

In 2017 to 2022 the MCC changed some key laws of Cricket

On 2017-2019-2022-10-01 MCC changes to some long-standing Laws.

- They explained their changes to Cricket Leagues



## For Umpires

It is clarified that any person associated with the team may deputise for the captain if he or she is absent for the nomination of the players.

This means that a manager, a coach or another player, for example, can provide the team sheet to the umpires before the toss.

However, **only a nominated player may deputise for the absent captain at the toss.**

A replacement player (allowed with permission of opposing captain) is now a member of the team. He/She will bat, bowl and field, all penalties – time, warnings suspensions continue.) BCMCL – no replacements after TOSS.

# For Umpires

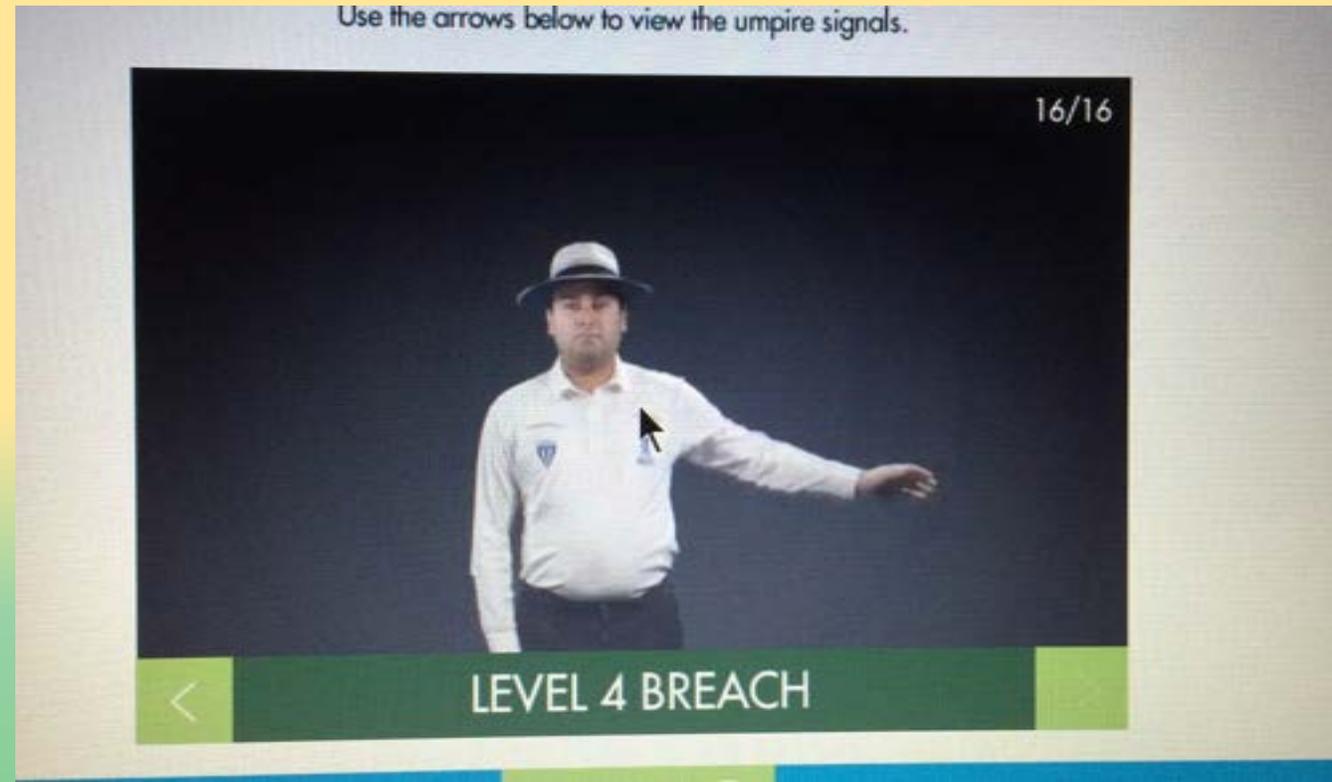
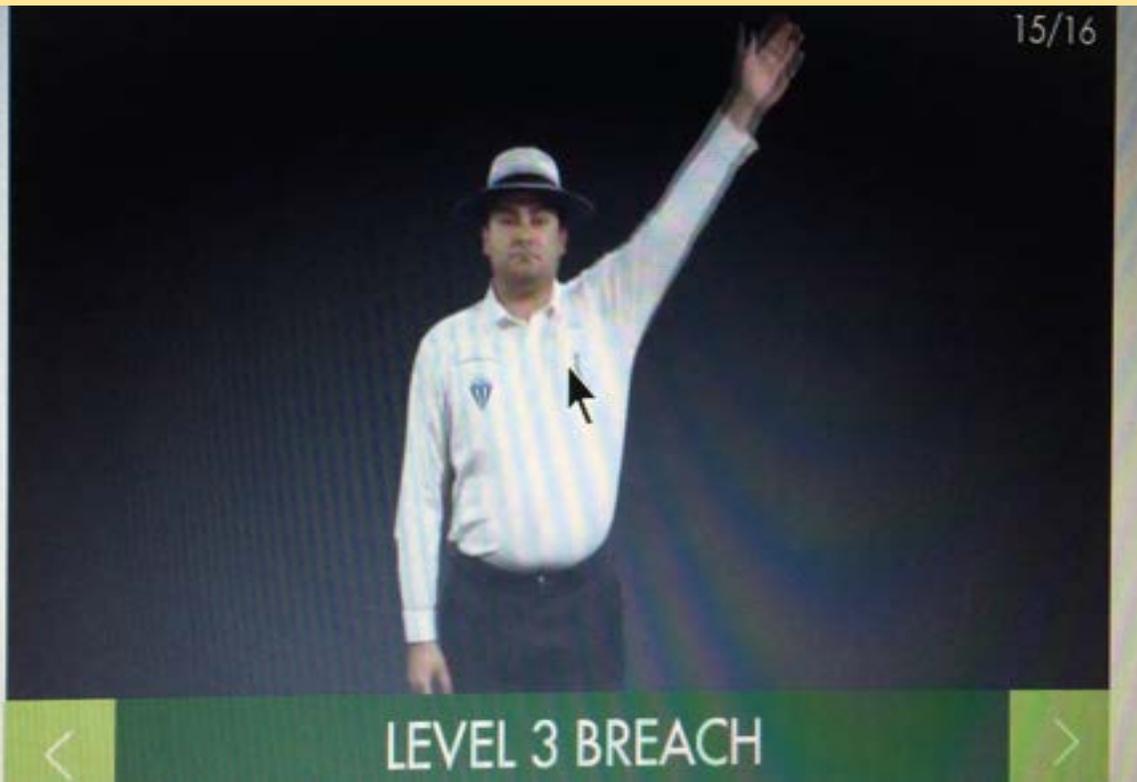
The most significant change to this Law is in relation to the **suspension of play**.

