



North Eastern Junior Cricket Association
By-Laws

Player Qualification

Provisions applying to all players

Age Clarification

1. Wherever in these By-Laws (in this or any other section) reference is made to a player being under a certain age as at 1st September in the current season, the player shall be qualified if their relevant birthday falls on or after 1st September.

Unqualified Players

2. Any clubs playing a player not possessing the requisite qualification, registration, permit or who is ineligible to play, shall be declared to have lost the match, or matches, in which such player took part and shall lose all points gained in that match, or those matches, unless otherwise decided by the NEJCA Executive on the grounds that there were exceptional circumstances justifying the lack of requisite qualification, registration or permit. The award of points to be allotted to the opposing team shall be on the basis of a first innings win.
3. The same procedure shall apply should any player participate illegally in any match (e.g. playing without necessary permit or playing participating under a false name).

Permits

4. Permits will only be permitted for a player to play in a competition below their correct age group if a permit request form is completed and written approval is granted by the Competition Administrator.
 - 4.1. The granting of any such request shall apply to the current season only and may be revoked at the discretion of the NEJCA Executive.
5. Permits will be granted at the discretion of the NEJCA Executive.
6. Permits may be revoked if the NEJCA Executive deems they are being misused.
7. Clubs may submit permits for a one-off purpose, as explained in By-Law 10.

THE COMPETITION

Grades

8. Teams competing in the North Eastern Junior Cricket Association shall be divided into the following grades.
 - 8.1. Non-Premiership competition – Under 10
 - 8.2. Premiership competition – Under 12 and Under 14.
 - 8.2.1. Under 12 and Under 14 competitions will be split into divisions based on competition size (Division 1, Division 2, and Division 3).

9. Clubs are permitted to move players into a higher grade (e.g. Division 3 to Division 1) to assist with team shortages. However, once a player has been named in three (3) matches, they shall no longer be permitted to move to a lower Division team.
10. Clubs are not permitted to move players into a team within the same division (e.g. two sides within Division 2). In extenuating circumstances, clubs may submit a permit to the NEJCA Executive prior to the Sunday mornings fixture.
11. Any player that plays without complying with this By-Law shall be subjected to a potential penalty under By-Law 2.
12. No player/s shall play in two (2) North Eastern Junior Cricket Association competitions or grades on the same weekend. The potential penalties under By-Law 2 will apply if in breach of this By-Law.
 - 12.1. Exception: U10 players are permitted to play in two U10 games in a North Eastern Junior Cricket Association Round on the same weekend, playing in a Friday evening and Sunday morning U10 games without penalty
13. Clubs shall provide a populated list of each team's coach/es and their contact details, working with children checks and coaching accreditation details to the Competition Administrator.
 - 13.1. Clubs will not be eligible for premiership points until this has been received.

Minor Round

14. The teams in each grade shall, except when otherwise determined by the NEJCA Executive, play matches in the minor round in the order shown in the fixture.
 - 14.1. Under 10 and Under 12 competitions – Matches will be programmed as one-day limited over matches.
 - 14.2. Under 14 competition – Matches may be programmed as either two-day or one-day matches in Division One and Division Two and one-day limited over matches in Division Three.

Major Round

15. In each of the Under 12 and Under 14 competitions comprising of five (5) or more teams, the four (4) leading teams on points at the completion of the Minor Round shall compete in a Major Round to decide the premiership.
 - 15.1. Semi-Finals: 1 v 4 and 2 v 3.
 - 15.2. Grand Final: Winners of the Semi-Finals.
16. The remainder of the competition will play during the Semi-Final weekend to determine final placings for the season (e.g. 5 v 6 and 7 v 8).
17. A player shall be deemed eligible to compete in the Major Round fixtures after being named on Play HQ in a minimum of 25% of games commenced for that team in Minor Round matches.

18. If two (2) or more teams are equal on points at the end of the Minor Round, the team with the higher quotient shall occupy the higher relative position (see By-Law 28 for the method of determining the quotient).
19. In a competition comprising of less than five (5) teams, the leading team on points at the completion of the Minor Round shall compete in the Major Round as follows:
 - 19.1. Semi-Final: 2 v 3.
 - 19.2. Grand Final: Minor Premiers v Winner of the Semi-Final.

