



BALLARAT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

JUNIOR RULES (ADMINISTRATION)

ALL JUNIOR GRADES - SEASON 2026/27



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RULES FOR BALLARAT CRICKET COMPETITIONS

The following abbreviations will be found throughout these rules:

BCA – The Ballarat Cricket Association.

ADMINISTRATION – ALL JUNIOR GRADES

RULE 1

GENERAL, SPECIAL & JUNIOR COORDINATOR MEETINGS

Should a Club not be represented by a Club Executive Member or prior nominated person, then the Club will be requested to submit in writing, on Club letterhead, the reason for non-attendance to the BCA Board, who will decide, based on this document, if a penalty is warranted.

RULE 2

PENNANT COMMITTEE POWERS AND EMERGENCY RULINGS

Any BCA Club playing a player not possessing the requisite qualifications which shall be defined as a non-registered member of the Club or not named on the competition management platform (PlayHQ) team list for that game shall, subject to the sole discretion of the Pennant Committee, be declared to have lost the match or matches in which such player(s) took part and may be liable to a fine. For each match in which the Club did not gain points a fine as determined by the Pennant Committee may be imposed.

The BCA Pennant Committee shall take action against any member, official, employee, coach or player of a Club or Club's for breaking any Law of Cricket, any BCA Rule, any BCA Policy, any BCA Board direction or for bringing the game into disrepute.

The powers of the BCA Pennant Committee shall include but not be limited to:

- The levying of a Fine against a Club or Club's, any Captain, or any player.
- In its absolute discretion be empowered to increase fines for repeat offences.
- Have the absolute discretion either to wave a fine or fines as is deemed appropriate or to refer the request for waiver to the BCA Board for determination.
- In its absolute discretion, suspend a Captain or player from playing in any match or matches.
- In its absolute discretion, disallow any points earned by a Club in respect of the match.
- In its absolute discretion, amend any points earned by a Club in any match.
- In its absolute discretion, take such action with regard to the proper conduct of cricket as is deemed appropriate by *the Pennant Committee*.
- Refer any matter whatsoever at the Pennant Committee's absolute discretion to the BCA Board for its consideration and determination, which the BCA Board after such referral shall be empowered to take any action that it deems appropriate in the circumstances and such power having regard to Rule 2 but not limited in its discretion to Rule 2 and the Members Protection Policy.

RULE 3

DETERMINATION OF AND PROGRAMMES OF MATCHES

- 3.1 The season will commence not before 1st October and shall end in the next succeeding calendar year pending available weeks and consideration for the Easter holiday as the BCA Board requires.
- 3.2 The affiliated Clubs of the Association shall compete in a Premiership series of matches. Programmes shall be arranged by the Pennant Committee who shall place the number of Club nominated teams into grades that the Pennant Committee decide upon from Club histories and current Junior player lists and have them approved by the BCA Board prior to the commencement of the season. (BCA By-Law 1 applies – *"The Association shall consist of such Clubs, sections, divisions and competitions as the BCA Board in its absolute discretion deems to be appropriate from time to time"*).

Any BCA Club who disputes the Pennant Committee grading of their teams (Senior or Junior) shall lodge on Club letterhead or official email from the current and relative Club Executive, a written response detailing their reasons of dispute within ten (10) days of the receipt of the Pennant Committee notice (i.e., the date on the team's placement notice). If no disputes are lodged those team placements will be deemed final for the current season.

- 3.3 Two days not necessarily consecutive or any period of time during a day shall be allocated for each match excepting finals, providing always that upon the joint applications, in writing, of the competing Clubs, a majority of the Pennant Committee may fix other days and times for commencing or continuing any match.
- 3.4 The grounds on which the matches shall be played shall be arranged by the Pennant Committee and they may, if necessary, alter the programme in respect of dates or grounds on which any of the matches shall be played. The playing of matches due to wet weather will be decided upon by the Pennant Committee in conjunction with the Chairman of the Grounds Committee, based upon a common-sense approach as to play as much cricket as is possible under the prevailing conditions. Player safety is always the BCA priority in consideration of play on days of wet weather. If a split round is scheduled across a weekend in the same grade and a washout occurs, all completed game points stand.
- 3.5 Competition Turf matches only: Clubs seeking to change the match venues between the two competing teams shall jointly lodge a written request to the Operations Officer for the Pennant Committee by 6.00 pm on the Wednesday preceding the match.
- 3.6 The Pennant Committee shall determine the suitability of the grounds and playing conditions. The decision of the Pennant Committee shall be communicated via email to all clubs and through the BCA website and social media platforms as well.

RULE 4 BCA DEFAULTING PLAYERS

No defaulting player of any Club of the Ballarat Cricket Association since the inauguration of the premiership matches shall be allowed to take part in the premiership matches.

- 4.1 The Secretary of each Club must furnish to the Operations Officer of the Association on or before the Annual General Meeting of the Association, on the [Add/Remove Defaulting Player Form](#), a list of all current defaulting players at their Club with outstanding defaults.

Once received these defaulting players shall remain on the [Defaulting Players List](#) until removed by the Clubs using the [Add/Remove Defaulting Player Form](#).

- 7.2 Clubs may only add to their defaulting players list throughout the season by completing the details contained in the [Add/Remove Defaulting Player Form](#), for defaults in the current season.
- 7.3 Any player listed on a club's defaulting player list shall be ineligible to play with any other BCA Club, until the Operations Officer of the Association/Chairman of the Pennant Committee is notified prior to 5.30pm on the Friday preceding the next scheduled match, by using the [Add/Remove Defaulting Player Form](#) to remove their default.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 2.

RULE 5 PLAYER REGISTRATIONS

All players either male or female that have never registered with any Australian Cricket Club shall be required to register online via competition management platform (PlayHQ) prior to the start of the next scheduled match.

All participants in all BCA organised competitions, including Under 11 matches, must be registered via the competition management platform (PlayHQ).

If a player not registered and who has not already played as a fill-in with any other club in Australia is selected, they can be entered as a fill-in player so that are covered by insurance.

This option can be used once and then the player must be registered before they can play again, otherwise the player is treated as an ineligible player.

- 5.1 Club Registered Junior Players are to be considered the same as Senior registered players irrespective of having played Senior cricket or not.
- 5.2 Players requesting registration to a Club from outside the BCA, shall not be endorsed until a Transfer is received from their previous Club in regard to financial consideration/suspension. Once endorsed, the player/s are tied to their nominated Clubs unless transferred to another BCA Club under Rule 6. Any Club playing a player/s in its Senior or Junior grades that has not been correctly registered or cleared shall be dealt with under Rule 2.
- 5.3 Minimum age requirement – Cricket Victoria advises that players in hard ball competitions shall be nine (9) years old as of 1st September in that year to be registered and participate. An [Underage Indemnity & Consent](#) is available on the BCA website for players who are not old enough under these guidelines and can be submitted to the Pennant Committee for consideration to play, only after the player has been assessed to ensure they are capable and not at any greater risk of injury at the level applying for.

RULE 6 TRANSFERS

- 6.1 The Association Board shall determine the opening and closing dates for Player Transfers each year in accordance with By-Law 1 (f)
- 6.1.1 All Transfers lodged for players seeking to move between BCA Clubs must do so prior to February 1 of each season. Players currently not associated with a BCA club can lodge a Transfer at any time.
- 6.1.2 All players wishing to transfer from one Club to another Club within the Ballarat Cricket Association shall require a Transfer if they have been registered with a Club in the Ballarat Cricket Association within the last three (3) seasons. This applies to all male and female junior and senior players.
- 6.1.3 **PLAYER PERMITS within BCA**
- Player Permits Allows a player to play for a different club and/or competition for a specified period of time while retaining their club of affiliation.
- Player Permits can only be granted for players affiliated with a BCA club for competitions within the BCA competition where their affiliated club does not have a team.
E.g.: - A player's affiliated club does not have an U17 team so a player can apply for a permit to play with another BCA affiliated U17 team
- All Player Permits involving different clubs within the BCA will be manually approved by the Operations Officer.
- 6.1.4 **Fill-in Players within BCA**
- A fill-in is a non-registered player within the current season being played who is being used to fill-in for 1 match only. They are entered via the admin or e-scoring portal.
- The player being used as a fill-in player must not be registered with or have played with any other club in the BCA or any other association as a fill-in player in the current season.
- The player can fill-in only once in a season for one competition anywhere in Australia, then the player must be registered with the club if required to play in any other match that season under this rule a second time.
- A player playing a second fill-in is deemed to be an ineligible / unregistered player if they haven't registered.
- When adding a player in as a fill-in player the following must be completed fully whether completing this in the admin portal or the e-scoring portal on match day. Failure to do this may result in the BCA Pennant Committee removing match points, and or a fine under Rule 2

Requirements for adding in a fill in player

- a. Full legal name
- b. Player's email (do not put in a club email, or the person entering the information email or a false email.)
- c. Player's full and correct date of birth

Any player who is on suspension in any competition within Australia or is subject to a transfer or permit that has not been completed and/or approved, cannot be added to a team as a fill-in in lieu of them being legally available to play.