If one umpire thinks that conditions are dangerous or unreasonable, then **play will be suspended**. Previously, both umpires had to agree to suspend play.

Similarly, **both** umpires must agree that conditions are safe for play to be **resumed**. (BCMCL will not follow this MCC Law, but will follow ICC PCs where umpires have to agree on action. VDCA – Follow your local PCs).

## For Umpires

- The new signals stemming from Level 3 and Level 4 offences under Law 42 are included.



## For Umpires – revoke decision video (20.6 Rev 2022-10)

- The Law now clarifies that an **umpire may revoke any decision, not just in response to an appeal, but cannot revoke a call & signal of Dead Ball\_(Law 20.6)**. Multiple signals should be given in the order in which the events occurred.



## For Umpires

A **batter can be recalled** by the umpires when he/she has left the wicket thinking he/she was out.

The batter might well have left the field with a small boundary before the time that the umpires had discovered a problem with the 'dismissal'

**Also the captain of the fielding side can withdraw an appeal**

The appropriate moment for both situations is when the ball comes into play for the next delivery

If there are no further batters to take the field in that innings, **then the time limit will be the instant the umpires leave the field.**

For Umpires – Law 33 & 18 Caught-No Runs Score. Law 19\* – Umpires decide

**When a batter is out CAUGHT, since NO RUNS SCORE, the new batter shall come in at the end the striker was at when he/she was dismissed. (New in 2022-10)**

**The above also applies to an obstruction or distraction by the batting side which prevents the striker being Out – Caught.**

**If animals or spectators entering the field of play, the umpires decide whether or not a boundary would have been scored.. (Call dead ball immediately & then decide on runs scored or boundary – see Law 19.2.7\*, 20.4.2.12 – if one side is disadvantaged by spectator/animal).**

**After either or both batters run short, and a boundary is scored, the umpire concerned shall disregard the short running and shall not call or signal Short run, unless the boundary is a result of an Overthrow or wilful act of a fielder (see Law 19.8 – Overthrow or wilful act of fielder).**

## For Umpires – Dead Ball – (20.6 Rev 2022-10)

**Law 20.6 Dead ball not to be revoked: Once the ball is called dead, no revoking of ANY other decision can bring the ball back into play for that delivery.**

**Law 20.4.2 Where either umpire is required to call and signal Dead ball under 20.4.2.1 to 20.4.2.14, the ball will be considered to be dead at the instant of the incident causing the ball to become dead.**

**However, where the Law specifically provides for the call to be delayed, so as not to disadvantage the non-offending side: Under Law 34.4 (Runs permitted from the ball lawfully struck more than once), Law 41.2.1 (Unfair actions) and Law 42.1.2 (Unacceptable conduct), the ball will be considered to be dead at the point of the call.**

## For Umpires

**The Lost ball Law has been deleted from the Laws.** The references to runs scored from Lost ball have been deleted. **When either umpire considers a ball to be lost, 'Dead Ball' is called.**

Runs scored are those runs completed plus the run in progress if the batter had crossed at the time of call.

