NEWCASTLE JUNIOR CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Season 2026-2027

Club Administration Handbook

CLUB DIRECTORY 3
NJCA COMMITTEE DIRECTORY 4
COMPETITION STRUCTURES 2026-2027 5
KEY DATES 2026-2027 5
PLAYING DATES SEASON 2026-2027 6
ADMINISTRATION BY-LAWS 7
By-Law 1: Management of Competitions 7
By-Law 2: Team Entry 7
By-Law 3: Player Eligibility 7
By-Law 4: Player Registration 8
By-Law 5: Representative Player Registration 9
By-Law 6 Representative Cricket Player Eligibility 10
By-Law 7: Re-grades 10
Teams 10
By-Law 8 Results of Matches 11
By-Law 9 Protests and/or Disputes 11
By-Law 10 Appeals 12
By-Law 11 Fixtures 12
By-Law 12 Forfeit 13
By-Law 13 Wet Weather and Extreme Weather 13
By-Law 14 Point Score 13
By-Law 15 Competition Placing 14
By-Law 16 Claims to Titles 14
By-Law 17 Semi-finals and Finals 14
By-Law 18 Player Eligibility for Semi-Finals & Finals 15
By-Law 19 Grounds 15
By-Law 20 Umpires 16
By-Law 21 Player or Participant Injury 16
By-Law 22 Playing Apparel 16
By-Law 23 Defaulters 17
By-Law 24 Trophies 18
By-Law 25 NJCA Club Representation on Committee 18
By-Law 26 Alterations to Administrative or Competition By-Laws 18
By-Law 27 Rule Changes 18
By-Law 28 Club Championship Points 18
By-Law 29 Match Day Duty Officers 18

CLUB DIRECTORY

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Warners Bay CC	Derek Lodge	secretary@warnersbaycricketclub.com.au
Western Suburbs JCC	Greg Dixon	info@wsjcc.com.au

NJCA COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

Position	Held By	Contact
NJCA Administrator	Nasan Obray	0437 127 706 administrator@newcric.org.au
Junior Director of Coaching	Tom Anderson	coaching@newcric.org.au
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NJCA Executive		
President	Andrew Cornwell	president@newcric.org.au
Vice President	Scott Marjoribanks	vicepresident@newcric.org.au
Secretary	Marg Erwin	secretary@newcric.org.au
Treasurer	Jason Ingold	treasurer@newcric.org.au
Zone Representative	Andrew Cornwell	
Other Committee Positions		
Child Safety Officer	Scott Marjoribanks	childsafety@newcric.org.au
Female Participation Committee	Julie Wharton	girlscricket@newcric.org.au
Judiciary Chairman	Ben Blyth	judiciary@newcric.org.au
Competitions committee	Julie Wharton Martin Krause Scott Marjoribanks	
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Infrastructure committee	Andrew Cornwell Chris Wharton Ben Belfield	
Inclusion Officer		
General committee members	Neale Davey Ryan Bullen Simon Gitsham	
Cricket NSW Area Manager	Leya Wilson	leya.wilson@cricketnsw.com.au

COMPETITION STRUCTURES 2026-2027

Format	Ages	Day played	Overs
Summer Smash (Term 1 2027)	U8 to U11, not already playing junior cricket (mixed)	Lake Macquarie - Monday Newcastle - Friday	14
Early Stage 1 U9	U8 to U9 (mixed)	Saturday morning	14
Early Stage 1 Girls U9	U8 to U9 (girls)	Saturday morning	14
Stage 1 Junior Cricket	U10 and U11 (mixed)	Saturday morning	20
Stage 1 All Girls Cricket	U10 and U11 (girls)	Saturday morning	20
Stage 2 Junior Cricket	U12 and U13 (mixed)	Saturday morning	30
Stage 2 All Girls Cricket	U12 and U13 (girls)	Saturday morning	30
Stage 3 Junior Cricket	U14 (mixed)	Saturday morning	30
Saturday Youth League	U15 to U18 Div 3 & 4 (mixed)	Saturday morning	30
Stage 3 All Girls Cricket	U14 to U18 (girls)	Friday afternoon	20
Friday Premier League Div 1	U15 to U18 (mixed)	Friday afternoon	20 / 40
Friday Premier League Div 2	U15 to U18 (mixed)	Friday afternoon	20
Monday T20 Bash	U14 (mixed)	Monday afternoon	20

KEY DATES 2026-2027

These are the dates club administrators need to work back from. They are also published in the NJCA Season Offerings.

Representative player registrations: by Sunday 6 September 2026.

