



General By-Laws 2026-2027

Notes on LDCA By-Laws:

- A. In all cases not covered by these By-Laws, the Rules of MCC Laws of Cricket 2017 Code (4th Edition – 2026) & Victorian Premier Cricket Rule Book, will apply.
- B. For all games where no LDCA official umpire is in attendance, the responsibility to maintain the LDCA By-Laws will devolve to the two Club Captains appointed to the game.
- C. If a ball hits a Protective Helmet placed on the ground behind the wicket-keeper, “the ball becomes dead upon hitting the helmet”. **5 run penalty**. Refer to **MCC Law 28**.
- D. References to a description of an offence in MCC Laws can be used or applied by the COM or Tribunal if not clarified in **LDCA By-Law 26**.
- E. Any reference to MCC Law 41 in reference to MCC Law 42 is to be ignored.
- F. Disregard MCC Law 41.8 as this is covered under the **LDCA By-Laws 26** regarding Player Behaviour.
- G. In all Clubs/Training /Matches/Coaching activities, two adults must always be present (one can be a Club Member over 18 years old or a Parent/Guardian of a participant) in the LDCA Competition (No Exceptions) where Under 18 years old participants are involved.
- H. If a Club makes a call for a game to be abandoned and the opposing Club has a concern with the call, they can request an independent COM Member to review the call. This applies to Senior and Junior Cricket. Frivolous abandonment calls will result in the loss of any points from the scheduled match.
- I. These Rules will not have any Covid changes or references, the COM will advise Clubs of any changes if Covid occurs and requires any specific By-Law changes.

Definitions of Terminology in By-Laws:

Association: The Leongatha and District Cricket Association (LDCA).

COM: Committee of Management.

AGM: Annual General Meeting (Seniors or Juniors).

Committee of Management: (COM) According to the Rules of the LDCA, it consists of a President, Senior Vice President, Junior Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Score Secretary and up to ten Ordinary Members (Maximum 16 members).

LDCA Executive: President, Senior and Junior Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer (5 Members).

LDCA Officials: Includes all members of the LDCA COM.

Meetings: LDCA COM will hold Meetings as required and set dates for a Pre-Annual and Annual General Meeting for each season. Meetings may be held in person or online (circumstances may require an online meeting). Sub-committees can set meeting dates in consultation with the LDCA COM.

Online Competition Management Platform: The LDCA utilises Play HQ as its official online competition management platform.

Player: A Player is a person whose name is assigned to a match in an online competition management platform (PlayHQ). Their name appears on a match scorecard and/or a signed team list as required by the LDCA By-Laws and policies.

Tribunal: The COM will form a Tribunal Panel from a list selected by members of the COM. From this panel, the COM will select two (2) members and a Tribunal Chairperson to settle any disputes, reports or appeals referred to the COM.

A, B & C Grade: Where A (B & C) is mentioned herein, it is to be interpreted as meaning A (B & C) Grade Division 1 & A (B & C) Grade Division 2.

Juniors: Includes all participants under 18 as of September 1st of the current season.

Girls: All Females playing LDCA Cricket.

U11, U13, U15 & U17: A player who is under 11, under 13, under 15 or Under 17 years on **September 1st** at the start of the current cricket season or a player that is older than this but has been granted special dispensation by the LDCA COM to play under 11, under 13, under 15 or Under 17 LDCA Cricket.

Note: any player granted special dispensation for Under 15's is not eligible for LDCA Representative Cricket for Under 15's JCW.

Match Scorecards: This refers to the scorecard that is entered into an online competition management platform (PlayHQ).

Home Team: First named team in the LDCA Season Fixture.

Away Team: Second named team in the LDCA Season Fixture.

Home and Away Games: This refers to all games on the LDCA Season Fixtures excluding finals. It does not include Mid-Week 20/20 Competitions.

Honorarium: At the LDCA AGM the honorariums of the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Score Secretary, Umpires, Junior Chairman (Development Officer) and Registration Secretary (if applicable), shall be reviewed and a decision made that they be referred to the COM for ratification. The COM can add an honorarium if they consider there is a need, or a new position is added.

Alteration to these By-Laws and Procedures: Under the Rules of the LDCA the, COM has the power to delete By-Laws, alter By-Laws, or add By-Laws for all grades and matches. Rules and By-Laws may be amended at an AGM by the clubs on a majority vote.

Consistent Application of By-Laws and Exemptions:

1. From the commencement of the official LDCA season until the completion of the finals series, all LDCA By-Laws shall be applied accurately, consistently and impartially by the LDCA, its Executive, Committee of Management (COM), officials and appointed delegates.
2. No individual member of the LDCA Executive, Committee of Management or any appointed official shall have authority to waive, disregard, vary or grant an exemption from any LDCA By-Law unless that authority is expressly provided for within the relevant By-Law.
3. Any club or individual seeking an exemption must submit the request in writing to the LDCA Secretary, clearly outlining the exceptional circumstances.
4. All exemption requests must be considered by the COM or, where urgent, the Executive. Decisions must be collective and not made by one individual.
5. The outcome of every exemption request, together with the reasons, must be recorded in the official minutes.
6. Any exemption granted applies only to the specific circumstances and does not create a precedent unless adopted as a formal amendment.

Adverse Conditions: This refers to matches delayed by adverse weather including rain/storms, wind, heat, air quality and fires. It also includes Interruptions by ambulances, air ambulances, emergency services, medical conditions including quarantine, player or spectator emergencies, road accidents or emergency or medical conditions that require the game be delayed or directives from COM, CV, VCCL, GCL, ACB or Governments or Shires.

Constitution of a Season of Cricket in the LDCA Competition: A season of cricket is at least 50% of an LDCA-based standard fourteen-round season of games fixtured in the LDCA Home and Away competition in Senior (A Grade) Cricket. If less than 50% of games are played, no premierships will be awarded. This ruling applies to all grades including juniors.

Charltonian Award: The LDCA Charltonian Award is a prestigious award named after local cricketer Jack Charlton of Fish Creek CC in honour of his contribution to the game. The emphasis we wish to promote for this award is to respect the game of cricket and all participants. The winner is the LDCA club which has promoted the game of cricket in all facets of administration.

Transfers: A transfer request is a request for a player to register to a new club. Transfers can be initiated by: A club administrator, from the competition management platform. Transfers require the approval of the player's current and new club, and their association before the player can complete their registration to their new club.

