



RIYADH CRICKET ASSOCIATION

PATRON - IN - CHIEF
HRH PRINCE GENERAL DR. ABDUL AZIZ BIN NASSER
BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD

RCA Playing Conditions & Regulations Season 2021-2022 (Rev-01, Dated 23/11/2021)

RCA Tournaments will be conducted under guidelines of MCC Laws of Cricket 2017 Code along with the following RCA Playing Conditions & Regulations and standard COVID-19 precautions.

All RCA matches will be played in **Complete White Kits or Colored Shirts only**. Teams are responsible to bring **wooden spring stumps** and **Four-piece cricket balls** in all the matches. **Batting teams are responsible to provide the ball. For Al Kharj league 40-Over matches, two balls will be used per innings, one each from both ends.**

Team Registration: All teams will be re-registered at the start of each season. RCA will confirm the registration after the payment of the registration fee and submission of the team registration form. Any New Team will not be entered directly in the Al Kharj League (A Division). After evaluating the strength of the new team, it is the sole discretion of RCA to decide about entering it in Huraymala, Hayer or Diriyah League.

1. Player Registration & Nomination:

1.1. Every team can register a maximum number of **16 players**. All registered players should be holding Iqama or Valid Saudi Business Visa (For players with Saudi business visa employment letter has to be submitted to RCA) and should not have active player registration with any other registered Association/League in the KSA. A player who was registered in any other registered Association/League in the KSA should bring **No Objection Certificate** from that Association/League before joining any RCA Club. A player registered in one RCA team cannot represent any other RCA team in any League (Al Kharj, Huraymala, Hayer or Diriyah) during the same tournament. This is responsibility of the Captain/Manager of each team that they should make sure that players registered in their team did not play for any other RCA team during the same tournament. **Any team can make unlimited changes in the 16-member squad during the first round of the tournament. During the knock-out stage, no changes are allowed (teams have to make their last change before their last league match). If the teams have registered less than 16-member squad, during the knock-out stage no addition will be allowed in the squad.**

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Once a player gets NOC from RCA to play for any other registered Association/League in the Kingdom, he becomes ineligible to play for any RCA team. Such player who got NOC once from RCA can come back to RCA after getting the NOC from the other association, but RCA will not issue NOC for him again for 3 months.

1.2. To **replace** a player/s an equivalent number of player/s shall be dropped from the original 16 players. RCA should be notified in writing via email/message about any changes in the squad maximum by Thursday. A player who was dropped can later rejoin the team in the same tournament after notifying RCA. In case of emergency on the match day, Captain/Manager should send official email or message to RCA before the start of the match about the replacement of a player. Only one emergency change is allowed to each team during one tournament.

If a team plays with unregistered player without information RCA, the team will lose 2 points of that match. In case, the team loses that match, a fine of 200 SR will be implemented on that team and that fine has to be cleared before the next match of that team. Any repetition of this violation may lead to a ban for that tournament.

1.3. A player **may change his team** for the next Tournament after applying for transfer to RCA (0539399389 email: j.s@rca.com & 0508207944 email: js@rca.com) in writing before the start of the match.

1.4. These registered players can join their teams at **any stage of the tournament** including knock-out stage. The players can transfer to other teams only after the conclusion of the tournament. **(A Fee of 100 SR is applicable for the transfer of a player from one club to another. After the transfer fee is paid, the player will be allowed to play for the new club).**

1.5. Captains will nominate their team (11 players) before the toss. Any other registered member of a team which is not included in the squad of 11 cannot replace the nominated member of the squad of 11. MCC Law 1 applies. No player may be changed after the nomination without the consent of the opposing captain.

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1.6. A player that is nominated as a playing member may join the team at any time during the match. (Subject to the normal penalty that he cannot bowl for the number of over he was absent)

a. No substitute can be used in the start of the game if the nominated player is absent. This clause is applicable to the fielding team of the first innings of the match. (The team fielding second can use the substitute fielder at the start of the innings after the permission of the umpires).

b. If a player leaves the field for more than 3 overs before the end of the first innings, he cannot open the innings, he may bat after the same number of overs he was absent or 5 wickets are down.

