

**MANNING RIVER DISTRICT CRICKET  
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**



**SENIOR COMPETITION &  
PLAYING RULES**

**ADMINISTRATION SUPPLIMENT**

**Draft - 2025 / 2026 V1**

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## Version and Amendment Control

Version	Date	Page No.	Rule	Description
2021/ 2022.V1	7/9/21	5		Addition to Competition Framework
		15	4 (a)	Remove two day references
		15	4 (a)	Remove the outright win segment in Points allotment
		15	4 (a)	Remove two-day point allocation
		15	4 (vii)	Amend names of grade from 1 <sup>st</sup> grade to JMS MDMS and CDS
		18	9 (iv)	Remove 9a iv restriction statement
		21	15 (a)	Remove 15a 1 <sup>st</sup> grade players must play Premier league
		21	15 c (i)	Amend grade names, remove Premier league -
		21	15(c.)	Remove grading criteria
		21	15 (c.)	Add statement that Grading committee will provide a criteria at the beginning of the season.
		21	15 (d) (xii)	Remove statement of players with restrictions
		24	25 (a)	Amend Player Qualification to 2 games to be played – (2021-2022 season only)
		25	28	Add (d) MRDCA Incident report to be completed by both Player and umpire
		27	31	Add (f) MRDCA Incident report to be completed by both Player and umpire
		29	Glossary 7	Add JMS MDMS CDS and Umpire Association definitions
		31	Schedule of Fees (7)	Amend Team names to JMS, MDMD and CDS
2021/2022.V2	31/12/21	19	10 (f) (h)	Amend wet weather ground closure clauses
		6	1.1	Addition of a clause for Appointment of Official Umpires
2023/2024	12/10/23			
2025/26	28/07/25			

# MRDCA COMPETITION AND PLAYING RULES

## PRELIMINARY

The Rules laid down in this document shall apply to all fixtures controlled by the Manning River District Cricket Association Inc., unless otherwise stated.

Unless variations are specified within these rules, the MCC Laws of Cricket 2017 Code 2nd Edition 2019 shall apply to all competition matches conducted by the Association. The reference source for MCC Laws of Cricket shall be the current edition of Cricket Umpiring and Scoring (2017 Code, publisher: We Weidenfeld and Nicholson of London), hereafter referred to as “MCC Laws”, together with its interpretations and definitions.

All experimental Laws adopted by the NSWCA and the NSWCCA shall apply to all competition matches conducted by the Association and shall apply from the commencement of the season for which they were introduced. However, these may be excluded by a decision of a General / Planning Meeting of the Association prior to the commencement of the season.

Changes to rules will only be considered at a rule meeting in prior to season commencement, or as an item of Special Business at a meeting of a General / Planning Meeting. Any request for Rule changes must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the MRDCA.

## COMPETITION FRAMEWORK

The Competition shall be formally known as the Manning River District Cricket Competition (the “Competition”). Notwithstanding the previous point, the Executive **Committee** of the MRDCA has the right to change the name of the competition in accordance with any corporate agreements for sponsorship and/or naming rights.

The Competition will consist of a two-tier competition, of one day matches.

Johnny Martin Shield will be known as Tier 1, which will consist of more experienced players, predominantly known previously as 1<sup>st</sup> grade players. There will be no grading or restrictions in this tier.

The Mick Dobson Memorial Shield and will be referred as Tier 2, consisting of teams made up from all other players. These teams will play a complete round and then all teams will be reviewed, and the lower grade teams will split into another tier. Teams competing in MDMS Grade may be split into two grades midway through the season or immediately prior to the final's series. The lower Grade will be known as the Chris Dempsey Shield (Tier 3) will be the lower teams from the Mick Dobson Memorial Shield.

Please note: There will be no restrictions in the Mick Dobson Memorial and Chris Dempsey Shields, but the Grading Committee will monitor these two competitions and where a player dominates in this grade, their grading will be reviewed, and any amendments will be applied.

A Fixtures Chairperson will be invited as stated in the Constitution at/after the AGM and have autonomy to select his/her committee and carry out the duties of the position inclusive of the start, length and format of the competition, ground allocations and the format of the order of play for finals series.

A Rules Committee Chairperson will be invited at/after the AGM and have autonomy to select his/her committee and carry out a review of the previous season's Competition Playing Rules to see if there were any anomalies throughout the season, and if there were any amendments to the MCC Laws of Cricket that need addressed, prior to the new season commencing.

The draw will be compiled and presented to the Executive Committee for formal sign off and made available on the Association website prior to the first competition match.

Should the Fixtures Committee deem it necessary to alter any fixtures during the season, the secretaries of any clubs affected shall be advised by the Association Secretary or his/her delegate **by email or text message**.

Advice by telephone shall be considered sufficient, however all complex alterations will be advised on the Facebook page. Every effort will be made to have late changes broadcast over local radio on the Saturday morning of the matches affected. Such information will also be available on the website where practical.

