

## NCU BYE-LAWS (2017 Edition)

The following Bye-Laws shall apply, all Laws or parts of Laws inconsistent with the Bye-Laws being suspended:

- (a) **Start of Match** The Umpires shall ring a bell 5 minutes before the time arranged for the match to start and 5 minutes before the re-start after any interval or stoppage where the players leave the field. After the bell has been rung, no player shall practise on the field of play, or off the field of play in such a way as to interfere with the game.
- (b) **Declarations** Law 14.1 shall not apply: no innings may be declared closed.
- (c) **Tea Interval** The tea interval shall not exceed 30 minutes and should, preferably, be taken between innings.
- (d) **Boundary Markings** A continuous white line or a rope shall mark the boundary on all grounds. Runs awarded for boundaries shall be standardised as 4 runs and 6 runs respectively.
- (e) **Scoreboard** The number of completed overs shall be shown on the scoreboard and updated at the end of each over. In matches in the Senior League, Twenty20 Cup, Trophy and Shield the number of overs bowled by each bowler shall be displayed clearly and kept up to date.
- (f) **Balls** Quartered balls shall be used in all matches.
- (g) **Covers** Where covers are available, the pitch shall be completely covered during a match when the umpires so direct. In addition where possible the bowler's run-ups and the pitches either side of the match pitch shall also be covered.
- (h) **Fielding Circles** For all matches in the Challenge, Junior and Schools' Cups, the Senior League and Section 1 of the Junior League, two semi-circles shall be marked on the field of play. The semi-circles shall have as their centre the middle stump at either end of the pitch. The radius of each of the semi-circles shall be 30 yards. The semi-circles shall be linked by two parallel straight lines marked on the field. The areas shall be marked by continuous painted white lines or 'dots' at 5-yard intervals, each 'dot' to be covered by a white plastic or rubber (but not metal) disc measuring 7 inches in diameter. These discs shall not be fixed to the ground by means of a nail/pin or any other dangerous sharp object.  
  
For matches in the Junior and Schools Cups, Sections 2 & 3 of the Senior League, and Section 1 of the Junior League at the instant of delivery, a minimum of four fieldsmen (plus the bowler and wicket-keeper) shall be within this area.

In the event of an infringement, the striker's end umpire shall call and signal 'No ball'.

- (i) **Powerplays** In the Challenge Cup, Premier League and Section 1 of the Senior League, the following fielding restrictions shall apply:

At the instant of delivery:

- a) Powerplay 1 - no more than two fieldsmen shall be permitted outside the fielding restriction area defined in (h) above. In an innings of 50 overs, these are overs 1 to 10 inclusive.
- b) Powerplay 2 - no more than four fieldsmen shall be permitted outside this area. In an innings of 50 overs, these are overs 11 to 40 inclusive.

c) Powerplay 3 - no more than five fieldsmen shall be permitted outside this area. In an innings of 50 overs, these are overs 41 to 50 inclusive.

Where the number of overs of either innings is reduced, the number of overs within each phase of the innings shall be reduced in accordance with the table below.

<b>Innings Duration</b>	<b>Powerplay 1</b>	<b>Powerplay 2</b>	<b>Powerplay 3</b>
5	2	2	1
6	2	3	1
7	2	4	1
8	2	4	2
9	3	4	2
10	3	5	2
11	3	6	2
12	4	6	2
13	4	7	2
14	4	7	3
15	4	8	3
16	4	9	3
17	4	10	3
18	4	11	3
19	4	11	4
20	4	12	4
21	4	13	4
22	5	13	4
23	5	14	4
24	5	14	5
25	5	15	5
26	5	16	5
27	6	16	5
28	6	17	5
29	6	17	6
30	6	18	6
31	6	19	6
32	7	19	6
33	7	20	6
34	7	20	7
35	7	21	7
36	7	22	7
37	8	22	7
38	8	23	7
39	8	23	8
40	8	24	8
41	8	25	8
42	9	25	8
43	9	26	8
44	9	26	9
45	9	27	9
46	9	28	9

<b>47</b>	10	28	9
<b>48</b>	10	29	9
<b>49</b>	10	29	10

If play is interrupted during an innings and the above table applies, the Powerplay take immediate effect. For the avoidance of doubt this applies even if the interruption has occurred in mid-over.

