



SENIOR GENERAL PLAYING CONDITIONS
SEASON 2025/26

UPDATED & ADOPTED OCTOBER 2025

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1. LAWS OF CRICKET

The Laws of Cricket (2017 Code, 1st October 2017) shall apply to all matches except where modified by these Rules, and with the following specific modifications: - All instances of 5 penalty runs shall not apply with the exceptions of: - Law 28.2 – Fielding the ball, and - Law 28.3 – Protective helmets of the fielding side

2. VENUES

All matches shall be played on grounds as allocated by the association executive. The allocated venue shall not be changed without the prior approval of the executive.

3. UMPIRES

3.1 UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

- (a) Umpires for all senior-appointed matches shall be current members of the South West Cricket Association umpires panel.
- (b) One umpire will be appointed for each match and paid by the two competing teams.
- (c) Two umpires will be appointed for matches where permissible and all finals games.
- (d) All appointed umpires shall be properly attired as per South West Cricket Association requirements.
- (e) All appointed umpires shall complete match reports as set out in rule

3.2 UMPIRE FEE STRUCTURE

Appointed umpires shall be paid at the following rates:

	Home and Away	Finals
Division One/Premier	\$200 (\$100 per club)	\$200per umpire (one club to pay one umpire)
Division Two	\$180 (\$90 per club)	\$180 per umpire (one club to pay one umpire)
Division Three	\$180 (\$90 per club)	\$180 per umpire (one club to pay one umpire)
Twenty20	\$120 (\$60 per club) or \$50 per umpire (if two are fixtured)	\$120 per umpire (one club to pay one umpire)

4. MATCH BALLS

4.1 DIVISION ONE

Only white SWCA stamped and approved Kookaburra 4-piece balls shall be used for division one. One new ball shall be used for each innings

4.2 DIVISION TWO AND THREE

Only white SWCA stamped and approved Kookaburra Division 2-piece balls shall be used for division two and three.

One new ball shall be used for each innings.

5. HOST CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 GROUND AND PITCH

All grounds shall be clear of hazards and marked correctly prior to scheduled starting time.

5.2 OTHER EQUIPMENT

The host club shall provide stumps and bails and inner circle markers (division one only) for use in all matches; all other equipment shall be provided by competing teams.

5.3 FACILITIES

Clubs shall ensure that adequate dressing rooms are available to competing teams each match day. Lunch shall be provided by the host club for players and the umpires at the lunch break. Lunch shall be taken at the conclusion of the first innings of the match. See Rule 12.2 1

5.4 COVERS

The use of pitch covers prior any match shall be at the discretion of the ground manager. During the course of the match, competing teams shall be given access to all wicket covers which are not required to cover wickets prepared for normal Saturday/Sunday competition matches. Covers shall be laid and removed by competing teams under the supervision of the Ground Manager, or in his absence, the match Umpires.

5.5 SCOREBOARD

All clubs shall make available scoreboard facilities which display at the minimum, the team scores and the number of overs.

Batting sides in all senior grades shall display scores on an appropriate scoreboard, updated at five over intervals during each match.

5.6 SCORING

- (a) Each team shall keep in its scoring medium the full match details (batting & bowling) of both competing teams.
- (b) The home side shall supply an electronic device for the provision of live-scoring. The away side shall supply a scorebook for the provision of manual scoring.
- (c) At the completion of each days play the umpires shall inspect the scorebooks and sign as correct.
- (d) Duckworth Lewis system will be used to calculate interrupted games for One Day and Twenty20 matches in all senior divisions.

6 WET WEATHER OR EXTREME HEAT

All decisions as to the fitness of play are to be made no later than one and a half hours (10am) before the scheduled time of play and the decision of the abandonment of play are to be announced via club communication channels and the South West Cricket Facebook page and SMS message to clubs. SWCUA also to be notified at this time.

7 THE TOSS, NOMINATION OF TEAMS, PLAYER PARTICIPATION

7.1 TOSS FOR CHOICE OF INNINGS

- (a) Captains shall toss on the field of play no earlier than 30 minutes and no later than 15 minutes before the scheduled or delayed time for start of play.

- (b) Immediately after the toss the winning captain must notify the other captain of his decision to bat or field.
- (c) The winner of the toss may not alter his decision to bat or field once it has been notified to the opposing captain.

7.2 NOMINATION OF TEAMS

At a time no later than 10 minutes prior to scheduled commencement, the captain shall nominate his 12 players. The nominations shall be entered electronically via Play HQ, with both captains and umpires to review, and must not thereafter be changed without the consent of the opposing captain.

In completing team sheets online, captains must include:

- (a) The full first and last names of all registered players participating in the match;
- (b) Correctly registered in the age category of any junior players (Under 19, 17, 15 & 13) as at September 1 of the current season; and
- (c) Designation of any permit players participating in the match.