Final team nominations: by Sunday 20 September 2026 for all age groups, except U9s, U10s, Stage 1 Girls and Stage 2 Girls, which are due by Wednesday 7 October 2026.

Playing dates for each competition are set out under Playing Dates Season 2026-2027.

PLAYING DATES SEASON 2026-2027

Mixed junior competitions

Competition	Day	First round	Last round before Christmas	First round after Christmas	Last round	Semi-finals	Grand final
Early Stage 1 U8 & U9	Sat	17/10/2026	12/12/2026	30/01/2027	06/03/2027	**No finals**	**No finals**
Stage 1 U10	Sat	17/10/2026	12/12/2026	30/01/2027	06/03/2027	**No finals**	**No finals**
Stage 1 U11, Stage 2 U12 & U13, Stage 3 U14, Saturday Youth League U15-U18	Sat	17/10/2026	12/12/2026	30/01/2027	06/03/2027	13/03/2027	20/03/2027
Friday Premier League U15-U18	Fri	16/10/2026	11/12/2026	29/01/2027	26/02/2027	5 & 12/03/2027	19 or 22/03/2027 *
Monday T20 Bash U14	Mon	19/10/2026	14/12/2026	01/02/2027	08/03/2027	15/03/2027	22/03/2027
Summer Smash U8-U11 - Lake Macquarie	Mon	-	-	08/02/2027	22/03/2027	No finals	No finals
Summer Smash U8-U11 - Newcastle	Fri	-	-	05/02/2027	19/03/2027	No finals	No finals

** Friday Premier League grand final date is subject to the NDCA calendar.*

All girls competitions

Competition	Day	First round	Last round before Christmas	First round after Christmas	Last round	Semi-finals	Grand final
Early Stage 1 Girls U9	Sat	17/10/2026	12/12/2026	30/01/2027	06/03/2027	**No finals**	**No finals**
Stage 1 Girls U10 & U11	Sat	17/10/2026	12/12/2026	30/01/2027	06/03/2027	**No finals**	**No finals**
Stage 2 Girls U12 & U13	Sat	17/10/2026	12/12/2026	30/01/2027	06/03/2027	13/03/2027	20/03/2027
Stage 3 Girls U14 to U18	Fri	16/10/2026	11/12/2026	29/01/2027	05/03/2027	12/03/2027	19/03/2027

The first two weeks of the Stage 3 Girls competition (16 and 23 October 2026) are trial games to confirm team arrangements. Competition matches commence 30 October 2026.

There are no replays of regular season matches or semi-finals, and no backup dates for any grand final in Season 2026/27.

ADMINISTRATION BY-LAWS

All by-laws printed herein are those of the Newcastle Junior Cricket Association Inc. While all care is taken in their compilation, where discrepancies occur the applicable by-law shall be that as passed at the meeting for that purpose or by first reference to the document of Incorporation and the rules contained therein.

By-Law 1: Management of Competitions

The management of competitions conducted by the Newcastle Junior Cricket Association (NJCA, the Association) shall be vested in a Committee of Management (the Committee), elected annually and having delegated authority under Incorporation Rule 13.

The Committee shall:

a. Be responsible for promoting, advancing and fostering cricket.
b. Match competing teams in their respective ages and divisions.
c. Reserve the right to reject any application for player registration and/or any application for team entry, for such reasons as the Committee shall from time to time determine.
d. Decide in which age or division a team or player may compete.
e. Arrange the playing of all matches and resolve all matters arising.
f. Prior to the commencement of each season, prepare a program covering the Association's activities for the entire season. Such program shall include scheduled dates of competitions and any interruptions thereto, semi-finals, grand finals and any other Association activity.
g. Divide each age group into a convenient number of divisions, according to the playing strength.
h. The competition shall consist of six or eight team divisions where possible.
i. Decide which rule will take precedence, in the event of perceived conflicting rules, in all Association competitions.

By-Law 2: Team Entry

a. Each team entry is done directly into PlayHQ and must include the names of at least minimum team numbers per respective age group.
b. No team entry shall be received from any club using the name of the firm, company, business organisation, registered club, or individual person without a written authority from the appropriate party sanctioning the use of their name.
c. Clubs which are not financial must pay all outstanding fees prior to submitting applications for team entries otherwise such applications may not be accepted.