## RESULTS, POINTSCORE, PENALTIES

### 1 Points Allotment

- a. In each grade points shall be awarded as follows:

One day win	6
Where no other matches were completed	3
Where other matches were completed	as per rule
Draw / Tie / Washout in one day match	3
Bye	As per rule 1(b)
Unqualified player breach	as per rule 1(c)
Junior pace bowling restriction breach	as per rule 1(d)
Mentor player restriction breach	as per rule 1(d)
Win on forfeit	as per rule 1(e)
Forfeit	As per rule 1(f)
Results recording breach	as per rule 3
Non-attendance at MRDCA meeting	as per rule 18(a)
Use of incorrect ball	as per PC rule 1.7, 2.7, 3.9

- b. Points awarded for byes:

- i) Where each team receives the same number of byes, no points will be allocated for the bye.
- ii) Where teams do not receive the same number of byes, then the points awarded will be the average of all points in the round (i.e. total of match points for both winning and losing teams divided by the number of teams playing in that round).

- c. Unqualified player breach/Junior pace bowler restriction breach/Mentor player restriction breach: A team playing an unqualified player, breaching junior pace bowling restrictions or breaching mentor player restrictions will be penalised as follows:

- i) One day matches: 6 points.

- d. Win on forfeit: maximum points gained by any team in that grade in that round.

- e. Forfeit – advised and non-advised. The offending club will be penalised as follows:

- i) If the forfeiting team is the club's 1st lowest grade, the club will be fined \$300.
- ii) If the forfeiting team is the club's 2nd lowest grade, the club will be fined \$400.
- iii) If the forfeiting team is the club's 3rd lowest grade, the club will be fined \$500.
- iv) The club cannot accumulate points for any team in any grade lower than the grade forfeited.
- v) Any fines must be paid to the MRDCA by midnight Wednesday following scheduled completion of the forfeited match.
- vi) Submissions to the Executive Committee can be made in exceptional circumstances.  
Example 1: A one team club would be fined \$300.00 because the one team is their 1st lowest grade.  
Example 2: If a club forfeits Johnny Martin Shield (JMS) grade, then that club cannot accumulate any points in the lower grades. If that club had forfeited Chris Dempsey Shield (CDS) grade, then the JMS & MDMS grades could have accumulated points.

- f. NB: The Executive Committee has the power to decide on deduction of points for result sheet and non-attendance misdemeanours, where it is considered that there has been a manipulation of the final points score and/or it has been determined that where two teams from the same club have played each other and the scores have been entered on MyCricket Play HQ by one person.

## 2. Competition Prize Money

- a. Prize money will be awarded at the end of the season as follows:

JMS Grade Major Premiers	\$450
JMS Grade Runner up	\$200
JMS Grade Minor Premiers	\$200
JMS Grade Player of the year	\$200
MDMS Grade Major Premiers	\$350
MDMS Grade Runner up	\$150
MDMS Grade Minor Premiers	\$150
MDMS Grade Player of the year	\$150
CDS Grade Major Premiers	\$300
CDS Grade Runner up	\$125
CDS Grade Minor Premier	\$125
CDS Grade Player of the year	\$125

- b. Clubs must be present at the MRDCA presentation night to receive prize money.
- c. Individuals must be present at the MRDCA presentation night to receive prize money. Where an individual cannot attend, only a previously nominated representative can receive prize money in their absence.
- d. Trophies will be awarded to clubs or individuals that are absent from the presentation night.
- e. The Club Championship will be awarded to the club that accrues the most points based on the following calculation:
- i) JMS grade x3
  - ii) MDMS grade x2
  - iii) CDS grade x1

### • Finals Positions

- a. In each grade the minor premiership shall be awarded to the team accumulating the highest number of points throughout all preliminary rounds of the season.
- b. The top four teams in each grade as determined by the total number of points gained will contest the finals series.
- c. The Club Championship will be determined by multiplying the lowest grade points by one, the second lowest by two etc., with the highest aggregate total of all grades declared Club Champions. Where a grade has been split mid-season, both divisions will have the same multiplier applied.
- d. To be eligible to win the Club Championship, the club must have a Tier 1 team and all teams in the club must complete the full season. Any team withdrawn or that forfeits a match will render the club ineligible. Exceptional circumstances will be considered and be voted upon at the next scheduled MRDCA meeting.
- e. Where two or more teams finish with the same number of points, their finals positions shall be determined by their for and against averages, calculated in the following manner: runs scored divided by wickets lost (a); runs conceded divided by wickets taken (b). Divide (a) by (b) and multiply by 100. The resulting higher percentage will determine the higher place on the table.

### 3. Results Recording

- a. All results are to be recorded on the Playhq website
- b. The “HOME TEAM” is required to complete the following by midnight of the Monday after the scheduled completion of each round match:
  - i) The match results.
  - ii) All batting details for their team including batting order, method of dismissal, score, FOW, fours and sixes.
  - iii) All bowling details for their team including bowling order, over’s, maidens, wickets, runs, wides and no balls.
  - iv) All fielding details for their team including catches, run outs and stumpings.
  - v) The captains report (where an official umpire is appointed).
  - vi) The captains’ reports not mandatory when an official umpire is appointed.

The penalty for failure to complete all of the above is a loss of two (2) competition points.

- c. The “AWAY TEAM” is required to complete the following by midnight of the Wednesday after the scheduled completion of each round match:
  - i) Confirm or dispute the match result.
  - ii) All batting details for their team including batting order, method of dismissal, fielder and bowler where applicable, score, FOW, fours and sixes.
  - iii) All bowling details for their team including bowling order, over’s, maidens, wickets, runs, wides and no balls.
  - iv) All fielding details for their team including catches, run outs and stumpings.
  - v) Fielder and bowling details for the opposition batting innings.
  - vi) The captains report (where an official umpire is appointed).