1.7 If a player is found playing in RCL while he is active member of RCA team squad, he will be banned from playing in RCA.

1.8 Captain of the team should not enter the ground at all for water delivery or equipment change during the match. If needed, this duty should be done by the 12th man but if the 12th man is not available any other player except the captain can perform this duty.

2. Timings:

2.1. **Starting time for morning session match is 07:30 am. Toss to be done at 7:15 am.** If a team does not have **seven** or more players ready to play by **07:30 am** that team shall forfeit one over every **5** minutes. At **07:45 am**, that team will **forfeit** the match and all points will be awarded to the side ready for play. In the event of neither side, have **seven** players by **07:45 am** the match will be considered cancelled with both teams getting 0 points each.

2.2. **The starting time for afternoon session match is 1:30 pm. Toss to be done at 1:15 pm.** If a team does not have **seven** or more players ready to play by **1:30 pm** that team shall forfeit one over every **5** minutes. At **1:45 pm**, that team will **forfeit** the match and all points will be awarded to the side ready for play. In the event of neither side have **seven** players by **1:45 pm**, the match will be considered cancelled with both teams getting 0 points each.

Deduction of overs is at the sole discretion of the umpires, playing teams have no role to play in this decision.

(Note: The starting time of the matches will be changed during the course of the Season depending on the daylight. In case of change of time, the new time will be mentioned in the Tournament Fixture).

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3. Decision for Bowling End

In all matches 20 overs and 40 overs, both ends of the wickets will be used. The bowling side will decide the end to bowl the first over.

4. Umpire's Responsibilities:

4.1. Teams should send two umpires from their club who should have registration of RCA and are members of the squad for that tournament. They should have awareness of the ICC Laws, knowing RCA Code of Conduct for Players & Umpires, Tournament Rules and Regulations.

4.2 Umpires should wear the proper dress for umpiring (Trousers, Shirt and sports Shoes, preferably Black Trousers and White Shirt. Red shaded shirts will not be allowed).

4.3 The umpires must reach the grounds 10 minutes before the toss time.

4.4. If for some genuine reasons teams are unable to send the two umpires, they should inform Umpiring Coordinator at least 48 hours before the match. RCA will arrange the umpires and charge the teams SR 150 for 20 over match and SR 300 for 40 over match.

4.5 If no umpires will turn up till the beginning of the over-deduction time, two Captains/Managers should report to the Umpiring Coordinator who will try to arrange replacement neutral umpires if possible. **If neutral umpires cannot be arranged, both the teams should start the match by using their own umpires. Match will not be rescheduled for the reason that nominated umpires did not show up. There will be a fine of SAR 50 per umpire who comes after the start of over-deduction time.**

4.6. If no umpires will turn up for the game, the team who was responsible for sending umpires will be fined 200 Riyals and 2 points will be deducted from that team for that Tournament. If no points are there for the team at that time, then 400 riyals will be fined (Team taking any points after the time of no show of umpires are exempted from this clause). Teams sending only one umpire for their umpiring duties will be fined SR 100 in a T20 match and SR 200 in a 40-over match. Above rule will also apply in case of no show of 1 umpire or both umpires.

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4.7. Team Captains / Manager may indicate in their reports any failure on the part of umpires to apply these rules.

4.8. At all time the umpire's decision is final. Failure to accept the umpire's decision will result in penalties being awarded by the **Discipline & Umpires' Committee**.

4.9. Before start of a match, umpires should make sure that the crease is properly marked, 30-meter circle and boundaries are clearly visible.

4.10. The umpire should check the ball before the start of each inning. Teams will bring their own Cricket balls and only four piece balls are allowed.

