

## **Over 70's Rules and Playing Conditions for National Championships at Dubbo 2024**

This is a summary of the most relevant playing conditions and rules. A complete document, **Veterans Cricket Australia: Rules for Over 70s National Championships 2024** will be available on the VCA website prior to the Championships.

### **1. Matches**

The length of innings is to be 40 overs in both divisions.

Each team may consist of 12 players. Only eleven fielders can be on the field at any one time. However, in the Spirit of Cricket and advancement of participation, 12 players may bat.

The introduction of balls faced will give every player an opportunity to bat without the need for further restrictions i.e. nominating specific non batting player.

Fielders may rotate at any time after first notifying the nearest umpire.

Before the toss, Captains will provide the opposing Captain with a team list.

### **2. Batting**

As stated previously, all teams may bat 12. Batsmen in both divisions are to face a MAXIMUM of 40 balls before retiring. Unlimited runs may be scored from those 40 balls. Recycling should be in order of leaving the crease. Upon return to the crease batsmen may score unlimited runs till their dismissal or until the fall of the 10<sup>th</sup> wicket or the conclusion of 40 Overs.

It is in this area particularly that the Spirit of Cricket must be upheld. Captains are responsible for players to play within this spirit. Players deliberately throwing their wicket away to bring a retired batter back in early, or the fielding team trying to keep a tailender at the crease will result in disciplinary action being taken on the captain and players concerned.

### **3. Bowling**

Bowlers may bowl a maximum of 8 overs each in each division.

No Balls: In addition to the normal front and back foot rules, the following will be called a no ball:

- Any full toss that clearly arrives or would have arrived above waist height from any bowler as judged from where the batter would be standing upright at the popping crease
- A ball that lands or bounces off a synthetic pitch in front of the batter

Wides: Any off side or high or leg side delivery which, in the opinion of the Umpire, does not give the batter a reasonable opportunity to score shall be called a wide

### **4. Fielding**

At all times there are to be:

- No more than five fielders on the leg side
- No more than five boundary fielders
- At least four fielders other than the wicketkeeper within a 30-metre circle.

## **5. Helmets**

Batting - VCA supports the Cricket Australia helmet policy, with the proviso that batters may approach the umpires seeking approval to bat without a helmet, having taken into consideration the pace of the bowlers from both ends, the condition of the wicket and their ability as a batter. The umpire's approval may be withdrawn if circumstances change.

Fielding - The wearing of helmets by wicketkeepers and fielders as per CA direction will apply, i.e. wicketkeepers standing up to the wicket and fielders within 7 metres of the batter's position, with the exception of any fielding position between gully and leg gully, must wear a helmet

## **6. Heat**

A commonsense attitude towards cessation of play due to heat is to be adopted by discussion between the 2 Captains and officiating Umpires in each instance. In the event that such discussions result in the cessation of play; play will only resume when further discussions between Umpires and Captains come to a mutual agreement and the heat has dissipated to such an extent to allow play to resume. Time lost shall be treated in the same way as a rain delay and match conditions similarly adjusted. There shall be no discretion to allow a resumption once play has been abandoned.

Allocation of Points- Points shall be shared unless either team presents a written or electronic case to the Championship Referee before 7.00pm stating reasons why the application of the policy has deprived them of a win. The Championship Referee shall have absolute discretion in such cases.