By-Law 3: Player Eligibility

a. Players must have attained the age of seven years and be below the specified age as at 31 August immediately prior to the commencement of the season. No players shall be eligible to play in a competition more than two years above the lowest age division for which they are eligible. For the Stage 3 under 15–18 competition, including Friday Premier League and Stage 3 Girls, no player is able to play up into this age group without the prior approval of the NJCA. Dispensations for Stage 3 cricket will only be considered for highly skilled and experienced players with demonstrated capabilities. No player who is older than 17 on 31

August immediately prior to the commencement of the season will be eligible to play in an NJCA competition.

b. The Association or its nominee may require proof of age. Acceptable documentation shall be original birth certificates, passports, naturalisation certificates or other documentation as approved by the Association.

c. Any player registered by a club in an older age group than which they are eligible to play shall not be permitted to play in a lower age group without permission of the Committee. Any player registered by a club in a higher division shall not be permitted to play in a lower division without permission of the Committee. Failure to comply will result in the team being stripped of competition points gained in the match in question for each subsequent offence.

d. Where a team plays an ineligible player, any winning points gained from this match by the defaulting team will be forfeited to the opposing team. In addition, the Manager or Coach of the offending team may be suspended for a maximum of four matches for the first offence in a maximum of 10 matches for each subsequent offence.

The Association will run a check at Rounds 5 and 10 for any breaches of this rule.

e. Where a player is found to be playing in a lower age group than they are eligible for, and has not been granted prior dispensation from the Committee, any winning points gained from this match by the defaulting team will be forfeited to the opposing team.

f. Girls can play 2 years below their age group in the mixed competitions. For the avoidance of doubt, By-Law 3(a) applies to girls both in the mixed competition and in All Girls competitions.

g. The Committee may approve a request for transfer between clubs during the season, but only in exceptional circumstances.

h. When a club has two teams in the same division in one format, players are not interchangeable. Clubs may seek dispensation in exceptional circumstances but must have written approval. Violation of this rule may cause loss of points.

i. No player shall be declared in two teams for their club on the same day.

By-Law 4: Player Registration

a. All players must register and pay through their respective clubs using the Play HQ online system. **No** players are to be added by the club manually.

b. Players must be registered to the Newcastle Junior Cricket Association prior to taking part in any junior game. Players so registered will be eligible to play but the Committee reserves the right to subsequently reject such application as per By-Law 1(c) without penalty for any games played by the player.

c. Players registered with two or more clubs shall be deemed to be members of the club with whom they first registered within the Association.

d. Players may register in more than one format with their Club. Eg, Monday T20 Bash and Saturday morning cricket or Friday Premier League. Unless players have registered for both formats, players are not interchangeable. For example, a player registered in the Friday Premier League but not registered in the Monday T20 Bash cannot play in the club's team in the Monday T20 Bash competition. Clubs may seek dispensation in exceptional circumstances but must have written approval. Violation of this rule may cause loss of

points.

By-Law 5: Representative Player Registration

a. For the purpose of this By-Law, NJCA will nominate a list of representative players who are current representative players. These players, together with any players coming from other zones, will be classified as representative players.

b. Any club that proposes to import a representative player from another club to play in an NJCA competition (except Friday Premier League and Stage 3 Girls to which this By-Law does not apply) must FIRST seek and obtain approval from the Executive of the NJCA Committee. The Committee executive may approve such players based on the following restrictions:

For Stage One:

(i) The representative rule does not apply to Stage One.

For Stage Two and Three 30 Over (Saturday morning games) Games:

(i) Importing team has up to two (2) rep players. Can import one (1) rep player without restrictions.

(ii) Importing team already has three (3) rep players. Can import one (1) rep player but all rep players in the team must retire after facing 25 balls. They can come back in order of retirement when all other batters have been dismissed. In addition, all rep players in the team may only bowl half of the overs normally allotted to bowlers.

(iii) Importing team already has four (4) rep players. Can import one (1) rep player but all rep players in the team must retire after facing 20 balls. They can come back in order of retirement when all other batters have been dismissed. In addition, all rep players in the team may only bowl half the overs normally allotted to bowlers.

(iv) Importing team already has five (5) or more rep players. Can import one (1) rep player but all rep players in the team must retire after facing 15 balls. They can come back in order of retirement when all other batters have been dismissed. In addition, all rep players in the team may only bowl half the overs normally allotted to bowlers.

In addition, players aligning to (ii), (iii) or (iv) in Stage Two would only be allowed to bowl two overs maximum, and Stage Three would only be allowed to bowl 3 overs maximum.

For Monday T20 Bash Games:

(i) Importing team has up to two (2) rep players. Can import one (1) rep player without restrictions.

(ii) Importing team already has three (3) rep players. Can import one (1) rep player but all rep players in the team must retire after facing 15 balls. They can come back in order of retirement when all other batters have been dismissed. In addition, all rep players in the team may only bowl half of the overs normally allotted to bowlers.

(iii) Importing team already has four (4) rep players. Can import one (1) rep player but all rep players in the team must retire after facing 12 balls. They can come back in order of retirement when all other batters have been dismissed. In addition, all rep players in the team may only bowl half the overs normally allotted to bowlers.

