



HRDCA Bylaws

Except as varied hereunder, the MCC Laws of Cricket 2017 Code – 3rd edition 2022 shall apply.

Preamble – Spirit of Cricket

Cricket owes much of its appeal and enjoyment to the fact that it should be played not only according to the Laws, but also within the Spirit of Cricket. The major responsibility for ensuring fair play rests with the captains, but extends to all players, match officials and, especially in junior cricket, teachers, coaches and parents.

Respect is central to the Spirit of Cricket.

- Respect your captain, team-mates, opponents and the authority of the umpires.
- Play hard and play fair.
- Accept the umpire's decision.
- Create a positive atmosphere by your own conduct and encourage others to do likewise.
- Show self-discipline, even when things go against you.
- Congratulate the opposition on their successes and enjoy those of your own team.
- Thank the officials and your opposition at the end of the match, whatever the result.

Cricket is an exciting game that encourages leadership, friendship and teamwork, which brings together people from different nationalities, cultures and religions, especially when played within the Spirit of Cricket.

Version Control

Version	Date	Amendment
1.0	1 October 2024	Draft
1.1	8 October 2025	Final

PLAYING CONDITIONS and ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

1 Name

- 1.1 The primary competition shall be known as the Hastings River District Cricket Association Incorporated Cricket Competition.
- 1.2 Unless explicitly stated, all playing conditions will apply to all sanctioned HRDCA matches.

2 Scope

The Playing Conditions and Administrative Rules shall apply to all fixtures controlled by the Hastings River District Cricket Association Inc. (HRDCA).

3 Laws to Apply

- 3.1 Unless already provided for specifically within this document, all MCC Laws of Cricket 2017 Code (3rd Edition 2022) shall apply within the Association's competition.
- 3.2 All experimental laws adopted by Cricket NSW and NSWCCA will be applied within this Association.

4 Duration

- 4.1 The Playing Conditions set down by the HRDCA Rules Committee shall be binding for a period of one (1) year.
- 4.2 The Administrative Rules set down by the HRDCA Management Committee shall be binding for a period of one (1) year.

5 Interim Changes

- 5.1 Interim changes to the Playing Conditions and Administrative Rules will only be considered should exceptional circumstances prevail.
- 5.2 Any requests for interim changes to the Playing Conditions or the Administrative Rules must be fully detailed in writing to the Secretary of the HRDCA.

6 Special General Meeting

Interim changes to the Playing Conditions or Administrative Rules can only be approved at a Special General Meeting so convened for that express purpose.

7 Executive Powers

The decision as to the approval or veto of convening a Special General Meeting to discuss the proposal is vested absolutely in the HRDCA Executive.

8 Advisement

In determining whether a proposed rule change is worthy of convening an extraordinary meeting, the HRDCA Executive may seek advice from the Umpires Association.

9 Effective

These Playing Conditions and Administrative Rules shall come into force immediately and shall be effective upon all H.R.D.C.A. competition matches henceforth.

THE COMPETITION and MATCH ADMINISTRATION

10 Fixtures

- 10.1 Draws shall be made prior to the start of the competition by the Fixtures Committee.
- 10.2 The Fixtures Committee will compile the draw based on the agreed format by the Management Committee but will have complete autonomy with regards to ground and match allocations.
- 10.3 The Fixtures Committee is to endeavour to ensure that an equal number of games are played by each team within each Grade.

11 Notification of Variations to Fixtures

- 11.1 Should the Fixtures Committee deem it necessary to alter any fixtures during the season, the Secretaries and/or Captains of any Clubs affected shall be advised by the HRDCA Secretary or his representative.
- 11.2 The Umpire Appointments Officer responsible for the appointments to any such match and/or the appointed Umpires shall also be notified.
- 11.3 For this purpose, advice by telephone shall be considered sufficient, however all complex alterations will be advised in writing and/or email.

12 Transfer of Matches

- 12.1 Matches will not be transferred to another ground unless the Match Day Manager has been notified and a suitable ground is available.
- 12.2 Finals matches scheduled for turf shall not be transferred to a synthetic pitch.

