

ECA Rule Changes 2025-26

Rule Changes

1 2.4A **Amend to read:**
Ladders (Limited Over **Turf and Synthetic** Grades)

2 3.14.1 **Replace Rule with:**
3.14 Naming of Teams, the Toss and Commencement of Play
3.14.1

Before the toss for choice of innings, the captains shall notify each other in writing of the players in their team for the match **on the official ECA Team Sheet**.

- (a) Such named players shall not play or be named to play in any other association match (other than ECA **Sunday**, junior or veterans matches) during the scheduled day(s) of play for the match, irrespective of any abandonment or conclusion of play in the named game.
- (b) Any changes **after the toss** to the **players in the** nominated team **must be agreed to by the captain of the opposition team**, and must be noted on the team sheet. All under-age (defined by Rule 3.21) and any interchange players are to be highlighted on the team sheets.
- (c) The captains are to notify the umpire/s, or if no official umpires, each other, of any under-age and interchange players participating in the match.
- (d) **The original team sheet is to be retained by the officiating umpire if one is appointed, otherwise by the opposition captain and the copy of the team sheet is to be retained by the club completing it until the end of the season. Failure to do so may incur a penalty of 10 penalty units.**

3 5.1 **Replace Rule with:**

A match shall be played under this rule when: -

- one day only is set aside for play in a match; or
- **one day only is set aside for play in a particular grade(s); or**
- a one-day or Limited Over Competition is established (LOC); or
- no play takes place on the first day of a two-day match.

4 5.5.4(a)
5.5.4(b) **Replace Current Rule with:**

Until the ball is delivered no more than 2 fielders shall be outside the restricted area during the first 10 overs of an uninterrupted innings. From overs 11-15, until the ball is delivered no more than 3 fielders shall be outside the restricted area.

Rule 5.5.4(b) table now reads:

Adjusted Overs	Restriction Overs	
	PP1	PP2
36-37	9	5
34-35	9	4
32-33	8	4
30-31	8	3
28-29	7	3
26-27	6	3

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- 5 7.1.2; 7.1.4; **Amend Those Parts of Rule as follows:**
 7.2.3, 4 & 5 7.1.2
 7.3

7.1.2

Final matches, of required overs per match, defined within rule 7.1, shall be played over two days. Play may be extended to a third **or fourth** day [**reserve days**] if a first innings decision has not been reached and all overs have not been bowled.

7.1.4

TWO RESERVE DAYS AVAILABLE - Should play on the first two days and first reserve day be abandoned without a ball being bowled for any reason, and there are two reserve days, the match shall be played on the second reserve day under Rule 6. **Should play on Day one and two be abandoned without a ball being bowled for any reason, and there are two reserve days, the match shall be played on the two reserve days (as a two day match) under Rule 4. When no play occurs on Day one and two and play is abandoned without a ball being bowled for any reason on the first reserve day (day 3), the match shall be played on the second reserve day (day 4) under Rule 6.**

7.2.2

If the match is delayed or interrupted on any day the number of overs to be bowled on that day shall be reduced by one (1) over for each 3.5 minutes of lost time. However if conditions permit, play may continue past 6:00pm on any day up to a maximum of **45** minutes to make up lost time. The last over of play must commence before **6:45pm**. If at the conclusion of the over that commenced before **6:45pm**, a small number of runs are required to win the match and both captains wish to continue playing in order to achieve a definite result on that day, play will continue until either the match concludes or the players have cause to leave the field for any reason.

7.2.3

Play shall cease for the day if it be interrupted by adverse weather conditions at or after **6:45pm**.

7.2.5

If the required overs per day, defined within rule 7.1, have not been bowled on day one or two, play on day two, three **or four** (if required) will commence up to 60 minutes before the scheduled starting time for play to allow for any overs not bowled on day one, up to a maximum of 17 overs, to be bowled (to make up as much lost time as possible). **If there is an early start on any day of play, the time for the refreshment break (tea break) will be adjusted backwards (from 3:10pm) by the amount of time of the early start.**

7.3 Refreshments

7.3.1

The refreshment break shall be for a period of 20 minutes, regardless of the actual starting time of the break.

A refreshment break of 20 minutes shall be taken at 3:10pm on each day (**subject to any early starts**).

7.3.3 deleted

- 6 9.1 **Replace Rule with:**
 9.1 Scorebooks and Scorers
 9.1.1

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For all matches in all Grades the designated home team will make available a device suitable to electronically score the game. Currently the PlayHQ App is the recommended platform. To assist with this, every team must be entered into the system before the game commences.