A player who is already registered on another competition within the season cannot be used as a fill in player, they can only be used with a Player permit.

Fill-In Players cannot be used in grades that use Player Points (Premier 1st XI and Championship Division 1 and Division 2), as Player Points cannot be allocated to a Fill-In Player

6.2 PROCESSING TRANSFER APPLICATIONS

A Transfer application for a transfer between BCA Club's, shall be processed through the competition management platform (PlayHQ) by the player on initial registration or the player's new Club if a player has already registered. When lodged, the player's current Club Administrator, shall action in the competition management platform (PlayHQ) within Five (5) days or 120 hours from the lodgement of the transfer request of their decision to grant or refuse the Transfer application as per Rule 6.3.1 only.

- 6.2.1 If the Transfer application has not been actioned by the Player's current BCA Club in competition management platform (PlayHQ) within the required time, the Transfer will be granted by the BCA unless that player is on the Defaulting Player list (only applies to players wishing to transfer between BCA Clubs).

6.3 GRANTING OF TRANSFER

- 6.3.1 When receiving a Transfer application that has been officially processed through the competition management platform (PlayHQ) system, any Club receiving such Transfer application **SHALL** grant the Transfer requested **EXCEPT** when:

- (a) The player is unfinancial to the Club or possesses Club property and has been placed on the [Defaulting Player List](#).
- (b) The player is under suspension for good reason prior to receipt of the Transfer.
- (c) The player has a written and signed contract for the period of time in which the Transfer is lodged.
- (d) Any junior player who has played with a Club in either of the previous two seasons must meet with the Club with a support person prior to the Transfer being processed

6.4 REFUSAL OF TRANSFER

- 6.4.1 Should a Transfer from his/her Club be refused; a player may lodge only one (1) appeal in any season to the Pennant Committee for a decision on a Transfer application within 7 days if he/she believes there are exceptional circumstances surrounding this Transfer refusal.

The player shall provide written notification of the exceptional circumstances in their appeal notice at the time of lodging their appeal with the Association.

An Executive Member of the Club with which he/she has played shall have the right to be heard by the Pennant Committee at this meeting.

- 6.4.2 An appeal may be made to the BCA Appeals Committee within 48 hours after receipt of the decision of the Pennant Committee.

A player may lodge only one (1) appeal in any season to the Appeals Committee. Such an appeal must be lodged in writing (stating the reasons for the appeal) with the Operations Officer of the Association.

A non-refundable Appeal Fee of \$500.00 shall be lodged with the appeal application.

- 6.4.3 The appeal must be dealt with within 7 days of the date the appeal is lodged with the Operations Officer of the Association. (All parties to the dispute must receive a copy of such appeal by 48 hours prior to the Appeals Committee hearing).
- 6.4.4 Non-attendance at a Pennant/Appeals Committee hearing, or any preliminary enquiry, by the participating parties as requested and specified by the Operations Officer of the Association, shall result in a penalty upon the party in question under Rule 2.
- 6.4.5 An appeal may be made to the Victorian Country Cricket League after receipt of the decision of the Appeals Committee within a time frame as specified by the VCCL.

RULE 7 **FIXTURES AND TEAM LISTINGS**

7.1 **TEAM LISTINGS ON BCA COMPETITION MANAGEMENT PLATFORM (PLAY HQ)**

All Clubs shall place their Senior and Junior teams, on the BCA competition management platform by 10.00pm on the Thursday prior to the next scheduled weekend match or 10.00pm on the preceding day for weekday matches.

For Senior Teams a Captain must be selected and for Juniors a Coach must be selected.

Once the teams are entered, they can be adjusted prior to the start of the match.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 2 if teams are not lodged on time.

7.2 **MULTIPLE JUNIOR TEAMS IN THE SAME GRADE**

Clubs with more than 1 team in a particular grade must adhere to the following Pennant Committee Rules:

- (a) To qualify for finals a player must play a minimum of four (4) days in that particular grade with a particular team in the current home and away season.
- (b) On resumption of matches after the Christmas break, players must only play for one team in that grade for the remainder of the season.

Clubs seeking to play a player in their alternative team for one match after the Christmas break shall apply online via the BCA website to the Pennant Committee by 1.00pm on the Friday preceding the next scheduled match.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 2

RULE 8 **FORFEITS**

- 8.1 Notice of intention to forfeit by any Club can be given by phone or email at least 24 hours before the commencement of the match to the Operations Officer of the Association. Confirmation is required in writing by 6pm on the Wednesday preceding the next scheduled match detailing the reasons for the forfeit.
- 8.2 Failure to comply with this rule will render the defaulting Club responsible to pay the full amount of Umpires' fees for the day in question.
- 8.3 Forfeits shall be considered as a match played for both premiership points and player finals qualifications. Clubs receiving a forfeit, shall lodge **their** selected side on competition management platform (PlayHQ) listing the players from their Club that would have taken part in the match to obtain finals qualifications. The listed players may not take part in another match in the same round and are limited to player grade movements like any other round.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 2

- 8.4 The team receiving a forfeit, shall receive 6 match points only in the round in which the forfeit has occurred. In Semi-Finals and Grand-Finals they will be awarded the match.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 2

- 8.5 Where a forfeit has been given, the forfeit only applies for the duration of the round that the team has forfeited.

RULE 9 DISPUTES AND CONTRIVED RESULT DISPUTES

9.1 DISPUTES/PROTESTS

The Pennant Committee shall have the power to inquire into and adjudicate upon all disputes/protests arising out of or in connection with all matches.

LODGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Any Club referring a dispute/protest to the Pennant Committee shall, within 48 hours of completion of the match in which the cause of disagreement has occurred, lodge a statement in writing on Club letterhead or Clubs executive email, of the matter in dispute/protest and shall also within the same time lodge a copy of such statement with the Secretary of the other Club involved.

An appeal may be made to the BCA Tribunal (Appeals Committee with a non-refundable appeal fee of \$500). Clubs or players involved in the hearing will be given one opportunity to reject the BCA appointed date and time of the hearing and should the reason for rejection be accepted by the BCA appeals committee then the hearing may be rescheduled up to a maximum of 7 days from the original hearing date. There will be no further additional opportunity to reschedule that hearing, and the hearing may proceed without a Club/person/Umpire attending. Club/person/Umpire may appoint a proxy.

9.2 CONTRIVED RESULTS

The Pennant Committee shall have power to investigate a game or the actions of the Captains of the Clubs or any players involved in a match if it suspects reasonable that the competing Clubs with or without the assistance or collusion of any person or Club have colluded to contrive the result of a match. If the Pennant Committee decides to carry out an investigation it will conduct such inquiries as it sees fit and invite submissions about the match or the conduct of either Captain or any player and will give any person, the opportunity to be heard.

- 9.2.1 The Operations Officer of the Association shall call on the Clubs to appear before the said Committee, which, after hearing evidence, shall decide thereon as per Rule 5. An appeal may be made to the BCA Appeals Committee within 48 hours after receipt of the decision of the Pennant Committee.

RULE 10 FINALS QUALIFICATIONS

- 10.1 A player of a Club shall not be eligible to play in Semi-Final and/or Grand Final matches unless they have played a minimum of four (4) days in that particular team in that grade with a Club in the current season. 'Days' shall only be considered for home and away matches. Any finals 'days' shall not be counted towards qualification for further finals matches. Refer to table below for further clarification.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 2

- 10.2 Qualified players from a lower age group competition who are unqualified in a higher age group competition can play in a higher age final.

(For example, in the open Junior Grades) Under 14 Girls > Under 13 Spratling > Under 13 Hollioake > Under 17 Girls > Under 15 Open > Under 17 Open

- 10.3 A player who is fully qualified four (4) days in the 2nd XI Section (with Clubs having a 1st XI and 2nd XI Section team in the U17, Under 15 or Under 13) may also play in a 1st XI Section Semi-Final and/or Grand Final but a player who is fully qualified four (4) days in the 1st XI Section cannot play in a 2nd XI Section Semi-Final and/or Grand Final, unless they have played in that grade during the season and the 1st XI Section grade team of which they are fully qualified is also engaged.

Any ineligible player shall be dealt with under [Rule 2](#)

- 10.4 Clubs seeking to play a player in a grade lower than permitted shall [apply online](#) via the BCA website outlining the exceptional circumstances for seeking approval to the Pennant Committee by 1.00pm on the day preceding the match.

RULE 11 MATCH REPORTS

The Home Team must enter the match result into the competition management platform (PlayHQ) by 12pm on the day after the game

Both competing teams in each match shall be responsible for entering their own match data into the competition management platform (PlayHQ) ensuring it is correct for statistical and reporting purposes.

Match Data in all junior grades shall be entered by 6.00pm on the day after the match concludes.

