

Coffs Harbour District Cricket Association Incorp.



**By-Laws
2015-16**

COFFS HARBOUR & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION INC

BY-LAWS 2014-15 SEASON

1. All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of Cricket (Code 2000.4 – modified 1 October 2010) except as amended below
2. **SEASON**
The Association competition shall commence and be completed on a date(s) to be determined by the Management Committee
3. **NOMINATIONS OF TEAMS and PLAYER REGISTRATIONS**
 - a) Nominations of teams shall be in the hands of the Management Committee on a date to be fixed at the Annual General Meeting
 - b) All intending players must be registered online by their respective Club. The player's full name, current local address, telephone and/or email address and date of birth must be provided. A registration will not be accepted if all information is not completed during the registration process.
 - i) To be eligible to play in any round a player must be registered online by his or her club no later than 11AM on the morning prior to the commencement of the match
 - c) Registration of players will not be accepted after 31 January following the commencement of the season in progress, unless the player has moved to the area to commence employment or education. Verification must be provided by way of confirmation of enrolment at an Education facility or letter from employer.
 - d) Only players on the list or who have been registered throughout the season and who meet the other qualification criteria will be eligible to play in the Final series (refer to by-law 12)
 - e) Where a club has two nominated teams competing in the same grade, player movement between the nominated teams will not be allowed after a player has played three matches in the same nominated team. After a player has played for one of two or more teams in the same grade, player movement between teams must also be approved by the CHDCA. Any request for player movement between teams in the same grade must be in writing and addressed to the CHDCA Secretary, prior to 5pm on the day prior to the match. The player must remain in that team for the duration of the season. If the player is moved up or down grades and then returns to the same grade he or she must resume his or her position in the same team.
 - f) **PLAYERS REGISTERING WITH TWO CLUBS**
Where a player registers to play with one Club then lodges another registration with a second Club at the beginning of the season the latter registration will be returned and the Club advised that the player will require a clearance from the first registering Club
 - g) **CLEARANCES**
Players wishing to change from one Club to another within the Association or transferring from another Association for the current season must produce a clearance from the previous Club or Association. Clearances must be in the hands of the Association Recording Secretary before any player is *eligible* to play. Failure to comply with this regulation renders a player liable to suspension for such a period as the Association deems fit and the team concerned lose all points gained in any match the unqualified player has played in with a minimum of three (3) points

h) UNFINANCIAL MEMBERS

- a) All un-financial members of Clubs and the amounts owing are to be declared to the Association at the cessation of each season. A record of these players is to be maintained by the Association Recording Secretary. Such players are to be banned from playing with any club in this Association for a period of five years, commencing from the end of the season for which they were un-financial.
- b) Teams playing an unregistered player or defaulter will lose all points for those matches with a minimum of 3 points

4. PROGRAM and GRADING

- a) The competition shall be conducted in such grades or forms as the Association Executive shall specify from year to year. The Association Executive shall have the power to decide the grade in which a team will compete.
- b) The Association Executive has the power to grade and re-grade players.

5. AFFILIATION

Affiliation granted to new clubs at a General Meeting of the Association in accordance with Clause 3(iii) of the Constitution shall be conditional on the payment of a \$500.00 bond by a date set down at the meeting, this date should be no less than 14 days prior to the commencement of the season. The bond may only be redeemed at the commencement of the club's third season in the competition. Should the club fold or be removed for any reason any claim to the bond should be forfeited.

6. FORFEITS

- a) Any team (seven players constitute a team) failing to take the field within fifteen minutes after the scheduled time on either day of play (rain affected days accepted) shall forfeit the match. Any club which forfeit's a match must submit a written explanation detailing reasons for the forfeit within 48 hours of such occurrence. The Association may determine whether that club should be further penalised by way of loss of points in lower grades or imposition of fines. A forfeit must be claimed by the non-offending team prior to commencement of the day's play and the match card marked accordingly. A team receiving a forfeit shall be awarded the maximum number of points gained in that grade for that round
- b) When first innings points are gained by one side on the first days play of a two day game and either side fails to field a side on the second day, the side forfeited to shall be entitled to the maximum points it could have achieved given the first innings result. A Club forfeiting the second day's play of a match shall pay all costs attributable to lost day's play of the match

