

Clarence Valley Cricket Association - Bylaws

Except as varied hereunder, the MCC Laws of Cricket 2017 Code – 4th edition 2026 shall apply.

Preamble – Spirit of Cricket

Cricket owes much of its appeal and enjoyment to the fact that it should be played not only according to the Laws, but also within the Spirit of Cricket. The major responsibility for ensuring fair play rests with the captains, but extends to all players, match officials and, especially in junior cricket, teachers, coaches and parents.

Respect is central to the Spirit of Cricket.

- Respect your captain, team-mates, opponents and the authority of the umpires.
- Play hard and play fair.
- Accept the umpire's decision.
- Create a positive atmosphere by your own conduct and encourage others to do likewise.
- Show self-discipline, even when things go against you.
- Congratulate the opposition on their successes and enjoy those of your own team.
- Thank the officials and your opposition at the end of the match, whatever the result.

Cricket is an exciting game that encourages leadership, friendship and teamwork, which brings together people from different nationalities, cultures and religions, especially when played within the Spirit of Cricket.

Version Control

Version	Date	Amendment
1.0	22 August 2026	Draft
1.1	29 August 2026	Updated, after review by Senior Sub-Committee and Board of Directors
1.2	15 September 2026	To be reviewed by CVCA Senior Sub Committee
1.3	16 September 2026	Updates on review of Senior Sub Committee
1.4	28 September 2026	Updates on review of CVCUSA
1.5	8 October 2026	Final Version – on review of BoD

1. **SEASON**
   - **a)** These by-laws are to be used in conjunction with the CVCA constitution and standing Playing Conditions.
   - **b)** The Association competition shall commence and be completed on a date(s) to be determined by the Board of Directors
   - **c)** Should a Captain's meeting be held prior to season commencing, each team must be represented by either their Captain or a senior member of the team intending to play in that grade. Each team that is represented and identified as playing in that grade prior to the season break in December, shall be awarded two (2) points. Clubs can apply for an exemption if the player that attended was required to play in a different grade for a reasonable reason.

2. **NOMINATIONS OF TEAMS**
   - **a)** Nominations of teams shall be in the hands of the Board of Directors on a date to be fixed at a Board of Directors Meeting
   - **b)** The CVCA Competition will consist of 1st Grade to 3rd Grade in seniors, Juniors; U17s, U14s, U12s & U10s and a mid-week Night Competition (T20).
   - **c)** Affiliated clubs must not nominate more than one team per grade unless grades 1 to 3 have first been nominated, unless granted permission from the CVCA.

3. **FEES**
   - **a)** Fee will be set by the Board of Directors prior to the commencement of the season.
   - **b)** Invoices will be forwarded to Clubs on Monthly basis.
   - **c)** Payment from Clubs is to be made within 14 days of the issuance of the invoice.
   - **d)** A reminder will be sent if the payment has not been received after 14 days.
   - **e)** Any club in arears 7 days after the due date, will be deducted 7 points from each senior team.

4. **PLAYER REGISTRATIONS**
   - **a)** No Player shall play for more than one Club in any one season, unless granted permission from the CVCA.
   - **b)** A Junior Player may play for different Clubs but is limited to only nominating one Senior Club in a season, unless granted permission from the CVCA.
   - **c)** All intending players must be registered online via PlayHQ through www.playcricket.com.au. The player's full name, current local address, telephone and/or email address and date of birth must be provided. A registration will not be accepted if all information is not completed during the registration process.
   - **d)** A player must not be named as a 'Fill In' more than two (2) times.
   - **e)** If a player breaches by-law 4(d), the player is to be considered an ineligible player, see By-law 6.
   - **f)** A 'Fill In' players details must be updated via PlayHQ through www.playcricket.com.au, as per 4(c), within 48 hours of the completion of the match for the match to count as one played by the 'Player'.

g) Only players on the list or who have been registered throughout the season and who meet the other qualification criteria will be eligible to play in the Final series (refer to by-law 14)

h) Where a Club has two or more sides in the same grade, they must nominate 4 Senior players who cannot interchange between those teams

i) Any request for player movement between teams in the same grade must be in writing and addressed to the Board of Directors, prior to 5pm on the day prior to the match. The player must remain in that team for the duration of the season. If the player is moved up or down grades and then returns to the same grade, he or she must resume his or her position in the same team.

5. CLEARANCES

a) Players wishing to change from one Club to another within the Association or transferring from another Association for the current season must apply for a TRANSFER through PlayHQ with approvals from the previous Club and/or Association. Transfers must be approved through PlayHQ before any player is *eligible* to play.

b) Failure to comply with this regulation renders a player liable to suspension for such a period as the Association deems fit and the team concerned lose all points gained.

