

MEMO TO: International Cricket Teams, Member Boards

RE: Changes to ICC Playing Conditions – commencing 1 October 2013
Changes to Laws of Cricket – commencing 1 October 2013

FROM GEOFF ALLARDICE (ICC General Manager – Cricket)

DATE: 1 October 2013

ICC Standard Playing Conditions – Commencing 1 October 2013

The new playing conditions for Tests, One-Day Internationals (ODIs) and Twenty20 Internationals (T20Is) dated 1st October 2013 were recently circulated to Members.

The playing conditions will come into effect from the start of the series between Bangladesh and New Zealand which starts in Chittagong on the 9th October 2013.

This memo summarizes the key changes to the playing conditions and unless specifically stated, the changes listed below will apply to Tests, ODIs and T20Is.

Clause 1.3 Law 1.3 - Captain

This clause has been amended to prevent the tactic of a team switching its captain to avoid an over rate suspension. The captain for the series must be nominated in advance. If the nominated captain is not the listed captain on the day but plays in the match, he will be deemed to be responsible for any over rate breach if a charge is laid.

The new clause reads as follows:

Each Member Board must nominate its 'Test/ODI/T20I Team Captain' to the ICC when appointed.

If the 'Test/ODI/T20I Team Captain' is not participating in a series, the relevant Home Board must nominate a replacement 'Test/ODI/T20I Team Captain' for the series. The Home Board shall advise the series Match Referee.

If the 'Test/ODI/T20I Team Captain' plays in a match without being the nominated captain for that match, he will be deemed to be the captain should any penalties be applied for over rate breaches under the Code of Conduct.

Clause 2.2.2 Law 2.5 - Fielder absent or leaving the field

This clause has been amended so there is a consistent approach to both the batting and fielding teams. Previously the fielder can claim time off the field automatically if he informs the umpire

that he is fit to play during a rain interruption. Under the new playing condition, the batter is treated in the same manner as the fielder (penance time) when returning to play after an injury.

The third paragraph of clause 2.2.2 now reads as follows:

In the event of a batsman or a fieldsman already being off the field at the commencement of an interruption in play through ground, weather or light conditions or for other exceptional circumstances, he shall be allowed to count any such stoppage time as playing time, provided that he personally informs the umpires when he is fit enough to take the field had play been in progress. Similarly, if at the commencement of an interruption in play through ground, weather or light conditions or for other exceptional circumstances, a player is on the field but still has some unexpired penalty time remaining from a previous absence, he shall automatically be allowed to count any such stoppage time as playing time.

(ODI only) Clause 5.1.3 Law 5 - The Ball

If a match is reduced to 25 overs or less per side prior to commencement, only one new ball per innings will be used.

(ODI and T20I only) Clause 8.2 Law 8 - The Wickets

This clause has been amended to allow the use of Zing wickets in international matches. The bails and stumps of Zing wickets light up when the wicket is broken in accordance with the Laws of Cricket. The lights may be used by the TV umpire to assist with decision making.

(ODI only) Clause 12.1 Law 12 - The Innings

This clause provides instruction as to how to apply the provision for a Reserve Day in the absence of an alternative agreement between competing teams.

Once a match has started on the scheduled day and no further play is possible on that day, the match will resume on the reserve day, using the same hours of play as the scheduled day, and start from the point at which the last ball was bowled on the scheduled day.

Refer to Appendix 10 of the ODI playing conditions for examples of the application of this clause.

Clause 23 Law 23 - Dead Ball

The changes provide greater detail as to how a ball that strikes SpiderCam or any other camera above the field of play is treated under the playing conditions.

The playing condition is now broken up into 2 separate parts – the first one deals with the batsman hitting the ball into the camera / cable, and the other part dealing with the fielder throwing the ball into the camera / cable.

- Batsman hitting the ball
 - At the time the ball hits the camera / cable, the ball will be called “Dead” and it will not be counted as one in the over, unless the ball has become “Dead” before the ball hits the camera / cable, in which case it will count as one in the over. As

an example, the batsman strikes the ball, then hits his wicket, then the ball hits the camera. The batsman would be “Out - Hit Wicket” as the ball would be “Dead” before it hits the camera due to the wicket falling. In this case, the batsman is dismissed, and the ball counts as one in the over.

- Fielder throwing the ball
 - The ball becomes “Dead” at the point it contacts the camera / cable. Any runs scored before that time will count, including any run that is in progress with the batsmen having crossed. The ball will count as one in the over.

Clause 24 Law 24 - No Ball

There are two changes to this clause.

1. The umpire will still call a No Ball if a bowler breaks the non-striker’s stumps during delivery. There is no change to how this act has been interpreted since 1 May 2013. This has now been included in the Laws of Cricket, and therefore no longer needs to be included as an ICC playing condition and has been removed.
2. The other change relates to the way in which an umpire will treat a foot-fault No Ball if he is unsure whether the delivery was legal.

The Laws of Cricket state:

5. Fair delivery - the feet

For a delivery to be fair in respect of the feet, in the delivery stride,

(a) the bowler’s back foot must land within and not touching the return crease appertaining to his stated mode of delivery.

(b) the bowler’s front foot must land with some part of the foot, whether grounded or raised

(i) on the same side of the imaginary line joining the two middle stumps as the return crease described in (a) above and (ii) behind the popping crease.

If the bowler’s end umpire is not satisfied that all of these three conditions have been met, he shall call and signal No ball.

Under the Laws, if the umpire is unsure, he should call No Ball.

In practice, the umpires have not been calling No Ball if the feet are close to the line, as they can get the TV umpire to review the fairness of the delivery upon the fall of a wicket.

To align the playing conditions with the current practice, a clause has been inserted to instruct the umpire to not call a No Ball if in doubt as to whether the delivery was legal;

If the bowler’s end umpire is satisfied that any of these three conditions have not been met, he shall call and signal No ball.

Clause 42 Law 42.1 - Fair and Unfair Play - Changing the Condition of the Ball

This clause has been amended to provide clarity in situations where the condition of the match ball has been changed, and the umpires cannot identify the person responsible for changing the condition of the ball.

The following now applies:

If a team has changed the condition of the ball and no player has been witnessed changing the condition of the ball:

- The ball will be changed, and the captain issued a first and final warning.
- Such a warning will apply for the remainder of a Test match, or for the remainder of an ODI or T20I series.
- If there is a further incident of the condition of the ball being changed, a 5-run penalty will be awarded, the ball changed again and the captain will be held responsible and reported.

If the condition of the ball has been changed and the player responsible can be identified:

- the ball will be changed,
- a 5-run penalty will be awarded, and
- the player responsible will be reported

Decision Review System (DRS) Appendix 2 (Test) and Appendix 7 (ODI)

This is a trial playing condition effective from 1st October 2013 to 30th April 2014.

Each team has a maximum of 2 unsuccessful player review requests in the first 80 overs of the innings, and a maximum of 2 unsuccessful player review requests after the 80 overs of the innings.

This will mean that at the end of the 80th over:

- a team with 2 remaining reviews receives no additional reviews
- a team with 1 remaining review receives 1 additional review, and
- a team with 0 remaining reviews receives 2 additional reviews.

Laws of Cricket – Changes introduced 1 October 2013

The Laws of Cricket 2000 Code 5th Edition 2013 will be effective from 1 October 2013. It is important to note that the playing conditions are applicable to international cricket and must be read together with the Laws of Cricket.

In this respect I have attached an explanation of changes to the Laws 5th Edition of the 2000 Code as provided by MCC. Additionally, further information on the new Laws can be obtained direct from MCC using this link:

www.lords.org/lawchanges2013