Match Data Entry Timelines for normally scheduled games shall be

U14 Girls – 6.00pm Tuesday

U17 Open and Girls – 6.00pm Wednesday

U13 Open – 6.00pm – Saturday

U15 Open – 6.00pm – Sunday

Where possible it is recommended that games are recorded live via competition management platform (PlayHQ) Scorer App.

Where a team is live scoring via the competition management platform (PlayHQ) Scorer App, a minimum of 1 scorebook needs to be used when scoring a game.

Clubs can use two scorebooks and live score as well, but available volunteers to do this needs to be accounted for, and Coaches need to agree on this prior to the start of the game.

If a game is not being live scored, both teams are to provide a scorebook.

In matches where a dedicated scorer is not provided, the team batting second is expected to use the same scoring items as was used by the team batting first. If a game is being live scoring via the competition management platform (PlayHQ) Scorer App teams can swap devices in the innings break.

For games that have been live scored via the competition management platform (PlayHQ) Scorer App, the game result needs to be submitted as soon as possible after the games end. (Games cannot be edited if there are any mistakes until the result has been submitted).

- 11.1 Where there are no officially appointed Umpires at a match, at the conclusion of the game, Coaches shall endorse and counter sign each scorebook, in so doing, agree to the official scores and the match result. Once signed, no dispute from this match re scores/result would be heard by the Pennant/Appeals Committee's. If a game has been live scored, both Coaches are to sign the designated scorebook if only 1 has been used.

If scores/match result cannot be agreed upon, the scorebooks will be exchanged and both teams Captains will be responsible to contact the Chairman of the Pennant Committee to arrange to lodge the opposition scorebook without amendments.

If a disputed game has been live scored and only one scorebook has been used, the Coach of the team that provided the live score will take a photo of the disputed scorebook. The result on the competition management platform (PlayHQ) Scorer App shall be submitted, and the final result will be determined by the Pennant Committee.

11.2 Where a team has its innings declared or the match is abandoned on the second day through weather conditions, the score book shall be endorsed, and counter signed by the opposing Coaches that the following players took part in the match.

11.3 **COACHES'S REPORT**

UMPIRE'S PERFORMANCE, APPRAISAL OF CONDITIONS & REPORTING PLAYERS & BEHAVIOUR

Coaches' Reports on competition management platform (PlayHQ) cover appraisal of Umpire performance, ground conditions and includes an option to report a player/s whether the game has a BCUA Umpire or no appointed umpire.

There will be two separate reports sent to Coaches via Play HQ on submission of the match result. They are

- An Umpire assessment (only needs to be completed if an official umpire was in attendance)
- A game assessment including comments re opposition behaviour, ground and pitch assessments, spirit of cricket voting and the ability to make a player report for poor behaviour. For U17 Open, U15 Open and Under 17 Girls without Umpires there is also the requirements to enter Match Votes by the Home Team, after consultation with the opposition.
- If you do not receive a form once the game result is submitted a report can be completed via a web-form on the BCA website
 - [Umpire Assessment](#)
 - [Game Assessment](#)

The coaches' report is automatically emailed to the nominated Coach with a link for the report, when the game status is marked complete after entering scores in the competition management platform (PlayHQ).

If a player, coach or club official demonstrates behaviour that is worthy of a report, the name of the player and a detailed explanation of the incident must be recorded in the Coaches' Report.

After all games in the U17 Open, U17 Girls and Under 15 Open age groups with an allocated Umpire there will be a mandatory 5-minute meeting with the Umpires and Captains / Coaches to discuss the game, how it was played, if there were any concerns and if a Coach is considering lodging a Player Report that the Umpire and other Coach need to be aware of.

In Games without an Umpire, if a Coach is considering reporting a Player from the opposing club, they must discuss the incident and inform the Opposition Coach if they intend to report the player or team official before leaving the game.

This report will be forwarded to the BCA Investigations Officer in accordance with the provisions of [BCA Policy 1 – Code of Behaviour](#)

A submitted Player Report from a Coach will not be referred to the BCA MIO, if the opposition Coach had not been informed at the game of the possibility of this being done.

This does not stop

- the coach from making comments in the Spirit of the Game section about how the game was played, or a Club submitting a formal complaint on official club letter head signed by a member of the club executive for investigation if they believe an incident happened that requires an investigation

Coaches' Reports on competition management platform (PlayHQ) also cover the rating of own team's behaviour and opposition behaviour. This is rated -1 (Player Report submitted) to 10 (Excellent). If behaviour of either team is rated at 2 or less, further details must be provided in the Captain's Report.

All Clubs are to ensure that Coaches in all grades complete and lodge the Coaches' Reports on competition management platform (PlayHQ) by 11.59 pm on the Monday following the completion of each match.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 2

RULE 12

JUNIOR MATCH POINTS ALLOCATIONS

12.1 All matches shall be decided on the result on the first innings. The team scoring the greater number of runs shall be the winner. No further points for outright results will be awarded

12.1.1 The result of the match shall be recorded on a points system: via:

6 pts	First Innings Win (1- & 2-day matches)
6 pts	Bye in any grade where there is an uneven number of byes
3 pts	Tie on First Innings
3 pts	Drawn or Abandoned match (1- and 2-day matches)
0 pts	Bye in any grade where all teams have the same number of byes

12.1.2 Any action regarding inequitable byes in a grade shall be the responsibility of the Pennant Committee.

12.1.3 If two or more teams are equal in points, their relative positions shall be determined by averages. For the purpose of ascertaining averages, the quotient ratio as calculated in play HQ will be used to ascertain ladder position.

The batting average of a team shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored by the total number of wickets lost. The batting average against such team shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored against it by the total number of wickets taken.

The former shall be divided by the latter. The team having the highest quotient shall be considered to have the better performance.

RULE 13

UMPIRES

Refer [BCA Policy 16 - Umpires](#)

13.1 All Junior Umpire match appointments shall be made by the Selection Panel of the Ballarat Cricket Umpires Association from their Association members.

13.2 If only one BCUA Umpire is provided, the square leg Umpire shall be provided by the fielding team.

13.3 Where there are officially appointed Umpires, at the conclusion of the match, the Umpire(s) shall endorse the scorebook/s, and in so doing, agree to the official scores and match result. Once signed, no dispute from the match re scores/result would be heard by the Pennant/Appeals Committee's.

If scores/match result cannot be agreed upon, the scorebook/s will be impounded by the Umpire(s) and they will be responsible to contact the Chairman of the Pennant Committee to arrange to lodge the scorebooks without amendments.

13.4 **UMPIRE FEES**

U17 OPEN	\$65 per Umpire per days play (no travel fee)
U17 GIRLS	\$65 per Umpire per days play (no travel fee)
U15 OPEN	\$65 per Umpire per days play (no travel fee)
U14 GIRLS	\$55 per Umpire per days play (no travel fee)
U13 OPEN	\$55 per Umpire per days play (no travel fee)

13.5 **UMPIRE PAYMENTS**

The appointed BCUA umpire(s) shall be paid the fee applicable to their appointment in accordance with the schedule of fees outlined in this document, save for the following exceptions:

- (a) Should play be cancelled for any reason prior to the scheduled starting time of play on any day, then no fee is payable to the appointed Umpire(s).

(b) In the event where play has not been cancelled prior to the scheduled starting time, the appointed Umpire(s) shall be entitled to.

- \$10.00 per hour, per Umpire, for each hour or part thereof up until the conclusion of scheduled time for the innings break or halfway point in a day's play
- Should play be cancelled after the conclusion of the scheduled time for the innings break or halfway point in a day's play, then the appointed Umpire(s) shall be entitled to the full match fee.

13.5 The appointed Umpire(s) shall be paid the appropriate fee via online transfer by the BCA. Clubs will be invoiced periodically throughout the season for umpire payments

RULE 14 CONDUCT

CLUB PLAYERS, OFFICIALS, MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

[BCA Policy 1 – Code of Behaviour](#) applies to Junior matches.

Club Volunteers while acting as Umpires have the same authority as BCUA appointed Umpires.

RULE 15 ACCREDITED COACHES

The Ballarat Cricket Association requires all Junior Coaches and Team Managers to have a current Working with Children's (WWCC) card and Clubs shall have at least two (2) adults or two (2) Senior players for each Junior team.

As a minimum the BCA recommends one (1) of the Coaches present at the match at all times should have the following accreditations: -

- (a) In their first two (2) consecutive seasons as the Coach of a team, obtain a Cricket Victoria Level 0 (Introduction to Cricket) accreditation.
- (b) In their third (3) consecutive season and beyond as the Coach of a team, obtain a Cricket Victoria Level 1 (Community Coach) accreditation.

RULE 16 AMALGAMATION OF JUNIOR TEAMS

The BCA Junior Committee may seek BCA Board approval to amalgamate Junior teams for the current season for the purpose of avoiding a bye in such grades, without players from these Clubs being required to obtain clearances to one of the Clubs affected or affecting their ability to play Senior cricket with their registered Club during that season only.

