MEMORANDUM

To:	**State & Territory CEO's, State & Territory Game Development Managers, Alan Singer (WACA), Andrew Caldwell (SACA), Vanessa Walker (SACA), Scott Tutton (CV), Jason Lawless (CNSW), Stuart Schultz (CTAS), Ben Ryan (CACT), Michael Fisher (QC), Cameron Carroll (NTC).**
From:	**Andrew Ingleton (CA)**
c.c.	**James Sutherland (CA), John Watkin (CA), Nick Hatzoglou (CA), Darren James (CA), Ashley Hepburn (CA) & Game and Market Development staff.**
Subject:	**Helmets**
Date:	**29 August 2016**

Cricket Australia would like to provide you with a Helmet directive for season 2016/17.

The attached extract on the following page can be found in the latest update of the Well Played Resource.

The policy will be updated on the MyCricket Community website (community.cricket.com.au) under Clubs, then Well Played.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Darren James (Head of Risk) or Nick Hatzoglou (Manager – Club Cricket).

Kind regards

Andrew Ingleton
Executive General Manager, Game and Market Development
Cricket Australia

HELMETS

Helmets must be a specifically-designed, properly-fitted cricket helmet with a face guard and recommended with neck protection.

Current 'best of breed' helmets are those that are compliant with the British Standard for helmet safety (BS7928:2013 Specification for head protectors for cricketers). This Standard has been described by the ICC as the de facto international standard for helmets and now supersedes the existing Australian Standard for cricket helmets, which dates from 1997.

Following an ICC directive, on 1 October 2015 it became mandatory for elite **cricketers* in Australia to only wear helmets that are compliant with BS7928:2013.**

Any individual taking responsibility for players should take all reasonable steps to ensure that the guidance below is followed.

JUNIOR CRICKET (UNDER 18)

HELMETS ARE MANDATORY FOR JUNIOR CRICKETERS (THOSE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE), INCLUDING WHEN THEY ARE PLAYING SENIOR CRICKET.

In junior cricket helmets must be worn when batting and/or wicket keeping. Helmets are not mandatory for junior cricketers while fielding, as junior cricketers are not permitted to field in close proximity to the batter i.e. within 10 or 15 metres of the batter depending on the junior format being played – refer to the Game Formats section on pages 22 – 31 inclusive).

JUNIOR WICKET-KEEPERS (UNDER 18)

Association administrators, club coaches, team managers, parents and other volunteers must actively ensure that **all junior wicket-keepers** wear helmets, even if they are 'standing back' to medium/fast bowlers. This is very important, as in many instances the skill levels of the wicket-keeper, bowlers and fielders may still be developing and when combined with variable pitch/ground conditions it may place wicket-keepers at greater risk of receiving a facial/head injury from the ball.

The only exception to this, is in **representative pathway competitions and tournaments,** where, with the permission of the relevant **Regional Cricket Manager and a parent / guardian of the wicket-keeper,** wicket-keepers may be granted permission to not wear a helmet when keeping back to medium/fast bowling. Permission forms will need to be presented to umpires, opposition captains and other officials in such circumstances. This form can be found on www.community.cricket.com.au by clicking on the 'Clubs' tab and going to the Insurance and Policies section.

SENIOR CRICKET

Cricket Australia also strongly recommends that all senior cricketers wear a helmet when batting, wicket-keeping up to the stumps and fielding in close (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 to a spinner.

With the advancement of cricket bats and the growth of T20 cricket in recent years, umpires may be considered at greater risk of being hit by the ball. Accordingly, some umpires may elect to wear a helmet compliant with BS7928:2013 and other protective equipment. This is encouraged by Cricket Australia. It should also be noted that helmet development is going ahead by expert manufacturers and developers to design a helmet better suited to wicket-keeping and umpiring. Cricket Australia will communicate when these products are available.

Players should be aware that under the British Standard, helmets can only be tested against men's/womens and/or junior balls (156 grams and 142 grams). Accordingly, players must wear helmets that have been tested against the type of ball they will be utilising in match and training conditions. Suitable helmets for women's cricket therefore, are those that have been tested against both a men's and junior ball and a list of such helmets is maintained and regularly update at www.ecb.co.uk/information/ecb-and-pca-guidance-head-protectorshelmets

UPCOMING CHANGES TO HELMET REGULATIONS

At the commencement of the 2019-2020 cricket season, all community cricketers (whether junior or senior) will be required to wear BS7928:2013 compliant helmets at all times when batting, wicket keeping up to the stumps and fielding in close. More guidance will be provided in due course.

*CA or State/Territory contracted players, members of CA or State/Territory squads, BBL/WBBL contracted players, members of underage state teams (male and female), and any player invited to train with any of those teams or squads.

UMPIRE SAFETY

Umpires should also consider what protective gear they feel is necessary for them. Advancements in bat technology mean that the larger bats available today are capable of producing stronger and faster shots which may be directed towards the main umpire (or the square leg umpire). This is particularly relevant for modified formats of the game such as T20 and Super Sixes, however also applies to traditional formats. Umpires should consider the use of shin pads, and some kind of facial/head protection.