



ASSOCIATION OF  
CRICKET OFFICIALS

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Next  
Slide

# Major Law Changes

## 2018





Next  
Slide

# Why has the MCC changed the Laws?

ENJOYMENT

IMPROVE PLAYER BEHAVIOUR

SAFETY

BALANCE BETWEEN BAT & BALL

MORE WOMEN

SIMPLIFICATION & CLARIFICATION

TECHNOLOGY

FAIRNESS & EQUITY

MORE POSITIVE PLAY





# The Laws that will be covered in this presentation

Ground weather and light issues –Law 2

The bat –Law 5

The wickets – Law 8

The ball hitting a fielders helmet

A delivery bouncing more than once before it reaches the popping crease – Law 21

Leg byes and byes scored from a No Ball – Law 21

Players absent from the field – Law 24 and 25

Practice on the field – Law 26

Batsman's ground – Law 30

Catches and fielding close to the boundary – a number of laws

Deliberate distraction, deception or obstruction of a batsman – Law 41

Dangerous and unfair short pitched and non-pitching deliveries and front foot no balls – Law 41

Striker in protected area – Law 41

Non-striker leaving his/her ground early– Law 41

Dealing with unacceptable player behaviour - Law 42



Next  
Slide

## Law 2 – Ground Conditions

**If one umpire thinks conditions are dangerous or unreasonable, play must be suspended**

**Both must agree that conditions are safe to resume**





Next Slide

# Law 5 – The bat



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Next  
Slide

# Law 18, 21 & 23 – Byes and Leg Byes from a no ball

If Byes or Leg byes accrue from a No ball, only the one run penalty is scored as a No Ball and the remainder as Byes or Leg byes as appropriate

## Law 21 – No ball

No ball for a ball bouncing more than once before reaching popping crease



## Law 24 – Fielder's absence, substitutes

A player who is absent during playing time whilst his/her side is fielding will incur Penalty time

Penalty time is not incurred if it is as a result of an external blow during the match or any other acceptable reasons (except illness or internal injury)





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Next  
Slide

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the content up until now







Next Slide

# Law 25 – Further restriction on runners

A runner is

Runs will be illegal leg-

When the runner is part of his run the striker



ability to run

way to how

have some time before the ball reaches



Next  
Slide

## Law 26 – Practice on the field

No practice on the square at all except with the approval of the umpires and not on the match pitch at all

No bowling practice in an area between the square and the boundary parallel to match pitch between calls of 'Play' and 'Time

First offence; warning, subsequent offences; 5 penalty runs & report



# Law 30 – Batsman's ground



Batsman not considered out of ground if, when running and having grounded some part of his/her person or bat beyond the popping crease, there is subsequent loss of contact:

- between the ground and any part of his/her person or bat or
- between the bat and person

Provided there's continued forward movement



# Catches and fielding close to the boundary

When one or more fielder is involved in fielding the ball or catching it close to a boundary, each must either be grounded within the boundary or his/her last contact with the ground before touching the ball must have been within the boundary





# Law 41 – Unfair play

Deliberate attempt to distract the striker.

First and final warning removed, straight to penalties

Deliberate distraction or obstruction of batsman has been extended to include 'deception' to cover 'mock fielding' and any other attempt to deceive the batting side

[Mock Fielding Video](#)

# “Mock Fielding” example

*Umpire to signal 5  
Penalty Runs and offer  
the batsmen a choice  
of ends*



CRICKET  
NETWORK



**CXI**

**3-119**

**26.0**

**Current Run Rate: 4.58**

Next  
Slide

# Law 41 – Bouncers & Beamers

The warning sequences for each of these types of delivery are now separate

- 1st offence: No ball, first & final warning
- 2nd offence: No ball, suspend bowler for remainder of innings, report



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Next  
Slide

## Law 41 – Bouncers

For bouncers likely to inflict physical injury, repetition is no longer a pre-requisite for a delivery to be considered dangerous

## Law 41 – Beamers

All deliveries, irrespective of speed, above waist height of the striker standing upright at the crease are to trigger sanctions





# Law 41 – Unfair play

Bouncers above head height unfair if bowled repeatedly

The bowling of deliberate front foot bouncers is suspended immediately and the bowler is suspended for 10 overs if the bowler bowls a front foot bouncer at the non-striker's end



Non striker leaving his ground early – bowler can now attempt a run out up to the point at which he would be expected to deliver the ball



# Law 41 – Unfair play

Striker cannot adopt a stance (or mark his guard) in the protected area or so close that encroachment is inevitable

Once a batsman enters the protected area to play a shot they must move out of it as swiftly as possible





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Next  
Slide

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Next  
Slide

# Law 42 – Players' conduct

Offences have been categorised into a series of Levels, 1 to 4

Sanctions specified for offences at each Level

Process that the umpires need to go through is set out



# Law 42 – Players' conduct

## Level 1 Offences Examples

*Abuse of ground or equipment*

*Excessive and/or unreasonable appeals*

*Showing dissent by word or action to an umpire's decision*

*Obscene, offensive or insulting language or gestures*

## Sanctions for Level 1 Offences

If 1st instance of a problem – formal warning

If another level 1 or higher offence has taken place already – 5 penalty runs to the opposing side



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Next  
Slide

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Next  
Slide

# Law 42 – Players' conduct

## Level 2 Offences

*Inappropriate and Deliberate physical contact*

*Throwing the ball at someone*

*Obscene language or gestures aimed at someone*

*Extreme examples of Level 1 offences*

## Sanctions for Level 2 Offences

Award 5 penalty runs to the non offending team



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Next  
Slide

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# Law 42 – Players' conduct

## Level 3 Offences Examples

*Intimidating an umpire by language or gesture*

*Threatening to assault another player, team official or spectator*

## Sanctions for Level 3 Offences

*The offending player will be removed from the field of play for a predetermined time*

*Award 5 penalty runs to the opposition*

*Signal a level 3 offence to the scorers*



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Next  
Slide

# Level 3 Offence Signal Video





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Next  
Slide

# Law 42 – Players' conduct

## Level 4 Offences

*Threatening to assault an umpire*

*Making inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with an umpire*

*Physically assaulting a player or any other person*

*Committing any other act of violence.*

## Sanctions for Level 4 Offences

The offending player will be removed from game all together

Award 5 penalty runs to the non offending team

Signal a level 4 offence to the scorers

Next  
Slide

# Level 4 Offence Signal Video





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Next  
Slide

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the content up until now





Next  
Slide

# Law 42 – Players' conduct – *Umpire Process*

Dead ball

Collect ball

Consult

'Time'

Captain - Sanctions

Record

'Play'

Report



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Next  
Slide

# Additional Resources

ECB ACO Reference  
Document – [HERE](#)

*You have to be logged in to WTU*

MCC Online Resource  
[HERE](#)

MC

ary Document  
[HERE](#)







# THANK YOU



## Good luck for 2018!

*Any questions please contact [ecb.aco@ecb.co.uk](mailto:ecb.aco@ecb.co.uk)*