Program of Matches

20. The Competition Administrator(s) will prepare a match program before each season. This program is subject to confirmation by the NEJCA Executive.
21. Following confirmation by the NEJCA Executive, changes to the program may be made only under the following procedures:
 - 21.1. A NEJCA Delegate may alter the ground of any individual match, subject to the approval of the NEJCA Executive.
 - 21.2. The NEJCA Executive may alter the date or ground of any individual match.
22. The Competition Administrator(s) may make such change if it is unreasonable, considering the time available for the decision and the relative importance of the decision, for the entire NEJCA Executive to endorse such a change.
23. Should a change or cancellation of an entire round of matches be required in any Grade, such a change may be made by the NEJCA Executive.

Forfeits

24. If a team has to forfeit a match, a Club Official must notify the Competition Administrator(s) who will be responsible for notifying the opposing team and potential SACA Umpire.
25. In the event that a team receives a forfeit, the non-forfeiting team may submit a team sheet to ensure all players appearing upon the said team sheet shall be counted as having a 'game played' for the purpose of Major Round eligibility.
26. A forfeit will be claimed against any team that cannot field the minimum number of players for that age group within fifteen (15) minutes after the agreed start time. If both teams cannot field a minimum number, the result is a non-game. In the result of a forfeit or non-game, the participating teams may play a scratch match in the remaining allotted time. If a scratch match is played, no individual statistics are to be recorded on the Play HQ management system.

Premiership Points

27. The following points shall be awarded in all Minor Round Under 12 grade matches:

First innings win	2 points
First innings tie	1 point
Drawn match	1 point
First innings loss	0 points
Abandoned match (Association cancellation)	0 points

28. The following points shall be awarded in all Minor Round Under 14 grade matches:

First innings win, no further result	2 points
First innings loss, no further result	0 points
First inning tie, no further result	1 point
Outright win, after first innings win	3 points
Outright loss, after first innings win	2 points
Outright win, after first innings tie	2 points
Outright win, after first innings loss	1 point
Outright loss, after first innings tie	1 point
Outright tie, after first innings win	2.5 points
Outright tie, after first innings loss	0.5 points
Outright tie, after first innings tie	1.5 points
Drawn match	1 point
Abandoned match (Association cancelled)	0 points

28.1. In grades and competitions where two (2) or more teams gain the same number of points, their relative positions shall be determined by quotient. For the purposes of ascertaining the quotient, the following systems shall be adopted:

28.2. The batting average for a team shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored by the total number of wickets lost.

28.3. The batting average against a team shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored against by the total number of wickets taken.

28.4. The former shall be divided by the latter, and the team having the higher quotient shall be considered to have the better performance.

Competitions with unequal matches

29. For competitions with unequal number of matches fixtured for each team, the match ratio system shall be used to equalise the competition. For the purpose of ascertaining the quotient, the following system shall be adopted.

29.1. The total number of points received by a team will be divided by the number of matches they have played.

29.2. The team with the higher quotient shall be considered to have had the better performance.

Example

Team A (6 points from 5 matches) = 1.2 Match Ratio

Team B (5 points from 4 matches) = 1.25 Match Ratio

As a result, Team B would finish higher on the ladder.

REPORTS OF BREACHES IN LAWS & BY-LAWS

Definitions

30. For the purpose of this section:

30.1. "Player" means any playing member of a Club who is registered, or who should be registered, pursuant to these By-Laws.

30.2. "Club Official" means any person representing a Club in any official capacity or recognised by a Club as holding or occupying any official position within that Club, including (but not necessarily limited to) any coach, assistant coach, scorer, team manager, committee member or person holding any position or role recognised by the Constitution or Rules of that Club.

30.3. "Disciplinary Enquiry Panel" (DEP) means the panel established under By-Law 35.

30.4. "Match" includes all matches played under these By-Laws.

30.5. "Crude" when used in the Code of Conduct includes indecent or offensive, including, in particular, racial sledging or abuse.

