

Head Protector Regulations

- 1 In these Regulations, the following definitions shall apply:
 - 1.1 “CDC” means the ECB’s Cricket Discipline Commission;
 - 1.2 “Compliant Headgear” shall mean head protectors or (for wicket-keepers only) face masks, which have been certified as compliant with the most recent BSI Standard specification for the size of ball that is being used in that Match, including any alterations to such headgear which are specifically permitted pursuant to Regulation 5;
 - 1.3 “First Class County” shall mean each of the county cricket clubs which has been accorded first class status by the ECB;
 - 1.4 “Match” shall mean any match covered by Regulation 2 below;
 - 1.5 “Regulated Activity” shall mean each of those Match activities detailed in Regulation 3; and
 - 1.6 “Relevant Participating Cricketer” shall mean any player participating in a Match for a relevant team as detailed in Regulation 2, including but not limited to any substitute fielder.
- 2 These Regulations shall apply to all cricketers undertaking any Regulated Activity for any team in the following matches (save where expressly limited below to cricketers from only one of the participating teams):
 - 2.1 for any England international team in any of its matches (including men’s, Lions, Women’s Performance Pathway, EDP and Under 19 teams but excluding the England visually impaired team(s));

- 2.2 in Specsavers County Championship, Royal London One-Day Cup and NatWest T20 Blast matches;
- 2.3 in matches between First Class County first teams and MCC University teams;
- 2.4 in Second XI Championship, Second XI Trophy and Second XI T20 matches;
- 2.5 in friendly matches played between First Class County first teams and friendly matches played between First Class County second teams;
- 2.6 in Kia Super League matches;
- 2.7 in Women's County Championship matches; and
- 2.8 for any First Class County academy team in any of its matches.

3 It shall be mandatory for all Relevant Participating Cricketers to wear Compliant Headgear when undertaking the following activities in any Match:

- 3.1 Batting against all types of bowling;
- 3.2 Wicket-keeping when standing up to the wicket; and
- 3.3 Fielding in a position closer than 8 yards from the batsman's position on the popping crease on a middle stump line, with the exception of any fielding position behind square of the wicket on the off side.

4 In respect of all Matches covered by Regulations 2.2 to 2.7 inclusive, the Match umpires shall have the following responsibilities and powers in respect of headgear pursuant to these Regulations:

- 4.1 the Match umpires shall be responsible for ensuring that a head protector or (for wicket-keepers only) a face mask is worn by every Relevant Participating Cricketer

when he/she is undertaking any of the Regulated Activities (but shall not be responsible for ensuring that the headgear being worn by the Relevant Participating Cricketer is Compliant Headgear); and

- 4.2 in the event that a Relevant Participating Cricketer fails to wear a head protector or (for wicket-keepers only) a face mask when seeking to undertake a Regulated Activity, the Match umpires shall not allow the Match to continue.

5 A head protector or face mask shall not be deemed to be Compliant Headgear if it is altered in any way which is inconsistent with any guidance or instructions provided by the relevant manufacturer or in a way which otherwise reduces the safety protection provided by the relevant head protector (for example, the removal of the chin-cup).

6 It shall be the joint responsibility of each Relevant Participating Cricketer and the First Class County, team owner or club (as applicable) for which he/she plays to ensure that he/she wears Compliant Headgear at all times when undertaking any Regulated Activity in any Match. Notwithstanding the umpires' powers pursuant to Regulation 4, in the event that a Relevant Participating Cricketer is alleged to be in breach of Regulation 3 or fails to act immediately on an umpire's instruction to wear a head protector or face mask (as applicable) pursuant to Regulation 4, the Relevant Participating Cricketer and his/her First Class County, team or club (as applicable) may be referred to the CDC for disciplinary proceedings in accordance with the CDC Regulations.

As of 1st February 2017 the latest BSI Standard specification for head protectors for cricketers is BS7928:2013 and the latest BSI Standard specification for facemasks is BS7928-2:2009.

To be compliant for Women's cricket a head protector must have been certified as compliant with the most recent BSI Standard specification against both the men's and junior sized ball.

Further guidance regarding head protectors can be found at: <http://www.ecb.co.uk/helmets> including the list of known head protectors that have met BS7928:2013

In addition to the mandatory requirements on Relevant Participating Cricketers in Matches under these Regulations, it is strongly recommended that all Relevant Participating Cricketers and their coaches wear Compliant Headgear in any practice environments which are similar or equivalent to any of the Regulated Activities (including without limitation the throwing or feeding of practice balls to a batsman from less than the length of a pitch).