7. OBLIGATIONS OF THE HOME TEAM

- a) The home team is to contact the travelling opposition and umpires by 10.30 am on Saturday morning if the game is cancelled or to be delayed due to weather.
- b) The toilets and change rooms must be opened at least 45 minutes before the scheduled starting time for the match by a representative of the home team
- c) Home and visiting teams must ensure that all rubbish is collected and removed from the playing area and change rooms at the end of play. Fines will be imposed for failure to comply with this regulation

8. **CRICKET ATTIRE**

- a) All white clothing must be worn in matches played in the CHDCA Inc competitions. Boots shall not be regarded as clothing
- b) Proper standard of cricket attire, long white pants, collared shirt & regulation footwear shall be worn in all First Grade matches
- c) Club or sponsor logos approved by the Association Committee may be attached to the collar, sleeve or chest of cricket shirts. An effort should be made to ensure that only club caps or floppy hats are worn
- d) An approved club shirt, predominantly white, with an approved colored collar, sleeves and/or side panels will be allowed after submission to the Association Committee. Shirts displaying advertising or unauthorized material will not be allowed

9. **RESULTS**

- a)
 - i) Result for all teams shall be completed online by the home team and verified by the away team.
 - ii) First grade results must be completed online by 11 AM on the Sunday morning following each days play. The results of all other grades must be completed online by 5PM on the Monday following each days play.
 - iii) Results in all grades must be verified by 5 PM Tuesday after the completion of each match
- b) The penalty for late notification of results shall be 2 competition points
- c) Teams penalised for result notification irregularities shall be notified in writing by the Association Recording Secretary with a photocopy of the result showing the error
- d) Teams submitting incomplete or irregular result notification shall be penalised as the Association Committee deems fit
- e) Teams penalised for result notification irregularities have the right of appeal at the next scheduled meeting of the Association Management Committee
- f) Notification of results including names of team members shall be given online for all games including washed out games and forfeits
- g) Umpires reports are compulsory
- h) During the regular competition play is to take place wherever possible unless otherwise advised by the Association in the event of the closure of grounds. In matches where no umpires are present the decision on whether or not play will take place rests with the Captains or their representatives. If the captains cannot reach a decision the Status Quo will be enforced

10. **POINTS AWARDED FOR COMPETITION MATCHES**

Bye	0 points
Loss by forfeit	0 points
Tie on first innings	3 points
Tie on second innings	5 points
Draw (including where there is no play due to rain)	3 points
Win on first innings	6 points
Loss on first innings	1 point
Win outright after leading first innings	10 points
Loss outright after behind on first innings	0 points
Win outright after behind on first innings	6 points
Loss outright after leading on first innings	4 points
Win outright after tied first innings	7 points
Loss outright after tied first innings	3 points
Win by forfeit (maximum points gained by any team in same round to a maximum of)	10 points

11. UMPIRES

- a) Umpires shall be appointed to all matches when available by the CHDCU&SA. Priority shall be given to First Grade matches
- b) In the event of the absence of Official Umpires the captains shall appoint umpires for both ends and the umpires should be members of the batting side or other qualified persons acceptable to both captains
- c) In the event of only one umpire officiating the umpire will take the bowler's end and square leg will be taken by a member of the batting side or other qualified person acceptable to both captains

12. ELIGIBILITY FOR SEMI FINALS AND FINALS

- a) A player must be a registered player with the club
- b) Subject to By-Laws 12(c) and 12(e) below, a player must have played at least one third of the scheduled competition matches of the season to be eligible to play in a semi final or final with that team, or
- c) A player who has qualified in a lower grade team satisfies the qualification criteria for b) above
- d) Where clubs have multiple teams in any grade a player cannot be qualified for more than one team
- e) During finals series when a club's two adjoining grades are playing on the same day, players can be switched between those adjoining grades as long as they are qualified for one of those grades
- f) For the purpose of qualification only, a washed out match or a forfeit shall be deemed a match. In these cases player's names must be submitted with the online result
- g) Players who have played a minimum of five competition matches but do not qualify for the finals as outlined in by-law 10 b) above may apply to the Management Committee to decide which grade, if any those players may play in the finals. Such application must be in writing and received by the Secretary by 5PM on the Monday following the completion of the last premierships match. The decision of the Management Committee shall be final

