

Guidance Notes For Umpires and Players

Substitutes and Runners

General

The Laws provide for the umpires to determine whether a substitute or runner is to be allowed. In matches where there are no non-playing umpires the captains must take this responsibility and act fairly and impartially in accordance with the Laws.

Substitutes

The captain may request a substitute for any member of the team who becomes ill or injured at any time after the team sheets have been given to the umpires (or the opposing captain if there are not non-playing umpires). Team sheets must be provided before the Toss takes place.

A substitute is not allowed if a player leaves the field for any other reason.

If a player comes into a match with an injury a substitute is not permitted unless the injury is made worse during the match.

A substitute may also be allowed for other “wholly acceptable reasons”. As a guide this would mean someone in the team who was an on-call doctor or someone who had a family member involved in an accident or emergency. In general this does not cover someone simply arriving late at the match without an acceptable reason.

A substitute may field in any position but may act as wicket-keeper only with the consent of the umpires. He may not bat, bowl or act as captain.

Runners

A batsman will be allowed a Runner if he becomes ill or injured at any time after the team sheets have been given to the umpires (as above) and the illness or injury affects his ability to run.

For the avoidance of doubt where there are non-playing umpires the consent of the captain of the fielding side for a Runner is not required.

A Runner must:

1. Be a member of the team
2. Have already batted, if possible. If an Opening Batsman requires a Runner the person who acts as the Runner must not be listed to bat in the first 6. When a wicket falls the dismissed batsman shall become the Runner.
3. Wear the same external protective equipment as the Batsman for whom he is running (pads, gloves and helmet, as applicable) and carry a bat. Further, if the Runner is Under-18 he must wear a helmet.

Runners may only be changed with the approval of the umpires.