

Winter Laws of Cricket Course

Session 6 | Unfair Play, Conduct and Penalties

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Laws Covered Today

Session 6 brings together judgement, procedure, penalties, communication, reporting and match control.

1. Law 16 – The result
2. Law 41 – Unfair play
3. Law 42 – Players' conduct
4. Law 2.13 – Signals
5. Law 12 – Start/cessation links
6. Law 20 – Dead ball links



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Why This Session Matters

This session focuses on decisions that can change the score, remove a player or determine the match.

This session links together:

- judgement of fair and unfair play
- penalties and their correct sequence
- communication with captains, players and scorers
- player suspension and refusal to play
- post-match reporting and match control

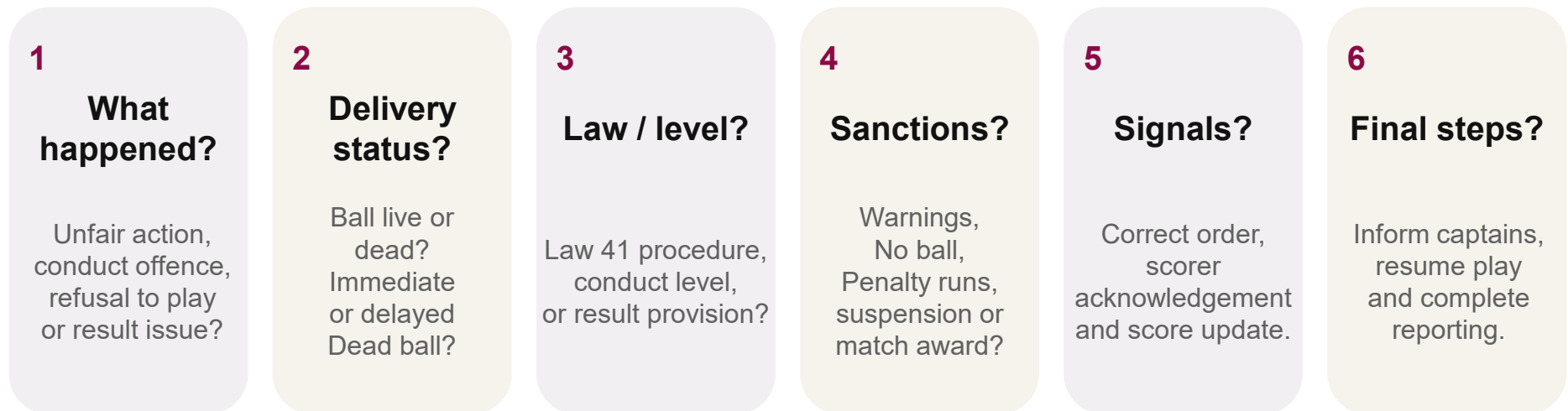


Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Unfair Play – our process

Recognise the act, protect the match, then apply every consequence in order.



DECISION FLOW



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Pre-Quiz

Purpose

- Gauge instinctive responses to unfair play and conduct.
- Identify uncertainty around penalties, suspension and match control.
- Set up the integrated scenarios later in the session.



INTERACTIVE PRE-QUIZ



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Pre-Quiz Question 1

Law 16: The result

A match result is primarily determined by:

- A: The scorers alone
- B: The batting side's appeal
- C: The Laws governing result, agreement, concession or award of a match
- D: The team that batted first

CORRECT ANSWER: C

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Pre-Quiz Question 2

Law 41: Unfair Play

Who are the sole judges of fair and unfair play?

- A: The captains
- B: The scorers
- C: The umpires
- D: The match manager

CORRECT ANSWER: C

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Pre-Quiz Question 3

Law 42: Players' conduct

How many levels of player conduct offences are identified in Law 42?

- A: Two
- B: Three
- C: Four
- D: Five

CORRECT ANSWER: C

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 16: The Result

Key focus: when a result is reached, when a match may be awarded, and what happens if play is refused.

- When is the match at an end?
- What constitutes refusal to play?
- When can umpires award the match?
- Can later Penalty runs alter an apparent result?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 16: Clause Summary

Core clauses for match result and control.

