



# Ballarat Cricket Association Procedure 1C PLAYER AND OFFICIAL DE-REGISTRATION

This document should be read in conjunction with the Laws of Cricket, the Ballarat Cricket Association (BCA) Constitution, BCA policies including Code of Behaviour, Vilification, and Electronic and Social Media, BCA Governing Procedures including Offences and Penalties, Tribunal and Appeals Procedures, and Rules of Play, and is not intended to replace them.

## INTRODUCTION

### Background

This procedure has been developed to provide a risk management framework and procedure basis for Ballarat cricket administrators to recognise a duty of care with respect to players/officials who could pose an unacceptable risk to other players/officials.

Previous generations of Association and club administrators were not subject to the same level of scrutiny in relation to their risk management requirements and particularly their attention to duty of care issues as they are today.

Whilst the concept of a permanent de-registration policy/procedure has been in existence in other sports – AFL football and basketball, it is imperative that all Ballarat Cricket Association (BCA) players/officials accept this procedure to ensure that a consistent approach is applied to de-registration.

Other sports have had examples of individuals taking legal action against other individuals and, more particularly action against those who potentially could have stopped such “dangerous” individuals from being able to cause harm, highlights the need for a uniform de-registration procedure.

It is also unacceptable in community sport for players/officials to repeatedly breach the Laws of Cricket, the Ballarat Cricket Association (BCA) Constitution, BCA policies including Code of Behaviour, Vilification, and Electronic and Social Media, BCA



Governing Procedures including Offences and Penalties, Tribunal and Appeals Procedures, and Rules of Play, and hence the spirit of cricket.

### Definitions

Term	Definition
De-Registration	The withdrawal of a player’s permission to play or an official’s capacity to officiate in any form of cricket activity.
Association Executive	A person(s) with the responsibility of administering the association.
Official	Includes but not limited to coaches (non-accredited), officers, managers, employees or any person performing any duties (paid or unpaid) for or on behalf of the club, team or association.
Player	A person who participates in cricket competitions administered by the BCA including representative games.
Suspension	A period during which a player or official is not allowed to play or officiate in a game of cricket.

### Application

The De-registration procedure applies to all players/officials at all levels within the BCA.

### Variation

The Board of the BCA may from time to time, alter the procedures for de-registration in its absolute discretion.

## PROCEDURE AIMS

The procedure aims to:



- De-register a player who has repeatedly offended and is found guilty of cricket offences where such offences cause the tribunal history of such player to fall beyond an acceptable level for the community sport of cricket.
- De-register an official who is found guilty of a cricket offence (at any level) where such offence or offences are deemed to fall beyond an acceptable level for the community sport of cricket.
- Apply the de-registration of a player/official to both roles so that a de-registered player cannot officiate in any capacity and a de-registered official cannot participate as a player.

## DE-REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

### General

- The tribunal suspension history of a player/official will be maintained by the BCA.
- The full tribunal suspension history of a player shall be considered when determining penalties for offences and potential de-registration.
- Club imposed penalties will not be considered on the permanent record for the player/official.
- The BCA advise all clubs of the details of the procedure and make the procedure readily available to their clubs, players, and officials.

### De-registration Process

- Once a player/official has accumulated a suspension history of 10 match days or more, the league must advise the player/official and their club (in writing) that the player/official faces the risk of automatic de-registration should the player/official incur further suspension(s) that results in him/her reaching or exceeding the 16 match days total suspension history.
- Notification of de-registration shall be made in writing to the player/official and the club they are affiliated with.



- Cricket Victoria shall be notified in writing of all decisions to de-register a player/official.
- Should a player/official’s tribunal suspension history already exceed a combined total of 16 match days suspension at the time of implementing this procedure, the BCA is to formally advise the player/official and the club that the player/official represents, faces automatic de-registration should the player/official incur another suspension.
- Clubs must counsel all their players/officials in relation to this procedure.
- Clubs must always strive to ensure their players or officials do not get themselves into a position of potentially being de-registered. Anger management training is seen as a critical component of this prevention for clubs to arrange.
- For the avoidance of doubt, de-registration will commence on the date on which the most recent suspension of the player/official (being the suspension which resulted in that player or official reaching or exceeding 16 playing days suspension) ends.

## Criteria for De-registration

### Players

- Players shall be automatically de-registered and not allowed further registration in the BCA if the player has repeatedly offended and accumulated a combined total of 16 match days (or greater) in their career.
- Should a player receive 16 match days or more suspension as a “first offence” it shall be at the BCA’s discretion to de-register the player following such a first offence suspension.

### Officials

- Officials shall be de-registered and not allowed to officiate in any form in the same or another league if they have accumulated a combined total of 16 match days suspension (or greater) in a lifetime.



## Players / Officials

- A combined total of 16 match days or greater as a player and/or official shall result in automatic de-registration.

## De-registered Players/Officials Seeking Re-registration

- A player/official shall not be eligible for re-registration unless the player or official gains an exemption to re-register from the BCA. Such exemption shall only be granted under exceptional circumstances (i.e. where the BCA is satisfied that the player/official is genuinely rehabilitated).
- The BCA re registration hearing is an application for re registration only and is not a review or appeal of previous suspensions
- A de-registered player cannot officiate in or at any game of cricket within the BCA unless an exemption is given by the BCA.
- A de-registered official cannot participate as a player or officiate in or at any game of cricket within the BCA.
- A de-registered player/official who is successful in gaining an exemption to play/officiate and subsequently re-offends will automatically be de-registered with no further right to apply for an exemption or to appeal.

## Appeals

After having progressed through the stages detailed above, the de-registered player/official may only appeal to the BCA Independent Tribunal.

It is the obligation of the player/official to present their case with all necessary witnesses and relevant documents to the BCA Independent Tribunal and show cause why he/she should be reinstated.

- A player/official may only submit one (1) appeal in any one season.
- The player/official concerned shall be entitled to representation at the hearing.
- Such representation shall not be by any person who is legally qualified.
- Such appeal shall be heard within a period as determined by the BCA.



- The player/official must lodge a payment of \$1,000 (inc. GST) to the BCA which may be forfeited should the appeal be considered frivolous. A \$250 (inc. GST) administrative fee will be retained from the Appeal payment irrespective of the outcome of the appeal.