



Ballarat Cricket Association Governing Procedure 1C PLAYER AND OFFICIAL DE-REGISTRATION

PURPOSE

This document should be read in conjunction with the Laws of Cricket, the Ballarat Cricket Association (BCA) Constitution, any applicable Cricket Victoria Rules, Policies and Codes of Behaviour, BCA policies including Code of Behaviour, Vilification, Electronic and Social Media, BCA Governing Procedures including Offences and Penalties, Tribunal and Appeals Procedures, and Rules of Play, and is not intended to replace them.

INTRODUCTION

Background

This procedure has been developed to provide a risk management framework and procedure basis for Ballarat cricket administrators to recognise a duty of care with respect to players/officials who could pose an unacceptable risk to other players/officials and umpires.

Maintaining the integrity and reputation of the BCA is supported by procedures such as this to minimise risk to participating players/officials and umpires.

Previous generations of Association and club administrators were not subject to the same level of scrutiny in relation to their risk management requirements and particularly their attention to duty of care issues as they are today.

Whilst the concept of a permanent de-registration policy/procedure has been in existence in other sports – AFL football and basketball, it is imperative that all Ballarat Cricket Association (BCA) players/officials accept this procedure to ensure that a consistent approach is applied to de-registration.

Other sports have had examples of individuals taking legal action against other individuals and, more particularly action against those who potentially could have stopped such “dangerous” individuals from being able to cause harm, and this highlights the need for a formal de-registration procedure.

It is also unacceptable in community sport for players/officials to repeatedly breach the Laws of Cricket, the Ballarat Cricket Association (BCA) Constitution, BCA policies including Code of Behaviour, Vilification, Electronic and Social Media, BCA Governing Procedures including Offences and Penalties, Tribunal and Appeals Procedures, and Rules of Play, and hence the spirit of cricket.



CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION

Term	Definition
Association	The Ballarat Cricket Association
Association Executive	A person(s) with the responsibility of administering the association.
De-Registration	The withdrawal of a player's permission to play or an official's capacity to officiate in any form of cricket activity.
Official	Includes but is not limited to coaches (accredited and non-accredited), officers, umpires, managers, employees or any person performing any duties (paid or unpaid) for or on behalf of a club, team or association.
Player	A person who participates in cricket competitions administered by the BCA including representative games.
Suspension	A period during which a player or official is not allowed to play or officiate in a game of cricket.
Suspension History	Any suspension incurred by a player or official in Australia at any time

Application

The De-registration procedure applies to all players/officials at all levels within the BCA.

Variation

The Board of the BCA may from time to time, alter the procedures for de-registration in its absolute discretion.

PROCEDURE AIMS

The procedure aims to:

- De-register a player who has offended and is found guilty of one or more cricket offences where such offences cause the suspension history of such player to fall beyond an acceptable level for the community sport of cricket.
- De-register an official who has offended and is found guilty of one or more cricket offences where such offences cause the suspension history of such official to fall beyond an acceptable level for the community sport of cricket.
- Apply the de-registration of a player/official to both roles so that a de-registered player cannot officiate in any capacity and a de-registered official cannot participate as a player.



DE-REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

General

- The suspension history of a player/official will be maintained by the BCA.
- The full suspension history (as defined) of a player, shall be considered when determining penalties for offences and potential de-registration.
- Clubs have an important role to play underpinning risk management and this policy. When registering new players/officials, clubs are required to inform the BCA of any suspension history (as defined).
- Club imposed penalties will not be considered on the permanent record for the player/official.
- The BCA will advise all clubs of the details of the procedure and make the procedure readily available to their clubs, players, and officials.

De-registration Process

- Once the BCA becomes aware that a player/official has accumulated a suspension history of 10 match days or more, the Association will advise the player/official and their club (in writing) that the player/official faces the risk of automatic de-registration should the player/official incur further suspension(s) that results in him/her reaching or exceeding a 16 match days total suspension history.
- Notification of de-registration shall be made in writing to the player/official and the club they are affiliated with.
- Cricket Victoria and the Victorian Country Cricket League (VCCL) shall be notified in writing of all decisions to de-register a player/official.
- Should a player/official's tribunal suspension history already exceed a combined total of 16 match days suspension at the time of implementing this procedure (July 2022), the BCA is to formally advise the player/official and their club that the player/official faces automatic de-registration should the player/official incur another suspension. For clarity this clause does not exempt any suspensions prior to the adoption of this policy.
- Clubs must counsel all their players/officials in relation to this procedure.
- Clubs must always strive to ensure their players or officials do not get themselves into a position of potentially being de-registered. Anger management training is seen as a critical component of this prevention for clubs to arrange.
- For the avoidance of doubt, de-registration will commence on the date on which the most recent suspension of the player/official (being the suspension which resulted in that player or official reaching or exceeding 16 playing days suspension) ends.



Criteria for De-registration

Players

- Players shall be automatically de-registered and not allowed further registration in the BCA if the player has offended and accumulated a combined total of 16 match days suspension (or greater) in their career.
- Should a player receive 16 match days or more suspension as a “first offence” it shall be at the BCA’s discretion to de-register the player following such a first offence suspension.

Officials

- Officials shall be automatically de-registered and not allowed to officiate in any form in the BCA if the official has accumulated a combined total of 16 match days suspension (or greater) in their lifetime.

Players / Officials

- A combined total of 16 match days or greater as a player and/or official shall result in automatic de-registration.

De-registered Players/Officials Seeking Re-registration

A deregistered player or official may apply to the BCA for re-registration.

- A player/official shall not be eligible for re-registration unless the player or official gains an exemption to re-register from the BCA. Such exemption shall only be granted under exceptional circumstances (i.e. where the BCA is satisfied that the player/official is genuinely rehabilitated).
- A player/official may only submit one (1) application in any one season.
- The BCA re registration review is an application for re registration only and is not a review or appeal of previous suspensions.
- Such a review shall be undertaken within a reasonable period from the date of receipt of a request for an exemption to re-register.
- A de-registered player cannot officiate in or at any game of cricket within the BCA unless an exemption is given by the BCA.
- A de-registered official cannot participate as a player or officiate in or at any game of cricket within the BCA.
- A de-registered player/official who is successful in gaining an exemption to play/officiate and subsequently re-offends will automatically be de-registered with no further right to apply for an exemption or to appeal.

