



Mercantile Cricket Association

Suspect Bowling Action Procedure

Throughout the process the MCA, clubs, coaches and umpires are to act in the best interests of the player(s) & cricket in general, with the overall welfare of the player(s) & the game being the prime considerations.

LAWS OF CRICKET 21.2 FAIR DELIVERY – THE ARM

Under the Laws of Cricket, 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 instant until the ball has left the hand. This definition shall not debar a bowler from flexing or rotating the wrist in the delivery swing. An umpire is to make a mention, when they have no doubt a bowler has broken the Laws of Cricket Fair Delivery. The below process does not preclude any umpire from calling a bowler for throwing, at any time, if the umpire is in no doubt.

LEVEL 1

1st Mention

In any scheduled MCA match, if the umpire(s) suspects a bowler to have delivered a ball breaching Law 21.2 Fair Delivery – The Arm under the Laws of Cricket, a suspect bowling report is to be made by the umpire(s) to the MCA Secretary in writing on the appropriate form, naming the bowler and their club, expressing what the concerns are with the bowler's action. Upon receipt, the MCA Secretary contacts the Club Secretary and instructs the club to undertake remedial action with the player. Coaches or anyone else assisting with the remedial work are recommended to utilise the CA Coach App and any other expertise available within their local association, for support with training activities to support the remedial work. Clubs have one month to report back to the MCA Secretary on the remedial work undertaken to remediate the bowler.

LEVEL 2

2nd Mention

If a player receives a second suspect bowling report made by the umpire(s) to the MCA Secretary in writing on the appropriate form, naming the bowler and their club, expressing what the concerns are with the bowler's action. The MCA Secretary will contact the club and request that video footage be taken of the mentioned bowler in a training simulation. The footage is to be provided to Cricket Victoria (CV) through the CV Coach Force Online Bowling Assessment, who will then liaise with the coach/club, anyone else assisting with the remedial work and player to provide remedial action advice. The cost to this service will be \$75 for the video review. Once completed, the player, coach and club will receive a full technical bowling assessment as well as recommended bowling drills. To book an Online Bowling Assessment click here. [Online Bowling Assessment - CV Coach Force - Cricket Victoria](#) The MCA Secretary will also contact with the Secretary of VMCU and at this point the player is placed on the VMCU Suspect Action Registry. The MCA Secretary will request that the club provides evidence that the Online Bowling Assessment has been undertaken.

LEVEL 3

3rd Mention

If a player receives a third suspect bowling report made by the umpire(s) to the MCA Secretary in writing on the appropriate form, naming the bowler and their club, expressing what the concerns are with the bowler's action. The MCA Secretary contacts the Secretary of the VMCU and advises that the player has again been mentioned. The MCA Secretary contacts the club and requests that the player completes a Face-to-Face assessment via Cricket Victoria's individual skills coaches, which will include an individual report with remedial action advice. The cost of the session will be \$125, inclusive of the detailed individual report. To book a Face-to-Face assessment with Cricket Victoria's individual skills coaches click here. [Skills Coaching - Cricket Victoria](#) A copy of the report is also forwarded to the MCA. There will be an 8 week "intervention period" following this analysis to allow remedial work to be undertaken. During this intervention period the player will be permitted to bowl in matches. Umpires will be advised of the player's situation by the MCA Secretary. If there is any doubt during this intervention period then the umpire(s) will continue to make a separate report to the Association Secretary.

LEVEL 4

4th Mention

If a player receives a fourth suspect bowling report made by the umpire(s) to the MCA Secretary in writing on the appropriate form, naming the bowler and their club, expressing what the concerns are with the bowler's action. The MCA Secretary must contact the Secretary of the VMCU and advise that the player has again been mentioned. The MCA Secretary contacts the Club and advises that the bowler is to undertake a 3D biomechanical assessment which Cricket Victoria can facilitate. The cost of this assessment is provided at the time of application. Clubs/players can contact Cricket Victoria here [Contact - Cricket Victoria](#) to organise the 3D biomechanical assessment. There will be an additional 8 week "intervention period" following this analysis to allow remedial work to be undertaken. During this intervention period the player will be permitted to bowl in matches. Umpires will be advised of the player's situation by the Association Secretary/Administrator. If there is any doubt during this intervention period then the umpire(s) will continue to make a separate report to Association Secretary. Any subsequent mention following Level 4, the player will immediately again move to Level 3 and continue through the process.