The penalty for failure to complete all of the above is a loss of two (2) competition points.

- d. Match results and scores for final series matches are to be entered in accordance with the rules 73(b) and 73(c) however the penalty for any recording breach will be Fifty Dollars (\$50) per infringement.
- e. Notwithstanding the late arrival of match scores, individual performances of players will still be recorded when match scores are submitted.
- f. Clubs that have two (2) teams in the same grade must have separate Playhq recorders for each team. Failure to comply will result in the loss of two (2) competition points per infringement.
- g. Captains must sign the scoresheets at the completion of the match. Results disputes will only be heard where the disputing Captain has signed the scorebook and written the reason for the intended dispute.
- h. The MRDCA Recorder will issue a report at each MRDCA General Meeting outlining any recording breaches applicable to final recording deadlines passed since the previous General Meeting.
- i. The MRDCA Recorder will issue a Breach Notice for each recording infringement using either or both of the following methods:
  - In writing, handed to the applicable club delegate at the meeting.
  - Within seven (7) days of the meeting via email to the applicable club secretary.
- j. The club in question will have seven (7) days from receipt of such notice to rectify the breach. Failure to do so in the required time will incur a penalty of Fifty Dollars (\$50) per infringement.
- k. Once the MRDCA Recorder has viewed and made a match official (indication being a blue dot beside the match on Playhq) any further changes required can only be actioned by the club recorder after such a request has been made to the MRDCA Recorder from the Clubs Secretary. The MRDCA Recorder will then inform the club recorder to action such change. Any illegal change made by a club after the match has been made official will incur a penalty of Two Hundred & Fifty (\$250) dollars.

## 4. Results Recording – Appeals Process

- a. Any club has the right to appeal any penalties applied to the club for Playhq recording infringements with a bond as per rule 17(c).
- b. In the case of an appeal the following process will be followed:
  - i) A letter of intent to appeal, stating the facts of the infringement and the reasoning behind such appeal, along with the required bonds payment advice, must be sent to the MRDCA Recorder.
  - ii) The appeal will be rejected outright without the payment advice.
  - iii) The MRDCA Recorder will arrange a suitable date and place for the appeal to take place and notify the appellant of such.
  - iv) The Executive Committee will appoint a Disputes Committee panel of three (3) along with a Playhq advisor.
  - v) If the appeal is upheld the bond will be refunded.
- c. The Disputes Committee decision will be final.

## 5. Qualifications for Association Trophies

- a. Qualifications for Association trophies are as follows:
  - i) Batting: 150 runs
  - ii) Bowling: 15 wickets.
  - iii) The player must have played at least 3 games in the grade, with only figures in the official results to be considered.
- b. NB: Any player found guilty of an offence by the NSW Code of Conduct Commissioner or NSW Judiciary Committee shall be ineligible to win any Association awards for that season.

## PLAYERS—REGISTRATION, TRANSFER, GRADING, REPRESENTATIVE, DRESS, CONDUCT

### 6. Registration

- a. All applications for registration, approved by the Association Secretary, shall remain valid until the annual renewal date.

All players registered with the Association in any season will have their registrations automatically validated annually until such time as that registration lapses.

Players must be registered with the association on the Playhq website.
- b. Individual player registration lapses when:
  - i) The player transfers to another Association unless they have applied for a dual registration status
  - ii) The player is not recorded as playing a match during one complete cricket season.

### 7. Payment of fees – (see Appendix II Schedule of Fees)

- a. Payment of fees is due at the November General meeting of the Association. Any new registrations after the November meeting must be paid at the next available meeting of the MRDCA, otherwise such players would be deemed to be unregistered players.
- b. The Association will provide each club with a list of current registrations prior to the commencement of each season.
- c. New registrations or renewal of lapsed registrations must be lodged not later than with the match scores for the first game in which the player concerned participates.



- d. New registrations are welcome at any time during the season; however, any player must fulfil the qualification criteria specified in rule 34 to be eligible to play in finals series matches.
- e. All renewed registrations must be verified on the player registration list on the Association website and all new and varied registrations must be signed by the player seeking such registration. Until such properly completed player registration lists are entered on the Association website, registration shall not be validated.
- f. University, TAFE or school students whose parents' home is within the boundaries of the Association, and who wish to play cricket whilst visiting home, must provide a clearance from their club, together with confirmation of present grading.
- g. Any club playing an unregistered or out of grade player shall be penalised **as per rule 17(d)** for any matches in which said player has participated.
- h. The participation of junior cricketers in the MRDCA **Senior** matches is most welcome.
- i. A Junior player is defined as a player under the age of 17 on September 1st of the current season, regardless of whether they are participating in the junior competition, noting however that restrictions in over's bowled apply to pace bowlers up to the age of 19.
- j. To ensure that their cricket is enjoyable, rewarding and safe, it is desirable to limit a junior cricketer's participation according to the following:
  - i) They must be over 12 years of age **as from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September of the current season**
  - ii) A limit of 8 juniors to play in any one team
- k. A junior player may captain a team, provided he is assisted by a senior player. The senior player must be nominated before the toss and will be notified to the opposing captain and official umpire (if appointed) at the toss. The senior player will be responsible for the actions of the junior player acting as captain, and should any matter proceed to a judiciary meeting, will be jointly regarded as captain, and where appropriate, will receive the same penalty.