13. QUALIFICATION FOR FINALS

- a) Semi final positions shall be determined by the Management Committee at a meeting on the Monday night following the completion of the last match of the regular season
- b) In the event of two or more teams having equal points at the completion of the regular season their position on the competition table will be decided on the averages of each team
- c) All match figures will be taken into account. Averages will be determined as follows:
 - i) The batting average of each team shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored by the total number of wickets lost in scoring the runs (Figure A)
 - ii) The batting average against each team shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored against the team by the total number of wickets taken (Figure B)
 - iii) The former (Figure A) shall be divided by the latter (Figure B) to obtain the average (Figure C)
 - iv) The team having the highest average (Figure C) shall be considered to have the better performance
 - v) When a team is all out but had batsmen missing, wickets lost shall count as ten
 - vi) The teams that finish in the first four places in the competition shall meet in the semi finals as follows: First plays Second, Third plays Fourth

vii) The winner of the Major Semi Final goes into the Grand Final. The loser of the Major Semi Final plays the winner of the Minor Semi Final in the Final, the winner of which plays in the Grand Final

14. CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL and SMOKING

- a) The consumption of alcohol by any player or official participating in a match is not permitted on or off the field while ever the game is in progress.
- b) Any individual found guilty of consuming alcohol will be suspended for a minimum of one competition fixture. Any club found guilty of permitting the consumption of alcohol by any player whilst the match is still in progress will be fined a minimum of \$100 for the first offence during any season. Any subsequent offence by that club during the season will be fined an amount to be determined by the Association Executive Committee.
- c) Smoking is not permitted on the field of play or in any change room. *Smoking should be discouraged by all clubs where under age players are present.*

15. PITCHES AND COVERS

- a) Turf pitches shall be used in first and second grade where available
- b) Unacceptable footwear (principally sandshoe type soles) will not be permitted on Association turf pitches. Bowlers must wear metal spikes when bowling & batsmen either spikes or other acceptable cricket footwear when batting
- c) The Association appointed curators are responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the turf pitches
- d) The captains of the designated home club are responsible for the covering of the pitch every Friday night throughout the season. The covers should be removed from the pitches as early as practical on Saturday morning. The covers shall be removed from the ground and stored in an appropriate place. Failure to cover the pitch by the home team may result in the loss of two competition points for the first offence and four points for each subsequent offence
- e) Teams playing on turf pitches shall be responsible to assist with their preparation and maintenance if requested by the Association
- f) After removal of the covers play shall not commence for ten minutes
- g) Any person who is found to have interfered with the pitch in an attempt to make it unfit for play either before or during the course of a match in progress will be suspended for life from participation either as a player or administrator. The matter may be referred to the Police for further action. The person's club will forfeit the match and may face further action from the Association.

16. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

- a) Association Perpetual Trophies shall be presented to the Minor Premiers & Premiers in each grade. These trophies shall not be removed from the presentation area. Any club that wishes to 're-present' these trophies at their club presentation awards must gain permission from the Association Trophy Custodian via the Association Secretary. Seven days notice is required. Any damage that occurs to the trophy/trophies whilst in the possession of the club will be the responsibility of that club
- b) The Association Recording Secretary's main function shall be to determine the Grade Point Score. Individual performances for players who qualify for awards as per by-law rules shall be determined from online records.
- c) All trophies shall be awarded on a grades basis and shall be awarded as follows:

MINOR PREMIERSHIP -The team heading the points table at the conclusion of the competition rounds will be declared Minor Premiers. The team will be awarded and receive a replica trophy and be recorded upon the Perpetual Trophy for that grade.

MAJOR PREMIERSHIP -The team that wins the Grand Final will be declared Major Premiers. In the event of a draw, washed out or abandoned Grand Final, the first team into the Grand Final shall be declared Major Premiers. The team will be awarded a replica trophy and be recorded upon the Perpetual Trophy for that grade. In the event of a tied Grand Final, the competing teams shall be declared joint Major Premiers

BATTING AGGREGATE AND AVERAGE -A player must bat in a minimum of five matches in the regular Association Competition and score a minimum of 200 runs

BOWLING AGGREGATE AND AVERAGE - A player must bowl in a minimum of five matches in the regular Association Competition and take a minimum of 20 wickets

PLAYER OF THE YEAR - For consideration a player must earn a minimum of 10 points in two divisions and may earn them as follows during the regular season:

Batting – 1point for each 10 runs

Bowling - 1 point for each wicket attributed to the bowler

Wicket keeping 1 point for each dismissal

Fielding – 1 point for each catch (as recorded online)

The Player of the Year is to be considered the main trophy of the year. The Management Committee may vary any or all of the above conditions as it deems fit.