(iv) Importing team already has five (5) or more rep players. Can import one (1) rep player but

all rep players in the team must retire after facing 10 balls. They can come back in order of retirement when all other batters have been dismissed. In addition, all rep players in the team may only bowl half the overs normally allotted to bowlers and no more than a maximum of two overs.

c. In exceptional circumstances the Committee Executive may approve a player transferring with no restrictions. To assist the Association in exercising the discretion referred to herein, the following are examples of what might constitute special circumstances: the imported player's living or work arrangements, together with this By-Law, make it impracticable for the player to play for any other team which could include the player.

By-Law 6 Representative Cricket Player Eligibility

Representative cricket is now managed by Newcastle Cricket Zone and the Zone determines representative cricket eligibility and selection processes.

It is a requirement of the Newcastle Cricket Zone that players must be bona-fide NJCA competition participants or granted dispensation to play under an alternate Newcastle cricket association.
A bona-fide NJCA player takes regular part in an NJCA competition with absences typically only as required by injury, illness, family circumstances, team player rotation and other like circumstances. Representative players must be registered to play junior cricket with an NJCA club by the nominated date each year for their representative selection to be honoured. For season 2026/27 that date is Sunday 6 September 2026.

By-Law 7: Re-grades

Teams

These will only occur in exceptional circumstances and generally only after teams have applied in writing for a re-grade. If a team applies for re-grade to a lower division, they must nominate which team in the lower division is to be considered to replace them. The ultimate decision will be made by the NJCA Rules and Competitions Committee acting under delegated authority of the NJCA Executive.
At any stage during the first round the Committee may, where it deems necessary, re-grade teams to higher or lower divisions normally after week 5 (6 team division) or week 7 (8 team division).

Points gained shall carry over to the new division provided that:

(i) The existing points of a team re-graded to a higher division, if higher than the team with the highest points for that division, shall be reduced to that of the highest team.

(ii) The existing points of a team re-graded to a lower division, if lower than the team with the lowest points already for that division, shall be increased to that of the lowest team.

Players

a. Applications for the re-grade of players from a higher to lower grade must be submitted in writing to the Association Secretary/Administrator. Such application shall be submitted by the players club, clearly stating performances and reason for the re-grade.

b. When a player has played three games with a team in a higher division than that in which they were nominated, the player then becomes a member of the higher division team and cannot return to the team they were originally graded into, without the consent of the Association. Being a substitute does not constitute being a player for the purposes of this by-law.

By-Law 8 Results of Matches

Live scoring is preferred however there must be one written score sheet per match. CA Junior Format scorebooks shall be used in all matches. Where live scoring is not used, score sheets must be completely filled in prior to entry into Play HQ. In the event of a disputed result, the written score sheet from the match will likely be requested. Score sheets must therefore be treated with respect, filled out as accurately as possible, and checked against the opposing team regularly during the match - no less often than at the end of every over.

Submission of Results

a. Each team coach or manager is responsible to enter their results (or confirm results) and enter their own team batting and bowling statistics via their Management Access on the Play HQ website within 72 hours of the commencement of the match. This includes entering the result of any abandoned games (draws). Any team having trouble accessing Play HQ or entering results may contact the NJCA Administrator for assistance.

b. With matches of the final round, semi-finals and grand finals, coaches and managers shall enter results via Management Access on Play HQ within 24 hours from the commencement of the match (either played or unplayed). Where the result of one of these games is in dispute, both score sheets must be delivered to the Association Administrator by 6.00pm on the day of the match.

c. Results not submitted, via Play HQ, by the times specified in sub clauses a. and b. and score sheets not received as per sub-clause b. may result in a fine of $30 per team for the first offence and $50 per team for each subsequent offence. In addition, teams with continual offences may face loss of points and/or the outcome of the match overturned at the discretion of the Committee.

d. The point score shall be published on PlayHQ website and may be available on PlayCricket. Teams wishing clarification of the point score may contact the Association Administrator. Teams wishing to dispute the points score must do so in writing within seven days of publication to the Association Administrator on the club's official letterhead signed by the club secretary. PlayHQ remains the primary source of data. Where PlayCricket shows something different, clubs must first confirm the details on PlayHQ before disputing the points. PlayCricket does not always synchronise correctly and may show incorrect information. If the data is correct on PlayHQ and incorrect on PlayCricket, the club will need to contact PlayHQ support to have this rectified. The NJCA Administrator is not able to resolve these issues.

