



# COVERS MANUAL



## **Introduction:**

Cricket covers stand as a vital guard of the pitch against the unpredictability of nature's elements, ensuring the game unfolds seamlessly. This manual offers precise guidance on the art of applying, utilizing, and storing cricket covers, nurturing their longevity and unwavering efficacy.

## **Preservation of Waterproof Integrity:**

The crux of their utility lies in their waterproof nature; once this attribute wanes, their worth diminishes. Avoid actions that could inflict harm upon these covers, such as dragging them over abrasive surfaces, haphazardly tossing standards and pegs, rolling up pegs within the covers, or treading upon them with spiked shoes. Such indiscretions can lead to unsightly holes and cuts.

### **A) Applying Covers to a Cricket Block:**

#### **Covers, Hessians, and Standards/Pegs Location:**

Discover these within the club's lock-up, at the end of the rugby club.

#### **Transportation on Trolleys:**

Remember, these covers are best transported on trolleys for ease and efficiency.

#### **Communication from Curators:**

Be in sync with the curators (Bay Oval Trust: Kyle Dovey at 027 873 7339, or Jared Carter at 021 362 758) regarding cover requirements and timing. If you are in doubt on the required procedure, please make contact.

#### **1. Assessing Cover Needs:**

- Prior to embarking on the application, assess the specific covers required, including block covers, single wicket covers, hessian, and standards.
- Ensure you have an ample number of willing hands to assist.

#### **2. Preparing the Pitch to be Covered:**

- Rid the pitch area and block of any debris or foreign objects.
- Verify that the pitch boasts dry, pristine conditions.

**3. Placing the Hessian on the Wicket:**

- Place the hessian over the playing surface. It will often bear markings to identify the targeted wicket, but in case of ambiguity, reach out to the BOT contacts listed.

**4. Placing the Single Wicket Cover on the Wicket:**

- Lay out the single wicket cover atop the hessian.
- When using the single wicket cover alone (without the full block cover), insert standards through the eyelets to pin down. Be cautious not to penetrate the playing surface itself.

**Note:** The single cover's width exceeds that of a playing wicket, eliminating the need for standards to intrude into the playing surface.

**5. Unrolling the block Cover:**

- Gently unroll the cricket covers along the pitch's length, commencing from one end.
- Ensure the covers uniformly cover the cricket block, with at least one-meter overlap on each side.

**Note:** Be vigilant to prevent hessian and single wicket cover from rolling up during the block cover placement.

**6. Securing the Covers:**

- Employ pegs through the cover's eyelets to anchor the covers securely.
- Position standards through the eyelets evenly, beginning with a central standard on each side, pulled taut away from each other. Then, systematically install the remaining standards around the cover, maintaining even distribution and tautness to counter the wind's interference.
- Prioritize securing the side vulnerable to the prevailing wind to prevent the covers from billowing.

**Important:** With all standards anchored, the cover should be taut with no slack or flapping along any side.

**7. Monitoring:**

- During rain delays, maintain regular vigilance over the covers to verify their continued effectiveness.

**B) Removing and Putting Away Cricket Covers:****1. Unsecuring the Covers:**

- Exercise care when dismantling standards and pegs that secure the covers.

**2. Folding up the Covers:**

- The hessian must be bone dry to avoid premature deterioration.
- To fold the block covers, single wicket cover, and hessian effectively, Follow this method to pleat them;

- Position everyone along the cover and grasp it 4 meters inward (or as designated), pulling it back towards the edge. Repeat this process until the cover transforms into a 2-meter width.
- Once in pleated form, fold it in half and commence rolling up from there.
- Elevate the rolled-up covers onto the designated trolley.

### **3. Storing the Covers:**

- Use the trolleys for transporting covers, hessian, and standards to the club lock-up.
- Ensure tidy placement of trolleys within the lock-up, accommodating walkways for other users.

### **4. Cover etiquette in a washed out fixture:**

- If you have covers on a pitch and no fixture is able to be played, the covers still must be removed from the pitch and put away. Covers that are left on can lead to the turf grass being susceptible to disease.
- The hessian and covers should be dried out at the earliest possibility if the rain is persistent.

### **Conclusion:**

In cricket, proper application, judicious utilization, and meticulous storage of covers stand as paramount. By adhering to the guidelines laid out in this manual, you not only optimize the utility of your cricket covers but also extend their lifespan, safeguarding the sanctity of the pitch and the fluidity of the game.