17. INTER-DISTRICT

- a) All players registered with the CHDCA are eligible for Inter-district and representative matches.
- b) Any registered player selected for a match must, if unavailable, contact the Chairman of Inter-district Selectors no later than 60 hours prior to commencement of that match. Failure to comply will result in a 2 competition match suspension. Exceptional circumstances accepted
- c) Players are required to be in attendance at all inter-district matches forty-five minutes prior to the scheduled commencement time of the match.

18. DECLARATION OF TEAMS AND THE TOSS

- a) In first grade a team may consist of 12 players and must be declared on a team sheet prior to the toss. Only 11 players may bat and 11 players bowl during any one innings. If a team consists of 12 players captains must name their Non Batsman and their Non Bowler (Non Bowler cannot be the Wicketkeeper) after the toss but before play commences. The team sheet shall not be changed once the toss has been made. This rule applies to all First Grade Fixtures and for One Day Matches in all grades
- b) In all Lower Grade Matches each team shall have the right to substitute as many as two (2) players in the second week of a two (2) day match. The replacement players shall have full playing rights and must be named, as well as the players they are replacing, before the match commences on Day 1
This rule applies to Lower Grade Two Day fixtures only
- c) Players on representative duties for the North Coast Cricket Council, NSW Country, CHS (or other Zone Schools) or other higher representation may be replaced during the course of a match. Replacements must be a registered player of their club and such replacements may bat or bowl in any innings of the match.
Where the player being replaced has batted and been dismissed the replacement player cannot bat in that innings. Where the player being replaced has begun his innings and is not out the replacement **must** continue the innings in his stead.
Where a player being replaced has begun but not completed an over the replacement player **must** complete the over in his stead
- d) The right of the captain to nominate a substitute fielder rather than a replacement player remains
- e) The responsibility for informing the opposing captain and any umpires of any replacement **or** substitute player lies with the captain

- f) The toss shall take place not less than 15 minutes before the start of play. A decision regarding the toss must reach and be conveyed to the opposition captain immediately.

19. HOURS OF PLAY

a) TWO DAY MATCHES

Play shall commence at 1PM and finish at 6PM with a minimum of 75 overs to be bowled in the first day's play. Three (3) overs shall be deducted for a change of innings if required.

If a full day's play has been completed on day one of the match and the side batting first has not been dismissed there will be a compulsory closure of the innings. The second day's play will cease at the same number of overs that had been possible on the first day.

If the side batting first has been dismissed prior to the scheduled finishing time on the first day then the side batting second shall be entitled to bat for the remaining number of overs on that day (less the number of overs lost for the change of innings) **plus** a minimum of 75 overs on the second day. Play shall continue until 6PM if the minimum number of overs has been achieved prior to the scheduled finishing time.

On the second day of the match it is expected that the play shall continue until at least 5PM. However stumps may be drawn earlier if the first innings result has been completed and both captains agree to end the match at that time. ***NB Times shown are AEDST. In non daylight saving periods times will be brought forward by 30 minutes***

A compulsory tea break of 20 minutes shall be taken at 3.20PM. If either nine wickets are down when two minutes remain to the agreed time for tea **OR** the ninth wicket falls within these two minutes or at a later time up to and including the final ball of the over in progress at the agreed time for tea then play shall continue for 30 minutes or until the final wicket falls, whichever occurs first

b) ONE DAY MATCHES

(i) Shall consist of one innings per team

(ii) In first and second grade play shall commence at 12.30PM and finish at the completion of 45 overs per side (40 AEDST)

(iii) In third and lower grades play shall commence at 1PM as per By Law 20(b) and conclude at the completion of 40 overs per side.

Note: **All** fourth grade fixtures will be played under one day rules as above

The tea break shall take place at the change of innings and shall be of 20 minutes duration

c) ALL MATCHES

Play shall be extended for up to 30 minutes to compensate for loss of time due to rain or bad light. Play may be extended beyond the scheduled finishing time to complete the game providing light permits

d) HOURS OF PLAY - SEMI FINALS AND FINALS

Play shall commence at 1PM on both days

e) HOURS OF PLAY - GRAND FINAL

All Grades:

Both days	1PM	to	3.20PM	Session 1
	3.20	to	3.40 PM	Tea
	3.40	to	6PM	Session 2

Normal bowling regulations apply

In the event of loss of playing time due to weather or light the available time shall be divided equally. ***NB Times shown are AEDST. In non daylight saving periods times will be brought forward by one hour***