- 16.1–16.2** A side wins by scoring more runs under the relevant innings format.
- 16.3** Umpires may award a match where a side concedes or refuses to play.
- 16.5** Other completed matches may be a Tie or Draw.
- 16.6** Once a result is reached the match ends, subject to later Penalty runs under Law 41.17.2.
- 16.8–16.10** Umpires confirm the result; scoring mistakes are corrected before the result becomes final.



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 16: 2026 Changes

The amendment strengthens the refusal-to-play process.

What changed

- Law 16.3.2 now expressly requires the umpire to call Time when an action may be refusal to play.
- The umpires must establish the cause together before deciding to ultimately award a match.
- If the captain persists after being informed, the match is awarded.

Umpire meaning

- Do not jump directly to awarding the match.
- Pause play, consult and give the captain a clear opportunity to comply.
- Keep a careful record of the sequence and wording used.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 16: Umpire Impact

Match-day application.

- Treat refusal to play as a formal match-control process, not an argument to manage informally.
- Call Time before investigating and consulting with your partner.
- Clearly inform the captain what action is required and what will follow if the refusal continues.
- If the action is not refusal to play, playing time is considered 'lost', and resumption occurs under Law 16.3.3.
- Connect Law 16 to Law 42.6 in instances where a captain refuses to remove a suspended player.



LAW SECTION 1 OF 6



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 16: Umpire Impact cont

Match-day application pt 2.

- Familiarise yourself with not only Law 16, but also your competition playing conditions and relevant appendices – there may be protocols for refusal to play scenarios
- If umpiring with a partner, work as a team and maintain unity
- Know who your match day liaison is for your competition and have their contact details on hand – reach out to them for support
- Be diligent about note taking and record keeping – such matters rarely end on match day. Be prepared to give input into further investigations where required
- Ensure that you have followed all steps required of you by the Laws, playing conditions and other regulations

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 16: Scenario

Scenario

Following a Level 3 offence, the umpires direct the captain to remove a player for the required suspension. The captain refuses and instructs the team to remain in position.

Discuss

- What should the umpires do before deciding the result?
- Which captain must be informed, and what must they be told?
- When is the match awarded?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 16: Scenario Answer

Scenario answer

Decision	Call Time and follow the refusal-to-play procedure. If the captain persists after being informed, award the match to the other side.
Law Ref	Law 16.3.1–16.3.2 and Law 42.6.1.
Reason	The captain has refused a formal direction to remove a player following a Level 3 offence.
Action	Consult together, establish the cause, clearly inform the captain, record the sequence and advise the scorers and teams.
Avoid	Do not award the match without first completing the required consultation and notification process.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 16: Key Takeaways

Key messages to retain.

- 1 Call Time and investigate before treating conduct as refusal to play.
- 2 A captain who persists after a clear warning may cause the match to be awarded.
- 3 A result can still be affected by Penalty runs awarded before the umpires leave the field.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Unfair Play

Key focus: recognising unfair actions and applying calls, penalties, warnings, suspensions and reports.

- Was the act deliberate or wilful?
- Should Dead ball be immediate or delayed?
- Which warnings or suspensions apply?
- What runs, ball count and striker consequences follow?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Core Principles

The Law links judgement to a defined procedure.

- 41.1** Captains are responsible for fair play; umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play.
- 41.2** If an action is unfair but not otherwise covered, call Dead ball and decide the appropriate response.
- 41.3** Changing the condition of the match ball is an offence with escalating sanctions.

Many Law 41 offences require independent warnings, penalties and post-match reports.

Always apply every consequence: dismissal status, runs, ball count, next striker, signals and reporting.

LAW SECTION 2 OF 6



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Deliberate Distraction or Obstruction

Before and after the striker receives the delivery.

41.4 A fielder must not deliberately distract or obstruct the striker while preparing to receive or receiving the ball.

Call and signal Dead ball immediately; No ball still stands if applicable.

Award 5 Penalty runs to the batting side; no batter may be dismissed; the ball does not count.

41.5 After the striker receives the ball, wilful distraction, deception or obstruction of either batter is also unfair.

Batters receive completed runs and the run in progress if crossed, plus 5 Penalty runs, and choose who faces next.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.4–41.5: 2026 Focus

Obstruction has been aligned with distraction and deception.

What changed

- Law 41.4 now expressly covers a fielder obstructing a striker preparing to receive or receiving a delivery.
- Physical contact may also require a separate Law 42 conduct process.
- Multiple sanctions are applied independently unless they contradict.