Permits: There are two (2) types of permits, a Season Permit or a Game Day Permit. These will allow a player to participate for additional clubs in a competition without needing to register.

Fill-in Players: A fill-in player can only play one (1) game in the current season. If a fill-in player decides to play more than one (1) game they must then complete the registration.

LDCA General By-Laws 2026-2027.

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1. Competition:

1.1. Grade Setup:

- 1.1.1. Grades, divisions, promotions and relegations within the LDCA will be determined jointly by the LDCA COM and participating clubs during the AGM.
- 1.1.2. The principle guiding these decisions is that each club in the association must have representation with an A Grade team participating in either A1 or A2.
- 1.1.3. Clubs seconded teams will be represented in either B1 or B2.
- 1.1.4. Clubs third and fourth teams will be represented in either C1 or C2. With clubs being able to have more than one team in the one C grade division.
- 1.1.5. The LDCA COM holds the authority to assess a club's position for a season to ensure its ongoing participation.

1.2. Division Composition:

- 1.2.1. A1 will consist of seven (7) teams, A2 will consist of seven (7) teams.
- 1.2.2. B Grade will consist of seven (7) teams each.
- 1.2.3. C1 and C2 Grades will each consist of eight (8) teams for the 2026/27 season, with the divisional makeup determined by the LDCA COM following confirmation of team nominations.
- 1.2.4. If additional teams become available, the LDCA COM, in consultation with clubs, will determine the divisional makeup of teams.

1.3. Promotions and Relegations:

- 1.3.1. At the conclusion of each season, the LDCA COM will promote the top team (Premiers) of each Second Division of a grade to the First Division of that grade. The last-placed team in the First Division of a grade will be relegated to the Second Division of that grade.
- 1.3.2. The LDCA COM reserves the right to alter decisions made at the AGM in the event of unforeseen circumstances or if a decision is deferred to the LDCA COM.

1.4. Byes in the last round:

- 1.4.1. The team that was promoted from the second division in all grades will have the bye in the last round of the home and away fixture.

2. Affiliation:

- 2.1. At the AGM, the affiliation fee for each club will be determined and set. This fee must be paid by December 31st of the respective season.
- 2.2. The affiliation fee may be referred to the LDCA COM for determination. The LDCA COM reserves the authority to set the affiliation fee and may adjust it as necessary.
- 2.3. Late payments of the affiliation fee will incur a fine of \$100 per week.

- 2.4. In special circumstances beyond the scope of the affiliation fee, the LDCA COM may levy additional charges on clubs. The LDCA COM also retains the discretion to vary the fine provisions for late payments as deemed appropriate.

3. New Clubs:

- 3.1. Any new clubs seeking to join the LDCA must obtain approval from the LDCA COM.

4. Clubs:

- 4.1. **Club Administration:** Prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM), each club must provide the LDCA Secretary with updated information regarding key club officials, including President, Treasurer, Secretary, Junior Representative, Female Representative, Child Safety Officer, and Online Competition Management Platform Administrator. This information should include names, phone numbers, email addresses for the current season, and details of grounds in use.
- 4.2. **Meeting Attendance:** Clubs are required to ensure representation at all LDCA meetings upon request. Failure to have a delegate present will result in a fine of \$500.
- 4.3. **Insurance Requirement:** Before the start of the season, clubs must register online with Marsh and download their "**Certificate of Currency**" for insurance purposes.
- 4.4. **Alcohol and Drug Policy:** It is strictly prohibited to sell, consume, or trade alcohol or drugs at any sanctioned LDCA Junior Game or Junior training. Breaches will result in suspensions upon proven charges.
- 4.5. **Score Reporting:** The Club Committee is responsible for accurately entering all scores, including those of junior fixtured games, on the Competition Management Platform. Fines will be imposed for failure to lodge scores, incorrect entries, or omission of important details.
- 4.6. **Umpiring Protocol:** In matches where only one LDCA umpire is appointed, clubs must provide a competent square-leg umpire (minimum age 16) during the batting innings. This individual must possess a ball counter and appropriate footwear. Failure to comply will result in a \$20 fine per day.
- 4.7. **Captain's Report:** Club Committees must ensure that captains complete a captain's report, available on the Competition Management Platform. Captains are encouraged to provide constructive feedback regarding umpires' decision-making, consistency, confidence, and knowledge of rules. Offensive reports will be referred to the LDCA Committee (COM) for investigation. The report must be submitted by noon of the day following the game; failure to do so will result in a \$40 fine.

Note: Ratings in the captain's report are on a scale of 1 to 5 (1-Poor, 2-Fair, 3-Satisfactory, 4-Good, 5-Very Good/Excellent).

5. Child Safety Officer:

5.1. Child Safety Officer:

- 5.1.1. All affiliated Clubs within the Association must appoint a Child Safety Officer. This individual will serve as the primary contact for safeguarding children and young people within the club.
- 5.1.2. The duties and responsibilities of the Child Safety Officer are outlined in detail on the Cricket Victoria website under the "Child Safety & Member Protection" section.
- 5.1.3. It is mandatory for these Officers to hold a current Working with Children Check Registration.
- 5.1.4. Clubs are required to provide full details of their appointed Child Safety Officer to the LDCA Secretary annually, along with all relevant documentation.

5.2. Working with Children Check (WWCC):

- 5.2.1. In addition to the Child Safety Officer, clubs are encouraged to ensure that all committee members, coaches, and team managers hold a current Working with Children Check.
- 5.2.2. Having all relevant personnel possess a valid WWCC enhances the club's commitment to child safety and protection.

