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start automatically, but
can be replayed by using
on the icon below



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Major Law Changes

2018





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Why has the MCC changed the Laws?

ENJOYMENT

IMPROVE PLAYER BEHAVIOUR

SAFETY

BALANCE BETWEEN BAT & BALL

MORE WOMEN

SIMPLIFICATION & CLARIFICATION

TECHNOLOGY

FAIRNESS & EQUITY

MORE POSITIVE PLAY





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The Laws that will be covered in this presentation

Ground weather and light issues –Law 2

The bat –Law 5

The wickets – Law 8

The ball hitting a helmet when worn by a fielder/wicket keeper – a number of laws

A delivery bouncing more than once before it reaches the popping crease – Law 21

Leg byes and byes scored from a No Ball – Law 21

Players absent from the field – Law 24 and 25

Practice on the field – Law 26

Batsman's ground – Law 30

Catches and fielding close to the boundary – a number of laws

Deliberate distraction, deception or obstruction of a batsman – Law 41

Dangerous and unfair short pitched and non-pitching deliveries and front foot no balls – Law 41

Striker in protected area – Law 41

Non-striker leaving his/her ground early– Law 41

Dealing with unacceptable player behaviour - Law 42



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Law 2 – Ground Conditions

If one umpire thinks conditions are dangerous or unreasonable, play must be suspended

Both must agree that conditions are safe to resume





Law 5 – The bat

New restrictions on the thickness of the edges of a bat and the overall depth **ONLY APPLIES IN RECREATIONAL GAME FROM 2020**



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Law 8 – The wickets

Mechanisms to tether bails to the stumps are allowed **with agreement of the league authority** (protection of wicket keepers)



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Helmets worn by a Fielder/Wicket Keeper

Helmets now seen as essential for safety in close fielding situations rather than an advantage so

- Batters can be out caught even if the ball has hit the helmet being worn by a fielder or wicket keeper
- Batters can be out stumped or run out from rebounds off the helmet worn by a fielder or wicket keeper
- A catch is now valid in the case of the ball being trapped or lodged in the grill of the helmet worn by a fielder or wicket keeper if the ball has not been in contact with the ground.



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Law 18, 21 & 23 – Byes and Leg Byes from a no ball

If Byes or Leg byes accrue from a No ball, only the one run penalty is scored as a No Ball and the remainder as Byes or Leg byes as appropriate

Law 21 No Ball

- **No Ball if delivery is so wide it first pitches off the pitch (called as a wide if doesn't pitch at all)**
- **No Ball if delivery pitches on or the edge of an adjacent artificial wicket to the match pitch**
- **No Ball if ball bounces more than once before reaching the batter.**



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Law 24 – Fielder's absence, substitutes

A player who is absent during playing time whilst his/her side is fielding will incur Penalty time immediately - **cannot bowl or bat** until all penalty time is served up to maximum of 90 minutes

Can bat in second innings if five wickets are down even if penalty time still to serve .

Penalty time is not incurred if it is as a result of an external blow during the match or any other acceptable reasons (except illness or internal injury)





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Law 25 – Further restriction on runners

- A runner is only allowed if the batter's injury affects their ability to run
- When there is an injured striker, the runner must have some part of his/her person or bat behind the popping crease until the ball reaches the striker or popping crease
- Runs will be disallowed if the runner leaves early, in a similar way to how illegal leg-byes are treated : dead ball is only called after the batters complete the first run so fielders have a chance to make a run out.



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Law 26 – Practice on the field

No practice at any time on the square except with the approval of the umpires and not on the match pitch at all

No bowling practice in an area between the square and the boundary parallel to match pitch between calls of 'Play' and 'Time'

First offence; warning, subsequent offences; 5 penalty runs & report



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Law 30 – Batsman's ground



Batter not considered out of ground if, when running and having grounded some part of his/her person or bat beyond the popping crease, there is subsequent loss of contact:

- between the ground and any part of his/her person or bat or
- between the bat and person

Provided there is continued forward movement



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Catches and fielding close to the boundary

When one or more fielder is involved in fielding the ball or catching it close to a boundary, each must either be grounded within the boundary or his/her last contact with the ground before touching the ball must have been within the boundary





Law 41 – Unfair play

Deliberate attempt to distract the striker.