Umpire meaning

- Decide whether the action was deliberate or wilful.
- Use immediate Dead ball where required to protect the striker.
- Then work through runs, penalties, ball count, striker choice and reporting.



UMPIRES

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Distraction Scenario

Scenario

As the bowler enters the delivery stride, a close fielder deliberately shouts and waves directly in the striker's eyeline. The striker misses the delivery and the wicket is broken.

Discuss

- When should Dead ball be called?
- Can the striker be dismissed?
- What runs, penalties and ball-count consequences apply?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Distraction Scenario Answer

Scenario answer

Decision Immediate Dead ball. The striker is not out.

Law Ref Law 41.4 and Law 20.4.

Scoring Award 5 Penalty runs to the batting side. Any No ball call still stands.

Action Inform the other umpire, captains, batters and scorers; the delivery does not count; report after the match.

Avoid Do not wait for the outcome of the delivery once deliberate distraction or obstruction is identified.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.6: Dangerous Short-Pitched Bowling

Judge danger, not merely height.

- Repeated short-pitched deliveries may be dangerous when they are likely to inflict physical injury.
- Consider the speed, length, height and direction of the delivery, and the skill of the striker, BUT NOT their protective equipment.
- First instance: call No ball, caution the bowler and inform the captain and other umpire.
- Further instance: final warning. A later instance leads to suspension from bowling for the match.
- The warning sequence is separate from dangerous non-landing deliveries.



LAW SECTION 2 OF 6



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.7: Dangerous Non-Landing Deliveries

Height and intention determine the response.

- A non-landing delivery above waist height is unfair and must be called No ball.
- An accidental dangerous non-landing delivery follows a warning sequence.
- A deliberate dangerous non-landing delivery results in immediate suspension from bowling for the rest of the match.
- If the striker is endangered, call and signal No ball and apply the relevant procedure.
- If suspended mid-over, another eligible bowler completes the over.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.7: Dangerous Non-Landing Deliveries

Height and intention determine the response.

The bowling of a delivery as defined in 41.7.1 is also dangerous if the bowler's end umpire considers that there is a risk of injury to the striker.

In making that judgement the umpire shall:

- disregard any protective equipment worn by the striker
- be mindful of:
 - the speed, height and direction of the delivery
 - the skill of the striker
 - the repeated nature of such deliveries



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.6–41.8: 2026 Changes

The strongest change applies to deliberate dangerous bowling.

What changed

- A deliberate dangerous non-landing delivery now suspends the bowler for the remainder of the match, not only the innings.
- The “lands” terminology replaces older “pitches” wording.
- Deliberate front-foot No ball penalties now apply across the whole match.

Umpire meaning

- Separate accidental danger from deliberate unfair play.
- Record warnings by bowler and across innings where required.
- After suspension, manage the replacement bowler and reporting immediately.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.8: Deliberate Front-Foot No Ball

A deliberate breach is more than an ordinary foot fault.

- If the bowler deliberately oversteps, call and signal No ball.
- Call Time when the ball is dead and inform the other umpire and fielding captain.
- Direct the captain of the fielding side to suspend the bowler immediately from bowling.
- Complete the over with an eligible replacement if needed and report the occurrence.



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Dangerous Bowling Scenario

Scenario

A bowler deliberately delivers a fast full toss above the striker's waist. It is the bowler's first dangerous non-landing delivery of the match.

Discuss

- Is a warning sufficient?
- How long is the bowler suspended?
- Who completes the over and what must be reported?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Dangerous Bowling Scenario Answer

Scenario answer

Decision	Call and signal No ball and suspend the bowler from bowling for the remainder of the match.
Law Ref	Law 41.7.4–41.7.6.
Reason	The delivery was both dangerous and deliberate; the normal warning sequence does not apply.
Action	Inform the other umpire, captains and batters; arrange an eligible bowler to complete the over; report after the match.
Avoid	Do not treat a deliberate dangerous non-landing delivery as a first-warning offence.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.9–41.10: Time Wasting

Manage delay early and apply the correct team sanction.

