

Date
TO Parent/Guardian of
FROMCricket Club

Dear Parent/Guardian

HELMETS - JUNIOR PLAYERS

I must bring to your attention a vital ruling made by the England and Wales Cricket Board on 2nd February 2000 which has immediate effect:

ECB GUIDANCE ON THE WEARING OF HELMETS

In recent years it has become more common for professional cricketers and those playing a high standard of recreational cricket to wear a helmet when batting. Helmets have become more widely available and are now covered by a British Standard.

Many young cricketers playing with a hard ball do not currently wear a Helmet. The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has issued a new safety guidance which recommends that helmets should be worn when batting against a **hard** cricket ball in matches and in practice sessions, and encourages players to 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). The guidance also recommends that young wicket keepers should wear a helmet when standing up to the stumps. The guidance applies to **all young players up to the age of 18**.

As a sport, cricket is not generally a dangerous game, but parents will appreciate that the use of a hard ball can create the possibility of injury and will need to assess the risk to their young player, taking into account his or her skill level and the type of match or practice involved. The ECB has advised all coaches, teachers, managers and umpires that they should not allow a young player without a helmet to bat or to stand up to the stumps when keeping wicket against a hard ball **except with written parental consent**.

Attached to this letter is a consent form with parents (or legal guardians) are being asked to complete. It allows you to decide if you want your young player to wear a helmet and asks if you are able to provide the helmet.

EITHER The Organising body / League/Club/School will include helmets in their equipment bags for use as required

OR The Club/School cannot provide helmets for use by players.
Accordingly if you wish your young player to wear a helmet for Cricket you must provide the helmet or your young player will be Unable to play unless you have filled in a consent form.

For legal reasons players will not be able to bat or to stand up to the stumps when Keeping wicket without a helmet in practice sessions or matches involving a hard ball until the consent form is received.

Please complete the consent form and return it to the address on the form. For Administrative reasons you may, at least at first, be asked to fill in such a form for each of the organisations your young player is practising or playing with.

Yours sincerely

Organiser ofLeague/Club/School

NAME OF ORGANISING BODY/CLUB/LEAGUE/SCHOOL

Parental Consent Form: Wearing of Cricket Helmets

I am aware that cricket, like other sports of a physical nature, has an element of risk so far as injuries are concerned which sometimes can be serious.

I have read the ECB guidelines as detailed overleaf with regard to the wearing of helmets. It is recommended that a helmet (with faceguard) is worn by young players when batting and when standing up to the stumps when keeping wicket against a *hard ball* in matches, nets and practices.

At the moment I am unable to provide my son/daughter with a helmet and I give my consent for him/her to bat and keep wicket without wearing one.

And I as parent/guardian accept the risk involved and absolve the Organising body/League/Club/School and its coaches from liability in case of injury.

I also recognise that batting or keeping wicket (standing up) without a helmet may invalidate any Personal Accident Insurance provided for the players by the organising body/league/club/school.

The Organising body/league/club/school and coaches undertake to exercise due diligence and care in the conduct of matches, nets and practices but cannot accept any responsibility for any accidental injuries sustained.

Name of Young Cricketer

Name of Parent/Guardian

Address

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Signature

Date

Please return this form TO