



Dandenong District Cricket Association Covers Policy

Purpose

The intent of this Policy is to ensure the proper and effective use of Covers to maximise the chances of our Clubs playing turf cricket during the season. The proper use of Covers by clubs is a **key commitment** by Clubs to play in the Dandenong District Cricket Association (DDCA) Turf Cricket Competition.

Management

The DDCA Match Committee is the controlling body to manage this policy during the active season, but DDCA Clubs in consultation with their curator are responsible for the covers application and removal.

Forty-Five (45) minutes prior to the scheduled start of play, umpires (if in attendance at a game) will take control over the use of covers.

Both sides are to assist with the removal and application of covers during the game.

Scope

The application of this policy is defined in two major parts:

- Covers Usage Procedure

 - A - Procedure for Monday to Friday (Saturday for Sunday Games)

- Club's Responsibility and Handling of Covers

 - Appendix 1 – Defines Penalties

 - Appendix 2 - Defines Covers Folding Instructions



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Covers Usage Procedure

A. Monday to Friday (Saturday for Sunday Games)

1. To facilitate the varying physical locations and conditions of our different turf grounds, Clubs may, at any time, utilise covers on their wicket table with the intent to maximise the chances of match play.
2. Clubs must notify their curator that covers have been applied
3. Clubs must remove covers as advised by their curator, so that there is sufficient time for the curator to work on the wicket weather permitting.
4. Clubs are to contact the DDCA Match Committee Chairman (or if unavailable the DDCA Secretary) if they cannot meet these instructions.
5. Clubs are to ensure that details of their official Club Contact for covers instructions and their mobile number(s) are kept up to date with the DDCA Match Committee.
6. **Failure by Clubs to:**
 - a. maintain current and accurate Club Contact details with the DDCA;
 - b. properly maintain their covers and/or properly handle and utilise their covers as per this Policy;

May result in Clubs being formally penalised by the DDCA as per appendix 1 (Penalty Guide Lines)

Club Responsibilities

1. It is the Club's responsibility to ensure that covers that are used fully protect turf wicket table and that they are in good condition and free of holes.
2. It is Club's responsibility to ensure the use of covers is compliant with this Policy
- ~~3.~~ Clubs may use multiple covers, if appropriate.
4. It is recommended that if Clubs intend to utilise covers during the week prior to Thursday, they invest in an additional set of single wicket covers that will provide better flexibility for single wicket preparations earlier in the week.
5. Clubs must ensure that covers pegs are in good condition and of sufficient quantity.
6. Clubs must use good condition hessian underlay to place on the active wicket beneath the covers.
7. Clubs must notify the DDCA before organizing any sponsor's logos on their covers.



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Handling of Covers

1. Ensure covers are secured properly with pegs at reasonable intervals. Lengths of timber, tyres etc. may also be used to weigh down the edges.
2. Use of poly pipe to raise the overlap section is highly recommended when utilising multiple covers.
3. Hessian must be placed on the wicket before covers (except if covers are laid for short periods during a match.).
4. Fold covers properly when removed as per *Appendix 2*. This will make it easier for future laying.
5. Remove covers so as any trapped water runs off away from the wicket table and Bowlers run-ups.
6. Fold covers well away from wicket table and Bowlers run-ups to avoid water running onto these areas. If weather is threatening prior to the match, covers should be left folded adjacent to the wicket to allow for easy access. – *See Appendix 2*
7. Remember to remove into the wind (this will assist lifting covers off the wicket) and lay with wind behind you (this will assist keeping covers down).
8. Covers should not be dragged over abrasive surfaces and trolleys should be used to transport covers as much as possible.
9. Hessian should not be folded up when wet as this can cause rotting. Also, damp hessian should not be laid on wickets as this can lead to fungal disease.
10. Unless instructed to do so, covers should not be laid before dusk (unless rain is imminent) or left down too long after sunrise, otherwise the grass on the wicket and surrounds will be prone to damage or disease.
11. Remember, placing covers down when not required can also contribute to turf disease.
- 12.** Covers must be removed prior to 9:00 am on match day, unless it is raining or rain is imminent. In the case of inclement weather, personnel must be readily available to remove or reapply covers as applicable.
Greater Dandenong clubs must liaise with council curators in regard to the timing for removal of covers.
13. Ensure pegs are not left lying around as they can cause damage (to fieldsmen and cylinder mowers!).