Fielding side time wasting: first and final warning, then 5 Penalty runs for any further instance in that innings (**if the time wasting action does not occur during an over**); or,
Suspension of the bowler for the innings (**if the time wasting action does occur during an over**).
This is irrespective of whether the bowler themselves committed the time wasting offence.

Batter time wasting: first and final (**team**) warning; repeated breach by the batting side brings 5 Penalty runs to the fielding side.

- Call Time (umpires consulting) if necessary and distinguish tactical delay from unavoidable circumstances.
- Warnings may apply to the whole team rather than only the individual player.
- Resume play promptly and keep captains and scorers informed.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.16: Batters Stealing a Run

The non-striker may not leave early to steal a run during the bowler's run-up.

- If the batters attempt a run before the bowler enters the delivery stride, the bowler may attempt to run out the non-striker.
- If the bowler does not attempt the run out, call and signal Dead ball as soon as the batters cross.
- Return the batters to their original ends and disallow the attempted run.
- Award 5 Penalty runs to the fielding side and inform captains and scorers.
- The delivery does not count because it is deemed to have not been received by the striker.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Stealing a Run Scenario

Scenario

During the bowler's run-up, both batters set off for a run. The bowler notices but continues into the delivery stride without attempting to break the non-striker's wicket.

Discuss

- When does the umpire call Dead ball?
- What happens to the attempted run and the batters' ends?
- What penalty and ball-count outcome apply?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Stealing a Run Scenario Answer

Scenario answer

Decision	Call and signal Dead ball when the bowler reaches the delivery stride if the batters have crossed
Law Ref	Law 41.16.
Scoring	Disallow the attempted run, return both batters to their original ends and award 5 Penalty runs to the fielding side.
Action	Inform the other umpire, captains and scorers. The undelivered ball does not count.
Avoid	Do not allow the batters to retain a positional advantage from the attempted stolen run.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.11–41.15: Protecting the Pitch

Warnings and penalties depend on who causes the breach.

- The protected area is the central strip beginning 5 ft from each popping crease and 1 ft either side of the pitch centre line.
- Fielders and batters must not deliberately or avoidably damage the pitch.
- A bowler entering the protected area follows an individual warning sequence and may be suspended from bowling.
- A striker must not take guard in or very close to the protected area.
- Repeated batting-side breaches can disallow runs and award 5 Penalty runs to the fielding side.



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.11–41.15: Protecting the Pitch

Warnings and penalties depend on who causes the breach.



**Batters
breaching**

Queensland Cricket

Winter Laws Course | Session 1

Law 41.11–41.14

Warnings and penalties de



**Bowler/fielder
breaching**

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.17: Penalty Runs

Penalty awards must be sequenced, signalled and recorded correctly.

- Apply every Penalty-run award required by the Laws; multiple offences can produce multiple awards.
- If offences occur in sequence, award and signal penalties in the order the actions occurred.
- Penalty runs may be awarded after an apparent result but before the umpires leave the field.
- If a later award removes the result, play should continue if possible.
- Inform captains, signal to scorers, identify the reason and prevent repeated use of illegal equipment.

LAW SECTION 2 OF 6



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41.17: 2026 Changes

Penalty-run sequencing now addresses end-of-match situations expressly.

What changed

- Penalty runs may be awarded for an offence after an apparent result but before the umpires leave the field.
- If those runs undo the result, play resumes where possible.
- Multiple penalties are awarded in the order the offences occurred.

Umpire meaning

- Do not switch off when the winning run appears to be scored.
- Establish the sequence of events before signalling.
- Update the score and result only after every sanction has been applied.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Penalty Sequencing Scenario

Scenario

The batting side completes the apparent winning run. Before the umpires leave the field, a batter commits a Level 2 offence (making inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with another player), carrying 5 Penalty runs to the fielding side and then a fielder commits a separate offence (physically retaliating against the offending batter), carrying 5 Penalty runs to the batting side.

Discuss

- In what order are the penalties applied?
- Can the apparent result change?
- What must the umpires confirm before leaving the field?

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Penalty Sequencing Scenario Answer

Scenario answer

Decision Apply each penalty independently and in the order the offences occurred.

Law Ref Law 2.13.2.2, Law 41.17.2 and the relevant Law 42 procedure.

Reason The first offence may remove the apparent result; the later offence may create a new result.

Action Signal each award separately, wait for scorer acknowledgement, update the total and resume play if the result is no longer reached.