#### *Illustrations*

*A 50-over innings is interrupted after 8.3 overs and reduced to 32 overs. The new phases are 7+19+6. Therefore the middle phase fielding restrictions take immediate effect when play resumes and last for a further 17.3 overs. The final phase begins after 26 overs have been bowled.*

*A 40-over innings is interrupted after 18.5 overs and reduced to 22 overs. The new phases are 5+13+4. When play resumes, the final phase fielding restrictions apply for the remaining 3.1 overs.*

At the start of the middle and final phases of an innings, the umpire shall signal this to the scorers by rotating his arm in a large circle. The scoreboard shall indicate the current Powerplay in progress. In the event of an infringement of any of the above fielding restrictions, the striker's end umpire shall call and signal "No ball".

**(j) Leg Side Fieldsmen** At the instant of delivery there shall not be more than five fieldsmen on the leg side. In the event of an infringement, the striker's end umpire shall call and signal "No ball".

**(k) Free Hit** In the Challenge Cup, Premier League and Section 1 of the Senior League, the Twenty20 Cup, Trophy and Shield in addition to the penalty prescribed by Law 24, the delivery following a No ball shall be a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it.

If this delivery is not a legitimate delivery (ie it is any kind of No ball or a wide ball), then the next delivery shall become a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it.

Off any free hit delivery, the striker can be dismissed only under the circumstances that apply for a No ball (even where the free hit delivery is called 'Wide ball'). Field changes are not permitted for free hit deliveries unless there is a change of striker (where they are permitted because of a change of striker, any other fielding restrictions in place shall continue to apply).

Where field changes that are not permitted take place, either umpire shall call and signal 'Dead ball'.

The umpires shall signal a free hit (after the normal No ball signal) by extending one arm straight upwards and moving it in a circular motion.

**(l) Bowler Unable to Complete Over** In the event of a bowler breaking down, or being for some other reason unable to complete an over, the remaining balls shall be bowled by another bowler. Such part of an over shall count as a full over only in so far as each bowler's limit is concerned.

**(m) Under-arm Bowling** Under-arm bowling is not permitted.

**(n) Wides** Umpires shall apply a very strict and consistent interpretation of Law 25 in judging leg-side wides.

As a guideline to the umpires for the calling of wides on the offside the crease markings detailed in Appendix 1 shall be marked in white at each end of the pitch.

Players umpiring matches involving teams from the Junior League should apply a somewhat less strict interpretation, remembering that the purpose of the Bye-Law is to prevent deliberate negative bowling rather than to over-penalise young and inexperienced bowlers for lack of control.

**(o) Time Of Innings** In all 1<sup>st</sup> XI including the Twenty20 Cup, Trophy and Shield and Junior Cup fixtures to which umpires have been appointed, each team shall bowl its overs at a rate no less than 15 overs per hour (inclusive of one drinks interval in matches where one is due to be taken).

At the start of each innings, and on the resumption of play after any stoppage, the umpires shall advise the fielding captain of the latest finishing time for the innings. The fielding side must be in position to bowl the first ball of the last over by this time. If a team fails to do so, the umpires shall award the batting team 6 penalty runs for each over not started by the latest finishing time. The award shall be made at the end of the over during which the time limit was reached. Play shall continue until the normal end of the innings.

In the second innings, if the penalty runs awarded to the side batting second take its score past that of the side batting first, the match shall be over. If an innings ends before the latest finishing time, no time penalties shall apply to it. The umpires shall have discretion to allow extra time for events beyond the control of the fielding side (eg injuries, lost balls, extra authorised drinks intervals).

The decision of the umpires on all matters relating to this Bye-Law shall be final.