## 8. Transfers and Clearances

- a. Any player seeking to relocate to another club, from the club at which he was last registered, must arrange for the club from which he is relocating to provide a Play hq Clearance to the Recorder of the Association prior to the player being eligible to play for the new club.
- b. Players that are new to the area are to be nominated to a grade by their club on a provisional basis, and the club must provide a playing history to justify the nominated grade. The Association or the Grading committee reserves the right to re-grade or otherwise impose restrictions on the player if it is considered that their performance or ability indicates that they should be graded to a higher level. Where a person's playing history is unclear, it is recommended that the executive committee should be consulted before that person participates in a match.
- c. Any players that have not previously played senior cricket are not required to get a clearance prior to playing in the MRDCA for the first time.
- d. Any club providing a clearance for a player signifies, whether express or implied that the relocating player has fulfilled all obligations to that club and is free of debt to that club. Furthermore, the club cannot later pursue the relocating player for any monies subsequently discovered to be owing.
- e. Any club, upon receiving a request for clearance from a player, shall act upon the request in a diligent and prompt manner, and shall not delay advising the Association Secretary without sound reason.
- f. If a club has not provided the Association Secretary with a decision on the application within 7 days of having received it, the Executive Committee of the Association may, upon request from the relocating player, intervene on the player's behalf and make a ruling on the clearance after making whatever enquiries, if any, which the Committee deems necessary.
- g. Any player may be registered with only one club at a time, however a player can apply to have a dual registration to play in another competition outside of the MRDCA. The player must request this through

their Club Secretary who will forward the request for an executive decision. The executive will consider the application on grounds of compassion or opportunity to develop cricketing skills.

- h. Mid season relocations are allowed when the following conditions are met:
    - i) The player receives a full clearance from their original club. Note: The original club has the right to decline a clearance after the player has played at least one match in the current season, even when all financial obligations have been met.
    - ii) The player is not under any form of suspension from the original club and/or the Association.
- NB: the word “club(s)” is also deemed to read as “team(s)”.

## 9. Grading's

- a. The top 50 participating players on My Cricket in each grade from the previous season shall be assessed by the Grading Committee for regrading prior to the commencement of the coming season. Each club shall be notified of any re- grading relevant to their clubs. The Grading Committee will meet within one (1) month of the AGM and then as required by the Executive.
- b. Grading Guidelines and criteria are as follows:
  - i. Players will not be eligible for re-grading to a lower grade unless a written request from their club secretary is submitted to the MRDCA Grading Committee Chairman.
- c. Grading criteria for all grade players will be decided by the Grading Committee and distributed to the clubs prior to the commencement of each season and will remain in place until the next season.
- d. Grading Conditions
  - i) **Junior** Players **registered with the MJCA** **playing in the MRDCA Under 13 to Under 17 competitions** for the current season will be ungraded.
  - ii) Players aged under 18 on the 1st of September prior each season will be graded no higher than Tier 2.
  - iii) Players over the age of 40 on the 1st of September prior each season can have their grading reassessed by applying in writing, stating the reason behind the request to the MRDCA Grading Committee Chairman.
  - iv) Any ungraded players are eligible to play in any grade.
  - v) Any desired regrading from clubs can be requested in writing by the club secretary stating the statistics of the request to the MRDCA Grading Committee Chairman. Grading requests must be submitted no later than 5pm on the Wednesday prior to the game the player intends to participate in.
  - vi) Any player who interrupts his continuity with the MRDCA and returns to play will resume at the same level at which he was last graded.
  - vii) New players who have never played before, will be ungraded and may play in any grade however, performances will be scrutinised.
  - viii) **Players moving from another association must apply for grading prior to participating in the MRDCA. This application along with Play hq records must be submitted by 5pm on the Wednesday prior to their first scheduled match.**
  - ix) Any player may play above his grade.
  - x) Any player deemed to have protected his averages will be graded to the next grade.
  - xi) The Grading Committee at their discretion can set restrictions on players. Any request for grading must be made in writing to the MRDCA Secretary prior to the playing participating in their first match for the current season.

## 10. Two Teams in Same Grade

- a. A club can field two teams in the same grade only after:
  - i) The club is represented in all grades, or,
  - ii) On receiving written approval from the Executive Committee.
- b. Where a club has two teams in the same grade:
  - i) The teams shall be deemed to be separate teams and no player shall be exchanged between the teams over the course of the season. The two teams shall play each other in the first match of the season to determine the players in each team.
  - ii) Players first playing for either team later than the first match of the season will be bound to the team for which they first play.
  - iii) **D.** If at any time there are TWO or more teams from the same Club in the SAME grade, a person who is jointly registered with the Manning Junior Cricket Association (MJCA) and MRDCA junior competition as a player, may float between the two teams during the preliminary rounds when necessary. That player must have met qualification of matches in the preliminary rounds of one of the teams to be eligible to play in the final or final of that team.
  - iv) The teams are not permitted to play each other in the final two rounds of the competition.
  - v) Each of the teams must have a separate Play hq recorder. Failure to comply will render each team liable to penalty as per rule 53(d).