4.11. Umpires should watch for any **waste of time** during the game, in this regard Umpire's role would be more important to complete the 20 overs in 1 hour and 45 minutes. In the morning session, the fielding team has to complete their 20 overs by **9:15 a.m.** Otherwise; they will play the number of overs bowled till **09:15 am** only. Similarly, in the afternoon session, the fielding team has to complete their 20 overs by **3:15 p.m.** otherwise they will play the number of overs bowled till **3:15 p.m.** only. Time wastage includes:

- A. Deliberate time-wasting tactics by the bowling or batting side, e.g. unnecessary discussion on the Ground, unscheduled water breaks, frequent discussions on the pitch etc.
- B. Slow bowling rate (a good bowling rate is estimated at 13 overs per hour).
- C. Umpire may warn the side on the first instance. On the second instance he shall award 5 penalty runs against the team wasting the time. MCC Law 42 applies.
- D. Drinks may only be taken after 10 overs. This rule applies to the batsmen as well the fielders. Any unscheduled breaks must be with the umpire's permission.

4.12 Umpires MUST SIGN the match summary sheets at the end of each innings, ensuring signature of both Captains and at the end of the match with final result. Scanned copy of the summary sheet along with the completed filled score sheet in excel format must be submitted by both teams to RCA by **Sunday 11 a.m. through email to General Secretary RCA (js@rca-ksa.com).**

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If score sheet is received after Sunday 11 a.m., it will not be considered for prize distribution, media coverage and ranking. Incomplete/One Sided Score Sheets will also not be considered for statistics. Original score sheet shall be kept with the team and submitted to General Secretary if needed.

4.13. When teams have umpiring, two dedicated umpires should be sent for umpiring. Changing the umpires during the match is not allowed unless there is an emergency.

4.14. Umpires' decision will be always final but if an umpire makes a decision which is against the MCC Laws of Cricket & RCA Playing conditions, it will be treated as no show umpires & fine of SAR 200 will be imposed on the umpire. Multiple violations in a match may result in multiple fines.

4.15. During knockout stage matches umpires must check photo ID like Iqamah or Driving licenses of playing 11 or the player in question. Team captain is also advised if they have a doubt on any player, they must take picture of that player & complain to umpires before the match.

5. Scorer's Responsibilities:

5.1. It is the responsibility of each team to have competent scorer for their match. If a team fails to do so, it will have to be content with the scorer from the opposite team. In case of any discrepancy, the umpire shall decide the last score. **A team without a scorer cannot assert any claims.**

6. Restrictions on Fielding Side:

6.1. At the instant of delivery, no more than 2 fielders are allowed behind the square leg umpire.

6.2. At the instant of delivery, there may not be more than **5 fielders** on the leg side and not more than **7 fielders** on the off side.

6.3. In a T20 field restriction (circle) is for first 6 overs. Maximum of 2 fielders shall be allowed outside the field restriction markings (circle) at the instant of delivery. If a team is playing with 9 or less than 9 players, **no fielder** can be placed outside the 30-yard circle. Similarly, if a team is playing with 10 players, only **one fielder** can be placed outside the 30-yard circle.

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6.4. **No limitation on Bowlers Run-up.**

6.5. A maximum of 20% over per bowler is allowed i.e. 4 over in a T20 match.

6.6. **SHORT PITCHED DELIVERY** (applies to the whole innings):

(NO SHORT PITCHED DELIVERIES ALLOWED IN HURAYMALA, HAYER AND DIRIYAH LEAGUES)

a. At 1st instance short pitch will be called no ball and 1 run will be awarded to the batting side plus first warning to the bowler.

b. At 2nd instance short pitch will be called no ball and 1 run will be awarded to the batting side plus final warning to the bowler.

c. At 3rd instance short pitch will be called no ball and 1 run will be awarded to the batting side and the bowler will not be allowed to bowl further in the innings.

d. **In the Al Kharj League**, one short pitch delivery is allowed per over. Legitimate short pitch delivery is below the head height in the normal batting stance. First short pitched delivery in the over will not be called a no ball. If a bowler bowls second short pitch delivery in the same over, that ball will be called a no ball with first warning given to the bowler and 1 run awarded to the batting side.