In completing team sheets online, captains must remember that:

- (d) A suspended player cannot be named on any team sheet.
- (e) A suspended player cannot play in any division until the suspension expires.
- (f) A player named on a team sheet must be ready and available at the ground to play at some stage during the game.
- (g) Umpires are to sight the team sheets online after all names are entered and be satisfied before play commencement.
- (h) Captains are to make it known to the opposing captain and umpire/s of any players that fall into the above (b), (c), (d) and (e).

7.3 DECLARATION OF PLAYER PARTICIPATION

In all matches a captain shall have the option to nominate twelve players.

The following conditions shall apply:

- (a) One player in each side shall not bat, and another not bowl. Only eleven fieldsmen shall be on the field at any one time. With the consent of the umpires unlimited interchange of fieldsmen from the twelve nominated players shall be allowed between overs or after intervals and interruptions.
- (b) The bowling restriction under Law 24.2 and batting restriction under Law 25.3 (MCC Laws of Cricket) shall not apply to a nominated player returning to the field to replace another nominated player. However, any nominated player failing to take the field in the final 10 overs of the first innings shall not be allowed to bat in the top six unless the team has been dismissed prior to the 50 overs being completed.
The restriction shall apply to a returning nominated player for whom a substitute other than one of the nominated twelve has been used.
- (c) The wicket keeper and captain need to be one of the 12 named players but do not necessarily need to bat nor bowl. The bowling 12th man is not permitted to keep wickets.

Note: This rule allows for free "interchange" of fieldsmen. The Laws of Cricket regarding substitute fieldsmen are to be strictly applied and enforced by Umpires only when a 13th fieldsmen is used.

7.4 TEAMS IN MORE THAN ONE DIVISION

(a) Any club which has a team in more than one senior division in the association shall have the right to play any of its players in any of those senior divisions during the home and away season.

(b) Where the club's first team is not scheduled to play, any player who was named in the club's first team for the preceding match is not eligible to play for any lower team in matches scheduled on that day.

7.5 SUBSTITUTES

(a) Any registered player from any SWCA club may act as a substitute. Substitutes may not bat or bowl, but may keep wickets. Substitutes must be named on the team sheet and designated as such as soon as practical. Umpires are to be advised immediately.

(b) Where a substitute takes the field and replaces a player, that player has an immediate penalty of time (i.e no grace period) off the ground (maximum of 90 minutes) in which he cannot bowl, nor bat until the penalty has been served, unless their team has lost 5 wickets.

7.6 DELAY IN START OR CONTINUATION

If, for any reason for which a club is responsible, play on any day does not start within 30 minutes of the time appointed or cannot be continued during the match the umpires, on appeal, shall award the match to the other side if play cannot proceed immediately following the appeal. The association executive shall determine the points to be awarded.

7.7 INSUFFICIENT PLAYERS: FORFEITURE OF MATCH

A side which has fewer than seven players in attendance at 30 minutes after the time appointed for a match to commence shall be deemed to have forfeited.

7.8 LATE START REPORT: UMPIRES

At the conclusion of each match the umpires shall, by the approved SWCA reporting means, complete a match report stating the time the match commenced on each day of play.

7.9 UNAUTHORISED PERSON WITHIN THE FIELD OF PLAY

If an unauthorised person enters the playing area and handles the ball, the umpire at the bowler's end shall be the sole judge of whether the boundary allowance shall be scored, the ball be treated as still in play or be called "dead ball".

8 LODGEMENT OF REPORTS AND RESULTS**8.1 SUBMISSION OF RESULTS**

a) The home team in all divisions is to live score the game, the visiting side still to use score book (where applicable).

b) Match results must be logged on to Play HQ no later than 12pm (midday) on Sunday. Matches played on Sunday days to be completed by 7 pm on the day.

c) Complete scores including full batting, bowling and fielding details must be entered on to Play HQ for all senior divisions

8.2 SUBMISSION OF REPORTS

8.2.1 All captains must lodge on Play HQ by no later than 12 pm (midday) on day following completion of match, an appraisal of umpire performance with comments where required for good and poor performance. This report must be lodged under the captain's own account on Play HQ.

8.2.2 All umpires must lodge on Play HQ by no later than 12 pm (midday) on the day following completion of their appointed match, a review of the day's play with comments where required. This report must be lodged under the umpire's own account on Play HQ.

9 ON-FIELD ATTIRE

9.1 ALL DIVISIONS

All players in division one must wear approved club playing uniforms (shirt and pant) as notified to the association executive

9.2 HATS

White or club colour cricket sunhats or caps in club colours apply in all divisions.

10 HELMETS

Players under the age of 18 at 1 September in the current season must wear a cricket helmet with a faceguard when batting, fielding close to the bat (defined as closer than 10 metres to the stumps except slips, gully and wicketkeeper), or when wicket keeping up to the stumps.

The association executive strongly recommends for safety reasons that all senior players wear approved helmets when batting, by wicket keepers standing up to the stumps and by close in fielders to the batter.