6. Home Clubs Afternoon Tea and Drinks:

- 6.1. Home Clubs are accountable for supplying afternoon tea for all Home and Away matches across all grades (excluding juniors).
- 6.2. Each club is expected to provide drinks for its own players.
- 6.3. The scheduling of drink breaks will be determined through mutual agreement between captains and umpires.
- 6.4. During drink breaks, players are encouraged to remain on the playing surface unless authorised by the umpire. Players may leave the field during drink breaks with the umpire's approval.
- 6.5. Drink breaks should be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes.
- 6.6. **Player Welfare:**
 - 6.6.1. Clubs providing shared food or refreshments (e.g. afternoon tea or post-match meals) must ensure all items are safe for general consumption. Food must not contain ingredients likely to cause harm, significant discomfort, or distress if consumed unknowingly—this includes extreme spices, or additives intended to provoke a reaction
 - 6.6.2. Breaches of this By-Law will be referred to the LDCA COM. Penalties may include:
 - Fines to the offending Club
 - Match bans for individuals involved
 - Review of the match result if player welfare was compromised

7. Player Registration:

- 7.1. All players, both seniors and juniors, are required to register through the Competition Management Platform before being eligible to participate in matches.
- 7.2. It is recommended that players register by September 1st, if possible, as this ensures coverage under the club's insurance for training sessions.
- 7.3. Registrations must include the player's full name, date of birth, email, address, and contact phone number.
- 7.4. Player registration is open from August 1st until the commencement of the LDCA Final Series in the current season.
- 7.5. Transfer lodgment begins on August 1st and ends on February 1st of the following year.
- 7.6. **Penalties for Non-compliance:**
 - 7.6.1. Any club fielding an unregistered player in any grade, a player registered under an incorrect name, a player with an incorrect date of birth, or a player not recorded on the team sheet will forfeit all points earned in any game that the ineligible player participates in. The club will also incur a \$100 fine for each offence, with the opposing team awarded maximum points in the affected grade for the rounds involved.
 - 7.6.2. **Fill-in players** are limited to one game per season. If a fill-in player participates in more than one game, they must complete full registration. Playing a fill-in player in a second game without full registration will be treated as playing an unregistered player, per By-Law 7.6.1. Additionally, it should be noted that fill-in players are only covered by insurance for their first game and are not insured for subsequent appearances as fill-ins.
 - 7.6.3. Clubs fielding a player under suspension will be fined \$200 and forfeit all points earned in any matches involving the suspended player. The opposing team will be awarded maximum points in their grade for the rounds involved.

8. Cancel or Review Registrations:

- 8.1. The LDCA COM retains the authority to review and/or cancel any registration at any time. However, this action will only be taken after the player and/or club involved have been given the opportunity to present their case through delegates at a meeting convened for this purpose.
- 8.2. **Permit Procedures:** The displayed lodgment of a player registration via the Competition Management Platform may be subject to permit procedures to ascertain a successful and binding registration with another club.
- 8.3. **Automatic Deregistration:** A player who has not participated in any LDCA game for the last two seasons will be automatically deregistered. Such players are eligible to register with another club within the LDCA without needing to obtain a transfer. Confirmation of participation records can be accessed on the old MyCricket site under the player's name.
- 8.4. **Special Circumstances:** Players from disqualified clubs or clubs that have gone into recess may apply for permission to play with another club within the LDCA. Approval from the LDCA COM is required, and a transfer must be submitted.

- 8.5. **Special Playing Permits:** The LDCA COM reserves the authority to grant special playing permits, notwithstanding any provisions in these By-Laws regarding a player's eligibility.

9. Grade Transfer Restrictions:

- 9.1. A player who has last played in a club's 1st XI during the current or previous season can only play in the club's next lowest team. This restriction applies down to C2. In essence, a player can only move to the club's next lowest team in the LDCA Competition from which they last played a game in the previous or current season. Clubs deemed to be abusing this rule may be required to provide an explanation for their decision.
- 9.2. **Ineligibility due to Higher Grade Participation:** If a player has played their last five (5) matches during the current or previous season in a higher grade, they become ineligible to play in the next lower grade when their club's higher grade team has a bye or forfeit.
- 9.2.1. Additionally, players in their first year in the LDCA are not eligible to play in a lower grade when a higher grade team has a bye or forfeit.
- 9.2.2. All junior players playing in B or C grades are exempt from dropping to lower grades if their regular team has a bye. This would still only allow the player to drop the club's next lowest team as per usual player selection rules.
- 9.3. **Penalties for Non-compliance:** Any club fielding an ineligible player will forfeit all points gained in any game that the ineligible player participates in and will be fined \$100 for each offence. The opposing team will be awarded maximum points in the affected grade for the rounds involved.

10. LDCA Representative Cricket:

- 10.1. Any player who is displaced from a team due to selection for an LDCA, Cricket Victoria, Gippsland Cricket, or VCCL sanctioned cricket match/event (excluding Premier Cricket) can be replaced by ANY registered LDCA player from within their registered club, provided they are from an equal grade or lower.
- 10.2. The principles and provisions of By-Law 10.1 apply to allow consequential replacements from all club elevens.
- 10.3. If a player declares themselves unavailable for an LDCA, Cricket Victoria, Gippsland Cricket, or VCCL sanctioned cricket match after being selected in the final squad, they are prohibited from playing for their club on the day of that representative match. Any breach of this By-Law will result in a fine of \$200 imposed on the player's club.

11. Overseas Player Requirements:

- 11.1. **Definition of an Overseas Player:** An Overseas Player is defined as a person from a country other than Australia/New Zealand who is not naturalised and is not a Permanent Resident in Australia/New Zealand.
- 11.2. **Player Limitations:** Each LDCA Club is permitted to field a maximum of two (2) Overseas Players in any given match of the LDCA Home and Away Games, including all finals, within a single season.

- 11.2.1. Clubs are allowed to replace an Overseas Player if they depart the Club for any reason during the season.
- 11.2.2. Clubs must ensure that any Overseas player participating in the LDCA Competition is not under suspension in any cricket competition.
- 11.3. **Exclusion Criteria:** An Overseas Player who has competed for three (3) seasons in the LDCA Association is not considered an Overseas Player in their fourth season with the LDCA.
- 11.4. **Notification and Compliance:** Clubs are required to inform the LDCA Secretary of all their Overseas Players across all grades by completing the online **Overseas Players form**.
- 11.4.1. Clubs must ensure compliance with all quarantine rules applicable to both countries involved.
- 11.4.2. A player cannot participate in a game until the Overseas Player notification is submitted at least 24 hours before the match commences. Failure to comply will result in the club being referred to the LDCA COM for appropriate penalty assessment.

