

HEAD PROTECTOR REGULATIONS



**England and Wales Cricket Board, Lord's Cricket Ground
St John's Wood, London, NW8 8QZ
England**

1 In these Regulations:

Compliant Headgear means:

- (a) Head Protectors for batters and/or fielders; or
- (b) Helmets or face masks for wicket-keepers,

which in each case have been certified as compliant with the most recent BSI Standard specification for the size of ball that is being used in that Match, including any alterations to such headgear which are specifically permitted pursuant to Regulation 6;

Cricket Discipline Panel means the panel of individuals responsible for adjudicating on regulatory cases on behalf of the ECB;

Cricket Regulator means the body responsible for investigating and prosecuting breaches of the ECB Regulations;

Disciplinary Procedure Regulations means the regulations governing the disciplinary procedure for regulatory cases brought before the Cricket Discipline Panel as in force and amended from time to time;

ECB Regulations means the ECB's rules, regulations, playing conditions and codes as published and in force (and as amended and supplemented) from time to time;

Effective Date means 4 December 2025;

Head Protector means the complete assembly of a helmet, faceguard and neck protector. Helmet indicates headwear primarily intended to protect the cricketer's head and neck protector indicates an attachment to the helmet (or an integrated part of the helmet) that covers the part of the head and neck typically below a helmet, behind the ears;

Helmet means the complete assembly of a helmet and a faceguard;

The Hundred means the ECB's domestic cricket competition in a "hundred-ball" format and "Men's Hundred" and "Women's Hundred" mean The Hundred games played by the Men's Hundred Team and Women's Hundred Team, respectively;

Hundred Team means any of the teams from time to time playing in The Hundred and "Men's Hundred Team" and "Women's Hundred Team" mean the teams playing in the Men's Hundred and Women's Hundred respectively;

Match means any match covered by Regulation 2 below;

National County Club means any National County Cricket Club which plays in the competitions organised by the NCCA;

NCCA means the National Counties Cricket Association;

Professional Conduct Regulations means the ECB's Professional Conduct Regulations in force and as amended from time to time;

Professional County Club means any of the clubs and/or companies from time to time listed in Schedule A to the ECB's articles of association and/or any county cricket club from time to

time playing in the County Championship and/or the Tier 1 Competitions and/or the Tier 2 Competitions;

Registered Cricketer has the meaning given to it in the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations;

Regulated Activity means each of those activities detailed in Regulation 3 when carried out in any Match;

Relevant Participating Cricketer means any player participating in a Match for a relevant team as detailed in Regulation 2, including but not limited to any substitute fielder;

Tier 1 Competitions means any women's domestic cricket competitions designated by the ECB as being a "Tier 1" competition, which, as at the Effective Date, includes the T20 Blast Women's Competition and the One Day Cup Women's Competition; and

Tier 2 Competitions means any women's domestic cricket competitions designated by the ECB as being a "Tier 2" competition, which, as at the Effective Date, includes the T20 Blast Women's League 2 and the One Day Cup Women's League 2.

These Regulations will come into full force and effect on the Effective Date.

2 These Regulations apply to all cricketers undertaking any Regulated Activity for any team in the following matches (save where expressly limited in accordance with Regulation 3 below):

- 2.1 for any England international team in any of its matches (including England Men and England Women senior teams, Men's Lions, England Women A, and England Under 19 men's and women's teams but excluding the England disability team(s));
- 2.2 in County Championship, One-Day Cup Men's Competition and T20 Blast Men's Competition matches;
- 2.3 in One-Day Cup Women's Competition, One Day Cup Women's League 2, T20 Blast Women's Competition, T20 Blast Women's League 2 and Women's T20 County Cup matches;
- 2.4 in matches between Professional County Club first teams and University Centre of Cricketing Excellence ("UCCE") teams or between Professional County Club and National County Clubs;
- 2.5 in men's Second XI Championship, men's Second XI Trophy and men's Second XI T20 matches;
- 2.6 in friendly matches played between men's Professional County Club first teams and friendly matches played between men's Professional County Club second teams;
- 2.7 for the academy team of any Professional County Club in any of that academy team's matches; and
- 2.8 in any match in the Hundred,

each, a "**Match**".

