NCA has the right to prohibit the use of any insignia.
- 2.14.4. No advertising matter on all other playing equipment or clothing other than that in Condition 3.14.2 shall be permitted.

2.15. RESULTS

- 2.15.1. All results must be registered on PlayHQ.
- 2.15.2. It is the responsibility of the home team (or the team on the left of the draw when playing at a neutral ground) to enter the result including full scoreboards

of both teams where applicable.

- 2.15.3. Failure to do so may result in no points being allocated to that match.

2.16. **COMPETITIONS**

- 2.16.1. No club may have more than one team in the Premiership Grade. This condition does NOT apply to other grades.
- 2.16.2. NCA reserves the right to determine all matters relating to the grading of teams.
- 2.16.3. NCA shall decide on the order in which teams shall compete and shall fix dates and grounds for grade competition matches.
- 2.16.4. The duration and hours of play of all grades shall be decided by NCA.

2.17. **OVERSEAS PLAYERS**

- 2.17.1. An overseas player is, by definition, a player who does not ordinarily reside in NZ for more than six months or does not hold a NZ passport.
- 2.17.2. There is no limit on the number of overseas players that may play in a team. However, only one may be a professional player.
- 2.17.3. A professional player is defined as a person who derives their income from playing cricket either in NZ or their home country.
- 2.17.4. Dispensation may be granted by NCA in exceptional circumstances. Any disputes regarding the application of this rule must be referred to the NCA.
- 2.17.5. Any professional player must be registered with the NCA one week prior to the start of the season.

2.18. **UMPIRES**

- 2.18.1. Umpires shall be appointed for competition matches by the Nelson Cricket Umpires' and Scorers' Association.
- 2.18.2. The Nelson Cricket Umpires' and Scorers' Association will provide match allocation no later than Thursday prior to the matches.
- 2.18.3. It is the duty of such umpires to report to NCA on any irregularity or breach of the NCA rules.

2.19. **COMPOSITION OF TEAMS**

- 2.19.1. Eight players constitute a team
- 2.19.2. Any team that does not have eight or more players at the ground 30 minutes after the scheduled start time shall be deemed to have forfeited the match by default.
- 2.19.3. If both teams don't have the minimum number required to constitute a match, then the result will be considered a no result.

2.20. **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- 2.20.1. Nelson Cricket has adopted the NZC Helmet Policy. In the community game, this means that helmets are strongly recommended for all batters 19 years old and older. While helmets are mandatory for all batters under the age of 19. The helmet policy also applies to keeping (within 5m of the stumps) and fielding (within 7m of the stumps).

3. LOCAL PLAYING CONDITIONS

3.2. COMMENCEMENT OF PLAY: NAMING OF TEAMS, AND LATE STARTING

- 3.2.1. In the event of late starting at the commencement of play or after an interval no extra time can be claimed. Any team not ready to commence play at the appointed time will be dealt with by NCA.
- 3.2.2. Both sides are to enter their “draft” teams onto PlayHQ by 12pm on the Friday before the match. Edits may be made on PlayHQ in accordance with laws 4.1.1 – 4.1.4.

3.3. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 3.3.1. Nelson Cricket will, from time to time, adopt a Code of Conduct which will apply to all cricket under Nelson Cricket’s jurisdiction. Should this be changed during the season, Clubs will be notified in writing, and the new Code of Conduct will be available on the Nelson Cricket website

3.4. Other Policies

- 3.4.1. NCA will, from time to time, approve, update, or rescind policies and procedures which may apply to NCA competitions. NCA will communicate any updates to Clubs in writing, and they will come into effect (or are rescinded) from the time notification is given.
- 3.4.2. Notification is deemed to be given when NCA sends any communication and is not determined by when a Club receives that communication, nor is it voided should the Club be accidentally excluded from the distribution list.
- 3.4.3. These General Playing Conditions should be read in conjunction with the Grade and Format specific playing conditions.