12. Transfers:

- 12.1. **General Transfer Procedures:** Any player moving from one LDCA Club to another LDCA Club, including juniors, must submit a transfer application and register online with their new LDCA Club before participating in matches.
- 12.1.1. A player who has played with an LDCA Club during the previous two cricket seasons must first obtain a transfer before playing with another LDCA Club.
- 12.1.2. Transfer applications may only be submitted online between **August 1st and February 1st** of the current season. Clubs must also consider the dates of any other GCL Association involved in the transfer.
- 12.1.3. Applications may be granted until **midnight on February 11th**, provided the first transfer application was submitted before February 1st.
- 12.1.4. Before approving any transfer, clubs must check **unfinancial player statements** to ensure the player has no outstanding debts or equipment owed to their current club.
- 12.1.5. For assistance with transfer procedures, refer to the **Competition Management Platform online help section**.
- 12.2. **Transfer Application Process:** Transfer applications are to be made via the Competition Management Platform online "Transfers & Permits" section.
- 12.2.1. The applicant's club must inform the player's current club of the lodged transfer. The current club then has five (5) days to respond to the transfer application.
- 12.2.2. All clubs involved must notify the applicant's club within 24 hours of lodging the electronic transfer application, and the player's current club must acknowledge the notification within the same 24-hour period. If there is no response from the player's current club after five (5) days, the player will be automatically transferred to the applicant's club.

- 12.3. **Appeals Process:** If two transfer applications are refused in the same season, the player has the right to appeal to the Independent Tribunal through the LDCA COM. The defending club must receive seven (7) days' notice of the intended Tribunal Hearing by the LDCA COM. A \$500 Bond is required for an appeal to proceed.
- 12.4. **Unfinancial Players:** Any club wishing to declare a player **unfinancial** must notify the LDCA Secretary in writing by **August 1st** each year, listing all players with outstanding fees, subscriptions, fines, or equipment owed to the club.
- 12.4.1. The same unfinancial list must also be sent to the **GCL Region 7 Secretary** by **August 7th**.
- 12.4.2. A player listed as unfinancial cannot be transferred to another LDCA Club or play in another Region 7 Association until the debt is cleared.
- 12.4.3. Late lodgement of unfinancial statements after August 1st removes the LDCA's authority to hold up a transfer on financial grounds.
- 12.5. **Special Cases and Exceptions:** Players who have not played for at least the last two seasons with an LDCA Club do not need a transfer. Confirmation of the player's history is available on the Competition Management Platform.
- 12.5.1. The LDCA COM is empowered to grant special playing transfers, notwithstanding anything in the By-Laws regarding a player's eligibility.
- 12.6. **Transfers from Other Associations within Region 7:** Existing LDCA registered players who play in another Association in the current season may return to play in the LDCA once during the current season. However, if coming from a Region 7 Association, a transfer is required and must be responded to within five (5) days.
- 12.7. **Region 7 Transfer Rules:** Transfers are required for all players who wish to transfer from one Association Club to another Association Club in Region 7 if the player has played in the Region 7 Association in the previous or current season.
- 12.7.1. A fine of \$200 applies to associations that do not comply with Region 7 transfer procedures.
- 12.7.2. Any player found to be a party to a breach of the transfer rules shall be suspended for two full playing weekends at both Association and Region levels if they have crossed from one Association to the other without a transfer during the same season.

13. Permits:

- 13.1. **Season Permits:** Season permits allow a player to participate for additional clubs in a competition season over a specified date range. Eligibility criteria for a season permit request include:
- 13.1.1. Season permits must be enabled for the tenant.
- 13.1.2. The player has registered for the season or an additional season has been configured by the tenant admin.
- 13.1.3. The player does not have a life ban.

- 13.1.4. The player has not already registered for the same club or competition/season.
- 13.1.5. The player has not already been permitted to the club or competition/season.
- 13.2. **Game Day Permits:** Game day permits, found on the Live Scoring App, enable a player who has not registered with your club for the current competition season to play a single game for your club in that competition season.
- 13.3. **Junior Permits:** A registered junior player whose home club lacks a junior team in their age group may play for another LDCA Club junior team in their age group with the home club's permission and LDCA COM approval. This requires a Season Permit.
- 13.4. **Over-Age Junior Permits:** All over-age junior permits must be approved by the LDCA Junior COM and confirmed by the LDCA COM. Applications must be in writing and include last year's statistics. The Junior COM, together with the LDCA COM, will review all over-age permit players match by match and have the power to withdraw a permit if they deem their statistics in an LDCA Fixtures Match to have broken/exceeded expectations at that level.
- 13.5. **Inter-Association Movement:** LDCA players under 18 years old as of September 1st of the season can move between the LDCA and Victorian Premier Cricket / Victorian Sub District at any time with a permit and must email the LDCA secretary of their movements.
- 13.6. **Temporary Players:** Any player aged 18 and above, who has predominantly played junior cricket within the LDCA before transitioning to Victorian Premier Cricket or Victorian Sub-District Cricket (1st or 2nd Grade only), is eligible to play for the LDCA club where they played the majority of their junior cricket at any point during the season, provided they are available for selection in an LDCA home and away game.
- 13.6.1. The player is restricted to participating in A1 or A2 standard cricket, unless granted approval by the LDCA Committee.
- 13.6.2. In terms of finals eligibility, the player must meet the minimum qualifying requirements established by the LDCA, along with participating in an additional 2 days of cricket. Additionally, the player must not have played more than 50% of their total regular season games outside of the LDCA to be eligible for finals participation.
- 13.7. **Exemptions and Special Circumstances:** Players who have only played in Victorian Premier Cricket / Victorian Sub District 3rd and 4th elevens in the current season are exempt from LDCA By-Law 13.6.
- 13.7.1. Former LDCA U18 players now playing in Victorian Premier Cricket / Victorian Sub District may represent the LDCA in GCL, YPL, and Country Week Games without a transfer.
- 13.8. **Guest Players and Restrictions:** An LDCA registered player may play as a guest player in other competitions, provided it does not clash with LDCA competitions and is permitted by both Associations.
- 13.8.1. A player registered with a club outside the LDCA may not play on permit for any LDCA Club during the last three (3) rounds of the LDCA Home and Away current cricket season.

13.9. **Special Permits:** Notwithstanding anything in these By-Laws regarding a player's eligibility, the LDCA COM is empowered to grant special playing permits.

14. Ladder & Premiership Points:

14.1. **Method of Deciding a Premiership:** If two or more teams earn equal points at the conclusion of the Home and Away matches, the exact position of such clubs will be determined by calculating team percentages.

14.2. **Percentage Calculation:** $\text{Percentage} = (\text{Runs Scored} \div \text{Runs Against}) \div (\text{Wickets Taken} \div \text{Wickets Lost})$

14.3. **Semi-Finals:** Semi-final matches will be based on ladder positions: the first team will face the fourth team, and the second team will play against the third team.

