



NCU Turf Cricket Responsibilities

The Northern Cricket Union runs turf cricket in both 1st and 2nd Grade hybrid (both two- and one-day cricket) competitions. This document is to serve as a short outline as to the responsibilities of entering a turf team, what can be expected, and any relevant processes in the competition.

Grounds & Covers Process

- ELS Hall, North Ryde
- Marsfield Park, Marsfield
- Eastwood Oval, Eastwood
- Willoughby Park, Willoughby
- Castle Cove Oval, Castle Cove
- Koola Park, Lindfield

Attached to this document is instructions for each ground around where covers must be stored. In particular, please note the process of maintaining and storing the hessian at each ground. **Hessians must be DRY before it is folded and stored** as it will rot otherwise. This may require you to return to a ground post-fixture to ensure this is done, please bear this in mind. Ideally the hessian should be hung over a fence when removed, which can dry during the days play and then stored, if dry.

A short tutorial on how to fold covers for storage can be seen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vYlwPOamnl>

Who Puts Down Covers?

Regular Season

The 'Home' team (i.e., team listed first on the relevant fixture list on PlayHQ) has primary responsibility for covers. 'Away' teams can assist should they choose – if so, they should liaise with the 'Home' team – with ultimate responsibility remaining with the 'Home' team.

On balance, the majority of home teams will be located geographically close to the ground (based on club location), however please note that whilst we attempt to keep this even it may not always be the case subject to ground availability and balancing amount of covers responsibility. The home team will also have responsibility for folding and storing the covers appropriately after play.

On occasions we may request that covers are redeployed for either Sunday NCU matches or junior representative games.



Finals Series

The lowest qualifying team in each relevant fixture (e.g. 1st vs 4th, 4th place would do covers) has responsibility to deploy covers and pack them away post fixture. This is regardless of the location of the fixture.

Please Note

We require each turf team to purchase pegs and carry them as appropriate. Pegs are not stored at grounds. It is too difficult to keep pegs for each ground as they are frequently taken by members of the general public, become a safety issue, or both, hence we ask each club to have their own supply. They should be easy to acquire from Bunnings or the like.

Timing of Cover Deployment

Covers can be deployed earlier in the week, but **must have permission from the groundsmen**, which can be organised by **Andre Maddocks** (0402 700 447 - Willoughby, Castle Cove, Koola) and **Kel Gray** (0409 540 264 - ELS Hall, Marsfield, Eastwood).

Should 'Away' teams wish to deploy covers prior to a Friday, **permission must be sought** from **Andre Maddocks** (0402 700 447 - Willoughby, Castle Cove, Koola) and **Kel Gray** (0409 540 264 - ELS Hall, Marsfield, Eastwood) who will also liaise with the 'Home' team.

Do not contact a groundsmen/council directly – these relationships are carefully managed.

Announcements will be made around any necessity to deploy covers on the Friday of each fixture by 1:00pm at the latest. Please assume that you will have to deploy covers unless told otherwise – what we mean by this is if you are the 'Home' team, you should prepare and organise for enough people to help as if you do need to put the covers down (naturally the approval process will be followed for anything earlier in the week).

Should you not deploy covers as directed by the NCU, penalties may apply including but not limited to the loss of competition points.

ELS Hall, Marsfield Park and Eastwood Oval

Please liaise with **Kel Gray** (0409 540 264) around when covers can be deployed. Keys can be collected from **61 Cox's Rd North Ryde** with prior approval.

Work occurs on these grounds throughout the week but primarily on Fridays and Saturdays, meaning that should covers be put down on a Thursday or Friday night, they will need to be removed on the Friday and Saturday mornings at 7am.

Willoughby Park, Castle Cove Oval

Please liaise with **Andre Maddocks** (0402 700 447) around deployment, with Andre to liaise directly with the groundsman and approve.

Covers are able to be deployed at any point in the week with groundsman approval, however only through the appropriate process (Andre to liaise with groundsman). Note if deployment of covers are approved early in the week there may be a requirement to take them off for ground staff in the mornings.

Pitches are primarily prepared on Fridays at these grounds, at council discretion. Keys are stored in a lockbox at each ground – please liaise with Andre for access codes.

Hessians and Covers Storage Locations

Marsfield

Covers are to be folded and stored in the caged area at the back of the cricket nets. Hessian is stored in the amenities block, closet door to the road.



ELS Hall

Covers currently are to be folded and stored on the trolley which is outside the field of play (will change to storage area next to groundsman shed when keys provided). The hessian is to be folded and stored in the amenities block in the Umpires change room.



Eastwood

Covers and hessian are to be folded and stored under the grandstand. Please ensure that the covers are far enough back so the doors can close.



