

CHANGES TO THE LAWS OF CRICKET (w.e.f 1st April 2019)

(Convenient Summary prepared by Acumen Books to amend 1st Edition – E&OE)

for full explanation and detailed text, refer to <https://www.lords.org/mcc/the-laws-of-cricket>)

The Preamble:

The word ‘umpires’ has been changed to ‘match officials’ in the first paragraph of the Preamble

Law 11.2.2 references to 11.4, 11.6 and 11.7 should be 11.3, 11.5 and 11.6.

Law 15.1 At end, add “A declared innings shall be considered to be a completed innings.”

Law 16.3.3 Bullet Point 1 now reads:

“Playing time shall be counted as lost from the call of Time to the call of Play, excluding intervals (Law 11) and suspensions of play (Law 2.8).

Law 16.3.3 Bullet Point 2 now reads:

“the time for close of play on that day shall be extended by this length of time.”

Law 16.7 in second paragraph replace “opposing side ... but as “ by “opposing side, the innings of the side batting last has been completed, but as”

Law 18.6: First sentence references are now in sequential order (18.5, 21, 22, 24.4, 26.4, 28.2, 28.3, 41 and 42).

Law 18.6: Second sentence about restrictions has now added references to Laws 18.5, 25.6.5 (*Dismissal and conduct of a batsman and his/her runner*), 41.14 (*Batsman damaging the pitch*) and 41.15 (*Striker in protected area*).

Law 21.6: First phrase “Either ... early),“ is re-arranged to “If the ball is delivered and if the non-striker is not dismissed under Law 41.16 (Non-striker leaving his/her ground early), either umpire shall call and signal No ball if”

Law 21.12 The umpire will not revoke the call of No Ball under 20.4.2.7 (Deliberate distraction) – amend cross references accordingly.

Law 29.1.1.6 replace “in the same manner” by “as in 29.1.1.5”.

Law 30.1.3 remove the final clause “provided that the batsman has continued movement in the same direction” as this is considered an unnecessary duplication.

Law 33.4 correct the reference from 18.11 to 18.12

Law 34.3 add an additional sentence at the end of first paragraph “The striker may guard his/her wicket even if the delivery is a No ball.”

Law 37.3 insert “37.3.1 If the delivery is not a No ball, “

Law 37.3 Change the second sentence into a paragraph 37.3.2 and replace “This” by “37.3.1“

Add 37.3.3 If an obstruction or distraction takes place from a No ball then the batsman who caused the obstruction or distraction will be out Obstructing the field.

Add 37.3.4: 37.3.3 shall not apply if the striker obstructs while instinctively defending his/her wicket with a lawful second strike.

Law 39.3.1 replace “if he/she” by “if, after having received the delivery, he/she”

Law 39.3.2 remove the words “either of Law 25.6.5 (*Dismissal and conduct of a batsman and his/her runner*) or” and replace by “Law”.

Law 41.19 has been removed (now covered by amended 41.2 above)

Law 42.4.2.3.1 add final sentence “Any balls remaining in the over in progress at the time of suspension shall not count towards the overs for which the player is suspended.”

Additional Definition in Appendix A

A6.7 For the purposes of these Laws, waist height is defined as the point at which the top of the batsman’s trousers would conventionally be when he/she is standing upright at the popping crease.

MAJOR CHANGES to Laws 41.2 (Page 60), 41.7 (P63 & 64), 41.16 (P69), 42.1.5(P71) & 42.7 (P75) – **see attached print out for your convenience** – cut and stick in old Law Book.

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41.16 Non-striker leaving his/her ground early

41.16.1 If the non-striker is out of his/her ground at any time from the moment the ball comes into play until the instant when the bowler would normally have been expected to release the ball, the non-striker is liable to be Run out. In these circumstances, the non-striker will be out Run out if he/she is out of his/her ground when his/her wicket is put down by the bowler throwing the ball at the stumps or by the bowler's hand holding the ball, whether or not the ball is subsequently delivered.

41.16.2 If the ball is not delivered and there is an appeal,

- the umpire shall make his/her decision on the Run out. If it is not out, he/she shall call and signal Dead ball as soon as possible.
- the ball shall not count as one in the over.

41.16.3 If the ball is delivered and there is an appeal,

- the umpire shall make his/her decision on the Run out.
- if the non-striker is not dismissed, the ball remains in play and Law 21.6 (Bowler breaking wicket in delivering ball) shall apply.
- if the non-striker is dismissed, the ball shall not count as one in the over.

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42.1.5 For each Level 1 to 4,

- Playing time shall be counted as lost from the call of Time to the call of Play, excluding intervals (Law 11) and suspensions of play (Law 2.8).
- the time for close of play on that day shall be extended by this length of time.
- if applicable, no overs shall be deducted during the last hour of the match solely on account of this time.

41.2 Unfair actions

41.2.1 The umpires shall be the sole judges of fair and unfair play. If an umpire considers that any action by a player, not covered in the Laws, is unfair, he/she shall call and signal Dead ball, if appropriate, as soon as it becomes clear that the call will not disadvantage the non-offending side, and report the matter to the other umpire.

41.2.1.1 If this is a first offence by that side, the bowler's end umpire shall then

-summon the offending player's captain and issue a first and final warning which shall apply to all members of the team for the remainder of the match.

-warn the offending player's captain that any further such offence by any member of his/her team shall result in the award of 5 Penalty runs to the opposing team.

41.2.1.2 If this is a second or subsequent offence by that side, the bowler's end umpire shall then

- summon the offending player's captain and inform him/her that there has been a further such offence.

-award 5 Penalty runs to the opposing side

41.2.1.3 The umpires together shall report the incident 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.

42.7 Additional points relating to Level 3 and Level 4 offences

42.7.1 If a player, while acting as wicket-keeper, commits a Level 3 or Level 4 offence, Law 24.1.2 (Substitute fielders) shall not apply, meaning that only a nominated player may act as wicket-keeper, even if another fielder becomes injured or ill and is replaced by a substitute.

42.7.2 A nominated player who has a substitute or has a runner will suffer a penalty for any Level 3 or Level 4 offence committed by that substitute or by that runner.

42.7.2.1 When the offence is committed by a substitute, the nominated player and substitute will each suffer the penalty defined in 42.4.2.3 or in 42.5.2.3 as appropriate. Only the substitute will be reported as in 42.4.2.5 or 42.5.2.5.

42.7.2.2 When the offence is committed by a runner, the batsman who has the runner and the runner will each suffer the penalty defined in 42.4.2.3 or in 42.5.2.3 as appropriate. The penalty for a Level 4 offence (42.5.2.3) will apply to the runner for the remainder of the match, but in only the current innings to the batsman for whom the runner acted.

41.7 Bowling of dangerous and unfair non-pitching deliveries

41.7.1 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.

41.7.2 The bowling of a delivery as defined in 41.7.1 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.

41.7.3 If the umpire considers a non-pitching delivery, or a series of non-pitching deliveries, to be dangerous under 41.7.2, 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 umpire, the captain of the fielding side and the batsmen of what has occurred. This caution shall apply to that bowler throughout the innings.

41.7.6 If the umpire considers that a bowler deliberately bowled a non-pitching delivery, deemed to be unfair as defined in 41.7.1, then the caution and warning in 41.7.3 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.

- report the occurrence to the batsmen and, as soon as practicable, to 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.

41.7.4 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

- report the occurrence to the batsmen and, as soon as practicable, to 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.

41.7.5 The warning and action sequences in 41.7.3 and 41.7.4 are independent of those in 41.6.

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