14.4. **Grand Final:** The winners of both Semi-Finals will meet in the Grand Final to determine the ultimate Premiership winner.

14.5. Premiership Points:

14.5.1. The Premiership ladder will be calculated based on points awarded during home and away matches as follows:

Two-Day Games:

Won Outright & Won First Innings - **20pts**

Won Outright & Tie First Innings - **16pts**

Won Outright & Loss First Innings - **12pts**

Tie Outright & Win First Innings - **12pts**

Tie Outright - **10pts**

Tie Outright & Loss First Innings - **8pts**

Lost Outright & Won First Innings - **8pts**

Lost Outright & Tie First Innings - **4pts**

Lost Outright & Lost First Innings - **0pts**

Won First Innings - **12pts**

Tie First Innings - **6pts**

Lost First Innings - **0pts**

Draw - **6pts**

Forfeit Win - **12pts**

Forfeit Loss - **0pts**

No Result - **6pts**

Cancelled - **6pts**

BYE - **0pts**

One-Day Games:

Win - **12pts**

Loss - **0pts**

Tie - **6pts**

Forfeit Win - **12pts**

Forfeit Loss - **0pts**

No Result - **6pts**

Cancelled - **6pts**

Bye - **0pts**

- 14.6. **BYE:** If the fixture includes a bye for all teams in a particular grade or if all teams have an equal number of byes, no points will be allocated for the bye or equal byes.
- 14.6.1. A team experiencing a second bye, or in cases where not all teams have a bye, will receive twelve (12) points.
- 14.7. **Competition Ladder Adjustment:** At the end of each season, the LDCA COM will adjust the competition ladder according to the LDCA competition rules.
- 14.8. **Protests and Infringements:** Any team awarded a match due to a successful protest or infringement of the By-Laws will receive the highest maximum points in the rounds and grades where the infringement/s occurred.
- 14.9. **Walk-Offs and Forfeits:** Walk-offs and forfeits will result in the awarding of first innings match points only, totaling twelve (12) points in all LDCA Matches, including Juniors.

15. Change of Date / Venue of a scheduled Home and Away match:

- 15.1. Any two teams wishing to change the date or venue of their Home and Away match must submit a written application to the LDCA COM. This application must be received by the COM at least 30 days prior to the proposed changes. However, if the change of venue is necessitated by adverse conditions, the 30-day period is waived.
- 15.2. The home club must inform both the COM and the umpire of the change at the time the decision is made. The COM reserves the right to alter the 30-day request period if necessary.
- 15.3. Additionally, the COM has the authority to change the venue or date of a game if deemed necessary.

16. Club unable to play a match (including juniors):

- 16.1. If a club is unable or refuses to play a match or any part thereof, they must notify the LDCA Secretary, Wet Weather Contact (if due to weather), the opposition team, and the umpire no later than 8:00 pm on the day before play is scheduled to commence.
- 16.2. A minimum fine of fifty dollars (\$50) will be imposed if a side forfeits. Umpire's phone numbers can be found on the LDCA website and in the Yellow Book.
- 16.3. If the forfeit occurs after the specified time, the same contacts must be notified as above. In addition to the fine, the team will be subject to disciplinary action by the LDCA COM, which may include additional fines at their discretion. The club shall forfeit its lowest grade/aged side, unless approved by the COM.
- 16.4. All forfeits must be entered online through the Competition Management Platform and confirmed.

17. Forfeit Time (not including Juniors):

- 17.1. For a day's play to commence, both teams must have a minimum of six registered club players listed on the Competition Management Platform in appropriate attire present at the scheduled ground at the scheduled start time. Some allowances will be made for players held up with junior commitments, a player on Emergency Services duty, or an accident involving either team.
- 17.2. After fifteen (15) minutes, the captains and umpire can agree to a later start if the above applies to late players. If this is not applicable to either side and is a result of a side having fewer than six players, a team refusing to take the field, or a team leaving the venue in an unauthorized manner, then the game shall be awarded to the opposing team.
- 17.3. In the absence of an umpire, all circumstances must be reported by both sides to the LDCA secretary via email on the day of the match for an LDCA COM decision on the match, the result, and the points that will be awarded.
- 17.4. If LDCA umpires are present, they must advise the LDCA secretary (or the umpires adviser in the secretary's absence) of the events that occurred and the steps they took in the decision to award the game against the offending side. The match will be referred to the LDCA COM for confirmation of the decision made by the umpires or any appropriate changes necessary to rulings and the penalties applicable against the offending club.
- 17.5. All LDCA clubs must forfeit their lowest team in any senior grade. This principle also applies in junior competitions before forfeiting a team in a higher grade (i.e., clubs must forfeit C Grade before A Grade). No exceptions. Clubs can request a decision from the junior committee to be exempt from this By-Law, especially if younger-aged players are involved.

18. Competition Management Platform Requirements:

Match requirements for clubs, lodging of scores, match & captains reports for all games, plus scorebook requirements (in all grades and juniors) including timeframes are as follows:

- 18.1. **Electronic Scoring (fine of \$50 applied by the COM if clubs do not adhere to By-Law):** All Clubs are required to electronically score all games for senior grades. The home team will conduct the scoring of the games electronically (ca.score.playhq.com) and the away team will continue to use the scorebooks. Umpires and captains will sign off on the game in the Away Team's scorebook. The score should be updated on the Competition Management Platform by 12 am at the end of the day's play. Clubs must ensure scores are balanced and all entries (catches, run outs, etc.) are completed before closing the game.
- 18.2. **Team Assignment / Official Team List:** The team selected in PlayHQ is the official LDCA team list for the match. Each club must enter its team in PlayHQ before the match and confirm the final team as part of the scoring process. A duplicate handwritten team list in the scorebook is not required.