20. OVERS MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM

a) TWO DAY MATCHES

In a two day match a minimum of 75 overs must be bowled in a day's play. Three overs are to be deducted for any change of innings unless the innings is ended during a scheduled tea break in which no overs will be deducted.

b) ONE DAY MATCHES

The side batting first shall terminate its innings at the completion of the 45th over (**40EST**). If the innings of the side batting first has been completed before the compulsory closure the side batting second (if not previously dismissed) shall be entitled to receive 45 overs (**40EST**)

Note: In third grade and lower grades an innings shall be limited to a maximum of 40 overs *Play shall not continue if or when the second side has passed the total of the first team*

- c) The team which bats first in a two day game and then, after dismissing the team batting second, leads by more than 100 runs, shall have the option of forcing the team which batted second to bat again (follow on)

21. INTERRUPTIONS TO PLAY

a) TWO DAY MATCHES

When playing time is lost on the first day, the number of overs already played on the first day shall be combined with the overs available on the second day and divided equally between the two sides.

b) ONE DAY MATCHES

If the match is interrupted by bad weather or light during the first innings then 1 over is to be deducted from each side's innings for every 8 minutes or part thereof lost. If no play is possible before 3PM the game shall be abandoned

c) ALL MATCHES

If the weather or some other reason delays or interrupts play in the innings of the second side to bat and such play prevents the second side from receiving as many overs as it had bowled, the result shall be a draw

22. BOWLING RESTRICTIONS

a) ONE DAY MATCHES

All bowlers shall be restricted to 1/5th of the total number of overs to be bowled in the innings and One Day Cricket bowling restrictions shall apply (leg side wides, short pitched deliveries etc)

b) ALL MATCHES

Under age fast & medium pace bowlers are restricted to a maximum number of overs per spell and per day as outlined in Cricket Australia instructions. It is the duty of the captain

to nominate the age of all under age bowlers on the team declaration sheet. The team captain must be aware if the player has bowled any overs in any other competition on the same day. These overs will count towards the maximum number of overs that bowler is allowed to complete in any day's play. The limitation does not apply to spin bowlers.

23. RECORDING OF TIMES

The time of any change of innings or interruption to play **MUST** be recorded in both scorebooks

24. BALLS

Four piece cricket balls shall be used in all First Grade Matches and in all matches played on Turf wickets. Two piece balls shall be used in all other grades in the CHDCA

25. FUNDRAISING

The Management Committee shall organise fundraising ventures and take any measures necessary to ensure their success

26. WORKING BEES

The Association will from time to time organise working bees and request the attendance of a specified number to attend from each club

27. PUBLICITY

The Association website shall be used to publicise all events and news items. The Association Competition Draw and By Laws shall be published on the website. Clubs or individuals cannot use media such as television, newspapers, radio or social websites to criticise or defame opposition players, teams or Clubs.

28. PROTESTS AND DISPUTES

a) APPLICATIONS

Applies to all matters relating to umpires' reports, protests and match disputes (other than those covered by the Code Of Conduct) referred to it by the Association Secretary

b) REPORTS

A protest or dispute may be reported to the Association by:

- i) Members of the Coffs Harbour District Umpires Association (Umpires Report) or
- ii) A club official or
- iii) Any member of the CHDCA Management Committee

c) THE MATCH COMMITTEE

A Match Committee shall be appointed by the Management Committee and shall comprise such persons as the Management Committee deems fit but shall consist of no less than one official representing Coffs Harbour Cricket Umpires & Scorers Association and two other persons

The purpose of the Match Committee shall be to adjudicate on all Umpires' reports, protests and disputes (other than those referred to in the Code Of Conduct) that are referred to it by the CHDCA Secretary. If the Constitution and By-Laws of the CHDCA allow, the Match Committee, without limiting the range of penalties it may impose, may impose any penalty it deems fit as outlined in By-Law 6 of the Code Of Conduct

d) PROCEDURE

An Umpires Report, protest or match dispute may be reported to the CHDCA. Any such report must be in writing setting out full details of the incident/s

If a report is going to be lodged:

