

**SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA
15 YEARS BOYS CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIPS
RULES AND GUIDELINES
“The Ricky Ponting Cup”**

Note: These Rules and Guidelines should be read in conjunction with relevant School Sport Australia General Policies.

SECTION A - Rules of Competition

1.0 Championship Rules.

1.1 Rules of the Game.

Except as varied hereunder, MCC Laws 2000 Code 5th Edition (2013) will apply in all matches. This Championship will adopt the playing conditions from the current Cricket Australia (CA) Under 17s Championships.

Amended September 2016
Rules 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 removed September 2016

1.2 Championship Format.

1.2.1 Schedule of Championships

- a) The Australian Championships shall be held annually in the last week in February (or as close as possible to this date.)
- b) The conduct of National Championships and the travel to and from must be conducted over a period of time including no more than five (5) school days.
- c) An Excursion Day must be incorporated as a compulsory component of all School Sport Australia Championship Programs.
- d) An Opening and Closing Ceremony will be held at the Championship.

1.2.2 Competition Roster

All Championships shall be hosted in rotation by the participating States / Territories except where changes are agreed to at the National Programs Advisory Group meeting.

1.2.3 Meetings.

The Management Committee shall conduct two (2) meetings during the period of the Championship - A Pre - Championship meeting and a Post Championship meeting. The quorum for any meeting shall be at least one (1) delegate from each competing State / Territory.

1.3 Player Participation.

1.3.1 Age Eligibility.

Any player taking part in the championship must be under the age of 16 years at midnight on 31st August in the year of competition.

1.3.2 Age Dispensation.

- An Age Dispensation is granted to the following States/Territories when and if required:
- a) SSNT has a dispensation of twelve (12) months for six over age players for 2015-2017
 - b) SSACT has a dispensation of twelve (12) months for four over age players for 2015-2017

Rule 1.4.3 removed September 2016
Rule 1.4.4 removed August 2017
Rule 1.4.5 removed August 2017
Rule 1.4.6 removed August 2017
Rule 1.7 removed September 2016

SECTION B - Competition Structure

2.0 Championship Structure.

2.1 Draw

- 2.1.1** Teams are to be allocated to two pools according to the positions they filled at the previous three championships. The pools will be:

Pool A – 1st, 4th, 5th, 8th, 10th

Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th, 9th

Amended September 2016

- 2.1.2** If there are 6 or less teams participating the Championship will be played on a round robin basis with no finals being played. For four teams participating, teams will play two rounds and for 5 or 6 teams one round only will be played.

- 2.1.3** For 7 or 8 teams, the Championship shall be conducted in two Pools. Each team will play the other in the pool once, the two teams in each Pool that have obtained the highest number of points at the completion of the preliminary rounds qualify to contest the Semi-Finals.

- 2.1.4** For 9 or 10 teams, the Championship shall be conducted in two Pools. Each team will play the other in the pool once, the two teams in each Pool that have obtained the highest number of points at the completion of the preliminary rounds qualify to contest the Finals

2.2 Points Allocation.

Win	4
Tie	2
No result	2

2.3 Method of Determining a Winner.

2.3.1 The team scoring the highest number of runs will be the winner. If play is restricted, the winner is to be the team with the higher run rate which is determined by dividing the number of runs at the last completed over by the number of completed overs. A minimum of 30 overs must be faced by the second team. If the first team is dismissed, the number of runs will be divided by 50, or the maximum number of overs allowed if less than 50. If any team does not receive 30 overs, the result shall be a draw. However, if a team is dismissed before 30 overs are bowled, this does not, of course, apply.

2.3.2 Equality of points

In the event of an equality of points the positions will be determined as follows:

- a) Divide the total number of runs scored by a team by the total number of wickets lost by it.
- b) Divide the total number of runs scored against a team by the total number of wickets taken by it
- c) Divide the former (i) by the latter (ii). The team having the higher quotient shall be considered to have the better performance.
- d) In the event of two teams finishing on equal points and quotients at the completion of the Pool rounds, then the winner of the game between them will decide the higher team. If still undecided, then the higher team will be the team with the higher points at the end of Round Two (2) and if still undecided, then the team with the higher quotient at the end of Round Two (2).

2.3.3 Finals and Play Off Matches.

In a 7 or 8 team competition (2.1.3) the teams in each pool are listed in order from 1st to 4th.

The two highest placed teams in each to contest the semi-finals -

Semi-final (1) - 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B

Semi-final (2) - 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A

(Note: In the event of a tie or no result in a Semi Final, the team finishing 1st in their pool will be deemed the winner)

b) The winners of the two semi-finals will play the final. The losing semi-finalists will play off for 3rd and 4th positions.

c) Teams placed 3rd and 4th at the completion of the pools matches will play the two teams which they have not previously met in the other pool over the final two days. Final positions for these teams will be calculated as for 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 above.

2.3.4 FIXTURE MODEL 10 TEAMS [crossovers and finals]

Days 1-5 Pool games [Bye teams play each other in a cross pool game]

Education Excursion to be conducted during pool games [e.g. day 3 or 4]

Day 6 Cross over finals – 1st Pool A v 2nd Pool B, 1st Pool B v 2nd Pool A, 3rd Pool A v 4th

Pool B ...etc. 5th Pool A v 5th Pool B

Day 7 Finals – Winners play off for positions 1-6. 7, 8, 9, 10 play team not played previously if possible.