By-Law 9 Protests and/or Disputes

Each team shall be responsible for their own score sheets. In the event of a disputed match, the reasons for the dispute must be noted on the Scoresheet otherwise the result will stand. In the event of a dispute both teams must send the original sheet to the Association for a ruling.

a. Protests and/or disputes shall be heard by a Protest and Dispute Committee. The Committee shall have power to summon any member of the Association to give evidence and also to require the production of any books, correspondence or any other documents considered necessary to the purpose of its inquiry.

b. The Committee shall have power to initiate action proceedings against any club, team or player, whenever necessary.

c. Protests and/or disputes shall be submitted in writing setting out all relevant particulars and forwarded to the Association Secretary/Administrator by 6pm on the Wednesday following the match, except in the case of a protest or dispute that affects the final standings for finals and/or the results of finals, in which case the protest must be lodged by 6pm on the Sunday immediately following the match.

d. A fee of $50.00 shall accompany each submission which may be returned at the discretion of protest and dispute Committee.

e. The Association Secretary/Administrator shall, at the discretion of the chair of the Protest and Dispute Committee, summon all parties involved to attend the next meeting of the Protest and Dispute Committee. Such notification shall include details of the subject matter listed for hearing. Failure to appear as summoned, while not necessarily delaying proceedings, shall result in automatic disqualification pending attendance at a subsequent meeting of, or as otherwise directed by the Protest and Dispute Committee.

f. The Protest and Dispute Committee shall impose a penalty considered appropriate to the circumstances and their decision shall be final, subject to an appeal being lodged in accordance with Administration By-Law 10, Appeals.

g. The Association Secretary/Administrator shall confirm in writing the Protest and Dispute Committee decision to the parties involved.

h. In protests and/or disputes involving players and/or clubs of other Associations, the Protest and Dispute Committee of such Associations shall be invited to meet to hear evidence but, in making a decision, each Committee shall do so regarding its own respective Association.

By-Law 10 Appeals

a. Appeals against the decision of either the protest or disputes or the Judiciary Committee shall be heard by an Appeals Committee.

b. The lodging of an appeal shall be made, in writing, to the Association Secretary/Administrator within fourteen days of the Committee's decision being handed down, except in the case of an appeal relating to final standings for finals and/or the results of finals, in which case the appeal must be lodged within 24 hours of the decision being notified to the club.

c. An appeal shall be accompanied by a fee of $50 which may be returned at the discretion of the Appeals Committee.

d. The Association Secretary/Administrator, providing the appeal satisfies the requirements herein, shall at the direction of the Appeals Committee chairman, advise the appellant to attend the next meeting of the Appeals Committee. Failure of the appellant to appear shall result in the appeal being dismissed.

e. The Association Secretary/Administrator shall confirm the decision of the Appeals Committee in writing to the appellant.

By-Law 11 Fixtures

All fixtures will be available on PlayHQ. They may also be viewable on the PlayCricket app, which has at times shown issues synchronising with PlayHQ. PlayHQ remains the one source of truth unless advised otherwise. If any alterations thereto become necessary after the Thursday prior to the match the Association shall advise the respective clubs and umpires accordingly. The relocation of matches for any reason is not permitted without the permission of the Association administrator. There is no guarantee that requests for relocation will be able to be considered after 5pm the

evening before a match.

By-Law 12 Forfeit

a. Any team unable to fulfil its engagement shall notify the Association Administrator of its intention to forfeit not later than 48 hours prior to the match, otherwise the defaulting team shall be responsible for all expenses associated therewith, including umpiring fees (if applicable).

b. Any team forfeiting two matches may, at the discretion of the Committee of Management, be withdrawn from the competition.

c. Clubs forfeiting matches without notice (as per a. above) may be subject to a fine of $50 for each offence.

d. The Committee of Management may under exceptional circumstances approve a request for a game to be deferred.

e. The Committee of Management shall have discretionary powers in dealing with all forfeited matches referred to it.

By-Law 13 Wet Weather and Extreme Weather

a. The NJCA Committee shall have power to abandon or adjust matches whenever weather conditions warrant such action. The prospect of extreme heat or other extreme weather such as poor air quality, may also result in matches being cancelled.

b. On match days, it is the responsibility of the home team to inspect the pitch at least 1.5 hours before the nominated match start time, and to contact the opposition team in the event that ground conditions are unsuitable to proceed (ie. wet weather). The general process should include mutual agreement between the two teams regarding ground conditions and may include the provision of photos from the home team to the away team for discussion. The Marsh Insurance form (either electronic or manual) should be used by the home team to assess grounds prior to play for every game. Any other local requirements, such as Council processes to re-open closed grounds, are the responsibility of the home team, and should be strictly followed. Games should not proceed on closed grounds without following the relevant processes. Clubs are responsible for any fines imposed by Council(s) for damage to grounds where games should not have been played. The home team should also contact the match umpire, if one has been appointed, to advise of cancellations. Failure to do so will result in the home team being responsible for payment of the umpire's fee in full.

c. Results must be entered on PlayHQ regardless of whether play proceeded or not (ie match abandoned)

d. Teams participating in matches not cancelled by the home club's representatives one hour before the match start time must proceed to the allocated ground otherwise forfeiture of points could result.