Avoid Do not ignore offences simply because a winning run appeared to have ended the match.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Umpire Impact

Match-day application.

- Use the exact procedure for the specific unfair action; Law 41 is not a single generic warning system.
- Track warnings by bowler, player, team, innings and match as the relevant clause requires.
- Make Dead ball timing deliberate: immediate in some cases and delayed in others.
- After every incident, complete the full checklist - runs, ball count, ends, striker, signals, captain communication and report.
- Illegal equipment should be removed from use where possible and must be reported.



LAW SECTION 2 OF 6



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 41: Key Takeaways

Key messages to retain.

- 1 Judge intention and danger, then follow the specific clause rather than improvising.
- 2 Warnings, Penalty runs, suspension and reporting can all apply to the same incident.
- 3 The sequence of offences matters—especially when sanctions conflict or the result is affected.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Players' Conduct

Key focus: classifying unacceptable conduct and applying the correct escalating response.

- Which conduct level applies?
- Must Time be called?
- Is the player warned, suspended or removed?
- What signal, Penalty runs and report are required?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Level 1 and Level 2

Lower levels still require a formal, recorded process.

Level 1 includes dissent, obscene or offensive language, excessive appealing and aggressive appealing.

For the team's first offence at any level, issue a first and final warning applying to the whole team.

A later Level 1 offence by that team results in 5 Penalty runs to the opposition.

Level 2 includes serious dissent, dangerous inappropriate throws and seriously insulting conduct.

Level 2 always brings 5 Penalty runs, captain notification, resumption of play and a report.

LAW SECTION 3 OF 6



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Level 3 Offences

Suspension applies immediately after the captain is informed.

Level 3: intimidating an umpire or threatening to assault another person other than an umpire.

Suspend the player for 10 overs in unlimited-overs cricket, or one fifth of the innings allocation in limited-overs cricket.

No substitute is allowed for a suspended fielder.

Penalty time neither accrues nor is served during suspension.

Signal Level 3, award 5 Penalty runs, call Play and report after the match.



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Level 4 Offences

Removal is for the remainder of the match.

Level 4 includes threatening or deliberately contacting an umpire, assault and any other act of violence.

- The captain must remove the player immediately for the remainder of the match.
- No substitute is allowed for a removed fielder.
- A removed batter is recorded Retired – out, subject to any earlier dismissal.
- Signal Level 4, award 5 Penalty runs, call Play and report after the match.



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Conduct Levels

The response escalates with seriousness and repetition.

Level 1

Dissent, obscene/offensive language, excessive appealing, aggressive appealing.

Warning first; 5 Penalty runs for later Level 1 after any offence.

Level 2

Serious dissent, deliberate inappropriate contact, dangerous throw, seriously insulting language.

5 Penalty runs, captain informed and report.

Level 3

Intimidating an umpire; threatening to assault another person.

Player suspended, 5 Penalty runs, signal and report.

Level 4

Threatening/assaulting umpire, assault, other violence.

Player removed for remainder, 5 Penalty runs, signal and report.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: 2026 Changes

Two operational clarifications affect Level 2 and Level 3.

What changed

- A dangerous inappropriate throw can be “at or near” a player, umpire or other person.
- During a Level 3 suspension, Penalty time can neither accrue nor be served.
- Unserved suspension carries into later innings.

Umpire meaning

- Judge the danger and intent, not whether the ball actually struck someone.
- Keep suspension and Penalty time as separate records.
- Brief captains clearly about when the player may return or bat.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Level 3 Procedure

A clear sequence prevents missed sanctions and confusion.

1

Call Time

Stop play if necessary and consult together.

2

Inform captain

Identify the offence and direct immediate removal.

3

Set suspension

10 overs or one fifth of the innings allocation.

4

Manage player

No substitute; apply batting/bowling restrictions.

5

Signal and penalise

Level 3 signal, 5 Penalty runs, scorer acknowledgement.

6

Resume and report

Call Play and complete the formal report after the match.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Player Suspension Details

The player's role changes how the suspension is served.

Fielder: leaves immediately; no substitute; may return only after the suspension is served.

Bowler suspended mid-over: an eligible replacement completes the over and cannot bowl adjacent overs.

Batter suspended while batting: replaced; may return only after serving the suspension and at the fall of a wicket.