Teams arrive Saturday and leave following Sunday following finals.

Each team plays 6 games

Amended September 2016

2.3.5 Results.

a) Results of all matches shall be handed to the Championship Organiser or such other person designated at the Pre Championship Meeting, on the official form provided, not later than thirty (30) minutes after the close of play.

b) When any cricket is played, all performances should be included in both team and individual results.

2.3.6 Disputes.

Any protests must be lodged in writing with the National Secretary/Championship Manager before 6.00pm on the date of the match and will be dealt with by a conference chaired by this person and consisting of one representative from each participating team.

2.3.7 **Alteration to Program.** The Championship Manager/National Secretary, in liaison with the team managers, may alter the program in any manner it deems fit to ensure that teams are given the maximum opportunity to play.

SECTION C - Facilities and Equipment**3.0 Grounds and Equipment****3.1 Venues**

The host state/territory should always endeavour to select a central venue(s) that has multiple turf wickets at one complex to ensure efficient communication, support and the interaction of players.

3.2 Grounds**3.2.1 Wickets and Covers.**

a) All matches are to be played on turf. Covers are to be used for the duration of the championship. Should the Umpires decide that the covers are to be used during the course of a match, it will be the responsibility of both competing teams to assist with any labour required.

b) If a wicket is to be rolled between innings at any ground, team officials must be informed prior to the commencement of the day's play.

3.2.2 Substitute Wickets.

a) Synthetic covered concrete wickets are to be used if the turf wickets are unavailable due to weather or unforeseen circumstances. All arrangements for the use of these alternate wickets must be made prior to the commencement of the event

b) The host State/Territory should have no hesitation in moving to synthetic wickets during a Championship when needed to ensure all matches are given the maximum opportunity to be played.

c) When interpreting wides on these wickets, the host state/territory local rules will apply and must be circulated to all competing teams prior to the commencement of the Championships.

3.2.3 Fitness for Play.

The Championship Management Committee shall be the sole judges of the fitness of the grounds and pitches prior to 30 minutes before the set time of commencement each day.

Thereafter the appointed umpires will decide on the fitness of the pitch, ground, weather and light for play.

3.3 Equipment.

3.3.1 The Ball.

Four piece pink leather balls approved by Cricket Australia are to be used in all matches on turf. Two piece leather balls are to be used in all matches played on synthetic surfaces.

Amended March 2017

3.3.2 Clothing.

All matches are to be played in cricket boots or rubber-soled shoes, trousers and collared shirts. Headwear may be a hat, helmet or cap of a team. Clothing may be coloured according to State or Territory colours. A jumper or vest, if worn, shall also be in State / Territory colours for team markings.

Amended March 2017

3.3.3 Protective Equipment.

a) All batsmen must wear protective helmets in line with the CA Junior Cricket Policy.

b) It is compulsory for fieldsmen positioned within 10metres of the bat in front of the wicket to wear a helmet and protector.

c) All Wicketkeepers keeping up to the stumps must wear protective helmets in line with CA Junior Cricket Policy

3.3.4 Scorers and Score Sheets.

Each team shall provide one official scorer for each match. Scorers are asked to ensure that correct names and initials are used and that twelfth men, umpires and captains are also recorded. Similarly, the need for accuracy in recording sundries is stressed. Copies of score sheets are to be given to the Championship Manager by both scorers, at the conclusion of each match

3.3.5 Scoreboards.

The host State/Territory shall ensure there is, at each match, a board visible to all players on the field displaying the numerals for runs scored, wickets lost, and overs completed in the innings in progress.

SECTION D - Match Officials

4.0 Officials.

4.1 Umpires.

4.1.1 The host State/Territory is responsible for appointing suitably qualified umpires accredited by a recognized Umpires' Association.

4.1.2 A written statement containing rules and expectations should be forwarded to all umpires prior to the Championship.

4.1.3 An Umpire's representative should be invited to attend the Pre-Championship meeting which will discuss rules and players/coaches codes of conduct.

4.2 Ground Managers.

Ground managers must be appointed for all venues used during the event. They will be required to be in attendance for the duration of the championships.

SECTION E - Trophies and Awards

5.0 Championship Awards.

5.1 Major Trophy.

The Ricky Ponting Cup will be presented to the winning team.

5.2 Friendship Pins.

It is recommended that state/territory friendship pins be exchanged by teams following the toss of the coin.

5.3 Merit / International Tour Team.

A Merit/International Tour Team consisting of thirteen (13) players shall be selected based on performance, at the conclusion of the Championships.

Overage students with age dispensation are not eligible for team selection.

SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Jack Beattie	WA	2009
Grahame Barrett	NSW	2010
Robert Lamb	VIC	2010
Greg Irvine	ACT	2011
John Ahrens	QLD	2011
John Nash	SA	2012
Trent English	SA	2014
Andrew Fearon	QLD	2015
Ian Bycroft	WA	2015
Damian Toohey	NSW	2015
Leigh Holmes	VIC	2017