

Process Document

# Australian Cricket Ball Standard



**CRICKET**  
AUSTRALIA



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## Purpose

The goal of Australian Cricket is to continue to ensure that our game is played in not only a safe environment, but in an environment that allows its participants to execute their skills fully. Crucial to this execution of skills is the ball with which we play.

There are many different manufacturers and models of cricket balls available on the market, sourced direct from warehouses and sold by our retail partners. Australian Cricket is passionate about ensuring that these balls provided to our community clubs and associations remain high in quality and competitive on price.

Additionally, it is important to Australian Cricket that our community clubs and associations are aware of all manufacturers and models of cricket balls that are appropriate for the particular standards of cricket which they compete and participate in.

It is for these reasons that we have developed the National Cricket Ball Standard.

## Acknowledgements

Through our partnership with the University of Queensland, particularly the insights of Associate Professor Glen Lichtwark, Dr. Michael Heitzmann and associates, and our working relationships with manufacturers Dukes, Gray Nicolls, Kookaburra, Keith Dudgeon Sports and Tiflex, we now have a National Cricket Ball Standard that will govern the quality and performance of cricket balls used in Australia. Cricket Australia thanks all of those above for their dedication and hard work to bring this to life.

In the following sections of this document, we will discuss the end-to-end process for manufacturers to have models of cricket balls tested for performance purposes.

## Ball Categories

Currently, the performance of cricket balls can be tested for accreditation at the following levels:

- Premier Cricket
- Senior Community Turf
- Senior Community Synthetic

These levels only test for 156g balls at the present time. In time, these levels will be expanded to include other categories of balls including Women's, Junior and Modified balls.



Manufacturers may nominate the level which they wish to see their balls tested against, however performance against the Australian Cricket Ball Standard will ultimately determine the level a ball is accredited at.

### What will balls be tested for?

Each ball will go through testing for compliance against the following criteria:

- Ball mass
- Centre of gravity
- Circumference and sphericity
- Colour
- Coefficient of restitution and stiffness
- Wear
- Visual grading

Please refer to the Australian Cricket Ball Standard for further information on performance requirements, testing equipment and testing procedures for each criteria.

### Application to Test

If manufacturers wish to have cricket ball/s tested to meet the Australian Cricket Ball Standard, they are to contact the Club & Competitions Manager at Cricket Australia to discuss their needs and prospective timelines.

From this point Cricket Australia will liaise with the manufacturer on sourcing of balls for testing, as well as establishing timelines through testing partner, the University of Queensland.

A minimum of five balls of the same type are to be tested.

### Cost to Test

Currently, Cricket Australia will be responsible for the cost incurred to test cricket balls against the Australian Cricket Ball Standard. This cost is significant as it incurs the payment of staff conducting the testing and development of final reports, as well as the build and upkeep of testing equipment.

In time, the cost incurred for testing will shift from Cricket Australia to the manufacturers on a per model basis. More details will be shared with manufacturers in due course.



## Selection of balls to be tested

Cricket ball/s to be tested will be selected at random by Cricket Australia. Acknowledging that each manufacturer has different levels of distribution and retail presence, every effort will be made to ensure the integrity of the testing is sound by utilising a random selection of each model ball nominated for testing against the Australian Cricket Ball Standard.

## Purchasing of balls to be tested

Cricket Australia will be solely responsible for the cost incurred in purchasing cricket balls to be tested against the National Cricket Ball Standard. As mentioned above, these balls will be purchased at random from available sources including direct from manufacturer, retail outlets and where required, from clubs and associations.

## Publishing of Results

All performance testing results of balls submitted to be tested against the National Cricket Ball Standard will be made available to manufacturers on completion of the testing process. The detailed nature of the testing will similarly provide detailed reports. It is intended that only the manufacturers and Cricket Australia see the detailed result reports.

The cricket community will be able to view a list of those balls which have been tested and deemed to have met the compliance requirements of the Australian Cricket Ball Standard. This list will be published at <https://www.community.cricket.com.au/clubs/policies/australian-cricket-ball-standard>. The list will continually be updated as cricket balls that have been submitted for testing are deemed compliant or non-compliant with the Standard.

## Duration of compliance and reaccreditation

It is proposed that each model will be deemed as compliant for a period of two (2) years from the time of report completion.



## Change to ball name/s

If manufacturers are proposing to change any current naming conventions of balls that sit on the Australian Cricket Ball Standard list, they are to notify the Club & Competitions Manager to clarify whether re-testing needs to occur.

## Further Details

For further details regarding the submission of balls to be tested against the Australian Cricket Ball Standard, please contact:

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