BELBROUGHTON CRICKET CLUB
ARTIFICIAL NETS & BOWLING MACHINE GUIDANCE & POLICY

You may only use the nets if you are:

- A paid member of Belbroughton Cricket Club or a properly signed in Visitor; and
- Following the net safety rules set out below; and
- Abiding by the kit and equipment rules set out below.

If you are not, then you are not insured for your own injuries or those caused to others.

KIT & EQUIPMENT RULES

1. No kit bags on the artificial playing surface.
2. Wear suitable footwear i.e. rubber-soled (non-marking) cricket shoes or trainers. NO Spikes, NO heels, NO smooth soles, NO street shoes.
3. Batters working with a hard ball MUST wear adequate protective equipment: helmet, box, pads etc.
4. All Under 18's MUST bat in a helmet.
5. Neck protectors (stem guards) are STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.
6. Only proper leather cricket balls or bowling machine balls to be used in nets. Tennis balls or purpose made "incrediballs" may be used in appropriate circumstances.
7. No footballs, rugby balls etc to be used in the nets
8. Any person causing damage to nets may be liable to repair charges.

NET SAFETY RULES

1. The nets MUST not be used if raining or if the artificial playing surface is wet.
2. There MUST be no more than 8 people per net.
3. Spectators MUST NOT be in the nets.
4. Batters should pad up outside the net area.
5. Bowlers should only bowl when the batter is ready and should face the batter at all times.
6. Bowlers should not bowl if a loose ball is in the net.
7. A loud cry of "STOP" should stop activity in all nets immediately to address any safety problem.
8. Balls should be returned immediately by the batsman and not left to lie loose in the net.
9. Balls must be retrieved from the side netting by the <u>Safe Method</u>.
10. The <u>Safe Method</u> is:
    a. Check no one is bowling in the net next to you.
    b. Once safe remove the ball from the netting with your foot or with a bat.
    c. When the ball is away from the net pick the ball up.
    d. Walk back to the back of the net keeping your eyes on the net at all times.
    e. NEVER lean headfirst into the netting to retrieve a ball.
9. Bowling must be in accordance with the laws of cricket — from legal distance, legal action, no deliberate excess of short bowling.
10. Training in the play of short bowling must be coach supervised.

11. Bowling machines: These should only be used by those qualified and/or authorised to do so during arranged practice session and MUST not be operated by anyone under the age of 18.
12. Ball throwers / flingers: these should only be used by a person who is experienced and competent and MUST not be used by anyone under the age of 18.
13. No food, drinks or chewing gum to be consumed inside the nets.

NETS USED FOR CLUB ORGANISED PRACTICE SESSIONS

For the safety of our members who are under the age of 18 the following procedures are in place:

1. The sessions MUST be conducted under the supervision of an ECB qualified coach.
2. When batting facing a hard ball the proper protective items, including helmet MUST be worn.
3. Before practice commences coaches MUST check the cage and netting to ensure a safe environment.
4. Any equipment including kit bags is to be stored away from the nets.
5. All players using the net practice must behave in a proper and correct manner.
6. After each practice session the equipment MUST be stored away properly.

NETS USED BY MEMBERS OUTSIDE NORMAL PRACTICE SESSIONS

Anyone wishing to use the nets MUST be a participating member (having paid their annual membership fees) of the club and have pre-booked them using our online booking system.

1. The club will not accept responsibility for any persons who are not a participating member or hasn't pre-booked.
2. The club will not accept responsibility for unaccompanied children using the nets facility.
3. Members under the age of 18 MUST be supervised by an adult.
4. Adults should not take responsibility for a group of Under 18s unless they are coach qualified (a "group" is more than three).
5. People using the nets without the supervision of a qualified coach do so AT THEIR OWN RISK.
6. The kit and equipment rules and the net safety rules, set out above, apply at all times.
7. The nets must be left in the condition they were found with stumps left in appropriate position and any rubbish removed.

BOWLING MACHINE POLICY

The bowling machine is for the use of members of the Club during Club Organised Practice sessions only.

The use of the bowling machine, whether in the nets or on the artificial wicket, the square or the outfield, MUST be in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. Use of the bowling machine MUST be under the supervision of someone who knows how to use the machine correctly.
2. Any member using the machine does so at their own risk.
3. Any user that breaches the manufacturers recommended operating procedures does so completely at their own risk and the Club will accept no liability for the user's failure to comply.

4. Any user found to be using the machine improperly will be suspended from further use and may lead to disciplinary action.
5. Any user causing damage to the bowling machine may be liable for repair charges.
6. Any user accepts FULL responsibility for the machine and sundries including balls. Any loss will result in the user being liable for replacement charges.
7. Nobody under the age of 18 may operate the bowling machine.

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