**(p) Non-Turf Pitches** Non-turf pitches on appropriate graded / registered grounds may be used for the following matches:

- (1) 'Match 2' fixtures in the Senior League and Junior League Sections 1-2;
- (2) Matches rearranged following postponement due to weather in the Challenge, Junior and Intermediate Cups;
- (3) Any match in Junior League Section 3 and below and the Minor and Minor Qualifying Cups; and
- (4) Any match in the Twenty20 Cup, Trophy and Shield.

Teams should travel prepared to play on non-turf pitches.

**(q) Penalty Runs** In the absence of at least one officially appointed umpire, penalty runs shall be awarded only in respect of Law 41 (illegal fielding, including the ball striking a fielder's helmet on the ground).

**(r) Duckworth/Lewis/Stern** In any competition in which the Duckworth/Lewis/Stern method is to be used to determine the result of matches curtailed by adverse weather, the following provisions shall apply:

- (1) the home team shall ensure that there is available at the ground a computer loaded with the necessary software, a compatible and operational printer with a sufficient supply of paper, and a proficient operator;
- (2) at the end of the first innings, and at any subsequent interruption that results in overs being lost, the operator shall produce an up-to-date par score printout, and shall provide copies to each captain, the umpires and the scorers;
- (3) at each interruption of play in the second innings where overs are lost, the umpires shall inform the operator of the number of overs lost, allowing sufficient time before play is due to resume for the production and distribution of the par score printouts (the time allowed for this purpose shall not exceed 15 minutes); and
- (4) where overs have been lost in either innings, and the home club fails to provide the par score printouts as required above, the umpires shall award the match to the visiting team.

**(s) Nomination of Scorer** In each match in the Premier League and Section I of the Senior League, and in the Challenge Cup, when the teams are nominated to the Umpires, each captain shall also designate a suitably competent and experienced person (who shall not be one of the nominated players or the twelfth man) as the team's scorer. The designated scorer shall officiate throughout the match. In the event of illness or sudden emergency, or where the match is continued on another day, the designated scorer may be changed, subject to the approval of the Umpires. If this Bye-Law is breached, the Umpires shall inform the General Secretary and the offending club(s) shall be fined £25.

**(t) Bats** Only Type A, B or C bats may be used in adult competitions.

**(u) Short-pitched Bowling**

(1) A fast-short-pitched delivery is defined as a ball that passes, or would have passed, above the shoulder height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease.

(2) In the Premier League, Section 1 of the Senior League and the Challenge Cup, a bowler shall be limited to two short-pitched balls per over.

(3) The umpire at the bowler's end shall advise the bowler and the batsman on strike when each fast short-pitched delivery has been bowled.

(4) In addition, a ball that passes above head height of the batsman that prevents him from being able to hit it with his bat by means of a normal cricket stroke shall be called a Wide. Any such delivery shall, in the Premier League and Section 1 of the Senior League, be counted as one of the allowable short pitched deliveries in that over.

(5) In the event of a bowler bowling more than two fast short-pitched deliveries in an over in the Premier League, Section 1 of the Senior League and the Challenge Cup, or any such delivery in any other competition, the umpire at the bowler's end shall call and signal No Ball on each occasion.

(6) Any further infringement shall be dealt with by the umpires in accordance with Law 42.7 (a) – (c).

**(v) Bowling of High Full-pitched Deliveries**

(1) Any delivery that passes, or would have passed, on the full above the waist height of the striker standing upright at the crease is deemed unfair, whether or not it is likely to inflict physical injury on the striker.

(2) In the event of the bowler bowling a high full-pitched delivery as defined above, the umpire at the bowler's end shall call and signal No Ball.

(3) Any such delivery that the umpire considers likely to inflict physical injury on the batsman shall be dealt with in accordance with Law 42.7 (a) – (c), save that there shall be no caution and the first warning shall be the final warning.

(4) Any delivery as defined in (3) above deemed to have been bowled deliberately shall instead be dealt with in accordance with Law 42.8.

**(w) Umpires** Players acting as umpire in the absence of officially appointed umpires shall wear a white coat.

# Appendix 1