## 11. Representative and Inter-district Players

- a. Replacement of representative players in two-day games shall be allowed as follows:
  - i) A player selected in any representative match under the direction and control of the Australian Cricket Board or the New South Wales Cricket Association or the Mid North Coast Cricket Council, or Junior Associations or Councils, whether so selected before or after the commencement of a match in which he will be or so currently playing, may be replaced in that match on either day (as applicable) by another registered player from the same or lower grade.
  - ii) The principle of this replacing of a player shall apply to all lower grade teams in the club involved, e.g. If a rep player in JMS Grade is replaced by a MDMS grade player, then that MDMS grade player can be replaced by a CDS grade player and be eligible to have the same playing rights.
  - iii) The replacement player shall have the same playing rights as the player being replaced.
  - iv) In the event of a replaced player being not out at stumps on day one, his substitute can continue his innings for the purpose of having his wicket taken. However, the recorder shall score the two innings separately for the purpose of recording individual performances. For the purpose of calculating wickets fallen, bonus points and wicket averages the two players shall count as one wicket, as long as the continuing batsman is dismissed.
- b. A representative player selected to represent the MRDCA in inter-district competition including the SCG cup, and any other competition which the Association has entered, and not giving four days' notice of unavailability to the Team Manager, will face a penalty of not being permitted to play for their club for 4 playing days, as determined by the Association, provided that the following conditions have been met:
  - i) The player was informed of their selection no later than seven days prior to the representative match.
  - ii) The player cannot provide sufficient reason to the Association for their failure to play.
- c. Representative players in any selected X1 are to wear correct playing apparel while representing the MRDCA in Inter-district competition, as designated by the MRDCA Executive Committee.
- d. Inter-district results should be passed on to the Association Secretary for recording in the minutes.

## 12. Dress Regulations and Logos

- a. No player shall be allowed to participate in any grade if he is not fully and correctly attired. That is white or cream shirt, or coloured shirt is now acceptable, trousers (or shorts, 3rd Grade Tier 2 or lower only) and socks. Spiked shoes are banned on synthetic pitches.
- b. All batsmen under 16 must wear helmets when batting in games and in the nets.
- c. Club logos and sponsor's advertising will be strictly limited to being applied to shirts. Advertising on trousers is prohibited.
- d. Club colours may be worn with the prior approval of the Executive Committee.
- e. Officially appointed umpires are specifically empowered to refuse entry or to remove from the playing field any player who is not properly attired.

## 13. Alcohol Policy

- a. The consumption of alcohol by a player or club/Association official, either participating in or involved in a game organised by the MRDCA, is not permitted. This policy is inclusive of Representative Matches that have been organised by the MNCCC. Where such action is believed to be a contributing factor in behaviour or spirit of the game breaches, then the matter may be subject to a report and reference to the Judiciary process.
- b. Note that Mid Coast Council policy does not permit alcohol on the playing area of the Taree Regional Recreational Ground or glass bottles on any council field (On the spot fines may be imposed).
- c. However, consumption of alcohol off the playing field by spectators and incidents that may arise, are not within the power of the Association, but it is expected that clubs will take some control where spectators are supporters of their club.

## 14. Extreme Heat Policy

### Temperature threshold

Where a temperature threshold is stated, the following measurement shall apply.

The "Real Feel" or effective temperature (accounting for wind and humidity) from the nearest reference point in degrees Celsius from the BOM App shall be used.

The "Real Feel" temperature will usually vary from the absolute temperature.

Level I. The umpires (if no umpires both captains) shall schedule extra drinks when the real temperature reaches 37 degrees Celsius.

Level II Play shall cease immediately if the "Real Feel" temperature reaches 43 degrees Celsius

Play shall not resume until the temperature reaches 42 degrees Celsius for a minimum of 8 minutes.

MRDCA reserves the right to cancel all games, based on current temperature and forecast heat of 43 degrees Celsius or greater.

Captains/or Umpires to organise with scorers to be given a smart phone with the weather app.

MRDCA have a duty of care and the above information is not negotiable irrespective what players may say or want. Players who are most vulnerable health wise are most likely not request to go off the ground due not heat.

## 15. COVID-19 Safety plan/ Checklist

It is the responsibility of all Captains to make themselves and their teams aware of the Covid-19 Safety Plan and Covid-19 Checklist prior to the commencement on Game Day. Captains should complete the Covid-19 Check (please see Appendix III) list prior to the commencement of the game.

## 16. COVID-19 Breaches on field of play:

At the toss the captains and umpires shall discuss COVID-19 restrictions.

Any breach during the match while players are on the ground the umpire shall: -

Call dead ball.

Speak to either the batsman or the captain of the fielding team. Advise the respective captain of the breach.

Issue captain/batsman with first and final warning. The warning to remain in place for that team for entire match.

If a second breach occurs repeat procedure.

Then award 5 penalty runs to the batting side or the field side.