RULE 17 PROPER CRICKET ATTIRE – PLAYER SAFETY

17.1 All players under the age of 18 participating in BCA Junior competitions shall wear an approved BS7928:2013 compliant helmet including full face protective mask when batting and wicket keeping at all times (Playing and Training).

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 2

17.2 All players participating in BCA competitions shall wear an approved BS7928:2013 compliant helmet at all times when fielding in close. Fielding in close description as per CA - "(or in a zero-reaction time position) In elite cricket, a zero-reaction time position is considered any position within 7 metres of the batter except any position behind square on the off side - therefore, if fielding at silly mid-off or short-leg you would need to wear a helmet, whereas you would not if fielding at gully or (regulation) slip.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 2



BALLARAT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

PLAYING CONDITIONS

UNDER 17 OPEN - SEASON 2026/27



Version - Updated August 6, 2026

RULES FOR BALLARAT UNDER 17 CRICKET COMPETITIONS

RULE 18 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY UNDER 17 OPEN

18.1 U17 COMPETITIONS – Refer to Rule 6.1.3 for the use of Player Permits

- 18.2 For male players to be eligible to play in this competition, they shall be born on or after 01/09/2009.
For female players to be eligible to play in this competition, they shall be born on or after 01/09/2007.

18.3 AGE EXEMPTIONS

Clubs may apply in writing to the Pennant Committee for a season permit to play players out of age where circumstances dictate their continuation in the game. [Age Exemption criteria forms](#) are available on the BCA website. If the Pennant Committee feels at any time that these players are performing at a level above the current level, the permit would then be revoked.

Players with an age exemption are ineligible to win end of season awards

18.4 INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

Any ineligible player shall be dealt with under [Rule 2](#)

RULE 19 TIMES OF PLAY, INTERVALS AND OVERS TO BE BOWLED

Matches will be scheduled on a Tuesday evening.

Clubs are to seek permission from the Pennant Committee two weeks prior to the scheduled round of matches if they wish to change a scheduled playing day.

Both clubs are to agree with the change of time, date and venue. If the scheduled game is affected by adverse weather conditions to the point of no result, the match will be deemed a draw. Once a match has been scheduled/rescheduled it cannot be rescheduled again, but can have the venue changed prior to the start of play if conditions are not suitable or the venue becomes unavailable.

- 19.1 Scheduled times of play, intervals and overs to be bowled are as follows:

	Two Day Games (Including Semi/Grand Finals)	One Day Games
Scheduled Overs per day	40	50
Innings Overs	40	25
Minutes allowed per Innings	150 minutes	85 Minutes
Innings adjournment	10 minutes at completion of allowed time or bowled out	10 minutes at completion of allowed time or bowled out
Start times	Tuesday 5.15pm Games can start earlier if both teams are ready and agree	Tuesday 5.15pm Games can start earlier if both teams are ready and agree

- 19.2 Any over commenced prior to the scheduled cessation/allowed time must be completed. Stumps must be in place and the toss effected at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the game. If either side fails to comply with this direction, they will forfeit the right to the toss.
- 19.3 A drinks break may be taken after 20 overs in Two Day Games but limited to 4 minutes in duration. Players are not to leave the field without the permission of the Umpire.

RULE 20 PLAYING CONDITIONS

- 20.1 That so far as applicable and with the below modifications the rules of the Senior competition shall apply to all matches.
- 20.2 Each team shall consist of a maximum of Thirteen (13) players. Eleven (11) only to bat or bowl in one innings and eleven (11) only to field at any one time.
- 20.2.1 Where a team does not have eleven (11) players, but the opposition has a surplus, an exchange of players from the teams may occur for that match only. (These players shall be clearly indicated **in the Scorebook and permits applied for as soon as possible so that player stats can be allocated to the player in Play HQ**).
- 20.3 **TEAM SHEETS**
Prior to the scheduled start of play on the first day of any **match the coaches of each team must notify the opposing coach in the presence of the umpire(s) (if one is appointed) of the submission on PlayHQ of the selected team chosen to play in the match.**
- 20.3.1 Alterations shall only be made with the consent of the opposing Coach and notification to the appointed Umpire(s) up to one (1) hour from the scheduled start of play on the first day of the match.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under [Rule 2](#)

RULE 21 TWO DAY MATCHES

- 21.1 **BATTING RESTRICTIONS**
U17 competitions - batters must compulsory retire at reaching 100 runs in a two day game.
(They shall be recorded as RTNO).
- 21.1.1 Retiring batters (who have been retired prior to reaching the compulsory runs retiring limit) may return to the crease to bat only at the fall of the final wicket in that innings. They are to return in the order they retired. Retired batters who had reached the maximum score are able to return to the crease to bat once all non-compulsory retired batters have returned to the crease. They are to return in the order they retired.
- 21.2 **BOWLING RESTRICTIONS**
EIGHT (8) overs per bowler maximum per innings in a two-day game.
- 21.2.1 6 balls per over (maximum of 8 balls for re-bowled wides and no-balls).
- 21.2.2 Players can bowl during any stage of an innings regardless of whether or not they have been off the field. (Medium and Fast Bowlers restrictions as below still apply).
Medium and Fast Pace Bowlers (i.e. A bowler for which the wicket-keeper would normally stand back) shall not bowl more than six (6) consecutive overs in any period of bowling during a match.
If more than one over was bowled in a player's immediate previous bowling period, they shall not resume bowling unless the subsequent overs from the same end equals the overs bowled by them in that period.
- NOTE:* A new period (bowling spell) is allowed if there is a 30-minute break, or it is the start of a new day.
- 21.2.3 A bowler shall be allowed to bowl one short pitched delivery per over. A fast short pitched delivery is defined as a ball which passes above shoulder height of a batter standing upright at the crease. In the event of the bowler bowling more than one fast short pitched delivery in an over, either Umpire shall call and signal no ball. (The above regulation is not a substitute for Law 42.7, which Umpires may apply at any time).
- 21.2.4 **BOWLING OF DANGEROUS AND UNFAIR NON-PITCHING DELIVERIES**
- (a) Any delivery, which passes or would have passed, without pitching, above waist height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease, is unfair. Whenever such a delivery is bowled, the umpire shall call and signal No ball.

- (b) The bowling of a delivery as defined in 21.2.4 (a) is also dangerous if the bowler's end umpire considers that there is a risk of injury to the striker. In making that judgement the umpire shall: - disregard any protective equipment worn by the striker be mindful of: - the speed, height and direction of the delivery the skill of the striker - the repeated nature of such deliveries.
- (c) If the umpire considers a non-pitching delivery, or a series of non-pitching deliveries, to be dangerous under 21.2.4 (b), when the ball is dead, the umpire shall repeat the No ball signal to the scorers and then caution the bowler, indicating that this is a first and final warning. The umpire shall also inform the other the other umpire, the captain of the fielding side and the batters of what has occurred. This caution shall apply to that bowler throughout the innings.
- (d) Should there be any further dangerous such delivery by the same bowler in that innings, the umpire shall call and signal No ball when the ball is dead, direct the captain of the fielding side to suspend the bowler immediately from bowling inform the other umpire for the reason for this action. The bowler thus suspended shall not be allowed to bowl again in that innings. If applicable, the over shall be completed by another bowler, who shall neither have bowled any part of the previous over, nor be allowed to bowl any part of the next over. Additionally, the umpire shall inform the batters and, as soon as practicable, the captain of the batting side. The umpires together shall report the occurrence as soon as possible after the match to the Executive of the offending side and to any Governing Body responsible for the match, who shall take such action as is considered appropriate against the captain, any other individuals concerned and, if appropriate, the team.
- (e) The warning and action sequences in 21.2.4 (c) and 21.2.4 (d) are independent of those in 21.2.4 (f).
- (f) If the umpire considers that a bowler deliberately bowled a non-pitching delivery, deemed to be unfair as defined in 21.2.4 (a), then the caution and warning in 21.2.4 (c) shall be dispensed with. The umpire shall immediately call and signal No ball. when the ball is dead, direct the captain of the fielding side to suspend the bowler immediately from bowling and inform the other umpire for the reason for this action. The bowler thus suspended shall not be allowed to bowl again in that innings. If applicable, the over shall be completed by another bowler, who shall neither have bowled any part of the previous over, nor be allowed to bowl any part of the next over. inform the batters and, as soon as practicable, the captain of the batting side. The umpires together shall report the occurrence as soon as possible after the match to the Executive of the offending side and to any Governing Body responsible for the match, who shall take such action as is considered appropriate against the captain, any other individuals concerned and, if appropriate, the team.

21.2.5 FIELDING INFORMATION

- (a) No fielders within 7 metres of the bat (except regulation offside slips, gully and wicket keeper).
- (b) Only 5 fielders are allowed on the boundary, which will be classified as being within 10 metres of the boundary markers.

21.3 INNINGS CLOSURES

In all matches if the innings of the side batting first has not been previously completed, the innings shall be compulsorily closed at the completion of the allowed innings time regardless of overs bowled.