13 Turf Pitches

- 13.1 Covers shall be made available to all HRDCA Senior teams, provided they respect the equipment and turf opportunity.
- 13.2 Should covers be mismanaged, left unpacked, disrespected, damaged or equipment not secured at the end of a game, Clubs managing the grounds may make them unavailable for future use to any HRDCA match, unless by specific arrangement with, and at the sole discretion of, the Club managing the ground.
- 13.3 Should any Club's covers be damaged, in any way, those responsible shall be invoiced accordingly for the repair cost or replacement, whichever is warranted.
- 13.4 First Grade matches are to be given first preference to the use of turf pitches.

14 Entering Results

- 14.1 Each team in each grade must have a playing list entered into PlayHQ by one hour prior to the scheduled commencement of play. The Match Day Manager will monitor this and advise the Competition Coordinator of any transgressions.
 - First offence - written warning to Club secretary from Competition Administrator
 - Second offence - deduction of one (1) competition point.
 - Third and subsequent offences - deduction of two (2) competition points.
- 14.2 Home teams are responsible to ensure the game is live scored and the away team is responsible for a physical scorebook at all games. Home teams will receive 2 bonus points if they live score 50% or more home games and 4 points if they live score 100% of home games. If the device fails during the game, that will be counted as live scoring.

- 14.3 Results and player stats (including catches) to be entered into Play HQ by within 48 hours of scheduled completion of match.
- First offence - written warning to Club secretary from Competition Administrator
 - Second offence - deduction of one (1) competition point.
 - Third and subsequent offences - deduction of two (2) competition points.
- 15 **Deadline for Appeal of Allocated Points**
- 15.1 It is the responsibility of all teams to monitor the allocation of points for each game.
- 15.2 Teams have up until 1 week from when the results are published on Play HQ to appeal the allocation of points (including bonus points).
- 16 **Competition Points**
- 16.1 Points shall be awarded for results gained, as follows:
- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Win | 7 pts |
| Tie | 5 pts |
| Draw or no result | 4 pts |
| Bye | 4 pts |
| Loss | 1 pt |
| Forfeit with notice | 0 pts (Notification prior to Saturday) |
| Forfeit without notice | - 7 pts (Notification Saturday) |
- 16.2 In the event of a team withdrawing from a Grade during the season, the HRDCA Executive shall have the power to decide upon what action is to occur, including the possible allocation or loss of points where teams have played, or are scheduled to play, that team. They may also reschedule remaining matches.
- 17 **Forfeits**
- 17.1 Any team which intends to forfeit should notify:
- the HRDCA Secretary and
 - the opposing Club and
 - the HDCUA Appointments Officer or, if possible, the appointed Umpire
 - no later than 8:00 pm on the day before the scheduled match.
- Shorter notice may be considered in extenuating circumstances.
- 17.2 A forfeit made prior to Saturday shall see no points allocated to the forfeiting Club. The team receiving the forfeit shall receive 7 points.
- 17.3 A forfeit made on the Saturday shall incur a loss of 7 points. The team receiving the forfeit shall receive 7 points.
- 17.4 In the event of all matches being called off in a Grade, no team shall receive nor lose points for a forfeit.
- 17.5 In the event that a team of a Club forfeits a match, NO POINTS shall be awarded to any other team of that Club which, in that round, plays a match in a lower Grade than that of the team which forfeits.
- 17.6 Any expenses (Umpires' fees, turf fees etc) incurred by an opponent, where due notice as per 18.3 has not been given, shall be invoiced to the forfeiting Club.

18 **Home Team**

- 18.1 The team named first in the draw will be designated the home team for the match.
- 18.2 The home team shall attend to ground preparations, including the provision of boundary markers and a scoreboard.
- 18.3 The use of a scoreboard in every match is mandatory. It should be updated at least every 5 overs.
- 18.4 The home team shall be responsible for ensuring that the ground is left in a tidy state. This does not remove the social responsibility from the other team for removing their own rubbish.
- 18.5 The home team will notify the away Captain and the Match Day Manager no later than three hours prior to the scheduled commencement of play that a ground is deemed not fit or unsafe for play. If there is no response to text or WhatsApp messaging within 5 minutes, the home Captain is to call the away Captain and Match Day Manager directly to inform them. The home Captain may take photos of the ground to verify their decision. The Match Day Manager will contact the scheduled umpire (or designated contact) by phone to inform them of the ground closure and/or movement to another ground.