Umpire to report the matter, VIA THE Umpires CEO who will relay the information to the MRDCA

## ADMINISTRATIVE BY-LAWS

### **17. Code of Conduct Commission and Commissioner**

- a. A Code of Conduct Commissioner shall be invited by the Executive Committee and have autonomy to conduct any meeting/hearing at his/her discretion. He/She is specifically appointed to sit in judgement on official citing/s and reports regarding breaches of the Code of Conduct Rules set down within this document and/or the MCC Laws. He/She shall ensure that all hearings are conducted in such a manner as to ensure that the principles of justice and equality of rights prevail at all times.
- b. The Code of Conduct Commissioner is empowered to impose penalties upon any player or official whom he finds guilty, and may by the Commission's resolution:
  - i) Suspend a player or official from participating in all cricket matches for a specified period of time, including a lifetime where the seriousness of the offence so warrants.
  - ii) Impose a monetary fine upon a player or official.
  - iii) Require a player or official to perform some form of physical restitution.
  - iv) Impose any combination of disciplinary actions contained in points (i), (ii) and (iii).
- c. The Code of Conduct Commissioner will use the NSW Cricket Code of Conduct guidelines for player's penalties and will have autonomy in any decisions.

### **18. Protocol for Reports**

- a. Any umpire or player intending to report a player, official or club for breaches of the Code of Conduct must do so in writing within 72 hours of the alleged breach. The report must be to the Association Secretary and state the full particulars of the incident(s) and must name the player(s), officials and / or club(s) concerned.
- b. The reporting umpire must attend any judicial hearing, however, is not to be cross examined.
- c. Umpires are to file an Umpire report of each match they umpire and forward to the Association Secretary.
- d. MRDCA Incident Report should be used when reporting an official, Player for breaches, otherwise the incident will not be considered. (Report template is available on the Website).

### **19. Defendant's Rights**

- a. The Association President/Secretary, in the first instance, shall notify the Code of Conduct Commissioner that a report has been made.
- b. The Commissioner shall determine if the person reported should be charged, and at what level. He will so inform the Association President/Secretary.
- c. The Association President/Secretary shall notify the defendant(s) via their club(s) and briefly outline the nature of the complaint, including the level of the charge(s) as determined by the Commissioner. A date and place for a Code of Conduct Commission hearing of the complaint shall also be advised. This date must be prior to the next round of competition. Such notice shall also advise a defendant of his right to be independently represented at the meeting.
- d. Clubs do not have the right to sit in on Judiciary hearings involving their individual players or officials.

- e. Defendants, at the discretion of the Commissioner, may be offered the opportunity of pleading “guilty” to level 1 & 2 charges. Should they plead guilty, they will receive the minimum sentence appropriate.
- f. Should they plead “Not Guilty”, they must attend a meeting of the Judiciary Committee.
- g. Should a defendant choose not to attend a duly advised Code of Conduct Commission hearing, their non-attendance shall be taken as an admission of guilt and the matter will be conducted in their absence.
- h. Any player or official whom has been charged and found guilty of a similar offence within the preceding 24 months will automatically have their charges elevated by one level.
- i. Suspensions will be handed down in scheduled playing days.
- j. Suspension duration will be determined by the Commission in accordance with the following points:
  - i) The Commission shall have regard to the player’s or official’s previous participation in the various formats of matches in order to determine (to the best of its ability) which of the forthcoming matches the player or official is most likely to participate in.
  - ii) Where necessary, the Commission shall be entitled to consult with the appointed MRDCA rep team managers in order to determine if the player or official is most likely to participate in the next upcoming rep fixture. Any rep fixtures following the next upcoming fixture will not be considered when determining suspension duration.
  - iii) In so far as is reasonably possible, the Commission shall apply the suspension days to the subsequent matches in which the player or official is most likely to participate in on a chronological basis immediately following the announcement of the decision.
  - iv) Matches equate to the following number of playing days:
    - (1) A two-day match equals 2 playing days.
    - (2) A one-day match equals 1 playing day.
    - (3) A T20 match equals 0.5 playing days.
  - v) The exact number of suspension days shall be applied and within the shortest period available under this paragraph. Example: A player or official who receives a penalty of 2 suspension days, and is scheduled to next participate in a one day match followed by a two day match, shall be ineligible to participate in the one day match and the first playing day of the two day match.
  - vi) Where a suspension results in a fractional balance, the suspension will be extended to include the next whole playing day to cover the balance. Example: A player or official who receives a penalty of 2 suspension days, and is scheduled to next participate in a one day match followed by a T20 match followed by another one day match, shall be ineligible to participate in the one day match, the T20 and the following one day match.
  - vii) Where a player or official has his/her suspension days applied to a match that is subsequently cancelled, postponed or otherwise abandoned prior to the actual day on which it is scheduled to take place, then such suspension days must be reallocated to the next subsequent match(as) in which the player or official is most likely to participate.
  - viii) Where a player or official has his/her suspension days applied to a match that is subsequently cancelled, postponed or otherwise abandoned at any time on the actual day on which it is scheduled to take place, then the suspension days will remain allocated to that match, irrespective of such cancellation, postponement or abandonment.
  - ix) Bye rounds will not count towards the allocation of suspension days.
- k. Suspensions must be served in the grade the player or official was suspended in, e.g. the suspended player or official cannot benefit from the club making the finals in other grades.
- l. Any competitions sanctioned by the MRDCA shall count towards the duration of a suspension.