- 18.2.1. The captain and wicket-keeper must be identified in PlayHQ. Captains must also identify all junior players and advise the umpires and scorers of any applicable age, bowling, batting or participation restrictions before play.
- 18.2.2. Junior players must be clearly identifiable in PlayHQ and their relevant restrictions communicated to the umpires and scorers before the match.
- 18.2.3. Umpires may request a written team list where reasonably required to confirm player identities, junior restrictions or designated player roles. The PlayHQ-selected team remains the official team list.
- 18.2.4. Deadline for Team Lists: The final team must be entered in PlayHQ before the match commences and confirmed as part of the scoring process. Existing penalties for failing to enter the required team information may be applied by the LDCA COM.
- 18.3. **Match Results:** Match results MUST be entered by the home team prior to the scorecard being entered online. They must be entered no later than midnight (including Saturday & Sunday matches) on the day of play, including all finals games.
- 18.4. **Confirming Game:** All match results must be confirmed by the opposing team entering the results. This must be done no later than 12 Noon Sunday after the first day's play and 12 Noon Sunday after the match is completed. If the match is played on Sunday it will be done by 8 PM. Away teams can enter the match result if the clubs agree.
- 18.5. **Entering Player Scores:** Both the home team and away team enter the scorecard (including catches, stumpings, runouts, etc.) after entering match results. Player scores, both home and away teams, must be entered by 12 noon Sunday after the first day's play and by 12 Noon Sunday after the match is completed. If the match is played on Sunday it will be done by 8 PM.
- 18.6. **Penalties:** Any Club/Team not submitting the match result, not entering teams or the player scorecard online (including catches, stumpings, and runout details etc.) on the Competition Management Platform by the stipulated times will be fined \$20 per offence.
- 18.7. **Captain's Reports:** Captain's Reports must be completed by both captains in all grades. They MUST be entered no later than 12 Noon Sunday after the final day's play. If any captain does not submit a captain's report on the Competition Management Platform by the stipulated time, the clubs will be fined \$40 for each report that is late.

19. Protests and Disputes:

- 19.1. **Initiating Disputes:** If either team encounters an error, disagrees with the scorecard or result, or has difficulty in completing the scorecard, they must press the dispute button on the Competition Management Platform or contact Brendon Thomas, LDCA Score Secretary (0437 930 851).
- 19.2. **Timeline for Disputes:** All protests and disputes must be submitted in writing or via email to the LDCA secretary no later than 6.00 pm on the Wednesday following the match or the day of the incident (if the first day of a two-day game).
- 19.3. **Notification of Incidents:** Captains/Clubs have the right to notify the LDCA COM of any incident that warrants an investigation. This can be detailed in the captain's report on

umpires in the incident section. The LDCA secretary must also be notified of any incident, especially if it occurs on day one of a two-day match.

- 19.4. **Handling Scorebook Disputes:** Scorebooks in dispute must be given to an LDCA representative at the match or the appointed umpire. If no umpire is present, both clubs must take a photograph of the scorebooks and send/deliver them to the LDCA Secretary for verification. In instances of disputes, the dispute button on the Competition Management Platform should be pressed.
- 19.5. **Submission of Match Results:** In all matches affected by adverse conditions, a match result (with reasons entered for non-completion of the day/game) and players' scorecards (if applicable) must be submitted and confirmed online on the Competition Management Platform by both teams. Fines apply if this is not done.
- 19.6. **Verification of Scorebooks:** Both scorebooks at the end of each day's play must be reconciled, verified, and signed by each captain or their authorised deputy, as well as signed off by the officiating umpire. Both captains must reconcile and agree to the totals at each break. A fine of \$20 will apply if these checks are not completed.
- 19.7. **Finality of Results:** Once scorebooks have been signed by both captains, the result is binding and final, unless there has been a breach of LDCA By-Laws.
- 19.8. **Notification of Breaches:** In instances where a club has infringed the MCC Laws or By-Laws of the LDCA and there is a possibility of a premiership points deduction, the club must be notified in writing by the LDCA within fifteen (15) business days of the infringement being reported. The notification should state the offence and the closing date for any reply over the incident.
- 19.9. **Disputed Scores:** In the event of a dispute arising over the scores, this will be noted and entered as a disputed score on the Competition Management Platform when submitting the match scorecards online.

20. All Grounds:

- 20.1. **Home Team Responsibilities:** The home team is responsible for preparing the ground and pitch to ensure all aspects of the ground are safe for cricket, including the wicket, ground surface, boundaries, markings, and coned areas. For A Grade Matches and T20 games, the home club must mark a circle 30 meters from the wicket. Sawdust should be available, and captains and umpires should confirm the ground's safety.
- 20.2. **Turf Pitches:** The preparation of turf pitches is the responsibility of the respective curators of the home club. Turf pitches must be covered by 8.00 PM on the day prior to each day's play unless rain is forecast earlier. The home club/curator is responsible for ensuring covers are in place if adverse conditions occur on the morning of the game. During the game, both teams are responsible for covering the pitch under the direction of the umpire/s, with priority given to preserving the pitch for Senior Cricket.

- 20.3. **Failure to Cover Turf Pitch:** Failure to cover the turf pitch, unless due to unforeseen circumstances, may result in the home side losing the game and the points being awarded to the opposition if the dispute is upheld. Umpires are to detail events in their report, and both clubs must report the situation initially on the captain's report and then in writing to the LDCA secretary.
- 20.4. **A Grade:** For cricket clubs that do not have a turf pitch in A Grade, a fee of \$100 per day of cricket is to be paid for Home & Away fixtures held on turf pitches. This cost is to be covered by the away team clubs, who will make the payment to the home team. Turf clubs are required to report to the LDCA treasurer which clubs have played on their turf. The LDCA treasurer will oversee these financial transactions. Invoicing and payment collection will occur at two key points during the season: once at the halfway mark and again at the end of the season, ensuring all payments are tracked and managed efficiently.
- 20.5. **Ground Usage Fees:** Clubs using grounds other than their designated home ground must pay a fee to the home club or association. The fee is \$50 for a Synthetic pitch or \$100 for a Turf Pitch per match.
- 20.6. **Maintenance of Facilities:** Clubs using other club facilities are responsible for ensuring grounds and rooms are left clean. Penalties may apply if this is not adhered to.
- 20.7. **Boundary Markings:** Boundaries must be marked or coned a minimum of 1.5 meters from obstacles or posts. Captains and umpires must confirm boundaries, especially if cones are used.
- 20.8. **Consistent Conditions:** Clubs are encouraged to maintain consistent conditions from week to week, especially in two-day matches.
- 20.9. **Pitch Markings:** Home clubs must ensure all pitch markings are well-defined for each day's play, and marking equipment must be available if required. Umpires shall advise the home club captain of any poor pitch markings on synthetic pitches and include these comments in their umpire's report.

