

CONCUSSION FACT SHEET FOR

UMPIRES

WHAT IS A CONCUSSION?

Concussion is a complex and potentially significant brain injury that must be taken seriously. Unless you are suitably qualified, recognising a concussion can be very difficult. However, failure in doing so can have major immediate and long-term consequences.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU THINK YOUR PLAYER HAS CONCUSSION?

Concussion can arise from what can look like a fairly innocuous 'ding' to the head from a ball, a player hitting the ground or a collision between two players. If this happens during a game this must give you 'cause for concern'.
— If you suspect that a player may be showing the signs and symptoms of concussion, it is not your responsibility to call medical help but you should seek assistance from the person of authority/responsible adult for that team.
— After you seek assistance, you have no further responsibility in the subsequent decision making and diagnosis of concussion.
— If a player has a suspected concussion they should be removed from the pitch and seek medical attention

Your "cause for concern" should override the Laws irrespective of whether this prevents runs being scored or a wicket being taken. Therefore, calling and signalling 'Dead ball' immediately is the right thing to do.

A player with a suspected concussion must seek medical clearance before they return to play. However, if the player is allowed to continue or returns, and you have further concerns about them, you should repeat the process and in the extreme, should refuse to umpire the match further.

CONCUSSION SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Adequate care must be taken in the assessment of a suspected concussion as symptoms may take time to present. If a player has experienced a bump or blow to the head, look for any of the following signs and symptoms of concussion:

SYMPTOMS REPORTED BY PLAYER:

- Headache ✓
- Nausea or vomiting ✓
- Dizziness or blurred vision ✓
- Concentration or memory problems ✓
- Just not 'feeling right' ✓

SIGNS THAT MAY BE OBSERVED:

- Appears dazed or stunned ✓
- Moves clumsily ✓
- Is unsure of match, opponent or result ✓
- Forgets an instruction ✓
- Loses consciousness ✓
- Answers questions slowly ✓
- Can't recall events after hit or fall ✓

For the professional game, please follow the current ECB Concussion Guidelines