6. GRADING

a) The competition shall be conducted in such grades or forms as the Association Executive shall specify from year to year. The Board of Directors shall have the power to decide the grade in which a team will compete.

b) The Board of Directors has the power to grade and re-grade teams.

c) A player cannot drop more than one grade at a time or following a bye, the player cannot drop the grade until the match they are participating in is complete. Exemption required.

d) Players must be ineligible by age to play u14s or below, to be eligible to play 1st Grade or apply for an exemption through the Board of Directors prior to taking the field.

e) An exemption may also be sought for a player to play in a lower age group and may be subject to restrictions

f) Junior players can move up and down senior grades without penalty, including finals (excluding 6d).

g) Players can only be named in one team each week for seniors

7. USE of INELIGIBLE PLAYER

a) Where a player participates in any match while ineligible, under any circumstance, the following provisions may occur.

b) The team concerned will be regarded as having lost the match or matches in which such player participated and forfeit any points gained.

c) The opposing team will receive maximum winning points achieved in that round.

d) The CVCA Board of Directors may take further action against the Club or Player concerned, if deemed necessary.

8. FORFEITS

a) Any team (seven players constitute a team) failing to take the field within fifteen minutes after the scheduled time on either day of play shall forfeit the match. Any club which forfeit's a match must submit a written explanation detailing reasons for the forfeit within 48 hours of such occurrence. The Board of Directors may determine whether that club should be further penalised by way of loss of points in lower grades or imposition of fines.

b) A team receiving a forfeit shall be awarded the maximum number of points gained in that grade for that round. The team that forfeits will also lose all points.

c) The forfeiting team will also be responsible for any costs incurred by either team for the preparation of grounds and payment of Umpires.

9. OBLIGATIONS OF THE HOME TEAM

a) Home and visiting teams must ensure that all rubbish is collected and removed from the playing area and change rooms at the end of play. Fines and/or loss of points will be imposed for failure to comply with this regulation.

10. CRICKET ATTIRE

a) Players entering the field must be properly attired in cricket clothing at all times, including any replacement players.

b) White or cream trousers or shorts must be worn. Long trousers MUST be worn in 1st Grade.

c) Colours that are similar in colour to the ball must be approved by the Board of Directors

d) Club or sponsor logos may be attached anywhere on cricket shirts.

e) An effort should be made to ensure that only club caps or floppy hats are worn.

f) Spiked or appropriate cricket footwear must be worn on all turf pitches. Players will not be permitted to bat or bowl in non-approved, spiked footwear.

g) Spiked shoes are **NOT** permitted to be used on synthetic pitches.

11. RESULTS

a) Result for all teams shall be completed via the Live eScore App. The home team is responsible for eScoring the game with the away team being responsible for scoring in a scorebook.

b) In the event of Live eScore App failure, results in all grades must be entered 48 hours after the game has commenced.

c) The penalty for late entry of results shall be 7 competition points.

d) Teams penalised for result notification irregularities shall be notified in writing.

e) Teams submitting consistently incomplete or irregular result notification shall be penalised as the Board of Directors deems fit.

f) Teams penalised for result notification irregularities have the right of appeal at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors

g) Teams must be named on Play HQ by one (1) hour prior to the commencement of any match. Squad lists can be amended up until the commencement of play.

12. UMPIRES

a) Umpires shall be appointed to all matches when available by the CVCUSA. Priority shall be given to highest grade matches. The Board of Directors reserve the right to overrule umpire appointments as they deem necessary.

b) A vote of captains is to be used to assist in appointing umpires to finals matches based on merit.

c) In the event of the absence of Official Umpires the captains shall appoint umpires for both ends and the umpires should be members of the batting side or other qualified persons acceptable to both captains.

d) In then event of only one umpire officiating the umpire will take the bowlers end and square leg will be taken by a member of the batting side or other qualified person acceptable to both captains.

13. ELIGIBILITY FOR SEMI FINALS AND FINALS

a) A player must be a registered player with the club

b) A player must have played three (3) games for the Club.

c) A player must play three (3) of their last five (5) matches in that grade to be eligible to play in a semi-final or final with that grade, or

d) A player who has qualified in a lower grade team satisfies the qualification criteria for playing higher Grades.

e) Where clubs have multiple teams in any grade, a player must play three (3) of their last five (5) matches in a team to be eligible to play in a semi-final or final with that team.

f) During finals series when a club's two adjoining grades are playing on the same day, players can be switched between those adjoining grades if they are qualified for one of those grades

g) For qualification of finals, an abandon (match never started), bye or a forfeit shall **NOT** be deemed a match.

h) Additionally, for Night Competition (T20)

i. Players must play 2 games to be eligible for finals.

i) Players who have not played the minimum matches, as outlined in by-laws 13(a)-(h) above, may apply to the Board of Directors to decide which grade, if any those players may play in the finals. Such application must be in writing and received by the Board of Directors by 5PM on the Monday following the completion of the last premiership match. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final.