- 21.3.1 If the innings of the side batting first is compulsorily closed, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat only for the bowling of the same number of overs as has been bowled to the side batting first.
- 21.3.2 If the innings of the side batting first has been completed other than by compulsory closure, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat for at least the same number of overs as bowled to the side batting first, or any greater number possible up to the allowed innings time.
- 21.3.3 Neither side will be permitted more than 40 overs to bat in its innings. A second innings can commence or match ended once a result has been achieved on agreement from both team Coaches.

If a first innings result has been achieved and both teams have batted their full allocation of overs, where time permits an 'off the books' impromptu shortened over match can be undertaken.

21.4 INTERRUPTIONS TO PLAY

Where interruptions to play during the innings of the side batting first occur which do not exceed thirty (30) minutes in total the number of overs to be bowled shall be adjusted and compulsory closure shall occur at the completion of those overs or at the scheduled finishing time, whichever is the latter. The adjusted overs shall be calculated using the following table.

Less than 30 minutes lost.	
Minutes lost	Min Rescheduled Overs
1 – 3	39
4 – 6	38
7 – 9	37
10 – 12	36
13 – 15	35
16 – 18	34
19 – 21	33
22 – 24	32
25 – 27	31
28 – 30	30

Scheduled finish times relevant to the scheduled day and times for each match.

- 21.4.1 Where the total amount of time lost for the side batting first exceeds thirty (30) minutes but does not exceed one hundred and twenty (120) minutes, the number of overs to be bowled and the schedule finishing time of the innings shall be adjusted. Compulsory closure shall occur at the completion of the adjusted overs. The adjusted number of overs and the adjusted finishing time shall be calculated using the table below.

NOTE: That in such circumstance the innings of the side batting first will conclude on the second day of the match. Umpires shall be responsible for ensuring that the adjusted number of overs are completed before the rescheduled finishing time.

More than 30 minutes and less than 121 minutes lost.			
Mins Lost	Overs	1st Inns Overs Day 1	Max 1st Inns Overs Day 2
31 – 36	36	35	1
37 – 42	35	33	2
43 – 48	34	31	3
49 – 54	33	29	4
55 – 60	32	27	5
61 – 66	31	25	6
67 – 72	30	23	7
73 – 78	29	21	8
79 – 84	28	19	9
85 – 90	27	17	10
91 – 96	26	15	11
97 – 102	24	25	13
103 – 108	24	25	13
109 – 114	23	9	14
115 – 120	22	7	15

- 21.4.2 For other situations involving weather interruptions, refer [Rule 2](#)

- 21.4.3 The Pennant Committee reserves the right to call matches off on any day preceding the game, in line with Senior rules regarding extreme heat conditions.

- 21.5 Should play on the first day of any match be entirely prevented by bad weather conditions, the game shall resolve into a one-day match under conditions as set out in [Rule 2](#).
- 21.6 Where both sides have commenced their first innings, the match shall continue until the scheduled finishing time or until the scheduled overs per day have been bowled. (To apply to both 2 day and 1 day matches).

RULE 22 ONE DAY MATCHES

22.1 BATTING RESTRICTIONS

All U17 competitions - batters must compulsory retire at reaching 50 runs in a one day match. (They shall be recorded as RTNO).

- 22.1.1 Retiring batters (who have been retired prior to reaching the compulsory runs retiring limit) may return to the crease to bat only at the fall of the final wicket in that innings. They are to return in the order they retired. Retired batters who had reached the maximum score are able to return to the crease to bat once all non-compulsory retired batters have returned to the crease. They are to return in the order they retired.

22.2 BOWLING RESTRICTIONS

All U17 competitions - FIVE (5) overs per bowler maximum per innings in a one-day game.

- 22.2.1 6 balls per over (maximum of 8 balls for re-bowled wides and no-balls).
- 22.2.2 Players can bowl during any stage of an innings regardless of whether or not they have been off the field. (Medium and Fast Bowlers restrictions as below still apply).

22.2.5 FIELDING INFORMATION

- (a) No fielders within 7 metres of the bat (except regulation offside slips, gully and wicket keeper).
- (b) Only 5 fielders are allowed on the boundary, which will be classified as being within 10 metres of the boundary markers.

22.3 INNINGS CLOSURES

- 22.3.1 In one day matches the time shall be divided equally and if the side batting first has not previously completed its innings, the innings shall be compulsorily closed on the completion of the bowling of 25 overs, or 85 minutes after the starting time.
- 22.3.2 If the innings of the side batting first is compulsorily closed, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat only for the bowling of the same number of overs as has been bowled to the side batting first.
- 22.3.3 If the innings of the side batting first has been completed other than by compulsory closure, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat for at least the same number of overs as bowled to the side batting first, or any greater number possible up to the allowed innings time.
- 22.3.4 If the game is interrupted for an aggregate of more than thirty (30) minutes by bad weather conditions, during either period of allotted time, the game shall thereupon be played under ordinary conditions until the scheduled finishing time.

RULE 23 FINALS MATCHES

- 23.1 At the completion of the minor round of matches a final four in the 1st XI and 2nd XI Sections shall be formed and these teams shall take part in a final series of matches.

23.2 SEMI-FINALS

U17 Semi-Finals are to be played on TUESDAY NIGHT and THURSDAY NIGHT with no spare days allowed.

Matches shall be played under the same conditions as apply to minor round two-day games, with the exception that Junior Rule 21.4.2 shall not apply to Semi-Finals.

23.3 GRAND FINALS

U17 Grand Finals are to be played on TUESDAY NIGHT and THURSDAY NIGHT.

Matches shall be played under the same conditions as apply to minor round two-day games, with the exception that Junior Rules 21.4.2 shall not apply to Grand Finals

RULE 24 CRICKET BALLS/STUMPS/BOUNDARY MARKERS

All cricket balls used in any match shall be a make, character and size approved by the BCA Board.

CRICKET BALLS

Approved Cricket Balls for the current season are as follows:

- Two (2) piece 156gm ORANGE balls – Kookaburra Jaffer with BCA Logo

Balls may be replaced if they deteriorate during an innings due to the effects of wet weather, **excess dew or** other ground conditions upon the approval of the appointed Umpire and with the consent of the nominated Coaches. **The ball must be of similar condition. A used wet ball cannot be swapped over with a brand-new ball.**

The home team must supply a set of wooden stumps with bails

- 24.1 Each team shall be in the possession of 40 boundary markers, and where a boundary is not defined by a fence, such markers must be placed in the position prior to the commencement of the match each day. The first named team in the draw shall place the markers in position on each day of play. The markers must be placed in position in a circle of 60 metres radius from the centre of the pitch, not more than 10 metres apart and 2 metres in front of any football goal/behind posts that are inside the boundary fence. Markers must be placed at least 1 metre inside any boundary fence.



Ballarat Cricket Association

BALLARAT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

PLAYING CONDITIONS

UNDER 15 OPEN - SEASON 2026/27



Version - Updated August 6, 2026

RULES FOR BALLARAT UNDER 15 CRICKET COMPETITIONS

RULE 25 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY UNDER 15 OPEN

25.1 U15 COMPETITIONS – Refer to Rule 6.1.3 for the use of Player Permits

- 25.2 For male players to be eligible to play in this competition, they shall be born on or after 01/09/2011.
For female players to be eligible to play in this competition, they shall be born on or after 01/09/2009.

25.3 AGE EXEMPTIONS

Clubs may apply in writing to the Pennant Committee for a season permit to play players out of age where circumstances dictate their continuation in the game. [Age Exemption criteria forms](#) are available on the BCA website. If the Pennant Committee feels at any time that these players are performing at a level above the current level, the permit would then be revoked.

Players with an age exemption are ineligible to win end of season awards

25.4 INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

Any ineligible player shall be dealt with under [Rule 2](#)

RULE 26 TIMES OF PLAY, INTERVALS AND OVERS TO BE BOWLED

Matches can take place from Friday afternoons through to 5pm Sunday afternoons on turf. Clubs are to seek permission from the Pennant Committee two weeks prior to the scheduled round of matches. Both clubs are to agree with the change of time, date and venue. If the scheduled game is affected by adverse weather conditions to the point of no result, the match will be deemed a draw. Once a match has been scheduled/rescheduled it cannot be rescheduled again, but can have the venue changed prior to the start of play if conditions are not suitable or the venue becomes unavailable.

- 26.1 Scheduled times of play, intervals and overs to be bowled are as follows:

One Day & Two-Day Games (Including Semi/Grand Finals)		
Scheduled Overs	50	50
Innings Overs	50	25
Minutes allowed	180 minutes	85 Minutes
Innings adjournment	10 minutes at completion of allowed time or bowled out	10 minutes at completion of allowed time or bowled out
Start times	Saturday - 8:30 AM	Saturday - 8:30 AM

- 26.2 Any over commenced prior to the scheduled cessation/allowed time must be completed. Stumps must be in place and the toss effected at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the game. If either side fails to comply with this direction, they will forfeit the right to the toss.