By-Law 14 Point Score

a. Competitions shall be decided on a point score basis and providing the requirements of section (b) are fulfilled, the following points shall be allotted:

b. First Innings Win - 3 points

i. Draw, Tie or Bye - 2 points

ii. First Innings Loss - 1 point

iii. Loss by Forfeit – 0 points

iv. Win by forfeit shall attract the maximum points gained by any other team in the same age and division in the round.

c. A result shall be deemed to have been achieved when matches are won, lost, drawn, tied, forfeited or, having commenced, are unable to continue. All results achieved shall stand.

d. Teams shall receive two points when matches are cancelled by the Association or by the umpire prior to play commencing.

By-Law 15 Competition Placing

a. In the event of teams having an equal number of points at the completion of the competition, ultimate placing shall be determined by net run rate.

A team's net run rate is calculated by deducting from the average runs per over scored by that team throughout the competition, the average runs per over scored against that team throughout the competition. Note the following:

(i) In the event of a team being all out in less than its full quota of overs, the calculation of its net run rate shall be based on the full quota of overs to which it would have been entitled and not on the number of overs in which the team was dismissed.

(ii) Only those matches where results are achieved will count for the purpose of net run rate calculations.

(iii) Clubs must correctly enter the overs they faced during their innings in the 'overs bowled' column. In the case of a match being reduced due to rain or a slow over rate, the max number of overs will have to be adjusted to the agreed reduced amount (27 for example).

(iv) If a team is bowled out, the NRR will be calculated based on the max number of overs that was allocated to them.

By-Law 16 Claims to Titles

a. Teams leading the point score at the end of normal competition shall be known as "Minor Premiers".

b. Final winners shall be known as "Major Premiers".

c. Semi-finals and Grand Finals shall be played in each division of each age, except U9s, U10s, Stage 1 Girls and Summer Smash, and shall be contested by the four teams having the highest number of competition points, with ultimate divisional placing, if necessary, being determined by net run rate. Team 1 shall play Team 4 and Team 2 shall play Team 3.

By-Law 17 Semi-finals and Finals

All semi-finals and finals shall be played on the best available home ground of the team finishing higher on the points table, if suitable, or as otherwise allocated by the NJCA at their discretion. The team finishing higher on the points table shall be considered as the home team for match-day purposes. Turf wickets must have a suitable back up ground.

a. Where a semi final is drawn, tied, washed out, abandoned, cancelled or otherwise fails to produce a result, the team from the two contesting sides occupying the higher position on the final competition points table shall advance to the grand final. Where both semi finals in a division are affected, the teams occupying first and second positions on that table shall advance to the grand final.

b. Grand finals shall be played in each division of each age, except U9, U10, Stage 1 Girls and Summer Smash, and shall be contested by semi-finals winners or teams advancing directly to the grand final.

c. Where a completed grand final is a tie, the participating teams shall be declared joint major premiers.

d. Should a grand final be drawn, cancelled, abandoned or otherwise fail to produce a result for any reason, the grand finalist occupying the higher position on the final competition points table will be declared major premiers.

e. In a season where back up dates are offered, clauses 17(a), 17(c) and 17(d) shall also apply to determining the outcome of a rescheduled semi final or grand final. There will be no back up dates for semi finals or grand finals in Season 2026/27.

By-Law 18 Player Eligibility for Semi-Finals & Finals

a. A player shall not participate in the semi-finals or grand final unless they have played in at least three competition matches with their club during the current season in the age and division of the team competing in the grand final.

b. Clubs wishing to play players in a different format, age or division in semi-finals and/or grand final must provide statistics of players who will be substituting, the name of the player/s they will be replacing, and the reason for player absence before any dispensation is considered by the NJCA Rules and Competitions Committee acting on delegated authority of the NJCA Executive. Any requests for dispensations must be submitted on the prescribed form by 5.00pm on the Wednesday prior to a match. In the interest and spirit of the game, these replacement players should be equal to or less in ability to the player/s being replaced.

c. When a bye occurs in the competition, the team having the bye shall, for player eligibility purposes, have each registered player credited as having played a game whose name appears on the most recent match score sheet.

d. In the event of games being washed out or cancelled by the Association these games shall, for player eligibility purposes, have each registered player credited as having played a game whose name appears on the most recent match score sheet.

