



CRICKET NSW

NSW YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS MATCH DAY OPERATION POLICIES

Updated 30 Aug 2023

1. PITCH SURFACES

Under 12s and 13s Metro competitions will be played on 18m, synthetic pitches measured from stump to stump. Under 13 Country competitions will play on 18m turf. Under 14s, 15s and 17s competitions will be played on 20.12m turf pitches, measured from stump to stump. Cricket NSW may, at its discretion, schedule matches on synthetic surfaces where there are insufficient turf venues to host all games.

2. STUMPS

(a) Reduced 18 Metre Pitch – Under 12 and 13

- Country 13s on 18m turf may use regular stumps at the discretion of groundskeepers.
- The home team must supply the stumps for both ends.
- Spring back stumps must be used at one (or both) ends of the pitch.
- The away team must bring a back up set of spring back stumps.

(b) Synthetic Pitches (Full Size Pitch – Under 14 and Older)

- The home team must supply the stumps for both ends.
- The away team must bring three back up stumps and two bails.

(c) Full Size Turf Pitches

- The home team must supply the stumps for both ends.
- The away team must bring three back up turf stumps and two bails.
- Steel tipped stumps are banned for use in turf pitch matches.

(d) Matches on Neutral Venues

- Where a match is played on a neutral venue, the “home” team is defined as the first mentioned side on the draw.

3. GROUND EQUIPMENT

(a) Boundary Markers

- Both teams will travel to the game with a minimum number of 20 boundary cones.
- Home side may provide all cones if sufficient supply.
- Minimum and maximum boundary sizes are available in the appropriate playing conditions.

(b) Scoreboards

- The home team must provide a scoreboard to be used during the match. Folding or portable sign style boards are appropriate. This is to assist players, scorers and umpires throughout the match.
- Repeat non-provision of scoreboards at matches will result in Cricket NSW intervention.

4. CREASES AND FIELDING CIRCLES

The home team will be responsible for venue preparation including crease markings and fielding restriction circles for under 14, 15 and 17 age groups. Fielding restriction circles can be a white line circle, a series of white dots forming the circle, or rubber discs in the place of a white line circle.

5. SWAPPING FROM TURF TO SYNTHETIC PITCHES

For all matches scheduled on turf pitches, the home team must have a backup synthetic surface venue to transfer to in the event of the turf venue being unfit for play. The away team has no right of refusal to the match being transferred to a synthetic surface. The decision whether to play at the backup venue lies with the umpires, based on the fitness of that ground to safely conduct the match. The same match ball will continue to be used.

For finals series matches, venues shall not be changed without the consent of Cricket NSW.

6. SWAPPING FROM ONE SYNTHETIC PITCH VENUE TO ANOTHER

Where synthetic grounds are closed due to wet weather, these matches may be transferred to another synthetic ground if available. The away team has no right of refusal to the match being transferred to an alternate synthetic surface. The decision whether to play at the backup venue lies with the umpires, based on the fitness of that ground to safely conduct the match. The same match ball will continue to be used.

For finals series matches, venues shall not be changed without the consent of Cricket NSW.

7. WET WEATHER GROUND CLOSURES AND VENUE TRANSFERS

- (a)** Where a ground has been closed due to poor weather and the match needs to be abandoned, the home team is solely responsible for communicating to the opposition and umpires. The same applies where the home team has decided to transfer to another venue.
- (b)** Advising appointed umpires of a venue closure or transfer shall only be via phone call. Text messages, emails, or voicemail are not sufficient. If a host Association fails to advise the match officials of a ground closure causing umpires to unnecessarily travel to the venue, Cricket NSW is obligated to pay the umpires full match payment. In such cases, Cricket NSW may in its absolute discretion seek compensation for those umpire payments from the Association that failed in its duties under this policy.
- (c)** Umpire appointments for each round and contact list will be available on the Youth Championships website – www.nswyouthchampionships.com.au

9. UMPIRING

- (a)** Cricket NSW will appoint two umpires to officiate at all Youth Championship matches.
- (b)** Where a shortfall of umpires occurs and a match proceed with only one officially appointed umpire, an adult from the batting team will act as square leg umpire at both ends. No coaching or support shall be provided to batters at the crease in between overs by the adult at square leg. No adult shall act as square leg umpire when their child is at the crease batting.