RULE 27 PLAYING CONDITIONS

- 27.1 That so far as applicable and with the below modifications the rules of the Senior competition shall apply to all matches.
- 27.2 Each team shall consist of a maximum of Thirteen (13) players. Eleven (11) only to bat or bowl in one innings and eleven (11) only to field at any one time.
- 27.2.1 Where a team does not have eleven (11) players, but the opposition has a surplus, an exchange of players from the teams may occur for that match only. (These players shall be clearly indicated in the Scorebook and permits applied for as soon as possible so that player stats can be allocated to the player in Play HQ).

27.3 TEAM SHEETS

Prior to the scheduled start of play on the first day of any match the **coaches of each team must notify the opposing coach in the presence of the umpire(s) (if one is appointed) of the submission on PlayHQ of the selected team chosen to play in the match.**

27.3.1 Alterations shall only be made with the consent of the opposing Coach and notification to the appointed Umpire(s) up to one (1) hour from the scheduled start of play on the first day of the match.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under [Rule 2](#)

RULE 28 TWO DAY MATCHES

28.1 BATTING RESTRICTIONS

U15 competitions - batters must compulsory retire at reaching 50 runs in a two day game. (They shall be recorded as RTNO).

28.1.1 Retiring batters (who have been retired prior to reaching the compulsory **runs** retiring limit) may return to the crease to bat only at the fall of the final wicket in that innings. They are to return in the order they retired. Retired batters who had reached the maximum score are able to return to the crease to bat once all non-compulsory retired batters have returned to the crease. They are to return in the order they retired.

28.2 BOWLING RESTRICTIONS

All U15 competitions - eight (8) overs per bowler maximum per innings in a two day game.

28.2.1 Players can bowl during any stage of an innings regardless of whether or not they have been off the field. (Medium and Fast Bowlers restrictions as below still apply).

Medium and Fast-Paced Bowlers (i.e. A bowler for which the wicketkeeper would normally stand back) shall not bowl more than five (5) consecutive overs in any period of bowling during a match.

If more than one over was bowled in a player's immediate previous bowling period, they shall not resume bowling unless the subsequent overs from the same end equals the overs bowled by them in that period.

NOTE: A new period (bowling spell) is allowed if there is a 30-minute break or it is the start of a new day.

28.2.2 Five (5) overs to be bowled from the same end prior to changing ends (Normal rotation of bowlers shall apply).

28.2.3 BOWLING OF DANGEROUS AND UNFAIR NON-PITCHING DELIVERIES

(a) Any delivery, which passes or would have passed, without pitching, above waist height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease, is unfair. Whenever such a delivery is bowled, the umpire shall call and signal No ball.

(b) The bowling of a delivery as defined in 28.2.3 (a) is also dangerous if the bowler's end umpire considers that there is a risk of injury to the striker. In making that judgement the umpire shall: - disregard any protective equipment worn by the striker be mindful of: - the speed, height and direction of the delivery the skill of the striker - the repeated nature of such deliveries.

(c) If the umpire considers a non-pitching delivery, or a series of non-pitching deliveries, to be dangerous under 28.2.3 (b), when the ball is dead, the umpire shall repeat the No ball signal to the scorers and then caution the bowler, indicating that this is a first and final warning. The umpire shall also inform the other the other umpire, the captain of the fielding side and the batters of what has occurred. This caution shall apply to that bowler throughout the innings.

- (d) Should there be any further dangerous such delivery by the same bowler in that innings, the umpire shall call and signal No ball when the ball is dead, direct the captain of the fielding side to suspend the bowler immediately from bowling inform the other umpire for the reason for this action. The bowler thus suspended shall not be allowed to bowl again in that innings. If applicable, the over shall be completed by another bowler, who shall neither have bowled any part of the previous over, nor be allowed to bowl any part of the next over. Additionally, the umpire shall inform the batters and, as soon as practicable, the captain of the batting side. The umpires together shall report the occurrence as soon as possible after the match to the Executive of the offending side and to any Governing Body responsible for the match, who shall take such action as is considered appropriate against the captain, any other individuals concerned and, if appropriate, the team.
- (e) The warning and action sequences in 28.2.3 (c) and 28.2.3 (d) are independent of those in 28.2.3 (f).
- (f) If the umpire considers that a bowler deliberately bowled a non-pitching delivery, deemed to be unfair as defined in 28.2.3 (a), then the caution and warning in 28.2.3 (c) shall be dispensed with. The umpire shall immediately call and signal No ball. when the ball is dead, direct the captain of the fielding side to suspend the bowler immediately from bowling and inform the other umpire for the reason for this action. The bowler thus suspended shall not be allowed to bowl again in that innings. If applicable, the over shall be completed by another bowler, who shall neither have bowled any part of the previous over, nor be allowed to bowl any part of the next over. inform the batters and, as soon as practicable, the captain of the batting side. The umpires together shall report the occurrence as soon as possible after the match to the Executive of the offending side and to any Governing Body responsible for the match, who shall take such action as is considered appropriate against the captain, any other individuals concerned and, if appropriate, the team.

28.2.4 FIELDING INFORMATION

- (a) No fielders within 7 metres of the bat (except regulation offside slips, gully and wicket keeper).
- (b) Only 5 fielders are allowed on the boundary, which will be classified as being within 10 metres of the boundary markers.

28.3 MAXIMUM BALLS IN AN OVER

- 1st XI SECTION - 6 balls per over (maximum of 8 balls for re-bowled wides and no-balls).
- 2nd XI SECTION - 6 balls per over (maximum of 8 balls for re-bowled wides and no-balls).

An over bowled shall be restricted to the maximum number balls per over as above when wide balls or no balls are included in the over.

- 28.3.1 In all Junior matches on hard wickets, any ball bowled that pitches off the side of the wicket, bounces **two or more times** before it reaches the batter or runs along the ground, shall be called a "No Ball".

- 28.4 Each side will be permitted to bat for fifty (50) overs, as usual, for BCA Junior matches.

- 28.4.1 The side batting first will bat for 25 overs or 85 minutes at which time the innings shall cease and the side batting second shall receive only the same number of overs as bowled to the side batting first.

On the second day's play the side that batted second on the first day will continue on to bat for the final 25 overs or 85 minutes at which time the innings shall cease, and the side batting first shall receive only the same number of overs as bowled to the side batting second.

- 28.4.2 Once a first innings result has been achieved or the team batting second has batted for 50 overs, on agreement of both coaches, a second innings can commence.

- 28.4.3 Although each innings will be split into two sections, at the commencement of the second section of each innings play (and score) will continue exactly where it stopped after the first section of the innings.

- 28.4.4 Any dismissed or retired batter from the first section of the innings will not be permitted to bat in the second section of the innings.

28.4.5 At the completion of the first day's play, each ball used will be labelled with the fielding team's name by any BCUA appointed Umpire, who is responsible for keeping the balls until the next day's play. If there is no BCUA appointed Umpire, each ball used will be signed by the opposition coach. Coaches are then responsible for keeping their own team's ball until the next day's play. The state of each ball may not be altered by any person once it has been signed until play resumes. At the recommencement of each innings the same ball that was used for the first section of the innings must again be used for the second section of the innings.

28.5 If the first day of the match is completely washed out then a 25 over innings one day match will be played on the second day. In this case, individual batting and bowling restrictions for one day matches will apply.

28.5.1 If the second day of the match is completely washed out, the match will be deemed to be a draw unless a first innings result was achieved during the first week of play.

28.6 **INTERRUPTIONS TO PLAY**

28.6.1 If time is lost due to rain on the first day yet there is some play there will be 1 over for every 4 minutes lost deducted from the match's scheduled 100 overs. Hence for every 8 minutes lost the number of overs permitted for each team in the first section of its innings (normally 25 overs) will be reduced by 1 over.

If the interruption occurs on Day 2 of play, there will be 1 over for every 4 minutes lost deducted from the match's remaining scheduled 50 overs. If the interruption occurs prior to the first innings closure for every 8 minutes lost the number of overs permitted for each team in the second section of its innings (normally 25 overs) will be reduced by 1 over.

If the interruption occurs at a time where after overs are deducted, both sides cannot receive the same number of overs the match will be deemed a draw if a side does not make a winning score or is bowled out below the designated target

28.6.2 Should time be lost towards the end of the first morning and the side batting second on the first morning has not completed the first innings (yet both sides have batted for at least 15 overs) then the first section of that side's inning will be completed at commencement of play on the second morning.

Then at the completion of that side's first section of its innings the Umpires will calculate, as per Rule 28.6.1, how many overs each side will be entitled to bat during the second section of their innings.

28.6.3 In the event of time being lost and the recalculation of the number of overs to be bowled at each side, each side must still receive the same number of overs in both the first and second sections of their innings as the other side. Each side must face a minimum of 30 overs during the 2 days to constitute a match, otherwise the match will be deemed drawn.

28.6.4 If either team fails to get 15 overs when batting on the first day, due to loss of time, then all play and scores will be disregarded on that day's first day and a 25 over innings one day match will be played on the second day.