21. Substitutes & Runners:

- 21.1. **Substitution Inheritances:** Substitutes in cricket inherit any suspension or penalty of the player they replace in the current innings. They cannot bat if the player they replace has already batted in the same innings.
- 21.2. **Emergency Services Substitutes:** In cases where a player is called away for Emergency Services, a suitably attired substitute will be granted for fielding by the opposing side captain and umpire. Upon return, the player can resume bowling immediately or resume their innings if batting, possibly at the fall of the next wicket.
- 21.3. **Other Substitutes:** A player injured on the field, late from a junior match, or involved in a car accident en route to the ground can be replaced on the field with a substitute fielder with the umpire's approval, in consultation with the opposition captain.
- 21.4. **Maximum Penalty Time:** A player leaving the field for rest cannot bat or bowl for the duration they are off the field, up to a maximum of ninety (90) minutes.

- 21.5. **Late Arrival of Bowlers:** Bowlers arriving late to the game must wait 30 minutes to bowl if their side is bowling. If less than 30 minutes late, they must wait an equivalent time before bowling.
- 21.6. **Late Arrival of Batters:** Batters arriving late due to junior cricket duties or emergency service duties can resume their innings at the fall of the next wicket or retirement.
- 21.7. **Injured Bowlers:** In the event of an injured or suspended bowler unable to complete an over, they can be replaced, and the replacement bowler can complete the over.
- 21.8. **One-Day or T20 Games:** In limited-overs games, each bowler's part of the over counts as an over, regardless of interruptions.
- 21.9. **Substitute Fielders in Finals:** In finals, substitute fielders must be registered members of the club and eligible to play in the grade they are fielding or a lower grade.
- 21.10. **Runner Provision:** A runner is allowed by the umpire if a batter is injured and their ability to run is affected while batting.
- 21.11. **Replacement Player on the Second Day:** A replacement player for a player on Emergency Services on the second day of a match must be from the club's next lowest team. If the lowest team is B or C Grade, the replacement will be a nonparticipant in the round. In finals, the replacement player must be a qualified player in each grade and available on day one of the finals.
- 21.12. **Penalties for Breach:** Any breach of these regulations incurs penalties, with a fine of \$100 for each offence. Oppositions gain maximum points in the grade for the rounds involved.

22. LDCA Players Averages and Trophies including Qualifications:

- 22.1. **Eligibility for Batting Trophy:** To be eligible for the batting trophy, a batter must bat in at least six (6) matches in one grade.
- 22.1.1. In A Grade, the batter must score a minimum of 400 runs.
- 22.1.2. In B Grade, the batter must score a minimum of 350 runs.
- 22.1.3. In C Grade, the batter must score a minimum of 300 runs.
- 22.2. **Eligibility for Bowling Trophy:** To be eligible for the bowling trophy, a bowler must bowl in at least six (6) matches in one grade.
- 22.2.1. In A Grade, the bowler must take a minimum of 25 wickets.
- 22.2.2. In B Grade, the bowler must take a minimum of 20 wickets.
- 22.2.3. In C Grade, the bowler must take a minimum of 20 wickets.
- 22.3. **LDCA COM Discretion:** The LDCA COM has the discretion to vary qualification and trophy decisions in any grade.

22.4. Clubs send their best Bat, Bowler and COTY to the league to cross check against league records. If awards are close, then a manual calculation takes place to be sure of the correct winner.

22.5. **Note on Abandoned Fixtures:** In the event of any set of fixtures for any grade(s) being completely abandoned by the Association, match eligibility will be reduced by one match.

22.5.1. Match eligibility will not be reduced to fewer than 5 matches by these provisions.

23. Cricketer of the Year Trophy:

23.1. **Eligibility for CotY Trophy:** To be eligible for the CotY (Cricketer of the Year) trophy, a player must have played in at least six (6) matches in one Grade.

23.2. **Calculation Method:**

23.2.1. Each Grade will be calculated on a points system based on player performances.

23.2.2. Points will be awarded as follows:

- 1 point for each run scored
- 15 points for each wicket taken
- 5 points for each stumping and catch

Note: No points will be awarded for runouts.

24. Team of the Year:

24.1. The LDCA COM will select a Team of the Year for each grade. The team will comprise the following players:

- Winner of the Cricketer of the Year Award
- Wicket-Keeper with the most dismissals
- Five top run scorers
- Four top wicket takers

This totals to 11 players in each Team of the Year.

24.2. **Note:** In cases where a player qualifies for multiple categories (batting, bowling, and/or wicket-keeping), the LDCA COM will decide on the nomination for inclusion in the Team of the Year.

25. Misbehaviour by Players & Club and LDCA Officials including Umpires:

25.1. **General Procedures for Handling Offences: LDCA Code of Behaviours**

25.1.1. Incidents occurring before, during, or after a match, including the interval, are citable and reportable.

25.1.2. Umpire reports or citing the player/official at the time of the incident.

25.1.3. LDCA Secretary and Umpires Match Reports Officer are notified within 24 hours.

25.1.4. LDCA Executive decides on further action, which may include forming a tribunal or forwarding the matter to the Committee of Management.

25.1.5. Two citings within two seasons result in an automatic one-match suspension.

25.2. LDCA Code of Behaviour Offences and Penalties:

25.2.1. Level 1 Offences:

1. Failure to follow umpire's instruction/s.
2. Abuse of cricket equipment, clothing, or physical property.
3. Abusive language and/or making an obscene gesture towards an opponent or club official.
4. Excessively appealing.
5. Comments or actions directed to/or about a player, which are designed to distract or insult.

25.2.1.1. **Penalties for Level 1 Offences:**

- **Yellow Card:** Results in a citing.
- **Red Card:** Results in a one-match suspension penalty.

25.2.2. Level 2 Offences:

1. Disputing an umpire's decision by word, action, or mannerism.
2. Aggressively advancing towards an umpire when appealing.
3. Kicking or knocking stumps over following an umpire's decision.
4. The captain failed to control his players after a warning.
5. Deliberate physical contact with another player or umpire during a match day.
6. Racial vilification.

25.2.2.1. **Penalties for Level 2 Offences:**

- **Red Card:** Moderate offence results in a one-match suspension penalty. Severe offence results in a two-match suspension penalty.
- **Offences 5-6:** Automatic tribunal hearing.