19 **Contrived Result**

- 19.1 The HRDCA Management Committee reserves the right to examine the circumstances surrounding the result of any match.
- 19.2 If it considers that the method of obtaining the result was unfair to any other team in that Grade, or any other Club in terms of the Club Championship, it may take action, including the deduction of competition points, irrespective of the result of the match.

20 **Breaches**

Any player and/or Club found to be in breach of any of the Playing Conditions will be liable to action by the Management Committee.

21 **Disputed Result**

If the Captains are unable to reach a mutual decision as to the result of a match, the game is to be played "under protest". Written submissions are to be provided, together with the score sheets for determination by the Management Committee.

PLAYERS

22 **Age Requirement**

- 22.1 To be eligible to participate in any HRDCA fixture, players must have turned 13 years of age. This may occur during the season. Automatic exemption applies if a player is under 13 years and has been selected in Youth Pathway Championships.
- 22.2 Any Club playing an underage player shall lose all matches (and all points therein won) in which such player(s) have taken part and the opposing team(s) shall be awarded a win.

- 23 **Transfers**
Any player seeking to transfer to another Club must arrange for the Club from which he is transferring to provide a clearance through Play HQ prior to the player being eligible to play for the new Club.
- 24 **Clearance Confirming Financial Status**
Any Club providing a clearance for a player signifies, whether express or implied, that the transferring player is free from indebtedness to that Club, and the Club cannot later pursue the transferring player for moneys subsequently discovered as owing.
- 25 **Exemption**
Players transferring from another District need not provide the prescribed form but are encouraged to do so if at all possible.
- 26 **Single Club Registration**
26.1 Any player may be registered to play with only one Senior Club in any HRDCA competition at any one time.
26.2 A player may transfer between Clubs during the season provided that he has played not more than three (3) matches with that Club during that season.
26.3 If a player has played more than three (3) games for the Club, application to transfer must be made to and approved by the Management Committee prior to such transfer being made.
- 27 **Unregistered Players**
Any Club playing a player for whom a clearance has not been granted, shall lose all matches (and all points therein won) in which such player(s) have taken part and the opposing team(s) shall be awarded a win.
- 28 **Intraclub Player Restrictions**
28.1 Any player who has played 5 matches in a particular side, for a particular Club, shall be ineligible to play with another team from that Club, in the same Grade.
28.2 Any team playing an ineligible player shall result in the match being awarded to the opposition or the match being declared a draw if both teams transgress.
- 29 **Player Gradings**
29.1 The Grading Committee shall grade players prior to the commencement of the season.
29.2 The Grading Committee shall compile a list of players for each Club indicating their grading for the season.
29.3 No player shall play in a Grade lower than that to which he is graded, unless specified by the Gradings Committee.
29.4 A player may participate in a higher Grade to that in which he has been graded.
29.5 The Gradings Committee may allow players to participate in Grades lower than their grading with batting and/or bowling restrictions.

30 **Grading Appeals**

- 30.1 Clubs may apply in writing to the HRDCA Secretary to have a player regraded.
- 30.2 Subject to the outcome of the appeal process, written approval must be obtained from the Gratings Committee before a player can take the field in their nominated Grade.
- 30.3 More detail on the player grading process is outlined in the HRDCA Player Grading document.

31 **Dress**

- 31.1 Minimum standard below applies
 - i) a predominantly white or cream shirt and trousers/skirt however if a team has been approved to wear coloured uniforms, this is acceptable.
 - ii) predominantly white footwear;
 - iii) if worn, a suitable cricket cap or white cricket hat is preferred.
 - iv) rubber or metal spiked cricket shoes/boots when batting or bowling on turf pitches.
- 31.2 Spikes are not allowed to be worn on synthetic pitches.
- 31.3 Board shorts or football shorts shall not be worn in any Grade.
- 31.4 Players not dressed as outlined above will need opposing Captain's approval to participate.