28.6.5 Where a first innings result has been obtained, the match shall continue until the scheduled finishing time or until the scheduled overs per day have been bowled. However, when a first innings result has been reached and on agreement of both Captains/Accredited Coaches, stumps may be drawn at or any time after 11.00 am (Saturday morning) on the second day of play.

28.6.6 The Pennant Committee reserves the right to call matches off on any day preceding the game, in line with Senior rules regarding extreme heat conditions.

RULE 29 ONE DAY MATCHES

29.1 BATTING RESTRICTIONS

All U15 competitions - batters must compulsory retire at reaching 30 runs in a one day match. (They shall be recorded as RTNO).

- 29.1.1 Retiring batters (who have been retired prior to reaching the compulsory **runs** retiring limit) may return to the crease to bat only at the fall of the final wicket in that innings. They are to return in the order they retired. Retired batters who had reached the maximum score are able to return to the crease to bat once all non-compulsory retired batters have returned to the crease. They are to return in the order they retired.

29.2 BOWLING RESTRICTIONS

All U15 competitions - five (5) overs per bowler maximum per innings in a one-day game.

1st XI SECTION 6 balls per over (maximum of 8 balls for re-bowled wides and no-balls).

2nd XI SECTION - 6 balls per over (maximum of 8 balls for re-bowled wides and no-balls).

- 29.2.2 Players can bowl during any stage of an innings regardless of whether or not they have been off the field. (Medium and Fast Bowlers restrictions as below still apply).

Medium and fast-paced Bowlers (i.e. A bowler for which the wicket-keeper would normally stand back) shall not bowl more than four (4) consecutive overs in any period of bowling during a match.

If more than one over was bowled in a player's immediate previous bowling period, they can't resume bowling unless the subsequent overs from the same end equals or exceeds those bowled by them in that period.

- 29.2.3 Five (5) overs to be bowled from the same end prior to changing ends (Normal rotation of bowlers shall apply).

29.2.4 FIELDING INFORMATION

- (a) No fielders within 7 metres of the bat (except regulation offside slips, gully and wicket keeper).
- (b) Only 5 fielders are allowed on the boundary, which will be classified as being within 10 metres of the boundary markers.

29.3 INNINGS CLOSURES

- 29.3.1 In one day matches the time shall be divided equally and if the side batting first has not previously completed its innings, the innings shall be compulsorily closed on the completion of the bowling of 25 overs, or 85 minutes after the starting time.
- 29.3.2 If the innings of the side batting first is compulsorily closed, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat only for the bowling of the same number of overs as has been bowled to the side batting first.
- 29.3.3 If the innings of the side batting first has been completed other than by compulsory closure, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat for at least the same number of overs as bowled to the side batting first, or any greater number possible up to the allowed innings time.
- 29.3.4 If the game is interrupted for an aggregate of more than thirty (30) minutes by bad weather conditions, during either period of allotted time, the game shall thereupon be played under ordinary conditions until the scheduled finishing time.

RULE 30 FINALS MATCHES

30.1 At the completion of the minor round of matches a final four in the 1st XI and 2nd XI Sections shall be formed and these teams shall take part in a final series of matches.

30.2 SEMI-FINALS

U15 Semi-Finals are to be played on Saturday morning and Sunday morning of the same weekend with no spare days allowed.

Matches shall be played under the same conditions as apply to minor round two-day games, with the exception that Junior Rule 29 shall not apply to Semi-Finals.

30.5 GRAND FINALS

U15 Grand Finals are to be played on Saturday morning and Sunday morning of the same weekend. The following Saturday morning and/or Sunday morning will be held as reserve days and will be used if time is lost on either of the originally scheduled days.

However, the rule that there is a minimum of 50 overs/maximum of 180 minutes still applies to the first innings and the total on field playing time should not exceed the expected 6 hours. Hence any play on the second weekend shall continue no longer than the equivalent amount of time lost during the first weekend of play.

Matches shall be played under the same conditions as apply to minor round two-day games, with the exception that Junior Rule 29 shall not apply to Grand Finals and that the above reserve days will be used if required.

RULE 31 CRICKET BALLS/STUMPS/BOUNDARY MARKERS

All cricket balls used in any match shall be a make, character and size approved by the BCA Board.

CRICKET BALLS

Approved Cricket Balls for the current season are as follows:

- Two (2) piece 156gm RED balls – Kookaburra Colt/Tuf Pitch with BCA Logo

Balls may be replaced if they deteriorate during an innings due to the effects of wet weather, **excess dew** or other ground conditions upon the approval of the appointed Umpire and with the consent of the nominated Coaches. **The ball must be of similar condition. A used wet ball cannot be swapped over with a brand-new ball.**

The home team must supply a set of wooden stumps with bails

31.1 Each team shall be in the possession of 40 boundary markers, and where a boundary is not defined by a fence, such markers must be placed in the position prior to the commencement of the match each day. The first named team in the draw shall place the markers in position on each day of play. The markers must be placed in position in a circle of 50 metres radius from the centre of the pitch, not more than 10 metres apart and 2 metres in front of any football goal/behind posts that are inside the boundary fence. Markers must be placed at least 1 metre inside any boundary fence



Ballarat Cricket Association

BALLARAT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

PLAYING CONDITIONS

UNDER 17 GIRLS - SEASON 2026/27



Version - Updated August 6, 2026

RULES FOR BALLARAT UNDER 17 GIRLS CRICKET COMPETITIONS

RULE 32 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY UNDER 17 GIRLS

32.1 U17 GIRLS COMPETITIONS – Refer to Rule 6.1.3 for the use of Player Permits

32.2 For female players to be eligible to play in this competition, they shall be born on or after 01/09/2009.

32.3 AGE EXEMPTIONS

Clubs may apply in writing to the Pennant Committee for a season permit to play players out of age where circumstances dictate their continuation in the game. [Age Exemption criteria forms](#) are available on the BCA website. If the Pennant Committee feels at any time that these players are performing at a level above the current level, the permit would then be revoked.

Players with an age exemption are ineligible to win end of season awards

32.4 INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

Any ineligible player shall be dealt with under [Rule 2](#)

RULE 33 TIMES OF PLAY, INTERVALS AND OVERS TO BE BOWLED

Matches are to take place on Tuesday afternoons from 5pm on either hard wickets or turf. Both clubs are to agree with any change of time, date and venue and must notify the BCA as soon as practicable. If the scheduled game is affected by adverse weather conditions to the point of no result, the match will be deemed a draw. Once a match has been scheduled/rescheduled it cannot be rescheduled again, but can have the venue changed prior to the start of play if conditions are not suitable or the venue becomes unavailable.

33.1 Scheduled times of play, intervals and overs to be bowled are as follows:

20 & 40 over matches (including finals)		
Scheduled Overs	80 (2-day matches)	40 (T20s)
Innings Overs	40	20
Start times	5:00PM	5:00PM
Finish times	7:15PM	7:20PM
Drinks/innings break	20 overs or 6:05PM	6:05-6:15PM

33.2 Any over commenced prior to the scheduled cessation/allowed time must be completed. Stumps must be in place and the toss effected at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the game. If either side fails to comply with this direction, they will forfeit the right to the toss.

33.3 A drinks break may be taken after 20 overs in a 40 over match but limited to 5 minutes in duration.

RULE 34 PLAYING CONDITIONS

34.1 The U17 girls' competition is to be a 9 per side competition.

34.2 Each team shall consist of a maximum of eleven (11) players. Up to eleven (11) players may bat and bowl in one innings, but nine (9) only to field at any one time. The innings will be ended at the fall of the eighth wicket.

34.2.1 Where a team does not have nine (9) players, but the opposition has a surplus, an exchange of players from the teams may occur for that match only. (These players shall be clearly indicated in the Scorebook and permits applied for as soon as possible so that player stats can be allocated to the player in Play HQ)

34.3 TEAM SHEETS

Prior to the scheduled start of play on the first day of any match the **coaches of each team must notify the opposing coach in the presence of the umpire(s) (if one is appointed) of the submission on PlayHQ of the selected team chosen to play in the match.**

34.3.1 Alterations shall only be made with the consent of the opposing Coach and notification to the appointed Umpire(s) up to one (1) hour from the scheduled start of play on the first day of the match.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under [Rule 2](#)

RULE 35 TWO DAY MATCHES (40 overs per side)

35.1 BATTING RESTRICTIONS

U17 competitions - batters must compulsory retire at reaching 50 runs in a two day game. (They shall be recorded as RTNO).

35.1.1 Retiring batters (who have been retired prior to reaching the compulsory **runs** retiring limit) may return to the crease to bat only at the fall of the final wicket in that innings. They are to return in the order they retired. Retired batters who had reached the maximum score are able to return to the crease to bat once all non-compulsory retired batters have returned to the crease. They are to return in the order they retired.

35.2 BOWLING RESTRICTIONS

Eight (8) overs per bowler maximum per innings in a two-day game.

