



Guidelines on Supervising Children at Cricket Sessions

A basic requirement of all sessions and matches involving children is that a minimum of two responsible adults will be present in all circumstances

Qualified Coach Ratios required for Coaching Sessions

- Net Coaching: 1 Coach : 8 children
- Group Coaching: 1 Coach: 24 children
- Hard Ball Coaching: 1 Coach: 16 children

Supervision Ratios

Supervision ratios relate to managing groups of children and ensuring sufficient adults are present to deal with any issue or incident that may arise. For single sex groups, there must be at least one same gender member of staff. For mixed groups there must be at least one male and one female supervising adult.

Minimum Supervision Ratios

Aged 8 and under – 1 adult: 8 children

Aged 9 and over – 1 adult: 10 children

Drinks breaks

Coaches, teachers, managers and umpires are encouraged to:

- Ensure regular intervals for drinks are arranged, particularly in matches of more than 20 overs per innings, or in hot weather.
- Plan drinks breaks in practice sessions and matches every 20 – 40 minutes on warm sunny days.
- Avoid waiting for children to say they are thirsty before planning a drinks break as thirst is an indication of dehydration. Children tend to dehydrate more quickly than adults.

Facilities and venues used for children's cricket.

All clubs must ensure they have undertaken an adequate risk assessment on all facilities and venues used for any club activities, regardless of ownership of that facility or venue. This does not include away match venues for leagues but should include, where possible, facilities and venues that will be used on tours.

If clubs regularly hire facilities from other organisations such as schools or community colleges, there may be a generic risk assessment available for clubs to consider. It is important all clubs recognise their responsibility for ensuring venues and facilities are fit for purpose.

Guidance on the Wearing of Cricket Helmets by Young Players

This guidance applies to all players up to the age of 18, both in open age group cricket and in all junior cricket played with a hard ball. This guidance also applies during practice sessions.

Helmets with a faceguard or grille should be worn when batting against a hard cricket ball in matches and in practice sessions. Wicket keepers should wear a helmet with a faceguard or a wicketkeeper face protector, when standing up to the stumps.

All young players should regard a helmet with a faceguard as a normal item of protective equipment when batting, together with pads, gloves and, for boys, an abdominal protector. (Box)

ECB Fielding Regulations

- No young players in the Under 15 age group, or younger, shall be allowed to field closer than 8 yards (7.3 metres) from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side, until the batsman has played at the ball.
- For players in the Under 13 age group, and below, the distance is 11 yards (10 metres)
- These minimum distances apply even if the player is wearing a helmet.
- Should a young player in these age groups come within the restricted distance the umpire must stop the game immediately and instruct the fielder to move back.
- In addition any young player in the Under 16 to Under 18 age groups, who has not reached the age of 18, must wear a helmet and, for boys, an abdominal protector (box) when fielding within 6 yards (5.5 metres) of the bat except behind the wicket on the off side. Players should wear appropriate protective equipment whenever they are fielding in a position where they feel at risk.

ECB Fast Bowling Directives

Directives for matches

AGE	MAX OVERS PER SPELL	MAX OVERS PER DAY
Up to 13	5 Overs per spell	10 Overs per day
U14, U15	6 Overs per spell	12 Overs per day
U16, U17	7 Overs per spell	18 Overs per day
U18, U19	7 Overs per spell	18 Overs per day

Directives for practice sessions

AGE	MAX BALLS PER SESSION	MAX SESSIONS PER WEEK
Up to 13	30 balls per session	2 sessions per week
U14, U15	36 balls per session	2 sessions per week
U16, U17	36 balls per session	3 sessions per week
U18, U19	42 balls per session	3 sessions per week