10. TEAM OFFICIALS

- (a)** Each team shall appoint a competent person as its team manager, responsible for ensuring that adequate playing equipment is provided for their team. Managers will also be responsible for the conduct of their team for the duration of the Youth Championships season. Managers must also ensure appropriate behaviour of parents and players off-field.
- (b)** All NSW Youth Championship matches are alcohol free zones. Team managers are responsible for the upholding of this policy.

- (c) Coaching or tactical advice/instruction shall be permitted to a player fielding on the boundary, but only if done in a way where such instructions cannot be heard by others in attendance at the match. Coaches can only provide support on the field during scheduled drinks breaks.
- (d) Teams must travel with two officials per team. At younger age brackets (up to and including u14,) three team officials may travel with the team.

11. SCORING AND ADVICE OF MATCH RESULTS

- (a) Teams must provide a non-playing, competent scorer for every match. It will be the home team's responsibility to ensure that the match is scored by one team using a smart phone/tablet/device within the Play HQ software and one team using a cricket scorebook. The team scoring online should also have access to their own scorebook in the event of technical issues. The home team shall have first choice of scoring methods.
- (b) It is not a requirement to score in the online or "live" mode, however, if scoring in the "offline" mode, it is encouraged to frequently use the manual sync function.
- (c) Match results are to be submitted by 9am on the Monday morning after the match. Any bonus points awarded (if not added during live scoring,) will be manually calculated after the 9am score submission the following day. Addition of bonus points and recalculation of ladders can take up to 24 hours to become visible on Play HQ or Youth Championships website.

12. RUN RATE METHOD

- (a) Where a match has to be determined under the run rate method, each team's run rate shall be equal to the total runs scored divided by the total number of overs and balls faced. Each fair delivery counting for one-sixth of an over. If a side has been dismissed in less than the allocated number of overs, they will be considered to have batted for their maximum allocated overs.
- (b) If a match is interrupted and the team batting second has its overs reduced (causing a reduced target score,) then the match will end as soon as the team batting second has reached the reduced target score, despite there being overs remaining.
- (c) Where teams finish on the table with equal on the competition points at the end of the round matches, places on the ladder shall be determined by the **Net Run Rate Method**:

(Runs scored divided by overs batted) less (Runs against divided by overs bowled)

14. SIGHT SCREENS

Where sight screens are available for use, it shall be the responsibility of the batting team to provide persons to move sight screens as required by the batter. If this does not occur, the umpires shall require play to continue without the sight screen being moved.

15. TEAM LISTS

Captains shall each nominate their players before the toss for innings. Thereafter, these may not be changed without the consent of the opposing captain. Umpires shall ask captains to present their team sheets to take a photo of each. Umpires may need to provide these photos to Cricket NSW if a match investigation is required.

16. MATCH BALLS

Cricket NSW will supply Kookaburra brand cricket balls for all NSW Youth Championships matches. A new ball will be used at the start of each innings.

The balls will be pink for T20 fixtures and red for 30, 40 and 50 over fixtures. For pink ball games if a ball becomes lost or unfit for play a replacement ball maybe red if no other pink spare balls are available. For red ball games on turf pitches, if a ball becomes lost or unfit for play a two-piece ball can be used only if no suitable four-piece ball is available.

17. PITCH COVERS

Covers shall be a minimum of 30 metres by 10 metres and are required to be used for all representative matches. Covers must be laid by dusk on the evening of any day prior to a match. It is the home team's responsibility to liaise with the appropriate ground authority to ensure compliance in regard to the laying of covers the night before the game.

Covers are to be removed at the discretion of the ground staff dependant on prevailing weather conditions. In good weather conditions the covers should be removed no later than 8:30am. Covers may be re-laid on the morning of any playing day should conditions necessitate. Ground staff may be permitted to use the covers at their discretion in order to obtain the best possible conditions of play for each match day.

Umpires shall assume sole control thirty minutes prior to the scheduled start time and make all decisions regarding the use of covers after this time. After commencement of play, the covers may be used as directed by the umpires. Should umpires decide that the covers be used during the match, it is the responsibility of both teams to assist with any labour required.

18. CODE OF CONDUCT

All players, officials, spectators and anyone affiliated with Youth Championships matches are bound by the Code of Conduct which is detailed in full on the Youth Championships website – www.nswyouthchampionships.com.au

19. PROVISION OF LUNCH

It is expected that all players, team officials and match umpires will take full responsibility for their own catering.