By-Law 19 Grounds

a. Clubs will nominate preferred home grounds for each team however the Association reserves the right to make the final decision on the allocation of home grounds.

b. Clubs controlling grounds shall arrange preparation of pitches and provide other equipment where necessary.

c. Clubs are responsible for booking their training venues prior to the commencement of each season. Newcastle LGA clubs can request that the Competition Administrator books their training grounds through the NJCA ground booking contract.

d. Clubs are responsible for obtaining a key to each of their home ground amenities from their applicable Council, ground authority or the Competition Administrator. Clubs are also responsible for returning those keys at the end of the season, and may be fined by NJCA, the Council or the ground authority, as relevant, where keys are not returned.

e. All toilets must be unlocked prior to commencement of play. This applies to all grounds that

have been allocated as home grounds.

f. Clubs are reminded that they are responsible to ensure all grounds are clearly marked and fit for play, and that the 10-metre area is clearly marked.

g. Teams shall ensure that any additional pitch markings made for games with shorter pitch lengths are removed at the end of matches. Permanent crease markings must not be used.

h. Teams playing on unenclosed grounds shall each provide at least 12 markers of 200 mm minimum height above ground level. All such boundary markers are to be of the witches' hat / plastic cone type or similar. Posts, sticks, flags or similar boundary markers shall not be used.

i. All home teams must complete a Marsh Insurance Game Day Checklist (either manually or electronically) prior to the commencement of the match. The checklist must be signed and conditions agreed by both coaches / managers, however, if an official umpire is appointed, the umpire makes the final decision regarding the fitness of the pitch and grounds and the Marsh Insurance Checklist is not required.

By-Law 20 Umpires

a. Members of an affiliated cricket umpires association may officiate at matches conducted by this Association as allocated.

b. Each team shall be responsible to pay an umpire's fee as ratified by the Association. Umpire fees are paid in cash to the umpire on game day, unless the umpire accepts on the spot bank transfer.

c. If an umpire is not notified of a cancelled or a game called at least 1.5 hours prior to the match start time, and an umpire proceeds to the ground and deems the game cannot start, the umpire shall be paid a fee of $20 ($10 per team). If the game commences and is then abandoned, the umpire shall be entitled to a full match payment.

d. An official umpire, not appointed in the published list, shall take precedence over an unofficial umpire if allocated by the Association or because of a forfeit or abandonment of, or a result having been achieved, in their allocated match.

e. Each team is expected to pay the umpire the nominated match fee at the match, either by cash or immediate bank transfer. Clubs are responsible for factoring umpire costs into their fees.

By-Law 21 Player or Participant Injury

a. When a player sustains an injury, the player's name and the nature of the injury must be advised to the club secretary as soon as practicable by the team Manager or Coach.

b. Should the player wish to lodge an insurance claim, details can be obtained on the internet https://au.marsh.com/sport/cricket-australia/players.html or by contacting their club secretary.

c. The Newcastle Junior Cricket Association Inc. will accept no insurance liability for injury or incident beyond that provided for under the national club insurance scheme.

By-Law 22 Playing Apparel

The approved attire of the Association shall be:-

a. Conventional white, cream or appropriately coloured long trousers or shorts, conventional white, cream or appropriately coloured shirts with sleeves and collar. Colours on shirts and pants are permissible providing that there are no colours or patterns which may impair the

batter's ability to sight the cricket ball used (e.g. red, orange, pink etc). Navy, dark blue, dark green and black pants are considered appropriate colours for playing pants. Other colours require the approval of the Association. Where clubs shift to coloured pants, consideration should be given to accessibility and costs. Players may optionally have a player number and/or name on the back of the shirt. Designs are to be presented to the NJCA Committee and approved prior to being introduced. NJCA encourages clubs to particularly consider introducing coloured pants for their all girls teams, considering the requirements mentioned above.

b. All NJCA players are encouraged to wear appropriate head covering. This shall be a cricketing cap or peak cap of their club colours, or a broadbrim or bucket hat in white, cream or club colours. Coloured towelling hats, sun visors or any type of headwear with commercial advertising, other than Association approved club sponsorship, are not allowable.

c. Sponsorship advertising or club insignia shall not be worn on cricket attire until the Committee of Management has approved a prototype of the finished garment which must be submitted for approval in the form of the drawing before placing an order for club requirements. Following approval the club shall ensure that, for the duration of the sponsorship, the approved garment is worn by the entire team and the prototype drawing, suitably endorsed by the Association, is attached to the inside cover of the scorebook. Such advertising shall be restricted to a small pocket insignia, a cricket cap emblem and, for advertising on the back of a cricket shirt, the height of the lettering shall be 35mm maximum and the complete advertisement shall not exceed 250mm wide and 200mm high.