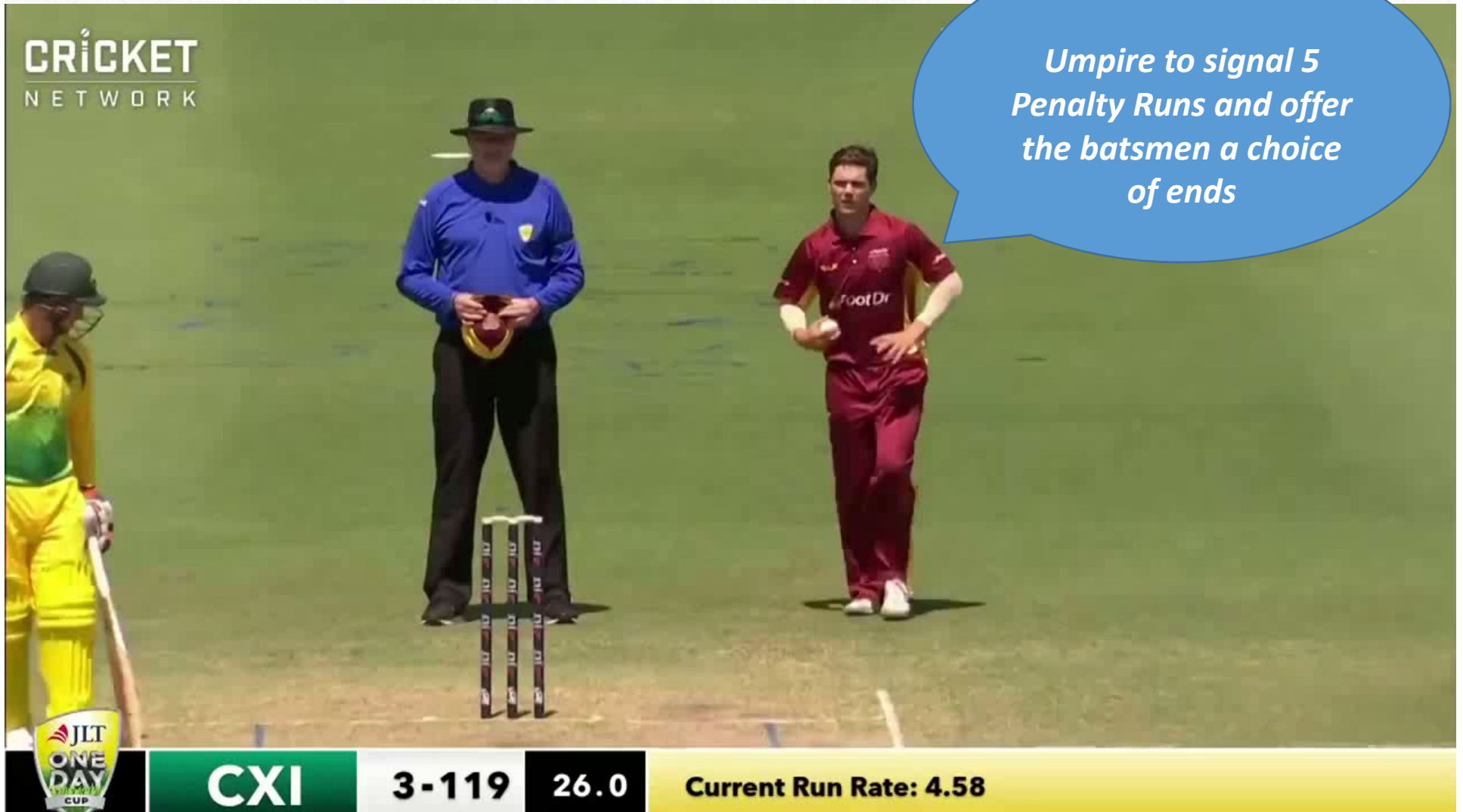
First and final warning removed, straight to 5 penalty runs

Deliberate distraction or obstruction of batsman has been extended to include 'deception' to cover 'mock fielding' and any other attempt to deceive the batting side

[Mock Fielding Video](#)

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“Mock Fielding” example





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Law 41 – Bouncers /Beamers

The WCL has decided to continue with the old law

The warning sequences for each of these types of delivery are now separate

1st offence : No ball and first warning

2nd offence: No ball and final warning

3rd offence : No ball and immediate removal from
bowling

**Deliberate beamer = No ball and immediate
removal**





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Law 41 – Bouncers

- For bouncers likely to inflict physical injury, repetition is no longer a pre-requisite for a delivery to be considered dangerous. – height, direction, speed, length, skill of striker and likelihood of injury will all be taken into account by umpires.
- League regs. allow up to two “bouncers” per over but umpires can intervene and call no ball if they deem bowling is unfair and/or dangerous at any time.