9.1.2

(I) Unless otherwise agreed to, it will be the home team who is responsible to ensure the device is continually used through the match. The away team side shall utilise the manual scorebook (can also electronically score as well). Whilst the preferred option is to live score the match as it evolves, however as a minimum expectation is that at each break in play, a progressive game score will be uploaded using the E Scoring format.

(II) It will be the responsibility of both the batting and bowling teams to ensure that the device and the manual scorebook are continuously used and updated throughout the match.

9.1.3

All teams shall use the Association scorebook.

9.1.4

At the end of the match both captains are to ensure their players names, as listed on the team sheet or agreed during the match, are recorded within the Competition Management Platform. - -

9.1.5

During the progress of each match, each team shall ensure the detailed scores and bowling analyses of the days play and the times of starting and finishing play on each day have been noted.

9.1.6

At the conclusion of each innings and each day's play, the professional umpires and both captains shall ensure that details of time lost due to any unscheduled cessation of play for any reason whatsoever have been recorded.

9.1.7

The captains and any official umpires shall ensure the scoring devices are completed and correct at the end of each day of play.

9.1.8

If a club(s) is/are found to contravene any of Rules 9.1.1 to 9.1.7 inclusive, it may result in disciplinary action being taken, including a fine of up to 4 penalty units.

7 5, 7, & 8

Add New Part to Each Rule as follows:

5.8.6 Where a Reserve Day(s) has been allocated and if at the conclusion of the Over Requirement for Day 1, or any subsequent day(s) not being the last day, a small number of runs are required or wickets to be taken to win the match and both captains wish to continue playing in order to achieve a definite result on that day, play will continue until either the match concludes or the players have cause to leave the field for any reason

7.6.5 If at the conclusion of the Over Requirement for Day 1, or any subsequent day(s) not being the last day, a small number of runs are required or wickets to be taken to win the match and both captains wish to continue playing in order to achieve a definite result on that day, play will continue until either the match concludes or the players have cause to leave the field for any reason.

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- 8.6.4 If at the conclusion of the Over Requirement for Day 1, or any subsequent day(s) not being the last day, a small number of runs are required or wickets to be taken to win the match and both captains wish to continue playing in order to achieve a definite result on that day, play will continue until either the match concludes or the players have cause to leave the field for any reason

8 9.2

Amend Rule as follows:

9.2 Disputes

9.2.1

In the case of a protest or dispute concerning the result of a match or the scores in a match, the captain of the protesting team shall, at the conclusion of the match, **where possible**, write in both score books "under protest", noting briefly the reason for the protest or dispute and any claim for match points. **Where one or both scorebooks are not available, for whatever reason, then Rules 9.2.4 and 9.2.5 must be strictly adhered to.**

9.2.2

The official umpire shall impound both score books, **where possible**, and deliver them to the **General** Manager not later than 7:00pm on the Monday following the last day of the match. If no official umpire is in attendance at the match subject to disputed scores, each captain shall deliver his team's score book, **where possible**, to the **General** Manager by the time set out in the previous sentence **subject to 9.2.1 above.**

9.2.3

If the protest or dispute relates to a match in the last home and away match or a semi- final or final match is involved in a score dispute, the scorebooks, **where possible**, shall be delivered by 12:00 noon on the day after the completion of the match.

9.2.4

Notification of a protest, dispute or claim for match points shall be advised to the **General** Manager by 7:30pm on the final day of the match concerned.

9.2.5

Written confirmation of a protest, dispute or claim for match points shall also be received by the **General** Manager within 48 hours of the completion of the match.

9.2.6

Failure to adhere to the conditions outlined above will result in the protest or dispute lapsing and not being heard.

9 9.3.5

Amend Rule as Follows:

In the first sentence delete the words "or a bye"

10 15

Replace Current Rule as follows:

15. ASSOCIATION PENNANTS AND TROPHIES

15.1

The Association will provide cups, pennants, shields and trophies for premierships, best and fairest players and top Batting and Bowling average winners in each grade, such trophies to be presented at the Association Annual Presentation Night.

15.2

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Any player who incurs a match day suspension or disqualification is ineligible to win a best and fairest trophy.

15.3

Association grade average winners based on the information entered in the Association computerised match and player information system are to be determined from players who have satisfied the following conditions: Batting – minimum of 7 innings and 250 runs (excluding semi-final and final matches). Bowling – minimum of 60 overs and 16 wickets (excluding semi-final and final matches). Players must have played, or been named to play in at least;

- a) six games in that grade of the Turf Section or
 - b) seven games in that grade of the Synthetic Section or
 - c) nine games in that grade of the One Day Competition to be eligible to win an average award.
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15.4

The Executive Council shall have the power to reduce, in respect of any grade, the requirements of rule 15.3 should more than three rounds of play in that grade during the season be completely washed out or abandoned.