Dismissed batter: suspension begins at the start of the next innings and the player cannot act as runner in the current innings.

Any unserved overs carry forward to later innings; part overs do not count.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Level 3 Scenario

Scenario

A fielder aggressively intimidates an umpire with threatening language. The innings was allocated 40 overs at its commencement, and the offence occurs midway through an over.

Discuss

- What conduct level applies?
- How long is the suspension?
- Can a substitute field, and who completes the over if the offender was bowling?

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Level 3 Scenario Answer

Scenario answer

Decision Treat as a Level 3 offence and suspend the player immediately.

Law Ref Law 42.4.

Suspension One fifth of 40 overs = 8 overs. Balls remaining in the current over do not count towards the suspension.

Action No substitute; signal Level 3, award 5 Penalty runs, arrange an eligible replacement bowler if needed, call Play and report.

Avoid Do not combine the suspension with Penalty time or allow the player to remain until the end of the over.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42.6: Captain Refusing to Remove a Player

A refusal links conduct directly to the result.

If a captain refuses to remove a Level 3 or Level 4 offender, invoke Law 16.3.

Call Time and establish whether the captain's action is a refusal to play.

Inform the captain of the consequence and allow the opportunity to comply.

If the captain persists, award the match to the other side.

If both captains refuse in the same incident, instruct players to leave; the match has no result under Law 16.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Post-Match Reporting

The report is part of the sanction, not an optional extra.

- Umpires report conduct offences to the offending player's team Executive and the governing body responsible for the match.
- Record the time, over, players involved, exact words/actions, umpire instructions and captain responses.
- Separate direct observation from information supplied by others.
- Both umpires should agree the factual sequence before submitting the report.
- Complete the report promptly and retain notes in case further clarification is required.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 42: Key Takeaways

Key messages to retain.

- 1 Classify the conduct level before applying sanctions.
- 2 Level 3 means suspension; Level 4 means removal for the remainder of the match.
- 3 Communication, signals, Penalty runs and post-match reporting are all mandatory parts of the process.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 2.13: Signals

Key focus: communicating decisions accurately and in the order events occurred.

- Which signals are made while the ball is live?
- Which are repeated to scorers after Dead ball?
- What order should multiple signals follow?
- Has each signal been acknowledged?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 2.13: Signal Groups

Separate what is signalled during play from what is repeated or added after the ball is dead.

While ball is live

- Dead ball
- No ball
- Out / Not out
- Wide

Repeat when dead

- Dead ball
- No ball
- Wide
- Not Out is called, not signalled

Scorers only when dead

- Boundary 4 / 6
- Bye / Leg bye
- Penalty runs
- New ball / Short run
- Level 3 / Level 4

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 2.13: 2026 Change

A new rule resolves conflicting sanctions from the same delivery.

What changed

- Apply sanctions for every contravention independently unless the Law says otherwise.
- Where two required sanctions contradict, apply the sanction for the offence that occurred first.
- Signals must be given in the order the events occurred.

Umpire meaning

- Give each signal separately and wait for acknowledgement.
- Explain unusual sequences to your partner, captains and scorers.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 2.13: Umpire Impact

Match-day application.

- Do not rush a sequence involving No ball, Dead ball, penalties and conduct signals.
- The bowler's end umpire owns most final signals to the scorers.
- A Level 3 or Level 4 signal has two parts, each requiring separate acknowledgement.
- If several offences occur, establish which happened first before deciding any contradictory ball-count or scoring outcome.
- Do not allow play to resume until the scorer has acknowledged every signal.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 2.13: Signal Sequencing Scenario

Scenario

A delivery is called No ball. During the live ball, a fielder deliberately deceives the batters and later commits a Level 2 offence before the ball is finally dead.

Discuss

- Which sanctions apply independently?
- In what order should signals be given?
- When may play resume?

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 2.13: Signal Sequencing Answer

Scenario answer

Decision Apply the No ball, Law 41.5 and Level 2 sanctions independently.

Law Ref Law 2.13.2, Law 41.5 and Law 42.3.

Sequence Give the signals in the order the events occurred, including separate Penalty-run awards.

Action Wait for separate scorer acknowledgement, confirm the total and then call Play.

