

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai & Hills District Cricket Association

Turf Pitch Cover Policy

Dated: 22nd October 2020

In the event of a conflict between the Turf Pitch Cover policy and the HK&HDCA Senior Competition Playing conditions then the Turf Pitch Cover policy shall apply.

Application of Covers

Prior to Friday

At the discretion of the clubs involved in a game at a turf field, covers may be applied on evenings earlier than Friday.

If a club does decide to apply the covers then they must:

- not be applied prior to 5:00pm unless it is raining
- notify the Executive Officer of their decision to apply the covers
- remove the covers the following morning prior to 8:30am unless it is raining
- notify the Executive Officer of their decision not to remove the covers and monitor the weather conditions and take appropriate actions to remove the covers should the weather allow

Friday Afternoon

The Executive Officer will determine the Association's stance on covers for Friday afternoon and evening and shall advise all clubs responsible for applying covers of the decision to Whatsapp covers group by 1:00pm on Friday.

If the decision is made to apply covers on Friday afternoon then they must be applied prior to 7:00pm.

If a club decides to vary from the decision of the Executive Officer, either to apply or not apply the covers then they must notify the Executive Officer in writing of their decision and the reasoning behind it.

On Match Day

From their arrival at the ground the official umpire will take full responsibility for the placement or removal of the covers, and will retain that responsibility until the completion of the day's play. It is the responsibility of both teams to assist with the application and / or removal of the covers and the umpire shall direct as necessary.

Refusal to cooperate with the umpire's instructions relating to the covers may be considered as a breach of the Spirit of Cricket and as such the umpire will issue the offending team captain a warning.

Should the offending team captain continue to refuse to cooperate with the umpire's instructions relating to the covers the umpire will inform the offending captain that they will be reported to the Senior Competition Committee (SCC).

Upon receiving the umpire's report the SCC will consider penalties which may include the offending team forfeiting the match or being deducted match points regardless of the subsequent result of the match.

Saturday Afternoon (close of play)

Teams will be advised by the Executive Officer if there is a match on the Sunday following play on the Saturday. It will be the umpire's decision as to whether or not the weather forecast requires covers are to be applied for the match the following day. In the event that no official umpire is present on the Saturday then the captain's will agree whether the covers are required or not. Should the captains fail to come to an agreement then the covers will be applied. Both teams will be responsible for the application of covers.

Removal of Covers

Prior to Game Time

The team that applied the covers the night before is also responsible for their removal by 8:30am the next day. If the club determines that due to weather conditions it is not prudent to remove the covers then they must advise the Executive Officer in writing of their decision and the reasoning behind it immediately.

Storage of Covers

It is the responsibility of the two teams involved in the match to ensure that the covers are folded, placed on the trolley and locked away.

If, for any reason, it is not possible to lock the covers away then they must advise the Executive Officer in writing of their decision and the reasoning behind it immediately.

Ropes

In all cases, the ropes surrounding the turf square shall be removed 30 minutes before play commences by both teams and put back up at the end of the day's play. This applies to both Saturday and Sunday matches regardless of what matches may be played at the same venue the following day.

Care of Covers

At no time are the covers or hessian to be hung over a chain link fence surrounding the ground if doing so will damage them.

In the event the hessian is wet by the end of the day's play, the team listed first in the draw is to advise the Executive Officer.

Super Soakers

After the use of super soakers, ensure that:

- they are stored correctly and kept out of the weather
- tensioning nuts released & foam sitting up off the ground, and
- the soaker is laid back sitting up on the wheels

This will help the equipment last and operate affectively.