32 **Awards**

- 32.1 Players must be registered with a Club and have played 5 matches for that Club to be eligible for Association awards.
- 32.2 Any player found guilty of an offence as a result of a Captain's or Umpire's report shall be automatically ineligible to win any Association Player of the Year Award during that season.
- 32.3 Awards for end of season will include
 - Batting average and aggregate
 - Bowling average and aggregate
 - Fielding Award
 - Champion Player

ONE DAY FINALS

33 Determining Placings for Finals.

- 33.1 At the conclusion of the competition rounds, the order of Finalists will be determined by the teams that have accumulated the highest competition points.
- 33.2 The team with the highest points in each grade shall be declared Minor Premiers.
- 33.3 If teams are equal on competition points, the team with the higher net run rate will be the higher placed team.
- 33.4 Net run rate is to be determined by the equation:

$$\frac{\text{Total runs scored}}{\text{Total overs faced}^*} \text{ MINUS } \frac{\text{Total runs conceded}}{\text{Total overs bowled}^{**}}$$

NOTE: * Where a team is dismissed before it has received its maximum number of overs, it is deemed to have received the maximum number of overs.

** Where a team dismisses the opposition before bowling its maximum number of overs, it is deemed to have bowled the maximum number of overs.

34 Finals Structure

- 34.1 The structure, format and playing surface for the Final series for all HRDCA competitions will be determined by the Fixtures Committee and ratified by the Management Committee prior to the start of each season.
- 34.2 In Grades where there are less than six teams, the top three teams will contest the Finals. The Minor Premiers will progress to the Grand Final. Teams 2 and 3 will play off, with the winner to progress to the Grand Final.
- 34.3 In Grades where there are six or more teams, the top four teams will contest the Finals. Teams 1 and 2 will play off, with the winner to progress to the Grand Final. The loser will contest the Preliminary Final. Teams 3 and 4 will play off with the winner to progress to the Preliminary Final. The loser will be eliminated. The winner of the Preliminary Final will progress to the Grand Final.
- 34.4 Where adverse conditions prevail, the structures set out in 34.2 and 34.3 may be altered by the Fixtures Committee and ratified by the Management Committee.
- 34.5 For determining which team is the home team for all Finals, the higher ranked team shall be considered the home team.
- 34.6 The allocation of grounds for all Finals is determined by the home team.
- 34.7 In the event of wet weather, unavailability or a ground being unfit for play, prior to the commencement of the match, the Fixtures Committee shall transfer a Final to a suitable ground.
- 34.8 An officially appointed Umpire may deputise for the Fixtures Committee in such instances.
- 34.9 Finals matches set down for turf shall not be transferred to synthetic pitches.
- 34.10 If no result can be achieved in a Semi-Final or Preliminary Final, the team finishing higher at the completion of the competition rounds shall be declared the winner, therefore advancing to the next stage of the Finals series.
- 34.11 In the event that a Grand Final is abandoned, without a ball being bowled, the match may be rescheduled for the following weekend, providing that provision for such rescheduling has been made for that Grade.
- 34.12 If no result can be achieved in a Grand Final, the first team into the Grand Final shall be declared Premiers.

35 **Player Qualification**

- 35.1 A player must participate in either a minimum of five (5) competition playing days OR 30% of possible playing days for a single Club within the HRDCA Competition to qualify for the Finals for that Club.
- 35.2 Any player who has participated in the majority of his/her competition playing days in higher Grades shall not be eligible to play in a lower Grade match in the Finals series.
- 35.3 On appeal, the Management Committee may consent Finals eligibility, or eligibility to participate in a lower Grade Final. The appeal needs to provide clear reasons for eligibility.
- 35.4 A forfeit shall constitute a playing day, subject to the team receiving the forfeit being selected and entered onto PlayHQ prior to the Saturday before the scheduled match. Those players selected and entered onto PlayHQ shall not participate in any other team that Saturday.
- 35.5 A bye does not constitute a playing day nor does taking the field as a substitute fielder
- 35.6 Any player may play in a Final in a higher Grade.
- 35.7 In the event that a player is eligible to play in a lower Grade, he/she may drop back to play in a lower Grade Final at the next week of the Finals series provided that the total number of competition playing days played in the higher Grade does not constitute a majority.
- 35.8 Finals matches do not count towards this qualification assessment.
- 35.9 Any player registered for HRDJCA competition who has not played enough games to qualify for finals, may participate in any HRDCA final games. Where HRDJCA players have played more than one HRDCA competition games, 35.2 applies.