If in any other over of the match, same bowler bowls second short pitch delivery, that ball will be called no ball, he will be given second and final warning and 1 run will be awarded to the batting side.

Next time if the same bowler bowls a second short pitched delivery in an over, that ball will be declared no ball, bowler will be banned from bowling in that match and 1 run will be awarded to the batting side.

(Any short pitched delivery which is allowed as per above rules if it is above head height, it will be called a wide ball and that ball will be considered as one per over bouncer as well, but if the second or third bouncer which is not allowed is above head height, it will be called a no ball and free hit will be awarded).

(Batsmen should always wear helmet in case a pace bowler is operating at one end or both ends. The match umpires can ask any batsmen to wear the helmet if he is not already wearing it to make sure that no untoward incident happens, this is applicable to all leagues i.e. Al Kharj, Huraymala, Hayer and Diriyah).

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6.7. **BEAMER** (applies to the whole innings):

- a. If a bowler bowls a FULL TOSS ball which is above waist height, it will be called no ball with 1 run awarded to the batting side and a warning will be given to the bowler.
- b. At 2nd instance beamer will be called no ball and 1 run will be awarded to the batting side plus final warning to the bowler.
- c. At 3rd instance beamer will be called no ball and 1 run will be awarded to the batting side and the bowler will not be allowed to bowl further in the innings.

6.8. **FREE HIT:** Following all types of no balls, the next ball will be a **FREE HIT**. The umpire shall signal no ball and after the ball is dead shall signal the scorer a free hit by moving the hand in circular clockwise direction. There can be no change in the field unless there is a change in the striker. The next delivery is to be a legitimate delivery (not no ball & not wide ball).

7. Runners & Substitutes:

7.1. **No runner will be allowed at all.**

a. **Exemption:** In case any player has a permanent disability (not injury), a runner will be allowed to him after the prior approval of the RCA Executive Committee.

7.2. If a batsman is injured, he will be **retired hurt** and he can come back to bat after fall of the next wicket or any time later.

7.3. In case a batsman retires on his will without any injury/illness, he may be allowed to return only after the permission of the opposing captain, otherwise he will be written **retired out** not retired hurt.

7.4. No player may leave the field except for injury or illness and only that too, after permission from the umpire. No substitute can be used without notifying to the umpire. Once a player has left the field for more than 15 minutes, he cannot bowl on his return until he has been back on the field as long as he was off.

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7.5 In case of emergency (death/sickness of blood relatives, urgent call from the work place), a player can leave the field with the permission of the umpires. Umpires can allow the 12th man for that player taking into consideration the nature of the emergency. A player who left the field due to emergency can resume the fielding at any time when he returns (subject to the normal penalty that he cannot bowl for the number of over he was absent).

Also in case of emergency, a player can leave the field during the batting with the permission of the umpire. In this case, he will be considered as **Retired**.

If he returns back to the ground during the team's batting, he can resume his innings after the fall of any wicket. In case a player **Retired** and could not come back due to the emergency during the batting of the team, he will be considered as **Retired Out**. The umpires can allow 12th man to field in place of the **Retired Out player**.

8. Match Results:

8.1. 2 points shall be awarded to the winning team.

8.2. Round robin matches can result in a **tie** in case of equal score at the completion of 20 overs or fall of last wicket. In such situation the **points shall be equally divided**.

8.3. Final Standings will be calculated on Net Run-Rate.

8.4. For the knockout matches e.g. finals & semi-finals, in case of a tie, a super over will bowled where fielding side will bowl one over, and the batting side will have 3 batsmen and vice versa. The bowler and 3 batsmen have to be nominated in advance.