- 3 Unless the ECB Chief Medical Officer (or their nominee) agrees otherwise, which will only be in exceptional circumstances, all Relevant Participating Cricketers must wear Compliant Headgear when undertaking the following activities in any Match:
- 3.1 batting against all types of bowling;
 - 3.2 wicket-keeping when standing up to the wicket; and
 - 3.3 fielding in a position closer than 8 yards from the batter's position on the popping crease on a middle stump line, with the exception of any fielding position behind square of the wicket on the offside or the legside that is less than an angle of 45 degrees, such angle being measured from an extended middle stump line behind the wicket to square of the wicket,
- each, a "**Regulated Activity**".
- 4 Regulated Activity is deemed to begin:
- 4.1 in relation to Regulation 3.1, from the moment a batter crosses the boundary to begin their innings; and
 - 4.2 in relation to Regulations 3.2 and 3.3, from the moment the bowler starts their run-up (or if no run-up, commences their delivery swing).
- 5 In respect of all Matches covered by Regulations 2.2 to 2.8 (inclusive), if a Relevant Participating Cricketer without an exemption from the ECB Chief Medical Officer fails or refuses to wear Compliant Headgear when seeking to undertake a Regulated Activity, they will not be permitted to continue participating in that Match unless and until they wear the required Compliant Headgear. Match umpires will not be responsible for ensuring that the headgear being worn by the Relevant Participating Cricketer is Compliant Headgear.
- 6 A Head Protector, Helmet or face mask will not be deemed to be Compliant Headgear if it is altered in any way which is inconsistent with any guidance or instructions provided by the relevant manufacturer or in a way which otherwise reduces the safety protection provided by the relevant Head Protector, Helmet or face mask (for example, the removal of the chin-strap or, in cases of a neck protector, alteration of the neck protector and/or its attachment).
- 7 It will be the joint responsibility of each Relevant Participating Cricketer and the Professional County Club and Hundred Team (as applicable) for which they play to ensure that the Relevant Participating Cricketer wears Compliant Headgear at all times when undertaking any Regulated Activity in any Match. In the event that a Relevant Participating Cricketer is alleged to be in breach of these Regulations by participating in Regulated Activity without wearing Compliant Headgear, the Relevant Participating Cricketer and their Professional County Club or Hundred Team (as applicable) will be referred to the Cricket Regulator, in accordance with the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations or, if Regulation 8 applies, the Professional Conduct Regulations.
- 8 Where a breach of these Regulations is committed by a Registered Cricketer it will be dealt with in accordance with the fixed penalty regime under Regulation 4 of the Professional Conduct Regulations. Notwithstanding if a fixed penalty has been issued in accordance with Regulation 4 of the Professional Conduct Regulations, in particular but not limited to where the Relevant Participating Cricketer has committed multiple and/or egregious breaches, the Cricket Regulator may take further disciplinary action against the Relevant Participating

Cricketer or other action as it sees fit. If further disciplinary action is taken by the Cricket Regulator, when deciding what penalty (if any) to impose in respect of any breach under these Regulations, any Sole Arbitrator, Disciplinary Tribunal or Appeal Panel will take into account any penalty that has already been imposed in respect of a breach under Regulation 4 of the Professional Conduct Regulations.

As of 1st February 2020, the latest BSI Standard specification for Head Protectors for cricketers is BS7928:2013+A1:2019, the latest BSI Standard certification for Helmets is BS7928:2013 and the latest BSI Standard specification for facemasks is BS7928-2:2009.

To be compliant for Women's competitions listed in Regulation 2, a Head Protector must have been certified as compliant with the most recent BSI Standard specification against both the men's and junior sized ball.

Further guidance regarding Head Protectors can be found at: <http://www.ecb.co.uk/helmets> including the list of known head protectors that have met BS7928:2013

In addition to the mandatory requirements on Relevant Participating Cricketers in Matches under these Regulations, Relevant Participating Cricketers and their support staff in the professional game must wear certain Protective Equipment in the training and coaching environments as specified in the ECB Policy for Personal Protective Equipment in Training Environments.