Avoid Do not merge separate penalties or signal them in a convenient but incorrect order.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 2.13: Key Takeaways

Key messages to retain.

- 1 Signals follow the order of events.
- 2 Each signal must be acknowledged separately before play resumes.
- 3 When sanctions contradict, the first contravention determines the conflicting outcome.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 12: Start and Cessation

Key focus: using Play and Time to control interruptions, conduct procedures and the conclusion of the match.

- Who calls Play and Time?
- Must the ball be dead before Time?
- When is the match concluded?
- How do conduct delays affect playing time?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 12: Match-Control

Play and Time frame the formal umpiring process.

- 12.1** The bowler's end umpire calls Play at the start and after every interval or interruption.
- 12.2** Call Time, with the ball dead, at the start of any interval or interruption or when required by the Laws.
- 12.3** Remove the bails after Time except at the start of a drinks interval.
- 12.5** Complete an over before an interval unless a defined exception applies; at the end of the day a wicket does not end the over early.
- 12.9–12.10** The match concludes when the result is reached and the final required over or action is complete.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 12: 2026 Changes

The changes clarify Time, drinks and the final over of the day.

What changed

- Time is expressly called at the start of an interruption.
- Bails are not removed at the start of a drinks interval.
- At the end of a day, a wicket with less than three minutes remaining no longer ends the over early.

Umpire meaning

- Use formal calls to mark when the match is paused or resumed.
- Keep conduct and refusal-to-play delays separate from normal intervals.
- At close of play, finish the over after a wicket if conditions remain fit.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 12: Umpire Impact

Match-day application.

- Call Time before beginning formal consultations for conduct or refusal-to-play issues.
- Resume with a clear call of Play only after players, scorers and partner are ready.
- Record time lost to conduct-related stoppages so it can be restored where Law 16.3.3 applies.
- Do not treat a drinks interval as requiring bail removal.
- Maintain control of the final over and the exact point at which the match concludes.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 12: Key Takeaways

Key messages to retain.

- 1 Play and Time create a clear legal boundary around match-control actions.
- 2 Conduct stoppages may require lost time to be restored.
- 3 The match is not over merely because players assume it is—complete every required Law process first.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 20: Dead Ball and Unfair Play

Key focus: choosing the correct moment to stop play and preserving the rights of the non-offending side.

- Is the ball already dead or must it be called?
- Should the call be immediate or delayed?
- Does the delivery count in the over?
- What runs and dismissals remain possible?



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 20: Dead Ball and Unfair Play

Dead-ball timing drives the rest of the sanction.

- 20.1–20.2** The ball may become automatically dead or finally settled; the umpire decides when it is no longer in play.
- 20.3** Call Over or Time only when the ball is dead.
- 20.4** Either umpire calls Dead ball in situations specified in Law 41 and Law 42.
- 20.6** Once Dead ball is called it cannot be revoked.
- 20.7** Whether the delivery counts depends on:
 - i) the striker's opportunity to play, and;
 - ii) the specific unfair play action.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 20: 2026 Links to Unfair Play

The broader definition of “finally settled” supports practical match control.

What changed

- The ball may be finally settled in any fielder’s hands or stationary on the ground.
- The bowler’s end umpire decides whether it is no longer in play.
- Delayed Dead ball wording is clarified across several unfair-play Laws.

Umpire meaning

- Do not call Dead ball too early when a non-offending side may still benefit.
- Where a Law requires immediate Dead ball, stop the action at once.
- Always connect the timing to runs, dismissals and whether the delivery counts.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Integrated Scenario: Unfair Play and Dead Ball

Scenario

After the striker receives the ball, a fielder deliberately deceives both batters with a false call (eg: calling out “YES! YES!” as the batters are touching down for a single). The batters complete one run and have begun to attempt a second when the umpire recognises the act.

Discuss

- When is Dead ball called?
- Which runs count and who chooses the next striker?
- What penalty, ball-count and reporting outcomes apply?

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Integrated Scenario Answer

Scenario answer

Decision Call and signal Dead ball immediately once the wilful deception is recognised.

Law Ref Law 41.5, Law 20 and Law 18.13.3.

Scoring Completed runs together with 5 Penalty runs to the batting side.

Action Neither batter can be dismissed; the ball does not count; the batters choose who faces next; inform and report.

