



## Traditional Cricket Scoring Tips

### Before the Match

- **Don't have a scoring roster that is inclusive of all parents.** Just share it amongst a select few who are keen and understand the rules.
- Bring pencils, sharpener and eraser – **keep pencil sharp!**

### Keeping Score

- **Legible handwriting**
- **Concentration** - It is important to maintain a high level of concentration at all times whilst scoring to avoid making simple mistakes
- **Communication** - It is essential to maintain good communication between yourself, your fellow scorer, and the Umpires. It cannot be emphasized enough the importance of **frequent checking** with your fellow scorer and **frequent balancing** of your book
- **Always Acknowledge Umpire signals**
- **Record time that an innings is stopped due to weather** as this may be required to determine over reductions for an innings
- When a run is scored, mark one down for the batsman and one to the bowler. When more than one run is scored, mark it against the batsman and bowler as the number of runs scored rather than multiple "one" strokes. For example, if a batsman were to score a single, boundary four, three runs in consecutive scoring shots it should be marked as "**1 4 3**" against the batsman (and not "1 1 1 1 1 1")
- When a batsman comes in to bat, mark down the number over it is
- **Record the cumulative total at the end of every over**
- **Record Players surnames** – Over the years we have seen problems during scorebook audits where scorers mainly use first names and in cases where more than one player shares that first name it has been difficult to determine which player made a catch or run out for example. Scorers should record surnames and either first name or initial of first name.

- **Wickets**

- **Record how the batsman got out in the HOW OUT column and the BOWLER if it is a wicket credited to a bowler (see below)**
- **Record the Bowler only for wickets that are attributed to bowlers – Bowled, Caught, Stumped, Hit Wicket, LBW only**
  - Bowler is not credited with the wicket or recorded for any other type of dismissal
- **Record batsmen's total**
- **Record the score at fall of wicket**
- **Run outs**
  - **Do not record a wicket against the bowler**
  - **Record all fielders involved with the run out in the How Out column** (e.g. one fielder if it was a direct hit run out, 2 fielders if there was an assisted throw to another fielder who completes the run out). **Don't record the bowler in the bowler column**
- **Catches**
  - **Always record the fielder who completes a catch in the How Out column.** If you are not sure who it is, find out from the umpire
- **Stumping**
  - **Always record the wicket-keeper who completes a stumping in the How Out column.** If you are not sure who it is, find out from the umpire
- **Fall of Wicket (FOW)**
  - **Always record the fall of wicket as the batting team total when the wicket fell.**

- **Byes / Leg byes**

- When a **bye or leg bye** is scored, the runs only get scored against sundries area and the cumulative total runs. A bye or leg bye can be indicated against the bowler but does not get added to his bowling runs.

- **No balls**

- *No runs completed*: One no-ball to no-ball sundries and one no-ball to the bowlers figures
- *Byes/Leg Byes run off the no-ball*: Number of runs completed are recorded as byes/leg byes, plus one no-ball recorded against no-ball sundries. One no-ball is recorded against the bowler's figures.
  - *E.g. If the batsmen run 2 byes from a no-ball, one no-ball gets recorded against no-ball sundries and the bowler's figures, 2 byes gets recorded against bye sundries (nothing to the batsman). 3 runs go to the cumulative total*
- *Runs of the bat run off the no-ball*: Number of runs completed recorded to the batsman, one no-ball recorded against no-balls sundries. One no-ball + batters runs recorded against the bowler's figures
  - *E.g. If the batsman run 2 runs off the bat from a no-ball, 2 runs are scored against the batsman, one no-ball gets recorded against sundries and 3 runs (2 runs + NB) gets recorded against the bowlers figures. 3 runs go to the cumulative total*

- **Wides**

- *No runs completed*: One wide to wide sundries and one wide to the bowlers figures
- *Byes run off the wide*: Number of runs completed plus one wide recorded against wide sundries (**these are not recorded as byes**). Same number of wides recorded against the bowler's figures
  - *E.g. If the batsmen run 2 byes from a wide, 3 wides get recorded against both sundries and the bowler's figures (nothing to the batsman). 3 runs go to the cumulative total*
- *Runs of the bat run off the wide*: **IMPOSSIBLE** – if an umpire calls a wide after the ball has hit bat or body then it cannot be a wide and he needs to revoke the wide signal.

## Balancing the scorebook

- **At the end of each over, compare the bowlers runs for that over and cumulative total with the other scored and ensure they balance**
- **You should regularly balance the scorebook** to save problems at the end of the day. You should never ever reach the end of a day's play having not balanced your book.
- Recommendation is that you should aim to fully balance your scorebook at least every 5-10 overs.
- Pencil cumulative totals that will help you along the side of the page if necessary (for instance if there are eight batsmen out you can add up their total and pencil it in until the next wicket falls.)
- What needs to be balanced?
  1. **RUNS SCORED BY ALL BATSMEN + *byes, leg byes, wides and no balls (and penalty runs)* = CUMULATIVE TOTAL** (the crossed off squares in the centre of your page).
  2. **RUNS AGAINST ALL BOWLERS + *byes and leg byes (and penalty runs) only* = CUMULATIVE TOTAL**

The above 2 steps are important for a balanced scorebook.

Do these extra steps to ensure you have everything correct are as follows:

3. **Make sure all the overs bowled by all the bowlers equals the total overs bowled**
4. **Check that all wides and no-balls bowled by the bowlers equals the total number recorded in the sundries column**
5. **Check that the number of wickets credited to the bowlers plus run-outs (& other non-bowler wickets) equals the total number of wickets fallen**