



MANITOBA CRICKET ASSOCIATION INC.

145 Pacific Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2Z6
Telephone (204) 925-5672 • Fax (204) 925-5703
MCA Website: www.cricket.mb.ca
Email: manitobacricket@shawbiz.ca

Manitoba Cricket Association Policies and Procedures

Safety and Risk Management

Revision and Review History

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Purpose

Increasing competitiveness, higher playing and training standards and other cricket related activities have underlined the necessity for the application of appropriate Safety and Risk Management procedures.

The following procedures are intended to identify, control and minimize, if not eliminate any potential risk that may involve any of the above noted activities.

The Safety and Management Risk Committee is responsible for monitoring the outlined procedures, doing periodic reviews and making changes when applicable.

FACILITIES:

At all games, practice sessions and social activities do occur in the following situations and locations:

OUTDOOR – Practise nets, on the wickets and outfield

INDOOR – Gymnasium or halls

In all these locations, there is a potential risk of danger due to the number of people either involved or observing.

OUTDOOR:

1. WICKET PREPARATION:

- a) The surface must be rolled flat and clear of stones etc.
- b) The mats should have no holes and must be pulled tightly with spikes firmly anchored into the ground.
- c) Where applicable, repairs must be made to mats (practise and playing) before the activity can commence

2. **BOWLERS RUN UP AND FOOTHOLDS**

- a) Must be flat and firm so that the feet do not slide
- b) There should be no holes or ruts for at least 15 feet on either end of the pitch

3. **PRACTISE NETTING:**

- a) There should be no holes on the netting which would allow the ball to pass through
- b) The netting must be properly secured at the bottom so that the ball does not pass underneath. Also if possible, extend the netting at least 2/3 down the pitch and have a net covering the top.

4. **OUTFIELD:**

- a) The outfield must be clear of stones, broken glasses and bottles etc.
- b) Holes in the outfield must be filled and rolled flat. Bumps/humps in the outfield must be flattened/rolled to avoid the fielder from tripping or having a ball ricochet and unnecessarily injuring them
- c) Playing area on the outfield must be demarcated with appropriate markers indicating to spectators and bystanders that the area is being used.

5. **PLAYING SAFETY IN NETS/GAMES:**

- 1. At all times, face the batter and watch when he or she is hitting the ball. In the practise nets, beware of what is happening in the net next to you.
- 2. Keep a safe distance from the batter at all times. Players 14 years and under must not field 10 yards or less in front of the batter. Player(s) in close fielding position (in front of the batter) must wear protective equipment (helmets, abdominal protector, etc.). Failure to do so may result in no insurance coverage.
- 3. If you are not involved in a practice or if you are waiting to bowl, keep well out of the way and watch what is going on.

4. Do not put on pads, gloves and other batting equipment close to the practise facility. Keep at least 30 yards away from the batter.
5. When practising, do not bowl when a ball is on the wicket.
6. When practising, retrieve the ball that has been bowled before the next bowler bowls.
7. For insurance purposes it is mandatory that all cricketers wear protected helmets when batting. Failure to do so will void any insurance coverage.
8. Playing in an unauthorized area is strictly prohibited.
9. Practise close to the pavilion or spectator area is strictly prohibited. Any player responsible for causing an injury may be suspended from the league for an indefinite period of time.

6. **OTHER PRACTISE EQUIPMENT:**

1. All other practise equipment must be in working order at all times
2. Obstacles such as ropes, electrical cords, carts, and other practise equipment not in use, must be stored in a safe manner so as not to cause bodily injury
3. Individual(s) responsible for unnecessary damage(s) to practise equipment or breach of this policy will be held liable for any financial damages. The cost of repair or replacing the equipment will be the responsibility of the offender(s). In addition, that or those individual(s) held responsible may be suspended from the Association for an indefinite period of time.

INDOOR:

- (a) Gym floors should be swept, mopped and dried before any activity commences.
- (b) No food or drinks is allowed in the Gymnasium.
- (c) Smoking is strictly prohibited in all indoor gyms and hall ways.
- (d) All posts with sharp edges must be padded.
- (e) If there are doors with glass windows, a floor mat should be used to cover all windows.

PLAYING SAFETY IN GYMNASIUM/HALL:

1. No fielder is allowed to field less than five yards in front of the batter.
2. The non- striker (batter) must run from no less that fifteen yards.
3. It is mandatory that all cricketers wear protected helmets when batting and wicket keeping, also other protective equipment must be worn in all games and practices. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in no insurance coverage.

4. Non- players and spectators should not be wandering around the gym when there are games in progress.
5. Spectators and bystanders should be in the designated area(s) away from the action of play.