14. FINALS

a) Semi-final positions shall be determined by the Board of Directors after the finalisation of the last round of the regular season matches.

b) In the event of two or more teams having equal points at the completion of the regular season their position on the competition table will be decided on the averages of each team as determined by PlayHO Quotient.

c) All match figures will be considered. Averages will be determined as follows:

i. The batting average of each team shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored by the total number of wickets lost in scoring the runs.
ii. The batting average against each team shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored against the team by the total number of wickets taken.
iii. Bylaw 14.c)i shall be divided by the Bylaw 14.c)ii to obtain the Quotient.
iv. The team having the highest Quotient shall be considered to have the better performance
v. When a team is all out but had batters missing, wickets lost shall count as ten

d) Finals Structure – Seniors:

i. Qualifying Final = 1st vs. 2nd
ii. Elimination Final = 3rd Vs. 4th
iii. Preliminary Final = Loser of QF Vs. Winner of EF
iv. Grand Final = Winner of QF Vs. Winner of PF
v. In the event of any Qualifying/Elimination finals match ending in a draw or tie or no result, the match winner shall be the team that finished higher on the Competition ladder at the end of the normal competition rounds
vi. In the event of the Grand Final match ending in a draw or tie or no result, the match will be rescheduled to a spare weekend. The Board of Directors will be responsible for the scheduling and location of this match/s.
vii. In the event the rescheduled Grand Final match ends in a draw, tie or no result, the team first to enter the Grand Final from the Major Semi-Final shall be declared the Major Premiers.
viii. The Board of Directors reserves the right to vary the final's structure.

e) Finals Structure – Juniors:

i. Major Semi-Final = 1st vs. 4th
ii. Minor Semi-Final = 2nd Vs. 3rd
iii. Grand Final = Winner of Major Semi-Final Vs. Winner of Minor Semi-Final
iv. In the event of weather abandonment, the higher-ranking team in the final will advance or be awarded the win
v. In the event of the Grand Final match ending in a draw or tie or no result, the match will be rescheduled to a spare date. The Board of Directors will be responsible for the scheduling and location of this match.
vi. In the event the rescheduled Grand Final match ends in a draw, tie or no result, the team first to enter the Grand Final from the Major Semi-Final shall be declared the Major Premiers/ the match winner shall be the team that finished higher on the Competition ladder at the end of the normal competition rounds.
vii. The Board of Directors reserves the right to vary the final's structure.

15. FINALS VENUE

a) All Final venues will be played at the venue of choice for the highest placed team.

b) In the event of the choice of venue being unavailable for any reason the decision will be made by the Board of Directors.

c) If required, any knockout final match will have priority for the allocation of grounds over any qualifying final match being played on the same day.

16. PITCHES AND COVERS

a) Turf pitches shall be used in first and second grade where available. If a turf pitch is not available for second grade to due wash out or any other reason, a synthetic pitch will be appointed and used.

b) The Association appointed curators are responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the turf pitches

c) Failure to cover the pitch as per Playing Conditions by the home team will result in the loss of 7 competition points.

d) In the event a curator decides that the wicket should not be covered for any reason, the Board of directors is to be notified by 4.00pm the day prior to the match.

17. THE GROUNDS AND PLAYING SURFACE

a) It is solely for the Umpires together to decide whether conditions of ground, weather or light or exceptional circumstances mean that it would be dangerous or unreasonable for play to continue. Conditions shall not be regarded as either dangerous or unreasonable merely because they are not ideal. The Umpires will only suspend or continue to suspend play if there is actual and foreseeable risk to the safety of any player or umpire.

b) The Umpires shall immediately suspend play, or not allow play to start or to recommence if they consider conditions of ground, weather or light, or any other circumstances are either dangerous or unreasonable

c) After any suspension of play, the Umpires, unaccompanied by any of the players or officials shall, on their own initiative, carry out an inspection immediately the conditions improve and shall continue to inspect at intervals. Immediately the Umpires agree that the conditions are no longer dangerous or unreasonable they shall call upon the players to resume play.

d) In the absence of official umpires, where the captains are in disagreement over the fitness of the ground, weather and light for play, the status of the match at the time of the disagreement shall be suspended, until an agreement can be reached, the decision shall be made in the interests of player safety.

e) If agreement cannot be reached and play cannot continue, the match shall be abandoned or otherwise determined in accordance with the Playing Conditions.