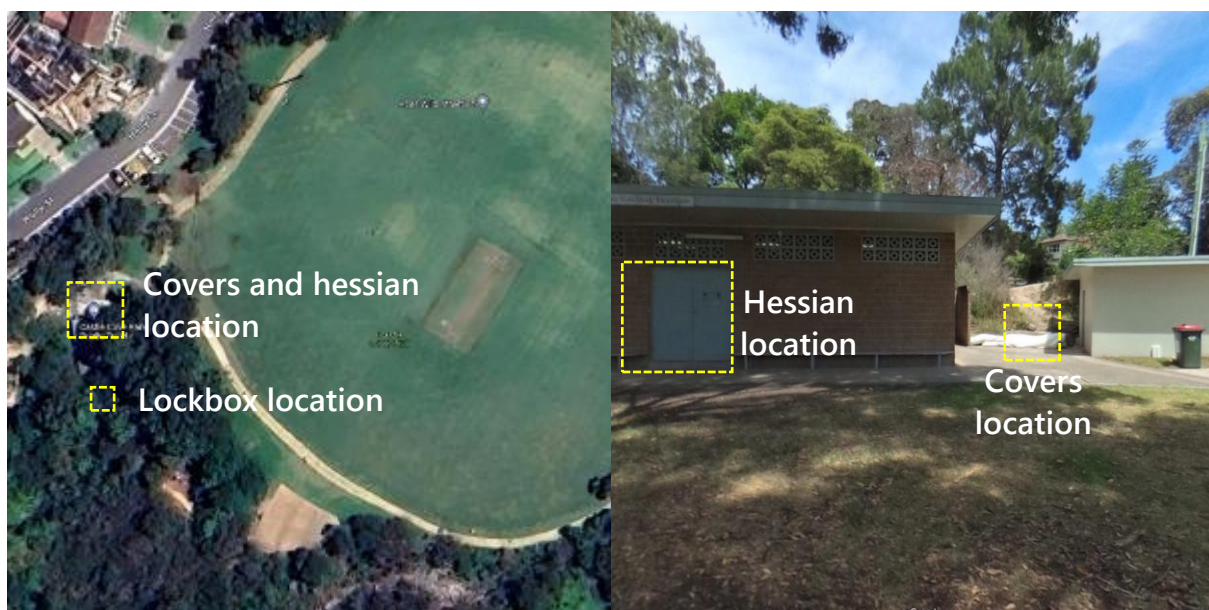
Willoughby

Covers are to be folded and stored by the shed (far left side door of the toilet block when walking off field), with hessians to be stored in the home team changing room. Keys are in the lock box. Do not obstruct the shed door or else the groundsman will not be able to get the roller out. The lockbox is attached to the cooling units opposite the toilet entrances.



Castle Cove

Covers are to be folded and stored next to the groundsman's shed. The hessian is to be folded and stored in the change rooms. Keys are in the lock box. Do not obstruct the shed door or else the groundsman will not be able to get the roller out. The lockbox is attached to the playground fence at the point it is closest to the changing rooms.



Koola Park

Covers and hessian are to be folded and stored on the trolley, which in turn is stored in the rugby shed to the right of the pavilion as you walk off the ground. Keys are in the lock box. The lockbox is attached to the changeroom door closest to the covers shed.



Non-Compliance of Covers Protocol

It is the responsibility of each team to be conversant with the requirements of this document with regards to the deployment and storage of covers (including hessians), specifically:

- Which team is responsible for the deployment of covers
- When the deployment of covers is required/optional
- Permission to deploy covers outside of directives from the NCU
- Deployment/removal of covers at appropriate times
- Appropriate storage of covers
- Drying and appropriate storage of hessians

Failure to comply with the policies in this document or the directives from the NCU may result in penalties being applied to the team/club.

Where the failure of a team/club to follow the directions in this document results in the damage or loss of covers or hessians, the NCU retains the right to recoup from clubs any financial loss for their repair/replacement.



Ground, Pitch, Umpiring and Facilities Feedback

The NCU is committed to working closely with local councils and groundsmen to ensure the appropriate standard of facilities is in place – and in turn to be able to liaise appropriately around any issues that may occur.

An NCU turf sub-committee has been formed, with 1 liaison per club invited to contribute. This group is chaired by Andre Maddocks, with all appropriate feedback passed on directly to both the NCU Executive and relevant councils/ground staff as appropriate. If you are unsure who your representative is, please liaise with your club to confirm.

In turn, we will endeavour to effectively communicate any relevant challenges at the grounds – for example, pitches being relayed, outfielders being top dressed etc.

With regards to umpiring, we are also happy to liaise within reason any issues around this where an appropriate solution can be found. Note that we are always endeavouring to find umpires for each fixture, however it is not always possible. The turf competition follows the same guidelines as the wider competition for Match Day Reports.

NCU Turf Sub-Committee

We recognise that there is significant goodwill towards turf cricket across first and second grade, and we wish to tap into these resources through the creation of a sub-committee to discuss and meet as required around the above. This was a new initiative for season 2023/24 and has continued into subsequent seasons.

This group will comprise one representative from each turf club, regardless of the amount of turf sides they field.

The NCU Turf Sub-Committee will communicate via a **dedicated WhatsApp group**, managed by Andre Maddocks, for the purposes of teams assisting each other and raising issues as necessary.

Any queries please contact Andre directly.

Fixture Length

2-day matches will commence at 1pm and be 75 overs per day.

1-day matches will commence at 12:30pm and be 40 overs per side.

T20 matches will commence at 1:00pm and be 20 overs per side.

When nominating for turf cricket, all the above should be noted as minimum expectations.