

NSW YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

DOUBTFUL BOWLING ACTION POLICY



Law 21 Definition of fair delivery – the arm

A ball is fairly delivered in respect of the arm if, once the bowler's arm has reached the level of the shoulder in the delivery swing, the elbow joint is not straightened partially or, completely from that point until the ball has left the hand. This definition shall not debar a bowler from flexing or rotating the wrist in the delivery swing.

The International Cricket Council and Cricket Australia have procedures relating to the above Law's application. It is appropriate that Cricket NSW also develops, promotes and applies a procedure for application in its own competitions. Such a procedure should be in the best interests of both the player, and the competition as a whole.

OBJECTIVES

- a) To ensure that every bowler playing in a Cricket NSW competition has a delivery action that complies with Law 21.
- b) To assist any bowler with an "illegal" action to comply with Law 21.

APPLICATION

This procedure shall automatically apply in the event that as follows:

- a) A Cricket NSW appointed umpire formally "reports" the player who has bowled what the umpire clearly considers to be an "illegal" delivery in breach of Law 21. The report, submitted to Cricket NSW occurs when the "illegal" delivery is bowled three times during the same innings; and/or
- b) During any 12-month period, two different Cricket NSW appointed umpires each formally "mention" to Cricket NSW that a player has bowled what each umpire separately considered to be an "illegal" or "doubtful" delivery during at least two different matches.

In forming an opinion as to whether a bowler's delivery is clearly "illegal" or is "doubtful," an umpire shall be guided by Law 21.

Cricket NSW particularly notes that under the provisions of Law 21, an umpire must call and signal "no ball" for each delivery that, in the umpire's opinion, has been "illegally" delivered by the bowler.

REVIEW PROCESS

Report to CNSW

- a) Following a match, an umpire shall formally "report" or "mention" to Cricket NSW any "illegal" or "doubtful" delivery by a bowler. The umpire shall provide as much written information as possible regarding the timing, circumstances and nature of any such delivery.



CRICKET NSW

- b) An umpire must advise the player's Zone/Association, as Law 21 requires.
- c) Cricket NSW shall immediately provide the player's Zone/Association with a copy of each such "report" or "mention".
- d) Upon Cricket NSW receipt of one "report" or two "mentions," that player shall not bowl again in a Cricket NSW competition match for a period of one month.
- e) Following the one-month period, a player may re-commence bowling in Cricket NSW matches until such time as they have accumulated another "report" or a further two "mentions."
- f) Upon Cricket NSW receipt of a second "report" or a further two "mentions," that player shall not bowl again in a Cricket NSW competition match for a period of three months.
- g) Following the three-month period, a player may re-commence bowling in Cricket NSW matches until such time as they have accumulated another "report" or a further two "mentions."
- h) Upon Cricket NSW receipt of a third "report" or a further two "mentions," that player shall not bowl again in a Cricket NSW competition match for a period of 12 months.

Notes to Process

- a) Law 21 makes officiating umpires solely responsible, on a per-delivery basis, for the determination of fairness of each individual delivery in a match.
- b) Except as limited by Law 21, there is no limit on the number of times an umpire may "report" or "mention" the same player to Cricket NSW, or the number of times an umpire may "no-ball" the same bowler during a match.
- c) Neither Cricket NSW nor any other person or body can certify that a player has a permanently "fair" bowling action on the basis of a bowler's delivery action assessment.
- d) Cricket NSW cannot undertake biomechanical analysis of a bowler's delivery action, such as the ICC or CA would undertake in corresponding circumstances.
- e) By continuing to bowl with an "illegal" action," a player delays the process of rendering that action "fair" and thereby satisfying the provisions of Law 21.
- f) During any period in which a player is not permitted to bowl, Cricket NSW strongly encourages a player's club to assist by all means possible to develop a delivery action that is more likely to comply with the provisions of Law 21 (by the opinion of umpires.)
- g) Cricket NSW will prepare and regularly update a register of "reports" and "mentions" of bowlers arising from Law 21. Cricket NSW will provide the NSWCUA with a copy of that updated register following each such update.
- h) A player has no right of appeal to any course of action by an umpire or Cricket NSW relating to this procedure, other than on a point of law.