

CRICKET VICTORIA

SUSPECT BOWLING ACTION GUIDELINES

COMMUNITY CRICKET



The Victorian Metropolitan Cricket Union (VMCU), Victorian Country Cricket League (VCCL) and Victorian Sub-district Cricket Association (VSDCA) have, in partnership with Cricket Victoria, established guidelines for all of Community Cricket specifically to deal with suspect bowling actions. The guidelines provide clear steps for remediation of bowlers who are cited to have a suspect bowling action.

This document should be used as a base for Associations to implement within their rules or policies, to have a best practice guideline in place to manage mentions of suspect bowling actions. There may be additional clauses that your association believes are appropriate to implement within your local competition on top of the guidelines provided below.

Throughout the process associations, clubs, coaches and officials are to act in the best interests of the player(s) and cricket in general, with the overall welfare of the player(s) and the game being the prime considerations.

LAWS OF CRICKET 21.2 FAIR DELIVERY – THE ARM

Under the Laws of Cricket, a ball is fairly delivered in respect of the arm if, once the bowler's arm has reached the level of the shoulder in the delivery swing, the elbow joint is not straightened partially or completely from that instant until the ball has left the hand. This definition shall not debar a bowler from flexing or rotating the wrist in the delivery swing.

An umpire is to make a mention, when they have no doubt a bowler has broken the Laws of Cricket Fair Delivery.

The below process does not preclude any umpire from calling a bowler for throwing, at any time, if the umpire is in no doubt.

LEVEL 1

In any scheduled match, if the umpire(s) suspects a bowler to have delivered a ball breaching Law 21.2 Fair Delivery – The Arm under the Laws of Cricket, a mention is to be made by the umpire(s) to the Association Secretary/Administrator in writing, separate from any Match Report, naming the bowler and the club they are representing, expressing what the concerns are with the bowlers action.

Upon receipt, the Association Secretary/Administrator contacts the Club Administration Officer/Secretary and instructs the club and/or coach to undertake remedial action with the player.

Coaches or anyone else assisting with the remedial work are recommended to utilise the Cricket Australia Coach App and any other expertise available within their local association, for support with training activities to support the remedial work.

There will be a 4 week "intervention period" to allow remedial work to be undertaken.

Clubs have one month to report back to the Association Secretary/Administrator on the remedial work undertaken to remediate the bowler.

LEVEL 2

If a player receives a second mention, the umpire(s) will make a report to the Association Secretary/Administrator in writing separate from any Match Report, naming the bowler and the club they are representing, expressing what the concerns are with the bowling action.

The Association Secretary/Administrator will contact the club and request that video footage be taken of the mentioned bowler in a training simulation. The footage is to be provided to Cricket Victoria (CV) through the CV Coach Force Online Bowling Assessment, who will then liaise with the coach/club, anyone else assisting with the remedial work and player to provide remedial action advice. The cost to this service will be \$75 for the video review. Once completed, the player, coach and club will receive a full technical bowling assessment as well as recommended bowling drills.

To book an Online Bowling Assessment click [here](#).

There will be a 6 week "intervention period" to allow remedial work to be undertaken.

Release Date - September 2021

CRICKET VICTORIA

SUSPECT BOWLING ACTION GUIDELINES

COMMUNITY CRICKET



The Association Secretary/Administrator also makes contact with the Secretary of their Community Cricket Peak Body (either the VCCL, VCMU or VSDCA), and at this point the player is placed on the Community Cricket Peak Body suspect action registry.

The Association Secretary/Administrator may request that the club provides evidence that the Online Bowling Assessment has been undertaken.

LEVEL 3

If a player receives a third mention, the umpire(s) will make a report to the Association Secretary/Administrator in writing separate from any Match Report, naming the bowler and the club they are representing, expressing what the concerns are with the bowling action.

The Association Secretary/Administrator contacts the Secretary of their Community Cricket Peak Body and advises that the player has again been mentioned.

The Association Secretary/Administrator contacts the club and requests that the player completes a Face-to-Face assessment via Cricket Victoria's individual skills coaches, which will include an individual report with remedial action advice. The cost of the session will be \$125, inclusive of the detailed individual report.

To book a Face-to-Face assessment with Cricket Victoria's individual skills coaches click [here](#).

A copy of the report is also forwarded to the Association.

There will be an 8 week "intervention period" following this analysis to allow remedial work to be undertaken. During this intervention period the player will be permitted to bowl in matches.

Umpires will be advised of the player's situation by the Association Secretary/Administrator. If there is any doubt during this intervention period then the umpire(s) will continue to make a separate report to the Association Secretary.

LEVEL 4

If a player receives a fourth mention, the umpire(s) will make a report to the Association Secretary/Administrator in writing separate from any Match Report, naming the bowler and the Club they are representing expressing what the concerns are with the bowling action.

The Association Secretary/Administrator must contact the Secretary of their Community Cricket Peak Body and advise that the player has again been mentioned.

The Association Secretary/Administrator contacts the Club and advises that the bowler is to undertake a 3D biomechanical assessment which Cricket Victoria can facilitate. The cost of this assessment is provided at the time of application. Clubs/players can contact Cricket Victoria [here](#) to organise the 3D biomechanical assessment.

There will be an additional 8 week "intervention period" following this analysis to allow remedial work to be undertaken. During this intervention period the player will be permitted to bowl in matches.

Umpires will be advised of the player's situation by the Association Secretary/Administrator. If there is any doubt during this intervention period then the umpire(s) will continue to make a separate report to Association Secretary.

Any subsequent mention following Level 4, the player will immediately again move to Level 3 and continue through the process.

CRICKET VICTORIA

SUSPECT BOWLING ACTION GUIDELINES

COMMUNITY CRICKET



JUNIOR CRICKETERS

Should a player's bowling action be deemed suspect in any scheduled junior match, a report is to be lodged with the Association Secretary/Administrator by a designated official from the club making the report. This shall either be the club Junior President/Secretary or designated Junior coordinator. All junior players loop through Level 2 whilst they remain eligible for junior cricket and all are free to play senior cricket during this time.

MATCHES WITHOUT OFFICIAL ASSOCIATION UMPIRES

Should a player be deemed to have a suspect bowling action in any scheduled match that does not have an Association - officially appointed umpire, a report is to be lodged with the Association Secretary/Administrator by a designated official from the club making the report. For senior matches it is to be the club President/Secretary, in all junior matches any player is referred via their club President/Secretary or designated Junior Coordinator.

ONGOING PROCEDURE

The Suspect Action Bowling Guidelines are an ongoing procedure and players do not return to Level 1 each season. Each mention will progress the procedure, irrespective of time.