8.5. In case of *rain*, bad weather or bad light, if a minimum of 10 overs for each team is not possible the teams will share one point each in the league matches. In case of 40-over matches, a minimum of 20 overs for each team is required to constitute a match. In case of wash-out games, there will be no rescheduling for the league matches. Teams will share points in this case. Wash-out knockout matches will be rescheduled. If the overs are reduced after the start of the first innings, then **Duckworth-Lewis Method** will be used to set a revised target for the team batting second.

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8.6 In case of bad light when first innings of the match was completed as scheduled and the second innings cannot be completed due to bad light or rain, **Duckworth-Lewis Method** will be used to declare the winner provided that the second innings has already lasted for more than 10 overs in a T20 match and more than 20 overs in a 40-over match. In case of second innings interrupting before the 10 overs in T20 match or before the 20 overs in a 40-over match, both the teams will share the points.

8.7. In case of **death** of first blood relation in Riyadh, the concerned team's match will be postponed for that week on the condition of a prior notice. This match will be rescheduled later in the tournament. **If the death occurs outside Saudi Arabia, and the team wants to postpone its match, then this match will not be rescheduled and 2 points will be awarded to the opponent team without any further penalty of walkover.**

8.8. Team conceding a walkover without any valid reason will be penalized a sum of 200 SR for the first time. If a team concedes walkover for the second time in the same season, 400 SR fine will be applicable. In the next tournament, this team who gave 2 walkovers will be included in the league below the league in which it was playing earlier for one tournament and after completing the tournament, in the following tournament this team can join the same league where it was playing.

8.9. A team **forfeiting** a match by refusing to play, as a reaction to umpire's decision, will be disqualified from the tournament and may also not be able to take part in the next tournament. An additional fine of SR 400 shall be levied on the team.

a. Forfeiture due to unavoidable reason will not come under this rule.

8.10. In case the match umpires decide to give walkover or decide to award the match to any team due to any reason, they should first contact one of the following Executive Committee members personally or by phone i.e. Atif Amin-0534226215, Samiullah Najar-0542639766, Ishfaq Bhat-0539399389, Nasir Abbasi-058207944 & Nadeem Babar-0506263190. This is as per the decision of RCA Executive Committee to avoid unnecessary walkovers and awarding of matches.

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9. Power Plays for a 40-over game

First Power Play: In a 40-over match, the first **eight overs** of an inning will be a Mandatory Power Play. Maximum two fielders are allowed outside the circle during this Power Play.

Second Power Play: From overs 9-32, maximum four fielders are allowed outside the circle.

Third Power Play: From overs 33-40, maximum five fielders are allowed outside the circle.

If the batting team's overs are reduced, the number of Power Play overs shall be adjusted accordingly

10. Chucking/Throwing

It is the responsibility of the umpires to check whether the bowlers are bowling with a legal action or not. If the umpires think that a bowler is chucking/throwing, on first instance the umpire will call the ball as no ball and warn the bowler. On second instance, umpire will again call the ball as no ball and will give final warning to the bowler and inform the captain of that team. On third instance, during the same match, if a bowler is called for chucking/throwing, he will be banned from bowling during that match and the umpires should report to RCA GS to take further action. **(In case umpires call a bowler for chucking/throwing, the next ball will be a FREE HIT. On the third instance, the same bowler has to bowl the free-hit delivery which should be a legal ball).**

11. Change of ball by Umpires:

- It is the sole discretion of the match umpires to change the match ball at any stage of the match if it has lost its shape, leather is damaged or it has become so soft that it is giving disadvantage to one of the playing teams. Umpires should make sure that the changed ball is of the same condition like the original ball. The batting side is responsible to provide the ball which should be of the same

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- Condition like previous one. If the batting side is unable to provide the ball, the umpires have the right to continue with the same ball.
- **The Players or team Captains will have no say in change of the ball.** If the ball changes its shape during the 1st 6 overs, a new ball will be used, and the umpires should make sure to rub or bounce the ball to make sure that the condition of the replaced ball is the same as the old ball.