## 20. Appeals Against Commission Decision

- a. Should either a defendant or plaintiff wish to appeal a decision of the Code of Conduct Commissioner, they may do so in writing to the MRDCA President within 72 hours of the original Code of Conduct Commission decision. A \$400 bond must accompany an appeal. The bond will be reimbursed where an appeal is upheld. For clarity, a reduction in suspension duration does not constitute an upheld appeal.
- b. Notification shall be given to all parties concerned within 72 hours of receipt of the written appeal and the matter shall be heard by a panel of members selected by the Code of Conduct Commissioner within 7 days of the notification being issued.
- c. Any member of the Executive Committee who was part of the Code of Conduct Commission for the initial hearing shall be prohibited from sitting on the panel for the appeal hearing.
- d. If after the appeal is heard any party is not satisfied with the outcome, a further appeal may be made to the MNCCC. A \$350 bond must accompany an appeal to the MNCCC. The bond will be reimbursed where an appeal is upheld. For clarity, a reduction in suspension duration does not constitute an upheld appeal.

## 17. Disputes and Protests Arising from Competition

- a. Disputes and protests must be lodged by club secretaries within 72 hours of the completion of the game in question.
- b. Individual's disputes and protests will not be considered.
- c. A lodgement fee of \$100 must accompany all disputes and protests. A dispute or protest hearing will not proceed where fees have not been lodged with the dispute.
- d. If a dispute or protest is upheld the fee will be refunded; if dismissed the fee will be forfeited.
- e. Any dispute lodged outside the 72-hour limit will not be considered. Lodgement will be taken to mean that the written document will be in the hands of the Association Secretary or would be reasonably expected to be delivered by a third party in the normal course of business, within the 72 hours.
- f. MRDCA Incident Report should be used when reporting an official, Player for breaches, otherwise the incident will not be considered. (Report template is available on the Website).

## 18. Association Finance

- a. The Association treasurer shall, from time to time, in accordance with resolutions of the Executive Committee, issue accounts for fees. All accounts shall be issued to delegates at the next available general meeting, and/or via email. Such accounts are payable within 21 days of issue. Any club which has not paid the account within this time shall be deemed as un-financial unless an exemption has been applied for in writing and granted by the Executive Committee prior to the expiration of the time within which the account is to be paid.
- b. Any club deemed to be un-financial shall receive no further competition points until the club becomes financial. Any club deemed to be un-financial shall be charged a levy of 10% per month until it becomes financial. Un-financial clubs shall be excluded from all final's series.
- c. The Executive Committee is also empowered to expel an un-financial club from membership of the Association and to refuse re-admission where requests to pay debts have not been honoured.
- d. Where a club has become defunct and is in debt to the Association, its members may register with another club. This is on the proviso that they pay their portion of the debt owing OR provide documentary evidence in a form acceptable to the Association that they have fulfilled all their obligations to the defunct club. Such evidence shall include, but not be limited to, proper receipts or a Statutory Declaration that they have fulfilled their obligations.
- e. In order that any such evidence provided to the Association by a player may be verified, the Association shall have the power to demand delivery from the last known executive members of the defunct club, of all the financial records of the club to the Secretary of the Association. Failure to so deliver these



records shall not necessarily prejudice a player's application for re-registration and every such application shall be judged on its own merits.

- f. The amount to be paid to the Association by or on behalf of a player shall be calculated by dividing the amount owing at the date the club became defunct by the number of players registered by the club with the Association at that date.
- g. The provisions of Rule 28(b) and (c) shall apply to but not be limited to moneys owed to The Association, any umpire for umpiring fees and any monies owed to other clubs in respect of rules 1.6(c), 2.6(c) and 3.7(c). At Executive Committee discretion, they may be extended to include any debts incurred by a club, particularly, but not restricted to, instances where it is considered that the associated financial mismanagement may bring the Association, the game of Cricket and/or any other club into disrepute.

### **Umpiring Fees – (see Appendix II for the Schedule of Fees)**

- a. Umpire fees as set by the Association prior to the season must be paid to the officially appointed umpire no later than the tea break on the day of the game.
- b. Such fees will apply to any day on which play has commenced. Remove up in Rule 1.1 in PCR

## **19. Club Obligations**

- a. Any member club of the Association which is not represented by at least one delegate at any Association general meeting shall be penalised as follows:
  - i) \$100 fine for first offence during the current season.
  - ii) \$200 fine and loss of 5 competition points for second offence during the current season.
  - iii) \$300 fine and loss of 10 competition points for third and subsequent offences during the current season.
  - iv) Point's penalties shall be applied to every team in every grade in which the club is represented.
- b. Such meetings include all regular season meetings, the AGM, the Planning meeting, and any other official meeting as notified by the executive.
- c. Clubs may apply in writing to the Secretary of the MRDCA for leave from any scheduled Association meeting. Applications for leave must adhere to the following conditions:
  - v) Must be submitted prior to the meeting in question.
  - vi) Must include reasons for requesting leave.
- d. Applications for leave will be assessed by the Executive committee as necessary.



## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. All references to the “Association” shall be taken to mean the Manning River District Cricket Association Incorporated.
2. The only official abbreviations for the Association shall be:
3. Manning River District Cricket Association Inc.
4. MRDCA Inc.
5. The Executive Committee is the group of members elected to carry out the duties of President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice Presidents and Recorder (referred to in the Constitution as Office Bearers).
6. The Delegates Committee comprises those persons referred to in Part 1, 2 – Preliminary (d) of the Constitution as their authorised Proxies.
7. Abbreviations used herein:
  - a. MCC Marylebone Cricket Club (supreme governing body of world cricket)
  - b. NSWCA New South Wales Cricket Association
  - c. NSWCCA New South Wales Country Cricket Association
  - d. MNCCC Mid North Coast Cricket Council
  - e. MRDCU&SA Manning River District Cricket Umpires (also referred to as Manning Junior Cricket Umpire’s Association)
  - f. JMS Johnny Martin Shield
  - g. MDMS Mick Dobson Memorial Shield
  - h. CDS Chris Dempsey Shield
8. Inter-district Matches is a reference to the one-day competition conducted by the MNCCC and played by representative teams from the respective Associations which comprise the Council area.
9. Any reference to the male gender shall apply equally and fully to the female gender and vice versa.
10. Reference to a Captain making an on-field decision or being advised or cautioned by an umpire also refers to the batsman at the wicket who may deputise for the team captain in such circumstances.
11. The abbreviation used for daylight saving time is DST.
12. The web site or **[www.mrdca.nsw.cricket.com.au](http://www.mrdca.nsw.cricket.com.au)** is terms used to describe the MRDCA Inc. online management program.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

1. This Code of Conduct (the Code) shall apply to all members of the MRDCA Inc. and to all players registered to it.
2. RULES OF THE CODE
3. Persons subject to this Code shall not:
  - a. Assault or attempt to assault any umpire, another player or a spectator.
  - b. Abuse an umpire, another player, a spectator, an affiliated club or organisation, either verbally or physically, in person, by electronic or any other means, e.g. social media.
  - c. Dispute, as distinct from question, an umpire's or Committee decision, or react in an obviously provocative or disapproving manner towards an umpire or Committee member, his decision or generally, following an umpire's or Committee's decision.
  - d. Use crude and /or abusive language, or engage in any form of conduct detrimental to the spirit of the game of Cricket (the game), or likely to bring the game into disrepute in person, by electronic or any other means, e.g. social media.
  - e. In any way use crude or abusive hand signals or other gestures
  - f. Refuse to supply his full name and registered address if required by an umpire for any reason
  - g. Consume or be affected by alcohol during a match. The penalty (assuming the offence proven) will be automatic suspension for 4 weeks. Please note that a report may be received from any person.
4. The captain of any club team may be held responsible for any continuing breaches of the Code by any member in his team under any of the subsections of (i) above and may accordingly be disciplined for failure to control his team in the terms of the Laws of Cricket.
5. In the event that any person is disciplined for breaching the Code in any way, the procedures set out in the provisions of rules 36 through 43 of MRDCA Inc. shall apply as if they formed part of the Code.

## APPENDIX II

### SCHEDULE OF FEES

1. Player and Club Registration Fees for the current season:
2. Affiliation Fee \$20
3. Annual Subscription \$10
  - a. Junior Player registered with the MJCA: \$0
  - b. Senior player \$700 per team (2021/2022 season)
4. Insurance fee per team: \$70
5. Presentation Night - fee per team: \$80
6. This entitles each team to 4 seats at the presentation night.
7. Umpires fees: **Preliminary Rounds.**
  - a. **For One Day and Two-Day matches when 1 umpire appointed:**
    - i. All Grades - 40 Overs \$150 per day - \$75 per side
  - b. **For One Day and Two-Day Grand Finals Matches when 2 Umpires appointed:**
    - i. All Grades - 40 Overs \$130 each umpire per day

## **APPENDIX III**

# **COVID-19 Safety Plan**

Refer to the MRDCA Website

## APPENDIX III

### MRDCA COVID-19 Check List

☐

#### NO SHARING OF EQUIPMENT

Participants, coaches, volunteers and parents understand that there is to be no sharing of equipment - including pads, gloves, protectors, helmets.

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#### STRICTLY NO CONTACT

There is to be no contact at training between participants, coaches, volunteers and parents. This includes high fives, shaking hands and other physical contact.

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#### PHYSICAL DISTANCING

All participants, coaches, volunteers and parents understand the need to observe physical distancing requirements of 1.5m at all times.

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#### MEMBERS UNDERSTAND RETURN TO PLAYING PROTOCOLS

The club and all members have read, understood and agree to adhere to all protocols and guidelines to Return to Playing and Training.

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#### HYGIENE PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE

All measures outlined in the Return to Playing and Training - Protocols have been implemented by the club.

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#### PLAN FOR THE SAFE ENTRY & EXIT OF PEOPLE FROM MATCHES

Plan on having breaks of at least 10-15 minutes between teams and groups playing and training at the same venue to minimise crossover.

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#### OBSERVE LIMITS OF PARTICIPANTS PER 'NET'

Ensure all participants, coaches and volunteers understand there is to be no more than five (5) people per net at any time.

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#### NO SHINING THE BALL WITH SALIVA OR SWEAT

Ensure that participants understand that they are not to shine the ball with saliva or sweat at any time during training.

**Cricket Australia strongly recommends that all participants, coaches, volunteers and parents utilise the COVIDSAFE app to trace the spread of COVID-19**