**When less than 3 minutes remains before the time agreed for the next interval, the interval shall be taken immediately if either batter is dismissed/retires or players leave the field**

Full covering of the pitch is to be allowed as standard, (i.e may be done, if available. Where possible, bowlers run-up shall also be covered.

A sight screen will now need to have an area marked out which covers every possible position of the sight screen during play, so that the boundary does not change when the screen is moved.

## For Umpires – Call & Signal - Dead Ball – (Law 25.8 - Rev 2022-10)

Law 20.4.2.9 the bowler throws the ball towards the striker's end before entering his/her delivery stride. (This used to be called – No ball. Now – Call & Signal Dead Ball - 2022-10+)

Law 20.4.2.13 & Law 25.8: C & S Dead Ball, if The striker attempts to play the ball and no part of his/her bat or person, whether grounded or raised, remains within the pitch as defined in Law 6.1 (Area of pitch) 2022-10. (Note: Law 21 – Also - No Ball & Dead Ball, if ball first pitches off or on edge of pitch).

If either umpire thinks an injury is possibly serious, Dead Ball is called/signalled immediately.

## For Umpires - Refusal to play

**Law 16: If a Captain refuses to play, for example, after a player has been suspended from the field or any other penalty which causes a Captain to consider 'refusal'.**

**16.3 The umpires consult, inform Captain that refusal will mean awarding match to other side if he/she persists. If no change – then award match to other side.**

**Law 42.6: If both Captains refuse to play (after umpires have given both all opportunities to continue play & under instructions per Laws), Then there shall be 'no result' per Law 16. (In limited over play – ex BCMCL – No draws are allowed but Governing Body may require points to be shared or no points be awarded).**

# The Bat

It has been decided to limit the size of the edge of the bat and also its overall depth.

Appendix B defines the size and shape of the bat gauge, which umpires can use to check a bat's legality

**Junior bats** In an attempt to reduce the cost of junior bats, **lamination (the gluing of two or more pieces of wood)** will now be allowed in the blade.

Allow laminated and coloured bats for use only in junior cricket - &

provided that the bats do not discolour the ball.

## Batting - running or diving

If a batter grounds the bat (held by the hand) or another part of person within ground when diving, provided that he/she has continued forward momentum, and then inadvertently loses this contact with the ground when the wicket is put down, the batter will not be Run out

Once the batter has gained his/her ground, and has continued forward momentum, he/she should be protected.

The same protection will apply to a striker diving back into his/her ground to avoid being Stumped.

## Batting – Striker & Non Striker

Striker in the protected area – Law added to stop a striker actually **taking guard** within the protected area, or **so close to it** that he/she will usually encroach when playing the ball.

It does not stop a striker coming down the pitch to play the ball from the protected area. **Penalties for this are same as for Batter damaging the pitch.**

Non Striker leaving ground early. The last point at which the **the non-striker can be run out by attempt or accident (2019+)** is now the instant at which **the bowler would be expected to deliver the ball.** (Usually this happens when the bowling arm has just **at its highest position – 2023-01**). Striker's end umpire must help when needed.

## The Ball – Saliva banned 2020+

Law 41.3: When the umpires consider the condition of the ball has been unfairly changed, the opposing side will now have the option of the ball being changed or not. **Use of Saliva on ball was banned in 2020.** Only sweat is allowed if no waste of time. 5 penalty runs awarded, inform & report

Any cloth used to dry the ball must now have the approval of the umpires.

Following a team's second offence, the bowler who bowled the previous ball will be suspended from bowling for the remainder of the match. (BCMCL has added more conditions).

# Bowling - No Ball – (Law 25.8 rev 2022-10)

Any delivery called on the field of play which is a clear 'throw' – without doubt, is a No ball and will incur a first and final warning, before suspension if repeated.  
21.2, 21.3

It is a No ball when a delivery's first bounce is on the edge or off the pitch – whether natural or a narrower artificial one 21.7

When a ball pitches off the pitch or hits the join between an adjacent artificial pitch and turf, No ball will be called and signalled immediately. 21.7

It is a No ball if the ball bounces more than once before reaching the popping crease. 21.7

If a No ball goes for 4 byes or Leg byes, it will be recorded as one No ball extra and 4 byes or Leg byes

New offence, Law 41.8, when the umpire considers the bowler has bowled a deliberate front foot No ball. After call/signal - immediate suspension

No ball and Dead ball are to be called immediately if a fielder intercepts a delivery before it reaches the striker.  
21.9