Codes of Conduct

31. When considering NEJCA's expected behaviour and Codes of Conduct it must be remembered that:

35.1 Cricket owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws, but also within the "Spirit of Cricket"

35.2 The major responsibility for ensuring fair play in junior cricket rests with all players, match officials, teachers, coaches, and parents.

35.3 Respect is central to the Spirit of Cricket.

35.4 Any action that is disrespectful and seen as abusing the "Spirit of Cricket" causes and injury to the game itself.

32. All players and Club officials shall comply with NEJCA's Codes of Conduct, which should be read in conjunction with the Law of Cricket and the whole of these By Laws.

32.1. Any breach of the Code of Conduct shall be considered to be misconduct under these By-Laws.

32.2. Coaches are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of the game as well as within the Law of Cricket (2017 Code 3rd Edition – 2022) including the preamble "The Spirit of Cricket"

Reports of Players and Officials

33. If an appointed or officiating umpire, during or on the day of a match in which he/she is umpiring deems it necessary to report any player, or Club Official for misconduct arising out of, or in the course of, that match (whether or not the player

or official is involved in that match), or any breach under Law 41 (Unfair Play) of the Laws of Cricket, or any other Law or By-Law, he/she shall, as soon as practicable, after the conclusion of the day's play:

33.1. Provide a written report to the Competition Administrator

34. The report shall constitute a charge or a report against the player, or official for the purpose of these By Laws.

Disciplinary Enquiry Panel (DEP)

35. There shall be a Disciplinary Enquiry Panel (DEP).

36. The DEP shall consist of the Competition Administrator(s) and the NEJCA Executive.

37. All charges shall be referred to the DEP by the Competition Administrator as soon as possible following the completion of the match.

38. The DEP shall review each charge and make a determination as soon as practicable, if possible/practicable before the next game day.

39. The DEP may seek further information or comment from any person in such a manner as it seems fit.

40. If the DEP determines that the charge is proven, the reported person is to receive a penalty which is appropriate in all of the circumstances.

40.1 When imposing any penalty all relevant circumstances must be taken into account (considered), including:

40.1.1. The DEP must request and obtain details of any prior penalty imposed on the reported person before imposing any reprimand or period of ineligibility to participate

40.1.2 The seriousness of and harm caused by the breach

41. The DEP shall, upon making its determination, notify the Club of its determination and any penalties imposed

42. The reported person must at the time of notification, be advised that if he/she does not accept the determination, the person will be required, through their Club Delegate, to notify the NEJCA President and Competition Administrator of their non-acceptance of the determination

42.1 Under this circumstance the charge will be heard by an independent NEJCA Committee at its earliest convenience

43. If the DEP determines that the charge is not proven, the charge will be dismissed.

44. The DEP is not required to provide reasons for its determination.

THE CODE OF CONDUCT

45. Players

- 45.1. Play by the rules
- 45.2. Never argue with an umpire. If you disagree, have a discussion with your coach who may discuss with the umpire at an appropriate time.
- 45.3. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials, sledging other players, and deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in cricket.
- 45.4. Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- 45.5. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

46. Coaches

- 46.1. Never ridicule or yell at a player for making mistakes.
- 46.2. Operate within the rules and Spirit of Cricket and teach your players to do the same.
- 46.3. Ensure that the time players spend with you is a positive experience.
- 46.4. Obtain appropriate qualification and keep up-to date with the latest cricket coaching practices and principles of growth and development of young people.
- 46.5. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

47. Parents/Supporters

- 47.1. Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- 47.2. Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skilful play by all participants.
- 47.3. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- 47.4. Respect the official's decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- 47.5. Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials, and administrators.
- 47.6. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