Law 41 – Beamers (Accidental)

Where the ball is deemed to be fast umpires shall adopt the warning procedure shown in the last slide.



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Law 41 – Unfair play

Bowler can attempt to Run Out non-striker backing up until he/she reaches the point of release in the delivery .

Ball is not counted as a valid ball in the over regardless of the outcome of the Run Out attempt.





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Law 41 – Unfair play

Striker cannot adopt a stance (or mark his guard) in the protected area or so close that encroachment is inevitable

Once a batsman enters the protected area to play a shot they must move out of it as swiftly as possible





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Law 42 – Players' conduct

Offences have been categorised into a series of Levels, 1 to 4

Sanctions specified for offences at each Level

Process that the umpires need to go through is set out

The WCL will only apply this Law where a panel umpire(s) is officiating the match but still requires good conduct from all clubs at all times on and off the field of play.



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Law 42 – Players' conduct

Level 1 Offences Examples

Abuse of ground or equipment

Excessive and/or unreasonable appeals

Showing dissent by word or action to an umpire's decision

Obscene, offensive or insulting language or gestures

Sanctions for Level 1 Offences

- If 1st instance of a problem – formal warning
- If another level 1 or higher offence has taken place already – 5 penalty runs to the opposing side



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Law 42 – Players' conduct

Level 2 Offences

Inappropriate and Deliberate physical contact

Throwing the ball at someone in an inappropriate/dangerous manner

Obscene language or gestures aimed at someone of a seriously insulting nature

Other conduct deemed as equivalent to Level 2 by the umpires

Sanctions for Level 2 Offences

- Award 5 penalty runs to the non offending team



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Law 42 – Players' conduct

Level 3 Offences

Intimidating an umpire by word or action

Threatening to assault someone (apart from an umpire)

Sanctions for Level 3 Offences

- Award 5 penalty runs to the non offending team
- Removal of the player from the field of play for a period of 10 overs (or 20% of the scheduled overs) : carries through to second innings if applicable.



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Law 42 – Players' conduct

Level 4 Offences

Threatening to assault an umpire

Making inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with an umpire

Physically assaulting a player or any other person

Committing any other act of violence.

Sanctions for Level 4 Offences

- The offending player will be removed from game all together
- Award 5 penalty runs to the non offending team



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Law 42 – Players’ conduct – *Umpire Process*

Call Dead ball

Collect ball

Consult each other

Stop game by call of ‘Time’

Captain(s) informed of offence and sanction(s)

Captain(s) responsible for informing player(s) & ensuring improved conduct

Record the detail of the offence

Restart by call of ‘Play’

Report to league after the match



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Law 42 – Players’ conduct –

- All formal offences at Levels 1 to 4 will be reported and disciplinary process will be implemented
- Captains and umpires should work pro- actively and together to act upon on any poor behaviour in its early stages wherever possible. Captain is responsible for the conduct of the team.
- Umpires may alert players and captains with informal warnings about conduct but will be supported by the league where they have no option but to apply formal action .



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Additional Resources

MCC E Learning course – excellent free on line course with ability to dip in and out of the learning modules at leisure and also take a voluntary assessment of Laws knowledge (as many attempts as you wish) and become certificated in the Laws with MCC

www.lords.org/laws

Smartphone app – excellent from the MCC with all laws in full, animations and law quizzes at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. Just type in MCC Laws in your app store.

Occasional Umpire on line resource – a short free course aimed at equipping players who do “their turn of 10 overs umpiring in a game”

Need to register for the course at <https://learning.ecb.co.uk>



THANK YOU



Good luck for 2018!

Any questions please contact ecb.aco@ecb.co.uk

