

**NSJCA U16/17 Turf Protocol, incl. Wet Weather**

**IN NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANYONE WEARING SPIKES BE INVOLVED WITH COVERS - CHANGE IN TO RUNNERS OR SIMPLY REMOVE SPIKED SHOES BEFORE HANDLING THE COVERS**

Wickets to be covered on Saturday nights.

- In most cases the host club will be able to get its senior team to put covers on on Saturday night.
- If there has been rain on the Saturday such that Saturday play was abandoned and covers were not able to be put on in time, a washout can be declared then.

All players to turn up on Sunday morning on time, even if the weather is uncertain.

- If the weather is fine remove the covers, fold them as directed and put them away in the shed, and play. The normal procedure for folding covers is to first remove the pegs, then drag the edge in the middle of the wicket square over the outer edge into the outfield (such that the cover is now upside down). To fold it take each end in to the middle and repeat that until you are left with a narrow strip, which is then similarly folded to result in a 1.5m square of plastic. Sometimes the condensation on the cover can be quite heavy, and that should be allowed to dry before folding etc. Hessian underlay should be placed on a fence to dry.
- If there has been some rain overnight and water on the covers, be very careful as to how you remove the covers so no water leaks onto the wicket square. The accepted method is to fold in each edge by 60cm, then if the wicket you are playing on is on the edge of the square, take the edge in the middle of the square out over the outer edge so that the water runs away in the outfield. If the wicket is in the middle of the square then once the edges are folded, the cover is dragged to a point where one edge is in the outfield, and then the inner edge is dragged over the outer edge allowing the water to drain in the outfield. If the covers are wet, place them outside the boundary to dry before putting them away after the game.
- If it is raining or even drizzling, do not remove the covers until it clears, so as to protect the wicket for the later game, or simply to protect the wicket. Playing on a wet wicket will damage it to the detriment of future games.

If there is the chance of rain, leave the covers on the other side of the boundary, so if it does start raining or drizzling you can quickly float the covers back on.

- When your game concludes, players for the later game should have arrived and a decision can be made as to whether the covers can be folded and put away or remain outside the boundary.

Under no circumstances are covers to be left out unless prior arrangement has been made with a club official. Under no circumstances are covers to be left unfolded in a heap in the shed, as it makes it very difficult for the covers to be put out when next needed and people will stop putting covers out for you.