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Appendix 1

Breach of Cover Policy – Penalties

These policy guidelines can refer to any number of matters with the key ones defined as hereunder

Covers

The use of covers and the associated process is defined under the DDCA Covers Policy. This is also addressed under Rule 13.2.

In evaluating any breach, it is important to ensure, where possible, consistency in outcome and that the conclusion is reasonable. The following table is to be used as a guide in assessing any digression of the policy or rule.

Category	Action	Severity	Comments
a	No Attempt Made to apply covers or An attempt made to apply covers but failed to do so	4	Full responsibility on Home Club
b	Covers applied but problems with leakage or laying of covers on wet wickets due to method of laying, timing or holes present	3	Had club applied improper application of covers or lack of proper maintenance beforehand to ensure appropriate condition of covers
c	Applied covers that were previously maintained but still had leakage issues	2	Repaired but still had leakage Detection of New Holes
d	Applied covers but subject to vandal damage	1	No issue with home club

As a guide and if play was not possible as a consequence of severity determined by the above table then the following is a guide to an appropriate outcome including the possibility of replaying matches

Severity	Penalty to Home Club	Consideration
4	1 st offence -\$500 Fine and penalty of 3 points 2 nd Offence - Fine of \$750 and penalty of 3 points 3 rd Offence - \$1000 fine and loss of 6 points	Match maybe replayed
3	1 st offence -\$250 Fine 2 nd Offence - Fine of \$350 plus loss and/or penalty of 3 points 3 rd Offence - \$500 fine and penalty of 3 points	Match maybe replayed
2	1st offence -Warning 2nd Offence - Fine of \$100 3rd Offence - \$500 fine and loss of 3 points	Match maybe replayed
1	Not Applicable	Match maybe replayed



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The Match Committee will determine the Category in evaluating the breach and the applicable severity to be applied.

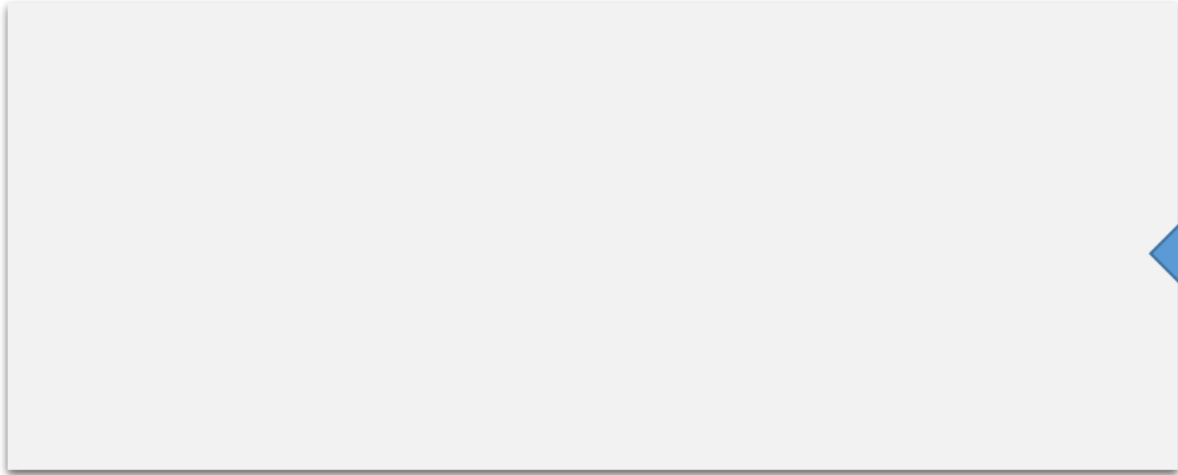
Clubs will also have the right to appeal to the Appeals Tribunal.

Any breach of the Cover policy in a finals match will be dealt by Rules and Permits under Rule 13.2.

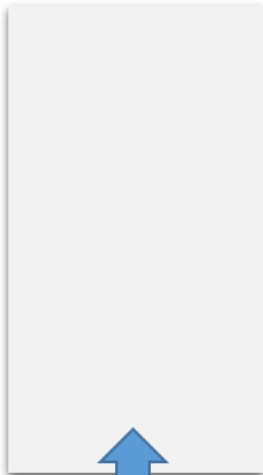


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Appendix 2: Covers Folding Instructions



**FOLD IN ONE DIRECTION, IN OVERLAPPING SYTLE,
UNTIL NARROW ENOUGH STRIP TO ROLL**



**ROLL UP AND
PLACE ON
TROLLEY**