35.2.1 6 balls per over (maximum of 8 balls for re-bowled wides and no-balls).

35.2.2 Players can bowl during any stage of an innings regardless of whether or not they have been off the field.

35.2.3 In all Junior matches on hard wickets, any ball bowled that pitches off the side of the wicket, bounces two or more times before it reaches the batter or runs along the ground, shall be called a "No Ball".

35.2.4 FIELDING INFORMATION

- (a) No fielders within 10 metres of the bat (except regulation offside slips, gully and wicket keeper).
- (b) Only 4 fielders are allowed on the boundary, which will be classified as being within 10 metres of the boundary markers.

35.3 BOWLING OF DANGEROUS AND UNFAIR NON-PITCHING DELIVERIES

- (c) Any delivery, which passes or would have passed, without pitching, above waist height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease, is unfair. Whenever such a delivery is bowled, the umpire shall call and signal No ball.
- (d) The bowling of a delivery as defined in 35.3 (a) is also dangerous if the bowler's end umpire considers that there is a risk of injury to the striker. In making that judgement the umpire shall: - disregard any protective equipment worn by the striker be mindful of: - the speed, height and direction of the delivery the skill of the striker - the repeated nature of such deliveries.
- (e) If the umpire considers a non-pitching delivery, or a series of non-pitching deliveries, to be dangerous under 35.3 (b), when the ball is dead, the umpire shall repeat the No ball signal to the scorers and then caution the bowler, indicating that this is a first and final warning. The umpire shall also inform the other the other umpire, the captain of the fielding side and the batters of what has occurred. This caution shall apply to that bowler throughout the innings.

- (f) Should there be any further dangerous such delivery by the same bowler in that innings, the umpire shall call and signal No ball when the ball is dead, direct the captain of the fielding side to suspend the bowler immediately from bowling inform the other umpire for the reason for this action. The bowler thus suspended shall not be allowed to bowl again in that innings. If applicable, the over shall be completed by another bowler, who shall neither have bowled any part of the previous over, nor be allowed to bowl any part of the next over. Additionally, the umpire shall inform the batters and, as soon as practicable, the captain of the batting side. The umpires together shall report the occurrence as soon as possible after the match to the Executive of the offending side and to any Governing Body responsible for the match, who shall take such action as is considered appropriate against the captain, any other individuals concerned and, if appropriate, the team.
- (g) The warning and action sequences in 35.3 (c) and 35.3 (d) are independent of those in 35.3 (f).
- (h) If the umpire considers that a bowler deliberately bowled a non-pitching delivery, deemed to be unfair as defined in 35.3 (a), then the caution and warning in 35.3 (c) shall be dispensed with. The umpire shall immediately call and signal No ball. when the ball is dead, direct the captain of the fielding side to suspend the bowler immediately from bowling and inform the other umpire for the reason for this action. The bowler thus suspended shall not be allowed to bowl again in that innings. If applicable, the over shall be completed by another bowler, who shall neither have bowled any part of the previous over, nor be allowed to bowl any part of the next over. inform the batters and, as soon as practicable, the captain of the batting side. The umpires together shall report the occurrence as soon as possible after the match to the Executive of the offending side and to any Governing Body responsible for the match, who shall take such action as is considered appropriate against the captain, any other individuals concerned and, if appropriate, the team.

35.4 INNINGS CLOSURES

In all matches if the innings of the side batting first has not been previously completed, the innings shall be compulsorily closed at the completion of the allowed innings time regardless of overs bowled.

- 35.4.1 If the innings of the side batting first is compulsorily closed, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat only for the bowling of the same number of overs as has been bowled to the side batting first.
- 35.4.2 If the innings of the side batting first has been completed other than by compulsory closure, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat for at least the same number of overs as bowled to the side batting first, or any greater number possible up to the allowed innings time.
- 35.4.3 Neither side will be permitted more than 40 overs to bat in its innings. A second innings can commence or match ended once a result has been achieved on agreement from both team Coaches.

35.5 INTERRUPTIONS TO PLAY

Where interruptions to play during the innings of the side batting first occur, the number of overs to be bowled shall be adjusted and compulsory closure shall occur at the completion of those overs or at the scheduled finishing time. The adjusted overs shall be calculated using the following table.

Up to 60 minutes lost.

Minutes lost	Rescheduled Overs
1 - 6	39
7 - 12	38
13 - 18	37
19 - 24	36
25 - 30	35
31 - 36	34
37 - 42	33
43 - 48	32
49 - 54	31
55 - 60	30

Scheduled finish times relevant to the scheduled day and times for each match.

35.5.1 Where the total amount of time lost for the side batting first exceeds sixty (60) minutes or less than 20 overs can be completed, the match shall revert to a T20 the following week.

NOTE: That in such circumstance the innings of the side batting first will conclude on the second day of the match. Umpires shall be responsible for ensuring that the adjusted number of overs are completed before the rescheduled finishing time.

35.5.2 For other situations involving weather interruptions, refer [Rule 2](#)

35.5.3 The Pennant Committee reserves the right to call matches off on any day preceding the game, in line with Senior rules regarding extreme heat conditions.

35.6 Should play on the first day of any match be entirely prevented by bad weather conditions, the game shall resolve into a T20.

35.7 Where both sides have commenced their first innings, the match shall continue until the scheduled finishing time or until the scheduled overs per day have been bowled.

RULE 36 ONE DAY MATCHES (20 overs per side)

36.1 BATTING RESTRICTIONS

All U17 competitions - batters must compulsory retire at reaching 30 runs in a T20 match.
(They shall be recorded as RTNO).

36.1.1 Retiring batters (who have been retired prior to reaching the compulsory **runs** retiring limit) may return to the crease to bat only at the fall of the final wicket in that innings. They are to return in the order they retired. Retired batters who had reached the maximum score are able to return to the crease to bat once all non-compulsory retired batters have returned to the crease. They are to return in the order they retired.

36.2 BOWLING RESTRICTIONS

Four (4) overs per bowler maximum per innings in a T20 game.

36.2.1 6 balls per over (maximum of 8 balls for re-bowled wides and no-balls).

36.2.2 Players can bowl during any stage of an innings regardless of whether or not they have been off the field.

36.2.3 FIELDING INFORMATION

- (a) No fielders within 10 metres of the bat (except regulation offside slips, gully and wicket keeper).
- (b) Only 4 fielders are allowed on the boundary, which will be classified as being within 10 metres of the boundary markers.

36.3 BOWLING OF DANGEROUS AND UNFAIR NON-PITCHING DELIVERIES

Refer to Rule 35.3

36.4 INNINGS CLOSURES

36.4.1 In T20 matches the time shall be divided equally and if the side batting first has not previously completed its innings, the innings shall be compulsorily closed on the completion of the bowling of 20 overs, or 65 minutes after the starting time.

36.4.2 If the innings of the side batting first is compulsorily closed, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat only for the bowling of the same number of overs as has been bowled to the side batting first.

36.4.3 If the innings of the side batting first has been completed other than by compulsory closure, then the side batting second, if not previously dismissed, shall be entitled to bat for at least the same number of overs as bowled to the side batting first, or any greater number possible up to the allowed innings time.

- 36.4.4 If the game is interrupted for an aggregate of more than thirty (30) minutes by bad weather conditions, during either period of allotted time, the game shall thereupon be played under ordinary conditions until the scheduled finishing time.

RULE 37 FINALS MATCHES

- 37.1 At the completion of the minor round of matches a final four shall be formed and these teams shall take part in a final series of matches.

37.2 SEMI-FINALS

U17 Semi-Finals are to be played on Tuesday afternoon with no spare days allowed.

Matches shall be played under the same conditions as apply to minor round T20 games.

37.3 GRAND FINALS

U17 Grand Finals are to be played on Tuesday afternoon. The following Tuesday afternoon will be held as a reserve day and will be used if time is lost on either of the originally scheduled days.

Matches shall be played under the same conditions as apply to minor round T20 games.

RULE 38 CRICKET BALLS/STUMPS/BOUNDARY MARKERS

All cricket balls used in any match shall be a make, character and size approved by the BCA Board.

CRICKET BALLS

Approved Cricket Balls for the current season are as follows:

- Two (2) piece 142gm ORANGE balls – Kookaburra Crown with BCA Logo

Balls may be replaced if they deteriorate during an innings due to the effects of wet weather, **excess dew** or other ground conditions upon the approval of the appointed Umpire and with the consent of the nominated Coaches. **The ball must be of similar condition. A used wet ball cannot be swapped over with a brand-new ball.**

The home team must supply a set of wooden stumps with bails

Each team shall be in the possession of 40 boundary markers, and where a boundary is not defined by a fence, such markers must be placed in the position prior to the commencement of the match each day. The first named team in the draw shall place the markers in position on each day of play. The markers must be placed in position in a circle of 50 metres radius from the centre of the pitch, not more than 10 metres apart and 2 metres in front of any football goal/behind posts that are inside the boundary fence. Markers must be placed at least 3 metres inside any boundary fence.