

Covid 19 Rule Variations for 2021

We are of course hopeful that Covid 19 will be a thing of the past by cricket season 2022, and as such we are not going to re-write the Cherwell League rules for one season. The League Management Committee however fully accepts and supports the measures that have to be taken to keep everyone safe and so the following amends/relaxations of the rules will apply for this season only, or until further notice. All the below are in line with or as a result of ECB and government guidance and if there is any contradiction between the published rules and this document, this document takes precedence.

All clubs are reminded that it is their individual responsibility to ensure that they are compliant with all ECB guidelines and should regularly monitor ECB communications and the ECB website for the latest updates.

What is listed below is not an exhaustive list, it addresses things that are written in the CCL rules that are not currently Covid protocol compliant. All other aspects must be addressed by clubs as part of their responsibilities as a community sport organisation.

1. Penalties for slow over rates

The automatic run penalties and points deductions for slow over rates are suspended until further notice. If in the umpires' opinion(s) a team has been unreasonably slow, they will report this to the LMC who will consider whether any action is appropriate. A second report may well incur a points deduction. This is to allow adequate time for sanitation breaks.

2. Sanitisation equipment

It is permissible to keep hand sanitiser and/or wipes on the pitch behind the stumps to facilitate a quicker process every 6 overs. If the ball strikes the containers whilst in play, the containers will be considered part of the pitch. The ball will not be called dead and no penalty runs will be awarded.

Note: If bowlers or any other player leaves articles of clothing (caps/bowler's sweater) behind the stumps, these are treated in the normal way, i.e. a ball striking the articles when in play incurs a 5 run penalty in favour of the batting side.

3. Changing Rooms and Showers

These must remain closed for now in line with ECB guidance but you should endeavour to make sure that those not on the field of play (batting side, scorers) have access to shelter from rain or sun. A gazebo or sun umbrella will suffice.

4. Scorers

In tiers 1-3 where both sides are required to have a scorer, this requirement is suspended until further notice. The home team must provide a scorer and if the away team bring one also, they must observe appropriate social distancing measures.

5. Teas

The requirement to provide teas and drinks is suspended until further notice. Players must bring their own food and drinks and water bottles in particular must not be shared.

Important Note.

This document is not designed to interpret or summarise the ECB guidance, it is merely an explanation of areas of the Cherwell League rules which are being adjusted to take account of it. Your club is individually responsible for ensuring that you are Covid compliant. There is lots of information and resources on the ECB website at www.ecb.co.uk/covid-19.