



BALLARAT CRICKET ASSOCIATION POLICY SEASON 2023 – 2024

HELMET POLICY

Effective From 1st January 2024

Introduction and Details

The Ballarat Cricket Association (BCA) maintain contacts with other similar cricket associations, Premier Cricket and Cricket Victoria. This may include Child Safety and other matters including player safety.

It has come to the attention of the BCA that the rules relating to wicket keepers wearing helmets whilst keeping up to the stumps are not covered adequately in the BCA Senior Rules and Playing Conditions or the BCA Senior Women's Rules and Playing Conditions.

(note junior rules require wicket keepers to wear a helmet at all times and under 18 players playing in senior cricket must wear a helmet at all times)

Cricket Australia, the premier authority for cricket in Australia has recommendations on the use of helmets in community cricket.

BCA Rule 24 outlines the current rules for the wearing of helmets and are repeated below

RULE 24 PROPER CRICKET ATTIRE

24.1

All players under the age of 18 participating in BCA competitions shall wear an approved BS7928:2013 compliant helmet when batting and wicket keeping at all times.

Players aged 18 and above are not compulsorily required to wear a helmet while batting, however, the Ballarat Cricket Association strongly recommends all players do so to maximise personal safety and minimise the potential for head injury.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 5

24.2

All players participating in BCA competitions shall wear an approved BS7928:2013 compliant helmet at all times when fielding in close. Fielding in close description as per CA - "(or in a zero-reaction time position) In elite cricket, a zero-reaction time position is considered any position within 7 metres of the batter except any position behind square on the off side - therefore, if fielding at silly mid-off or short-leg you would need to wear a helmet, whereas you would not if fielding at gully or (regulation) slip.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 5



Policy for the Remainder of Season 2023 – 2024 including finals

The use of protective helmets will be in line with Cricket Australia Community Cricket Recommendations. The Cricket Australia Guidelines are available at:

<https://play.cricket.com.au/community/clubs/managing-your-club/helmet-recommendations>.

Cricket Australia Community Cricket Recommendations

Since 2019 CA has strongly recommended the use of British Standard BS7928:2013 helmets in community cricket when batting, wicket-keeping up to the stumps and fielding.

The effect of this BCA policy for the remainder of the 2023 – 2024 season is as follows:

Rule 24.1 is amended to read

24.1

All players under the age of 18 participating in BCA competitions shall wear an approved BS7928:2013 compliant helmet when batting and wicket keeping at all times.

*In line with Cricket Australia policy players aged 18 and above are **strongly recommended** to wear a an approved BS7928:2013 compliant helmet while batting in all BCA competitions and at training to maximise personal safety and minimise the potential for head injury.*

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 5

Rule 24.2 is unchanged

24.2

All players participating in BCA competitions shall wear an approved BS7928:2013 compliant helmet at all times when fielding in close. Fielding in close description as per CA - "(or in a zero-reaction time position) In elite cricket, a zero-reaction time position is considered any position within 7 metres of the batter except any position behind square on the off side - therefore, if fielding at silly mid-off or short-leg you would need to wear a helmet, whereas you would not if fielding at gully or (regulation) slip.

PENALTY: Shall be dealt with under Rule 5

New Policy regarding Wicket Keepers for the remainder of season 2023 - 2024

*In the interests of player safety, the BCA board has decided to adopt the Cricket Australia policy that all wicket keepers when keeping up to the stumps in all BCA senior men's and women's competitions and at training are **strongly recommended** to wear an approved BS7928:2013 compliant helmet.*

Note: This policy will go through the usual end of season rules changes process and become rule 24.3