



Appendix 6a (SACA Premier Cricket Playing Conditions)

SACA CONCUSSION SUBSTITUTION POLICY

PREMIER CRICKET POLICY

1. Scope

- (i) all players; and
- (ii) all umpires and other officials (collectively referred to as Participants):

1.1 SACA recommends affiliated clubs and associations enforce these Guidelines for Participants taking part in Premier Cricket training, matches and competitions.

2. Introduction

In the event a head trauma occurs, or the umpires suspect that a player may be concussed, a replacement player is permitted for the remainder of the match.

3. Process

The replacement player shall be a similar type of player (best endeavours) who may immediately participate in the match as a complete replacement player for the Concussed Player.

The Concussion Substitute is permitted to bat, bowl, keep wicket or field as though he/ she was a member of the starting 11.

The team coach shall seek the prior approval of the umpires, who shall not unreasonably refuse a request.

The umpires shall then inform the captain of the opposing team.

The match will not be delayed for a concussion replacement player to arrive at the venue.

4. Mandatory break

Any player who is replaced during a match due to concussion will be subject to a mandatory break and be cleared to return to play by a medical practitioner before they are able to return to play. The time frames below are consistent with the recommendations by Cricket Australia:

- Mandatory 13 day stand down for senior players with concussion
- Mandatory 14 day symptom free period for U19 players post concussion before return to match play (ie the time out could last 16, 17 days etc)



These time frames are subject to change to ensure that they remain consistent with any future changes to Cricket Australia recommendations.

5. Objective

This policy's objective is to permit the substitution of a player who is suspected of suffering from head trauma or concussion.

The opposing team shall not be unfairly disadvantaged by a team's choice of replacement player.

A team shall take reasonable steps to replace a concussed player with a similar type of player; however, the status of the match may permit other types of replacements, for example:

- A batter may be replaced by a bowler provided that the team will no longer bowl in the match;
- A batter may be replaced by a bowler subject to the captain's undertaking that the replacement will not bowl in the match;
- A bowler may be replaced by a batter provided that the team will no longer bat in the match or the bowler has been dismissed.

In the event that a player needs to be replaced between days 1 and 2 of a match, the club must apply to the Permit Committee for approval of a replacement player. This replacement may result from:

- Delayed concussion, or
- Concussion suffered by a player between days 1 and 2

Date: December 2023

Reference documents:

1. Australian Cricket Community Cricket Concussion and Head Trauma Guidelines - Date last reviewed: 20/11/2023
2. Appendix 6 – Head Trauma Policy – SACA Premier Cricket Playing Conditions