

1. THE LAWS OF CRICKET

1.1. LAWS

The Laws of Cricket (2017 Code 1st Edition - 2017)), published by the Marylebone Cricket Club shall apply to all competition cricket under the jurisdiction of the association, subject to such modification by Local rules as may from time to time be agreed upon by the Christchurch Metropolitan Cricket Association. *Hereafter the Christchurch Metropolitan Cricket Association shall be referred to as Metro and shall include all of its committees and sub-committees.* Local Rules presently in force are as follows:

1.2. THE SPIRIT OF CRICKET

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action which is seen to abuse this spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with captains.

1.2.1. RESPONSIBILITY OF CAPTAINS

The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.

1.2.2. PLAYER CONDUCT

In the event of a player failing to comply with instructions by an umpire, or criticising by word or action the decisions of an umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall, in the first place, report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, and instruct the latter to take action.

1.2.3. UMPIRES RESPONSE TO PLAYER CONDUCT

The umpires are not to award penalty runs or suspend or remove a player from the field

under Law 42. Any breach or suspected breach will be handled under the Metro Code of Conduct process as outlined in Appendix A - Code of Conduct.

1.2.4. FAIR AND UNFAIR PLAY

According to the Laws the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. The umpires may intervene at any time and it is the responsibility of the captain to take action where required.

1.2.5. THE UMPIRES ARE AUTHORISED TO INTERVENE IN CASES OF:

- Time wasting
- Damaging the pitch
- Dangerous or unfair bowling
- Tampering with the ball
- Any other action they consider to be unfair

1.2.6. THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME INVOLVES RESPECT FOR:

- Your opponents
- Your own captain and team
- The role of the umpires
- The game's traditional values

1.2.7. IT IS AGAINST THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME:

- To dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture
- To direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire
- To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance:
 - a) to appeal knowing that the batsman is not out
 - b) to advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing to seek to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side.

1.3. VIOLENCE

There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.

1.4. PLAYERS

Captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

1.5. LBW - PLAYER UMPIRES

Law 36 shall apply to all LBW decisions.

Below are the questions a player-umpire should ask himself to reach a decision in an LBW appeal:

- i. Did the ball pitch between wicket to wicket or on the off side?
- ii. Was the first point of interception the striker's person or equipment and not his bat?
- iii. Was the first point of interception between wicket to wicket (or if the batsman was not playing a legitimate shot, the first point of interception can be on the off-side)?
- iv. But for that interception (in the umpire's opinion) would the ball have gone on to hit the wickets?

If you answer YES to all of the above questions the batsman is Out LBW.

If the umpire has any doubt, or answers

No to any of the above questions, then the answer is NOT OUT.

Please note that a batsman cannot be given out LBW if the delivery is a no-ball.

1.6. NUMBER OF LEG-SIDE FIELDSMEN

No more than two fieldsmen may be placed behind the popping crease on the on side at the time the bowler delivers the ball. In the event of any infringement of this rule, the Umpire shall call and signal "no ball" at the instant of delivery or as soon as possible thereafter

1.7. THE TOSS

The toss should take place on the field of play in all games at least 15 minutes and no more than 30 minutes prior to the commencement of play, in the presence of at least one umpire if any have been appointed to the match.

1.8. INTERVALS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW 11)

a) If an innings ends or there is a stoppage in play caused by bad weather or light within 10 minutes of the lunch interval, the interval shall be taken immediately. The time remaining in the session of play shall not be added to the break.

b) If 9 wickets are down when 2 minutes remain to the agreed time for either lunch or tea or the 9th wicket falls within these 2 minutes up to and including the last ball of the over, lunch or tea will not be taken until the end of the over in progress 30 minutes after the originally agreed time for lunch or tea. If the innings ends within the 30-minute period, the Interval for lunch or tea will be taken immediately.

c) If there is time lost due to a stoppage in play for bad weather or light, the umpires and captains may agree to take a shorter interval. If the captains cannot agree, then the umpires will decide on the length of the interval.

1.9. BOWLER BREAKING DOWN -INCOMPLETE OVERS

a. If, during any match, a bowler is unable to complete the over, the remaining balls shall be bowled by another bowler.

b. No bowler shall participate in consecutive overs or any part thereof.

1.10. THROWING

a. For a delivery to be fair the ball must be bowled not thrown. A ball shall be deemed to have been thrown if, in the opinion of either Umpire, the process of straightening the bowling arm, whether it be partial or complete takes place during the part of the delivery swing which directly precedes the ball leaving the hand. This definition shall not debar a bowler from the use of the wrist in the delivery swing. A deliberate 'baseball' type throw by the bowler to the striker, should be called No-Ball by either umpire and the

process in Law 21.2 should be followed.

b. If, in the opinion of both umpires, the bowler is deemed to have thrown the ball, the umpires shall inform the bowler and his captain that it will be reported in the Umpires' report to Metro Cricket. If Metro receives a second report in the same season on the same bowler, Metro will undertake a formal process to check the bowler's action.

1.11. DRINKS

Non-alcoholic drinks may be taken during any grade when agreed upon by both captains, and umpires.

1.12. STRIKER IN PROTECTED AREA

The striker shall not adopt a stance in the protected area or so close to it that frequent encroachment is inevitable.

1.13. DEFINITIONS

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.