



Esher Cricket Club

Guidance of wearing of helmets and other safety equipment by young players

Esher Cricket Club follows guidance issued by the ECB in relation to the wearing of helmets and other safety equipment by young players up to the age of 18.

This guidance applies to all players up to the age of 18, both in open age group cricket and in all junior cricket played with a hard cricket ball. The guidance also applies during all practice sessions.

Please Note: Although coaches, match managers etc will take reasonable steps to ensure that guidance is followed at all times, ultimately it is the responsibility of young players/parents/carers to ensure that, when attending training sessions and matches, the young player has **all** appropriate protective equipment and is capable of fitting it correctly. If the young player requires assistance, this should be provided by the parent/carer. Coaches / match managers can be consulted / asked for guidance, however this does not remove responsibility from the young player /parent /carer. For the avoidance of doubt, in both training and match scenarios, prior to a batsmen or wicket keeper walking onto the field of play, the young cricketer/parent/carer should be satisfied that the player is wearing the appropriate protective kit that is of an appropriate quality / standard and fitted properly.

The wearing of helmets by young players is now standard practice in cricket throughout England and Wales. Helmets are widely available and are covered by a British Standard (BS7928:1998) and a more recent standard for head protectors on sale from Spring/Summer 2014 (BS7928/2013).

A face protector represents an alternative head protection system for young wicket keepers. Wicketkeeper face protectors are covered by British Standard (BS7929 – 2 :2009).

Helmets with a faceguard or grille should be worn when batting against a hard cricket ball in matches and in practice sessions. Wicket keepers should wear a helmet with a faceguard, or a wicketkeeper face protector, when standing up to the stumps.

- For safety and hygiene reasons, helmets / face protectors must not be shared.
- There is no specific women's head protection equipment available on the market and therefore it is recommended that women / older girls use equipment which has been tested on both full size and junior balls. When purchasing equipment, we recommend that you check its suitability for the format of cricket / size of ball that will be used.

All young players should regard a helmet with a faceguard as a normal item of protective equipment when batting, together with pads, gloves and, for boys, an abdominal protector (box).

Young players are not allowed to bat or stand up to the stumps when keeping wicket against a hard ball without wearing appropriate protection.

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