PLAYING EQUIPMENT:

- (a) Ensure practise equipment is properly set up and taken down and safely stored when not in use.
- (b) Ensure batting or fielding equipment are properly fitted by height, weight and age. Too heavy a bat, ill fitting pads and gloves can cause needless injuries.
- (c) Regularly inspect equipment and repair or replace immediately.
- (d) Equipment such as gloves, runners, abdominal protectors, helmets etc. should be washed and/or thoroughly dried where applicable after each game and/or practice (for hygienic reason(s)).

MEDICAL:

- (a) A complete First Aid Kit must be available at all practices and competitions site(s).
- (b) There should be at least one person trained in CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) at all games and practise session.
- (c) There should be access to a defibrillator were applicable.

COACHES/SUPERVISORS:

- (a) All coaches, trainers, supervisors must be appropriately qualified to work with their athletes.
- (b) All coaches, trainers, umpires and supervisors must insure that all facilities and playing area fulfill these safety standards requirements before any activity commences.
- (c) Ensure that players are always on time for all practices.
- (d) Never leave athletes under the age of 18 years unattended in a gymnasium or in a cricket net.
- (e) Ensure all athletes sign a waiver form releasing the Association/clubs.
- (f) Plan and conduct classes, net sessions and competitions which are appropriate to the athletes age, ability and skill level.

- (g) Maintain records of all practices, attendance, athlete progress, medical number and player medical history, emergency contact number and accident report.
- (h) Ensure that all athletes participate in a proper warm up and cool down activity.
- (i) Never supply any type of drugs to the athlete (Aspirin, Tylenol).

FUNDRAISING:

Fundraising is an important part of many Cricket Clubs/Associations activities. However, Associations/Club Executives should assess the potential risk involved in each fundraising event.

(a) DOOR TO DOOR SALES:

- I. Pre-teens or teenagers who are asked to do door to door sales should have responsible adult supervision.
- II. Obey "Beware of dogs Signs"
- III. Respect "No Solicitors Sign"
- IV. Respect "No Trespassing Sign"

(b) SPECIAL EVENTS WITH ALCOHOL PRESENT:

- I. Ensure proper licensing of the event.
- II. Ensure the event is held where there is availability of taxi's during or after the event.
- III. Promote the designated driver program.
- IV. Anyone 18 years and under is strictly prohibited from consuming alcoholic.

EMERGENCY PLAN OF ACTION -IDENTIFY RISKS AT THE FACILITY

(a) DEPARTMENT INCHARGE OR OWN FACILITY

Frequent checks should be made to ensure that all facilities are safe for play, if not, a written report must be submitted to the authority in charge requesting urgent repairs or upgrading. Practise or games shall not proceed unless all repairs have been satisfactorily made.

(b) ORGANIZATION THAT RENTED OR LEASE FACILITY

Organization should make sure that users of the facilities know the conditions of use including safety regulation. Also, periodic check should be made to ensure that the facility is being used properly.

(c) **USERS CLUB**

All clubs should ensure that its members are aware of the rules and conditions governing the use of the Facility. Damages to the facility will be the responsibility of the renter/user. Costs associated with repairing or replacing the damage, will be the responsibility of the renter and user. Failure by the renter /user to pay for the repair in full, will result in their suspension from further use of the facility(ies)

(d) **INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS**

Each player should abide by the rules and conditions of use of the facility. Each player is responsible for his/her own safety and those around him. A proper knowledge of safety rules relating to cricket practice is essential.

(e) **COACHES/SUPERVISORS**

All coaches, trainers and supervisors must ensure that the facility is safe and the player abide by all safety rules and regulation before any activity commences.

MONITORING THE RISK:

All coaches, officials, supervisors, trainers and club captains will report on a regularly basis to the Risk Management Committee, all injuries, incidence and areas with high potential risk for injuries. The committee will examine these situations and take steps and make recommendations to the appropriate body so that injuries, incidence and high potential risk can be minimized and be avoided.

EVAULATE THE RISK:

All injuries or incidence must be properly documented and reported. Those with high risk must be addressed promptly. Other must be attended in due course.

CONTROLLING THE RISK

Generally, injuries occur because of unsafe play/use, unsafe conditions or carelessness. Safety rules of play through education, seminars, workshops and handouts must be implemented and reinforced by the appropriately qualified individuals. Proper measures must be taken by those in charge to oversee, upgrade, and maintain a good and safe condition of play. Also, other safety measures, example – warning signs, posters etc., must be put in the proper places to help address a better public awareness attitude.