Delivered ball coming to rest before striker's stumps without contact with striker is no ball & dead ball – No change! 21.8

No ball & dead ball called if ball is so far from pitch that forces striker to leave pitch to attempt a stroke at the ball (2022-10+ Laws 21.8 & 25.8)

## Bowling - Dangerous

**Only a first and final warning will be given for each type of dangerous bowling (below) before the bowler is suspended.**

For bouncers, aimed at the body or head of the striker, there are **several factors listed in Law 41.6 which the umpire should consider.**

As soon as the umpire decides that the bowling of short pitched deliveries has become dangerous or unfair he shall call and signal No ball. When the ball is dead, he will caution the bowler, indicating that this is a first and final warning for the innings. A repeat will mean immediate suspension from bowling.

For non-pitching deliveries, all irrespective of their speed, which pass above waist height of the upright striker & bodyline are dangerous. -2019+ (BCMCL follows this re direction & 1<sup>st</sup> & final warning)

# Bowling - Dangerous

- The bowling of a **deliberate front foot No ball**, will lead to **immediate suspension** from bowling, in the **same way as a deliberate beamer**.
- It is felt that a bowler deliberately 'running through the crease' and releasing the ball from closer to the striker can be very dangerous and deserved a harsh punishment.

## Bowling – Wide Ball

**A delivery will now be deemed to have been a Wide from the instant the bowler enters the delivery stride. This will not have an effect on whether or not the batsman is dismissed, but it could be important if it happened when the scores are level.**

**If a Wide delivery goes to the boundary, then it is more likely to be the bowler's fault and so it will continue to be recorded as 5 Wides against the bowler.**

**All runs off a Wide are debited against the bowler, except for any award of 5 Penalty runs.**

## Fielding - Substitute

**A substitute fielder may now act as a wicket-keeper with the consent of the umpires.** It was felt that, if the original wicket-keeper was genuinely injured, then a substitute should be allowed to take over, but that the umpires should control the situation to prevent abuse.

# Fielding

If a piece of a fielder's equipment falls and is struck by the ball, it is not illegal fielding if the discarding/falling had been accidental or unintentional.

A fielder should not be able wilfully to put something on the ground which could potentially stop the ball.

If more than one fielder is involved in a boundary catch, any fielder making contact with the ball must either be grounded within the boundary, or his/her last contact with the ground before first touching the ball must have been within the boundary.

The ball can be caught after it strikes a helmet which is being worn by a fielder or the wicket-keeper.

A stumping is allowed if the ball rebounds from the Keeper's helmet to the wicket. A run out is allowed if the ball rebounds off a fielder's helmet.

A helmet will be deemed as being part of the fielder's person, meaning that a catch (stumping or run out) can be completed after the ball has struck the helmet, or become lodged in it- for a catch.

## Fielding-2017 to 2022+ (#3 is new from 2022-10+)

Warnings have been removed. Five Penalty runs will be awarded for the first and subsequent offences in the following along with report:

1) Deliberate attempt to distract the striker before & during stroke. Law 41.4

2) Deliberate distraction, deception, obstruction of batter after a stroke. Law 41.5

**An increasing practice considered unfair is 'mock fielding',** where a fielder feigns to field the ball and/or feigns to throw a non-existent ball in an attempt to prevent the batsmen running. Ball does not count, runs completed & in progress score, batters decide who faces next ball.

the words 'deceive' and 'deception' have been added to this Law to cover both mock fielding and any other act which deliberately aims to deceive the batting side

**3) Law 27.4 & 28.6.3 Unfair movement by the fielding side: Any unfair and deliberate movement while the bowler is running in to bowl could now result in the umpire awarding five penalty runs to the batting side, in addition to a call of Dead**

# Fielding

- NOTE: The BCMCL will not be using the MCC Code 2017 Law 24 regarding fielder's absence from their fielding innings (0 to 90) mins.
- The BCMCL will follow the existing ICC Playing Conditions Clause 24 for fielders absence above without any change to their local conditions. This has been used locally for a number of years.
- For example, the maximum of 8 minutes off the field, without any penalty time for delay in bowling & later batting will remain in BCMCL playing conditions. (BCMCL & ICC – 8+ mins to 120 mins max)
- VDCA – Follow League playing conditions.

## Striker's helmet hitting stumps (2022-10)

Wicket is fairly broken, by the striker's person or by any part of his/her clothing or equipment becoming detached from his/her person. 29.2.1.4

However, any detached equipment shall not include the striker's protective helmet, or any part thereof, as defined in Appendix A.2.3,

(ICC has not yet ratified this change)

*A.2.3 - A protective helmet is headwear made of hard material and designed to protect the head, neck and/ or the face. For the purposes of interpreting these Laws of Cricket, such a description shall include faceguards, grilles and neck guards*