- i) The CHDCA must be informed as soon as possible after the match has been completed and
- ii) Not later than 72 hours after the end of play for the day. A written report setting out the full details of the incident/s must be given to the CHDCA
- iii) The person who reports the breach must inform a member, official or office bearer of the offending team/club that they are being reported
- iv) If the team/club who is the subject of the report is informed by the CHDCA under By-Law 26d(v), failure to comply with By-Law 26d(iii) does not invalidate the proceedings before the Match Committee

- v) If a report has been received by the CHDCA it must:
 - a) Give the club or team a copy of that report and
 - b) Give the club or team who is the subject of the report a written notice to appear before the Match Committee
- vi) The time and place for the Match Committee hearing must be set out in that notice and must be at least 72 hours after the Club/Association receives that notice. Any notice sent by post is deemed to have been received two days after the date of the posting
- vii) If the CHDCA deems it appropriate, it may ask the person/club who reported the breach to appear at the hearing by giving a notice according to By-Law 26d(vi) above
- viii) The CHDCA should use its best endeavours to convene the hearing before the next playing date of the competition which is the subject of the report
- ix) If a team or club who was given notice under By-law 26d(vi) did not appear at the hearing the Match Committee may, if it is satisfied that the team/club did not receive that notice, set aside any order made in the absence of that team/club

e) HEARINGS

If By-Law 26d(v) above has been complied with the Match Committee may conduct the proceedings in the absence of the team/club who has been reported and the person who has lodged the report. As soon as practicable after the hearing the Match Committee must give written notice of its decision:

- i) To the person/team or club who is the subject of the report and
- ii) To the Association Management Committee and
- iii) The person/team or club who lodged the report

f) PENALTIES

Without limiting the range of penalties it may impose, the Match Committee may:

- i) Reprimand a club/team/individual or
- ii) Fine a club/team/individual or
- iii) Deduct competition points from a team or
- iv) Suspend a club/team or
- v) Impose a combination of the above four penalties or
- vi) Suspend the operation of any penalty on any team if it thinks fit.

Any fine must be paid to the CHDCA within 7 days of the person or team or club being notified that the fine has been imposed

g) APPEALS

The person, team or club the subject of the adjudication and/or the person, team or club who made the report may within 7 days of the deemed date of receipt of the letter referred to in 26e i)& (iii) (receipt being deemed to be 2 days after posting) lodge an appeal in writing to the CHDCA Executive against the decision of the Match Committee before appealing to the North Coast Cricket Council through the CHDCA Executive. The CHDCA Executive shall ensure the Chairperson or a Member of the Match Committee and members of both parties of the original appeal are represented at the Executive Committee Appeal. Such appeal shall be set out fully on the grounds on which the appeal is made. The appeal must be accompanied by a cheque for \$50.00 made payable to the North Coast Cricket Council which will be refunded should the appeal be successful or deemed to have had merit. The decision of the North Coast Cricket Council shall be final and no further appeal may be made to any other body or courts other than on a point of law nor shall the matter be permitted to be discussed or brought before the CHDCA or the North Coast Cricket Council for any reason than in accordance with this By-law

29. GRAND FINAL VENUE

All Grand Finals will be played at the best available venues as determined by the Executive Committee.

30. CHDCA CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP *(Amended July 2012)*

a) The following formula will be used in order to calculate correct point score for each individual team competing in the CHDCA Competition.

- Total competition points awarded to individual team
- **Divided by** Total number of rounds minus any round where no points are awarded such as a Bye
- **Multiplied by** 10

b) Then the following structure is to be used for the awarding of the CHDCA Club Championship

First Grade	2 points
Second Grade	1.75
Third Grade	1.5
Fourth Grade	1.25 (and continuing further in the event of lower grades), and that any additional team's points in any grade be discounted 50%.

*****PLAYER AND PLAYER SAFETY*****

40/30 RULE

The following procedure has been adopted for all matches within the jurisdiction of Cricket NSW and all its affiliates.

Known as the **30/30 RULE** this means:

*It is recommended that when thunder follows a lightning flash by 40 seconds or less that the covers be placed on the pitch and the players shall leave the field

* If thunder follows a lightning flash by 30 seconds or less, people in the open are at risk of being struck by lightning.

*In this circumstance play must cease immediately, covers are not to be placed on the pitch.

*All players and umpires **must** leave the field immediately and **must not** return to the field until at least 30 minutes **after** the last lightning flash.

You should not shelter under trees and should avoid contact with plumbing. It is also recommended that people **NOT** lie on the ground.

It is probably a good idea to remove spikes.