Avoid Do not return the batters automatically to their original ends – inform the batters that they choose who is on strike.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Integrated Scenario: Result and Penalties

Scenario

The winning run is completed. Before the umpires leave the field, a player commits a Level 3 offence carrying 5 Penalty runs to the opposition, which removes the apparent result.

Discuss

- Is the match already beyond correction?
- What conduct procedure must be completed?
- Should play resume if time and conditions allow?

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Integrated Scenario Answer

Scenario answer

Decision Apply the Level 3 sanction and Penalty runs even though a result appeared to have been reached.

Law Ref Law 41.17.2, Law 42.4 and Law 16.6.

Reason An offence before the umpires leave the field can alter or undo the apparent result.

Action Suspend the player, signal and record the penalty, update the score and resume play if the result is no longer reached and play is possible.

Avoid Do not leave the field or confirm the result before every late incident has been resolved.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Law 20: Key Takeaways

Key messages to retain.

- 1 Dead-ball timing determines what can still happen and what can be scored.
- 2 Immediate and delayed Dead ball - know which applies.
- 3 Once Dead ball is called, it cannot be revoked; complete the consequences carefully.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Session 6: Key Messages

Unfair-play decisions are processes, not isolated calls.

Recognise Identify the conduct, intent, danger and exact sequence.

Pause correctly Use Dead ball or Time at the point required by the Law.

Apply everything Warnings, penalties, suspension, ball count, ends and striker.

Communicate Partner, captains, players and scorers must all understand the outcome.

Report Record facts promptly and complete formal post-match reporting.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Post-Quiz

Review the decisions, procedures and consequences from the session.

Focus on sequence: act → call → sanction → signal → communication → report.

INTERACTIVE POST-QUIZ



Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Post-Quiz Question 1

Law 16: The Result

A side appears to have won, but before the umpires leave the field, required Penalty runs are awarded against that side and the result is undone. What should happen if play can continue?

- A: The original result stands
- B: The match continues, if possible
- C: The captains vote on the result
- D: The penalty is ignored because the result had already been reached

CORRECT ANSWER: B

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Post-Quiz Question 2

Law 41: Unfair Play

A bowler deliberately bowls a non-landing delivery above waist height. What is the correct approach?

- A: Call No ball only and continue
- B: Give a first and final warning only
- C: Call No ball and suspend the bowler for the match
- D: Call Wide ball

CORRECT ANSWER: C

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Post-Quiz Question 3

Law 42: Players' conduct

**A player shows dissent at an umpire's decision by word or action, and it is the team's first offence at any level.
What is the expected Law 42 process?**

- A: Ignore it unless repeated
- B: Issue a first and final warning to the captain, applying to the whole team
- C: Immediately award the match to the opposition
- D: Send the player off for the rest of the match

CORRECT ANSWER: B

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Final Review

One practical reminder from each core area.

- Law 16** Call Time, consult and warn before awarding a match for refusal to play.
- Law 41** Use the specific unfair-play process and apply every consequence.
- Law 42** Classify the level before warning, suspending or removing a player.
- Law 2.13** Signal in event order and wait for separate scorer acknowledgement.
- Law 12** Use Play and Time to define interruptions and resumptions.
- Law 20** Choose the correct Dead-ball timing and never attempt to revoke it.

Queensland Cricket Umpires

Winter Laws Course | Session 6

Questions and Discussion

Use the remaining time to test the processes against real match situations.

Which unfair-play or conduct situation is most difficult to manage confidently on the field?

DISCUSSION



Coming Up in Queensland Cricket

WINTER MASTER CLASS #3

Tuesday 18 August 2026 - 7.00pm

Richard McInnes:

What does everyone need from today's umpires?

LAWS OF CRICKET EXAM REVIEW SESSION

Wednesday 26 August 2026 - 7.00pm

PRE-SEASON SEMINARS

Brisbane – 15 August

Gold Coast – 22 August

Wide Bay – 29 August

Ipswich / Logan – 5 Sept | Darling Downs – 6 Sept



Coming Up in Queensland Cricket

A Night with the ICC Umpires

Thursday 20 August 2026 - 6.00pm

Harrup Park Country Club, Mackay | Online via Teams

Register at: <https://bit.ly/ICCMKY26>



Week 5 | Queensland Umpires | August 2026