

## HELMET POLICY

### INTRODUCTION

This policy has been developed following CNSW's communication of 6th September 2019 which strongly recommends that affiliates of CNSW adopt Cricket Australia's Helmet Policy.

As everyone is aware the mandatory use of helmets whether facing fast or medium paced bowling, keeping up to the stumps or fielding close to the batter has been introduced to better manage the risk of injury and to promote better health and safety across all formats of the game.

Consequently, there is a strong desire by CNSW for all affiliates to take up the policy as quickly as possible. In this regard, the SCA's Committee of Management raised its concerns with CNSW before taking steps to introduce this policy. It is pleasing that CNSW has acknowledged these concerns and that it is acceptable to implement the policy with the benefit of a short phase-in period.

As a consequence of the concerns raised, it is the SCA's desire to introduce the policy in a pragmatic way. To this end, the requirement to adhere to the Helmet Policy will form part of the SCA's Playing Conditions going forward.

In conjunction with the introduction of this policy, it is important that Clubs should remind and reinforce with players that they understand and appreciate Condition (c) on the SCA registration form – reproduced below. It follows, that it is ultimately the player's responsibility to adhere to this policy –

*"A player undertakes and agrees that a player will not hold a club or the Sydney Cricket Association responsible for any injury or accident the player may suffer as a result of taking part in a match, or attending practice activities conducted by a club and that the player will not make any claim or take any action against a club or the Sydney Cricket Association to recover any loss or expense incurred by the player as a result of any such injury or accident".*

### APPLICATION

**Commencement Date:** This Policy becomes effective on 30th November 2019.

This Policy shall apply to all NSW Premier Cricket, Women's Premier Cricket and Shires competition matches.

**1. The Batsman**

A player shall wear a helmet at all times while batting against fast or medium paced bowling. The helmet is defined as a British Standard (BS7928:2013) helmet.

**2. The Wicket-Keeper**

At all times when wicket-keeping up to the stumps, the wicket-keeper shall wear a British Standard (BS7928:2013) helmet.

**3. The Fielder**

At all times when fielding in a position closer than 7 metres from the batsman's position on the popping crease on a middle stump line (for example, short leg or silly point), with the exception of any fielding position behind the popping crease (on both the off and on sides), a fielder must wear a British Standard 7928:2013 compliant helmet.

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**NOTE:** It is recommended that adherence to the policy should also extend to training sessions.

### COMPLIANCE

1. It is not the intention to penalise a player who may use a non-compliant helmet, however every effort should be made to have a helmet that complies with the British Standard. The SCA acknowledges the cost to either acquire a new helmet or upgrade an existing helmet, however, it is in the player's best interests to be using an approved helmet.
2. As part of measuring the uptake of this policy, the SCA requests that each club, by no later than 31 October 2019, provide to the SCA the following details:
  - a) Whether any non-compliant helmets are in use and an indication when these will be phased out;
  - b) The number of playing members who do not own a helmet.
3. Clubs, officials and captains to take a proactive approach to ensure that all players adopt the Policy and work with Umpires to achieve this goal.
4. Umpires will have sole responsibility in deciding when a Helmet should be worn at any stage of a match. Umpires will not engage in inspecting whether a helmet is British Standard compliant.

### BREACHES

#### a) Prior to 30th November 2019:

The policy will not be enforced during this period. Clubs, officials and players have the opportunity to become familiar with the use of a helmet in the conditions described.

While higher-graded players may already exhibit compliance with the policy, it is incumbent on Clubs to ensure that all attributes of the policy are communicated through all Grades.

Umpires will record, and report to the SCA, details of any non-conformance during this period.

The phase in period will also allow the SCA to address any matters arising or whether any amendments are necessary.

#### b) From 30th November 2019:

All clubs, officials and players must comply with this policy.

Umpires have the authority to issue a direction to the player and/or captain for a player to adhere to the policy.

In the event that the umpire's direction is ignored, the umpires will record the breach of this policy in their match report to the SCA.

#### c) Penalties:

Where it is reported that a Club, official, captain or player exhibits behaviour that demonstrates non-compliance with the policy, the SCA may take any disciplinary action considered necessary in the circumstances.

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### REVIEW

An assessment on the effectiveness of the Policy will be undertaken at the end of this season.

### APPRECIATION

The co-operation and efforts of all Clubs, officials, captains and players is appreciated in introducing and promoting this Policy across all SCA competitions.

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