18. INTER-DISTRICT

- **a)** All players must be registered with a club within the CVCA to be eligible for Inter-district and representative matches as organised. Officials of all representative sides, both Junior and Senior, to be appointed by the Board of Directors and subject to selection criteria.
- **b)** Players are to be notified of their selection 7 days prior to the commencement of the match where possible, late changes to the side exempt.
- **c)** Any registered player selected for a match must, if unavailable, contact the Chair of Inter-district Selectors no later than 48 hours prior to commencement of that match. Failure to comply will result in a 2 competition match suspension. Exceptional circumstances accepted
- **d)** Players are required to be in attendance at all inter-district matches forty-five minutes prior to the scheduled commencement time of the match.

19. CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL and SMOKING

- **a)** The consumption of alcohol by any player or official participating in a match is not permitted on or off the field, **while ever the game is in progress**.
- **b)** Smoking or vaping is not permitted on the field of play or in any change room. Smoking should be discouraged by all clubs where underage players are present.
- **c)** Incidents of this rule being broken, shall be reported by the Captains, Club Committee Member or Official Umpire to CVCA under the CNSW Code of Conduct via https://www.northcoastcricketcouncil.com.au/clarence-river-cricket-association online report form within 48 hours of the incident.
- **d)** The team of a player found guilty of breaching 19 a) or b), may be deducted competition points by the Board of Directors as deemed appropriate.

20. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

- **a)** All players, officials, clubs, members and supporters of the Association are expected to use social media responsibly and respectfully and in accordance with the Spirit of Cricket.
- **b)** Social media must not be used to abuse, threaten, harass, bully, discriminate against, criticise or defame players, officials, umpires, clubs or other members of the Association, or to bring the Association or the game of cricket into disrepute.
- **c)** Disputes, complaints or concerns relating to matches, players, officials, umpires or Association matters are to be raised through the appropriate Association or Club channels and not through social media.
- **d)** The publication of photographs, videos or personal information involving junior players must be undertaken responsibly and with appropriate consent.
- **e)** A breach of this By-Law may result in disciplinary in accordance with the Code of Conduct (CNSW Code of Conduct)

21. PUBLICITY

a) The Association Facebook page and/or website shall be used to publicise all events and news items. The Association Competition Draw and By Laws shall be published on the website.

b) Clubs or individuals must not use media such as television, newspapers, radio or social media to abuse, threaten, harass, bully, discriminate against or defame opposition players, teams, officials or Clubs.

22. CVCA CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

a) Normal competition points are allocated for each round up to end of the normal competition draw (prior to any finals).

b) The points secured by each team shall then be multiplied as follows -

i) First Grade x by 10;
ii) Seconds x by 9;
iii) Thirds x 8;
iv) Fourths x 7;
v) U17s x 3;
vi) U14s x 2; and
vii) U12s x 1.

c) Where a club has two senior teams competing in the same grade, and not all grades higher are filled, the team with the higher points aggregate

d) Where a team has two senior teams in the same grade, as well as teams in all other grades, both teams points will be counted.

e) All of a club's junior teams points are to count.

f) The club with the highest accumulated points will be the Club Champion.

g) In the event of two (2) or more Clubs being on equal highest points total, they shall be Co-Club Champions.

23. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

a) Association Perpetual Trophies shall be presented to the Minor Premiers & Premiers in each grade. These trophies shall not be removed from the presentation area. Any club that wishes to 're-present' these trophies at their club presentation awards must gain permission from the Competition Administrator. Seven days' notice is required. Any damage that occurs to the trophy/trophies whilst in the possession of the club will be the responsibility of that club

b) The Awards sub-committee's main function shall be to determine the Grade Point Score. Individual performances for players who qualify for awards as per by-law rules shall be determined from online records.

c) All trophies shall be awarded on a grades basis and shall be awarded as follows:

d) Champion Player Points (CPP) will be awarded to players via Playcricket.com based on the following actions by players in all matches;

i) .10 per run scored
ii) 1 per not out innings
iii) 1 per 50 runs scored in an innings
iv) 5 per 100 runs scored in an innings
v) 1 per wicket taken
vi) 5 per 5 wicketstaken in an innings
vii) 1 per catch taken
viii) 1 per unassisted run out
ix) .5 per run out assist
x) 1 per stumping

e) Minor Premiership

The team heading the points table at the conclusion of the competition rounds will be declared Minor Premiers. If teams finish level on competition points the winner will be determined by percentage points as per by-law 13(c). The team will be recorded upon the perpetual trophy for that grade.