T-20 COMPETITIONS

36 **Eligibility for T-20 matches**

- 36.1 May Kelly
 - 36.1.1 Any registered HRDCA player may participate in the May Kelly competition irrespective of their grading.
 - 36.1.2 Where a Club does not enter the May Kelly competition, individual players from that Club may play with another Club.
- 36.2 Brett Border
 - 36.2.1 Only registered players with the HRDCA may play in the Brett Border competition.
 - 36.2.2 No player who is graded First Grade shall be eligible to compete in this competition. Only players graded as Second or Third Grade, or ungraded players, may compete in this competition.
 - 36.2.3 Where a Club does not enter the Brett Border competition, individual players from that Club may play with another Club.

36.3 George Spencer

36.3.1 Only registered players with the HRDCA may play in the George Spencer competition.

36.3.2 No player who is graded First or Second shall be eligible to compete in this competition. Only players graded as Third Grade or ungraded players may compete in this competition.

36.3.3 Where a Club does not enter the George Spencer competition, individual players from that Club may play with another Club.

37 **Qualification for T-20 Finals**

37.1 A player must participate in at least one T-20 match for a single Club within any of the HRDCA T-20 competitions to qualify for the Finals for that Club.

37.2 A player may only participate in one T-20 Grand Final.

37.3 Any player who has played in the majority of his/her matches in a higher level competition shall not be eligible to play in a lower level competition Final without the consent of the Management Committee.

37.4 Any player who has played in the majority of his/her matches in a lower level competition shall be eligible to play in a higher level competition Final.

MEETINGS

38 **Delegates**

38.1 Any Club not represented at any HRDCA Meeting by at least one delegate, or properly authorised Proxy,

38.2 Bye points will be awarded to all teams entered in the 40 over competitions for that club. Where no delegate or authorised proxy is in attendance, no points will be awarded. Meetings held outside of competition, will go towards the following regular season.

39 **Period of Grace**

A ten (10) minutes grace period will be allowed after the advertised starting time of any such meeting, after which the penalty will be applied, unless extenuating circumstances prevail. The Chairperson may allow a longer period of grace at his own discretion.

40 **Delegates Presence**

For a delegate to be deemed to have been present at any meeting, that delegate must have attended in full and signed the attendance sheet.

41 **Proxies**

A member of the Association Management Committee can be a Proxy Delegate. The competition administrator MUST be advised prior to meeting commencement of the nominated, authorised proxy.

42 **Annual General Meeting**

Any Club not represented at an Annual General Meeting of the Association will incur a four point penalty in their highest grade for the next season

43 **Captains Meeting**

Should a Captain's meeting be held prior to season commencing, each team must be represented by either their Captain or a senior member of the team intending to play in that grade. Each team that is represented and identified as playing in that grade in the

first five weeks, shall be awarded four points. Clubs can apply for an exemption if the player that attended was required to play in a different grade for a reasonable reason.

CLUB FINANCES

44 Fees

- 44.1 Any invoices issued by either HRDCA or CNSW are payable within twenty-one (21) days of issue.
- 44.2 Any Club that has not paid the account within the said twenty-one (21) days shall be deemed to be unfinancial unless an exemption has been applied for in writing and granted by the Competition Coordinator

45 Unfinancial Clubs

- 45.1 Any Club deemed to be unfinancial by the Association shall be ineligible to participate in any competition, including Finals, unless an exemption has been granted by the HRDCA Executive in accordance with the HRDCA Constitution.
- 45.2 The provisions of 47.1 shall apply to, but not be limited to, moneys owed to the HRDCA & CNSW for umpiring fees, turf fees or any moneys owed to other Clubs.
- 45.3 At the Management Committee's discretion the application of this rule may be extended to include any debts incurred by a Club.