PENALTIES

48. DEP Ranges

48.1. Level 1 Offences

No	Offence	Example
1.1	Abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment of fixture and fittings.	Actions such as hitting or kicking the wickets or action that result in damage to advertising boards, boundary fences, or any part of the building structure around the ground.
1.2	Show dissent at an umpire's decision by action or verbal abuse	Includes excessive, obvious disappointment with an umpire's decision or with an umpire making the decision and an obvious delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket.
1.3	Use language that is obscene, offensive, or insulting and/or the making of an obscene gesture.	This includes swearing and offensive gestures which are not directed at another person such as swearing in frustration at one's own poor play or fortune.
1.4	Point or gesture towards the pavilion in an aggressive manner or behaving aggressively towards either batter upon the dismissal of a batter.	Includes charging or running up to the batter and getting "in his/her face".
1.5	Excessive "Chatter to the Batter"	Includes excessive and repeated sledging or comments to the opposing batter and ignoring directions to cease
1.6	Excessive Appealing	Self-Explanatory

48.2. Level 2 Offences

No	Offence	Example
2.1	Show serious dissent at an umpire's decision by action or verbal abuse.	Dissent is classified as serious when by a specific action such as the shaking of the head, snatching cap from the umpire, pointing at pad or inside edge and other displays of anger or abusive language directed at the umpire or excessive delay in resuming play.

2.2	Engage in inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with other players or officials during play.	Deliberately walking or running into or shoulder another player or official.
2.3	Charge or advance towards the umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.	Self-Explanatory.
2.4	Deliberately and maliciously distract or obstruct another player or official on the field of play.	Deliberately attempting to distract a player by words or gestures (refer to 'no chatter to the batter' rule) or deliberately shepherd the batter while running or attempting to run between the wickets.
2.5	Throw the ball at or near a player or official in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner.	This does not discourage a fielder or bowler returning the ball to the stumps in the normal fashion.
2.6	Use language that is obscene, offensive or of a seriously insulting nature to another player, official or spectator.	This is language or gestures which are directed at another person.
2.7	Change the condition of the ball in breach of Law 41.3	Prohibited behaviour includes picking the seam or deliberately throwing the ball into the ground for the purpose of roughening it up and the application of moisture to the ball.

48.3. Level 3 Offences

No	Offence	Example
3.1	Intimidate an umpire, coach or spectator whether by language or conduct.	Self-Explanatory.
3.2	Threaten to assault another player, official or spectator.	Self-Explanatory.
3.3	Use language or gestures that offend, insult, humiliate, intimidate, threaten, disparage or vilify another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, disability or gender.	Self-Explanatory.

48.4. Level 4 Offences

No	Offence	Example
4.1	Threaten to assault an umpire, official, player or spectator.	Self-Explanatory.

4.2	Physically assaulting another player, umpire, official, or spectator.	Self-Explanatory.
4.3	Engage in any act of violence on the field of play.	Self-Explanatory.
4.4	Use language or gestures that seriously offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, disability or gender.	Self-Explanatory.

49. Ranges for penalties of misconduct.

- 49.1. If a report is found to be proven, the reported person is to receive a penalty which is appropriate in all of the circumstances.
- 49.2. Indicative range of penalties for each misconduct is:

Level of Offence	Indicative Penalty Range
Level 1	Official Reprimand or a ban of up to one (1) club match.
Level 2	Ban of two (2) or three (3) club matches.
Level 3	Ban of four (4) or five (5) club matches.
Level 4	Ban of six (6) or seven (7) club matches.

- 49.3. A penalty less than the cumulative indicative range/s may be imposed at the discretion of the DEP.
- 49.4. A penalty greater than the indicative range may be imposed in the case of a person having been found guilty of previous offences.
- 49.5. A club match, for the purpose of a ban, shall be defined as the entirety of the number of fixtured rounds for the ban. For example, a player receiving a two (2) club match ban would require the player to miss the entirety of the next two rounds.
- 49.6. The prescribed penalty is only enforceable in the North Eastern Junior Cricket Association competition. However, the Competition Administrator(s) will notify any additional club(s) the player may have of the penalty.
- 49.7. In the case of a parent receiving a ban, this may result in the parent not being permitted to attend the game. Alternatively, the NEJCA Executive may determine that the imposed penalty is handed to the child on behalf of the parent.
- 49.8. All umpires have the power to report any player for misconduct, guided by the NEJCA Rules and By Laws