f) Major Premiership

The team that wins the Grand Final will be declared Major Premiers. In the event of a draw, washed out or abandoned Grand Final, the first team into the Grand Final shall be declared Major Premiers. The team will be recorded upon the Perpetual Trophy for that grade.

g) All- Rounder Trophy

Shall be awarded in each grade (Senior and Junior) to the player with the most Champion Player Point (CPP) gained through the normal competition, prior to any finals.

i) Seniors - Minimum 200 runs and 15 dismissals (wickets/catches/stumpings);
ii) Juniors – Minimum 100 runs and 10 wickets and/or catches;
iii) If minimum requirements are not met by any player in that grade, the Awards Sub-committee will have the final decision

h) Batting Aggregate and Average

Shall be awarded in each grade (Senior and Junior) to;

i) The player obtaining the highest aggregate of runs in the normal competition, prior to any finals. Should two or more batters are equal on runs, preference will be given to average then boundaries scored, respectively.

ii) The player obtaining the highest average (total runs divided by dismissals) in the normal competition, prior to any finals;
    (a) A player must have played a minimum of three games in that grade
    (b) Should two or more players score an equal amount of runs, the award will be shared.
    (c) Seniors – Minimum 150 runs to be scored to be eligible for average award.
    (d) Juniors – Minimum 100 runs to be scored to be eligible for average award.

i) Bowling Aggregate and Average

Shall be awarded in each grade (Senior and Junior) to;

i) The player obtaining the highest aggregate of wickets in the normal competition, prior to any finals. Should two or more bowlers are equal on wickets, preference will be given to average then overs bowled, respectively.
ii) The player obtaining the highest average (total runs divided by wickets) in the normal competition, prior to any finals;
    (a) A player must have played a minimum of three games in that grade
    (b) Should two or more players score an equal amount of wickets, the award will be shared;
    (c) Seniors – Minimum 15 wickets to be taken to be eligible for average award;
    (d) Juniors – Only the top 5 wicket takers in the grade and those equal to them, to be eligible for the award.

j) Catching Awards

Shall be awarded in each grade (Senior and Junior) to the player who takes the most catches in that grade, prior to any finals.

k) Acknowledgment Awards

Shall be awarded in each grade (Senior and Junior) to any player who;

i) Scores a century in any innings
ii) Takes 7 or more wickets in an innings
iii) Takes 10 or more wickets in a match
iv) Takes 5 or more catches in an innings (excludes wicketkeepers)
v) Takes 5 or more dismissals as a wicketkeeper
vi) Takes a hattrick

l) Wicketkeeper Award

Shall be awarded to the player with the highest dismissals (wicketkeeper catches and stumpings) across all senior competitions, prior to any finals. Should two or more players have the same amount the award will be shared.

m) Rookie of the Year – 1st grade

Shall be awarded to the player, with the most Champion Player Point (CPP) gained in the 1st grade competition, in that players first full season in that grade.

i) No more than 5 games to played in previous seasons

n) Senior Player of the Year

Shall be awarded to the player who has had the most influence over the 1st grade and representative competitions. Awards Sub-committee to finalise the player selection by including but not being limited to the following criteria;

i) On field performance in all matches including normal competition, prior to any finals;
ii) On field performance in finals matches;
iii) On field performance in representative matches;
    (a) These to be measured through CPP gained.
iv) Positive leadership and/or captaincy skills exhibited throughout season; and
v) If they have been selected at a zone level or higher.

o) Junior Player of the Year

Shall be awarded to the player who has had the most influence over all Junior and representative competitions. Awards Sub-committee to finalise the player selection by including but not being limited to the following criteria;

i) On field performance in all matches including normal competition, prior to any finals;
ii) On field performance in finals matches;
iii) On field performance in representative matches;
    a. These to be measured through CPP gained.
vi) Positive leadership and/or captaincy skills exhibited throughout season; and
vii) If they have been selected at a zone level or higher.

p) Representative Awards – aggregate

Shall be awarded in each grade (Senior and Junior) to;

i) The player obtaining the highest aggregate of runs;
ii) The player obtaining the highest aggregate of wickets;
iii) Any player who scores a century;
    a) Should two or more players achieve any of these the award shall be shared; and
iv) All members of a team that achieves an Inter-district Major Premiership will be presented with CVCA 'baggy cap'.