25.3. **Note:** All cases of abuse towards umpires are expected to be reported.

25.4. LDCA COM reserves the right to investigate any incident or media violations, even without a formal report or citing.

25.5. The LDCA COM can issue fines, suspensions, and/or dismissals based on investigation outcomes.

26. Intoxicating Liquor, Drugs and Smoking:

26.1. Players/Teams:

- 26.1.1. Any player or team found to be under the influence of or partaking in liquor, illicit drugs, or smoking in the playing area will be reported to the umpire(s), captain, or LDCA official.
- 26.1.2. Incidents will be reported to the LDCA secretary and handled by the LDCA COM, which may involve tribunal proceedings.

26.2. Umpires:

- 26.2.1. Any umpire considered to be under the influence of liquor, illicit drugs, or smoking during a match they are appointed to will be reported by the second umpire, captain, or LDCA official, including the umpire adviser.
- 26.2.2. Incidents involving umpires will also be reported to the LDCA secretary and dealt with by the LDCA COM, potentially leading to tribunal proceedings.

26.3. Junior Games and Training:

- 26.3.1. Clubs must ensure that alcohol, illicit drugs, or smoking are not sold or allowed to be consumed at any sanctioned LDCA junior game or junior training session.
- 26.4. These policies are aimed at maintaining a safe and professional environment for all participants and upholding the integrity of LDCA competitions.

27. Clothing:

- 27.1. Clubs are permitted to display club or sponsor logos on their clothing, subject to approval by the players' club.
- 27.2. Designs should be conservative to ensure they do not obstruct players' ability or hinder visibility of the ball during batting or bowling.
- 27.3. The LDCA reserves the right to veto any design that is deemed problematic or potentially disruptive to the game.

28. Footwear:

- 28.1. **Turf Pitch Matches:** Players are permitted to wear spiked or studded footwear while batting, bowling, or keeping wickets on turf pitches.
- 28.2. **Synthetic Pitch Matches:** Spiked or studded footwear is prohibited while batting, bowling, or keeping wickets on synthetic pitches.
 - 28.2.1. Players found in violation of this rule will be reported in writing to the LDCA secretary by the umpire or either captain if no umpire is appointed. Reports must be submitted by the Wednesday following the incident or match.
- 28.3. **Fielding:** Studded or spiked footwear can be worn by players while fielding in any match.

29. Juniors Playing Senior Cricket:

- 29.1. **Applicability of Senior By-Laws:** All LDCA Under 15's and 17's players participating in senior cricket matches will play under Senior By-Laws.
- 29.2. **Helmet Regulations:** All players under 18 years as of September 1st in the current season must wear a helmet when batting or wicket-keeping.
 - 29.2.1. Wicket-keepers aged 16 or older as of September 1st in the current season may obtain a written exemption from their parent or guardian to not wear a helmet while standing back as a wicket-keeper. This exemption applies only to players aged 16 to Under 18. The LDCA signed form for exemption must be available at the ground for the umpire/s to sight ([Form available on LDCA Website](#)).
- 29.3. **Bowling Regulations for Juniors:** Junior bowlers (under 15 and 17) can bowl eight overs in a spell, whether fast or spin.
 - 29.3.1. After each spell of bowling, junior bowlers must have a thirty (30) minute break before returning to bowl.
 - 29.3.2. Part overs count as a full over bowled for each bowler. However, part overs count only as one over in the total team overs bowled.
- 29.4. **Bowling Limits for Junior Players:** If a junior player (under 15 and 17) has bowled in a junior match on the morning of the senior match, they are limited to 12 overs for the day or 16 overs if they have not bowled in a match earlier that day.
 - 29.4.1. Both teams (including scorers) are responsible for ensuring that junior bowlers do not exceed their bowling limits, with the captain of the bowler's side having final responsibility. Fines may apply for violations.
- 29.5. **Bouncer Regulations:** Clubs must take notice of a junior's batting ability against the bowling.
 - 29.5.1. No bouncers are allowed to be bowled to Under 15 juniors. If a bouncer occurs, it should be called and signalled as a No Ball.

30. Umpires:

- 30.1. **Qualification and Responsibilities:** Umpires are members of the LDCA Umpires Panel or individuals conscripted by the LDCA to officiate LDCA or GCL fixture games or special matches approved by the LDCA.
 - 30.1.1. Umpires must umpire according to the MCC Laws of Cricket 2017 Code (4th Edition – 2026) and the LDCA By-Laws for the current season.
 - 30.1.2. They are expected to work with clubs, captains, and the square leg umpire during games, fulfil LDCA requests, and complete necessary documentation.
- 30.2. **Payment Schedule:** Payment varies depending on the grade and type of game:
 - 30.2.1. A Grade: \$180 per day (Home and Away), \$200 per day (Finals)
 - 30.2.2. B Grade: \$160 per day (Home and Away), \$160 per day (Finals)

30.2.3. C Grade: \$150 per day (Home and Away), \$150 per day (Finals)

30.2.4. Mid-Week T/20's: \$90 per game (Paid on the Day)

30.2.5. Junior games payment will be as approved.

30.2.6. Payments can vary for games involving adverse conditions.

30.3. Umpire Duties:

30.3.1. Umpires are required to complete a Match Report for each Home and Away Game, excluding Finals or Junior Games.

30.3.2. Reports should include Time Lost, Overs Completed, Interruptions, Adverse Conditions, Umpires' details, and any additional comments.

30.3.3. Umpires must report any incidents of racial vilification they hear in a match within 24 hours to the LDCA secretary and Umpires Adviser.

30.4. Match Interruptions and Umpire Replacement:

30.4.1. In the event of an appointed umpire becoming incapacitated or unavailable, a replacement from the LDCUA Panel of Umpires is arranged if possible.

30.4.2. If no LDCUA Umpire is available, the most suitable person at the ground can resume umpiring with both captains' agreement.

30.4.3. If captains cannot agree on a replacement, the game will be umpired by players listed in the team to the completion of the game.

30.5. Payment for Washouts or Cancellations:

30.5.1. Clubs must notify umpires executive or umpire(s) of a washout, cancellation, or transfer of a game before 11.00 am on the Saturday of the game to avoid full fee payment.

30.5.2. If an umpire attends the ground and over 15 overs are completed, they will receive full fees for the day. If the game is called off before the tea break with no overs or less than 15 overs bowled, the umpire will receive 50% of the fee.