12. Captain's Responsibility for maintaining Discipline of the Team

12.1.1 RCA holds the team captain responsible for any disciplinary issues on and off the field arising from the players of their teams & their supporters sitting in the dugout. This includes using abusive or provocative language against umpires or opposite team members, fighting with opposite team members, refusing to accept decision of umpires and other disciplinary issues. Any disciplinary matter could lead to penalties on the players involved as well as on the team captain, which may include monetary fines and/or bans as per RCA code of conduct.

12.1.2 Smoking & use of other Tabaco items like Naswar are not allowed in the ground or dugout. Violator will be warned at first instant and banned for 1 match if he is found smoking again.

12.1.3 Deliberate distraction of fielders by word or action while fielder is about to field the ball is not allowed, this applies to all batting side players & their supporters in the dugout. At first instant umpires should warn the team captain about the issue and if same thing is repeated umpire should deduct 5 runs as penalty from batting team score. Multiple violations in a match will result in multiple penalties.

13. Extraordinary pressure on Umpires

In the past, RCA has noticed the tendency by some teams to apply extraordinary (beyond the normal appealing process) pressure on the umpires. This includes celebrating an appeal before the umpire's decision, surrounding the umpire, congregating in the ground or in the pitch after the appeal and shouting or gesturing from inside or outside the ground to influence the umpire's decision. If such cases reported by the match umpires or any RCA Executive Committee member, the captain of the offending team will be called for an inquiry and maybe subjected to penalties which may include monetary fines and/or bans.

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14. On Ground resolution of the Disciplinary Issues by the teams or umpires

All Disciplinary Issues should be reported to RCA and there should be no agreements made on the ground or after the match between the umpires and/or offending team/players. RCA Executive Committee reserves the right to open any disciplinary incident and conduct an inquiry even though if the matter is not reported to RCA by both the involved parties. Furthermore, if a team wants to complain against any matter during the match and would like to call a hearing of RCA disciplinary committee on such matter, they should make their complain before Monday with complain fee of SAR 300. If their allegations are proven true the fee will be refunded, submission of fee applies to any appeal made by teams against RCA disciplinary committee decisions as well. No complains or appeals will be entertained by RCA without fee.

15. Non-striker leaving his ground early

If the non-striker is out of his ground from the moment the ball comes into play to the instant when the bowler would normally have been expected to release the ball, the bowler is permitted to attempt to run him out. There is nothing in the Law which states that the bowler must warn the batsman first. It is totally up to the bowler if he wants to warn the batsman or not. Whether the attempt is successful or not, the ball shall not count as one in the over.

If the bowler fails in an attempt to run out the non-striker, the umpire shall call and signal Dead ball as soon as possible.

16. Ball bouncing more than once and landing off the pitch

Ball bouncing more than once before reaching the popping crease will be called a no ball.

17. Bouncing Bat

If the batsman grounds the bat (held by the hand) or another part of his person within his ground (for example elbow when diving) and provided that the batsman has continued the forward momentum through running or diving and subsequently inadvertently loses his contact with the ground, or contact between the bat and the person when the wicket is put down, the batsman will be protected from being Run Out. In addition, same rule will be applied when a striker is diving back into his ground to avoid being stumped.

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18. Loudspeaker use

Loudspeakers are not allowed to be used by the teams for commentary or any announcements during the match.

Note:

RCA Tournament Conditions & Regulations, RCA code of conduct for Players & Officials and RCA Code of Conduct for Umpires shall be applicable in full if there shall be any conflict between the provision of the code, regulation and the provisions of any code of conduct or similar regulation issued by any Cricket Authority, the provisions of the RCA Playing Conditions/Code of Conduct shall prevail and shall overwrite any such regulation.

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