d. Some players wear headwear as part of their religious or cultural practice, and are welcome to do so. Where a protective helmet is required, the headwear may need to be adjusted so that the helmet fits correctly and provides the protection it is designed to give. If a team is concerned that an opposition player may be at risk, the first step is a quiet word with the other coach, with a view to working together to support the child in a manner that respects their cultural practice. If a team believes a risk is being ignored, it should be reported to NJCA through the club so that NJCA can look at ways to assist the team in keeping the child protected. This clause is about care for the safety of children while respecting cultural practices and is not about sanctions.

By-Law 23 Defaulters

a. A defaulter is a club who has failed to pay an amount owing for entry fees, subscriptions, competition fees, umpiring fees, registration fees, fines and levies, tickets for social functions properly issued by the Association to a club or by a club to a player and all other payments or dues imposed in accordance with Association rules, bylaws or regulations or those of an affiliated organization.

b. Where a club is in default to the Association, each member of such club shall be notified in writing by the Association as to the amount of the default and be offered an opportunity of meeting their portion of the liability within 14 days of the issue of such notice.

c. Where a member of the club is posted as a defaulter by their club, the Association shall investigate and satisfy itself that the member in question is liable for the amount claimed.

d. Where a club disbands or withdraws from the Association each registered player shall contribute 1/12 of the amount owing by the club with a minimum of 10 cents where the total debt is over $1 and 5 cents where the debt is under $1.

e. The management Committee shall impose a fine of $100 to clubs who fail to have a

representative in attendance at Association meetings.

By-Law 24 Trophies

a. Association trophies shall be returned to a nominated location by a designated time each year. Clubs failing to comply may incur a fine of $100 and/or take no further part in the competition.
b. Association trophies held by disbanded clubs must be returned to the Association Secretary/Administrator before players from disbanded clubs are allowed to register with other clubs.

By-Law 25 NJCA Club Representation on Committee

All Newcastle Junior Cricket Association affiliated clubs who, in the season prior fielded five or more teams (U10s to U18s), shall supply one (1) person to join the Newcastle Junior Cricket Association Management Committee at the Annual General Meeting. This person shall attend a minimum of seventy-five percent (75%) of scheduled NJCA Committee Meetings.

By-Law 26 Alterations to Administrative or Competition By- Laws

The Management Committee shall be empowered to reorganise all relevant sections of the Newcastle Junior Cricket Association Inc. By-Laws to facilitate ease of reference, clarity and consistency. Unless otherwise stated, all rules apply equally to semi-finals, Grand finals and competition matches.

By-Law 27 Rule Changes

Should any rule, by-law or policy require changing or clarification, the written consent to such change from a majority of member clubs shall suffice in making the change effective until such time as the amendment can be ratified by a general meeting or annual general meeting of the Newcastle Junior Cricket Association.

By-Law 28 Club Championship Points

The Club Championship Points system is currently on hold until further review by the NJCA committee.

By-Law 29 Match Day Duty Officers

a. Each club shall supply one Duty Officer for each of its teams at every match. The Duty Officer shall be an adult who does not otherwise have an active role on game day, and shall not be a coach, player or scorer.
b. Clubs shall supply their Duty Officers with a high-visibility vest, which is to be worn for the duration of the match.
c. Both Duty Officers shall be in place, in their vests, and made known to each other, to the umpires and to the scorers, not less than five minutes before the scheduled start time.
d. Each Duty Officer is responsible for the behaviour of their own team’s players, parents and spectators. Behaviour by the opposition shall be raised with the opposition’s Duty Officer in the first instance.
e. Duty Officers shall reinforce the rules applying at the venue, including that no alcohol is to be consumed, no smoking or vaping is to take place, and that dogs are not permitted off leash at

any ground at which the Association plays.

f. A Duty Officer shall record any apparent breach of the Code of Conduct, whether or not they intervened, and report it to their club on the same day.

g. A club may lodge a Duty Officer's complaint with the Association in the format required by the Association. A complaint may be lodged only by a club official; the Association does not accept complaints from individuals. Such a complaint is not a protest or dispute under By-Law 9, and no fee is payable.

h. Where a team is the subject of repeated complaints under this By-Law, the Association may determine sanctions at its discretion, including the deduction of competition points.

i. The Duty Officer role is not intended to be adversarial. Clubs are expected to work co-operatively with each other in giving effect to this By-Law.