

Concussion Process ECB Guidance for all Umpires in Recreational Cricket



Concussion is a serious and on occasion potentially life-threatening condition. It can be caused by a relatively innocuous blow to the head.

Umpires are (in general) not qualified to determine whether anyone is suffering from a concussion, but they do have an ongoing general duty of care to players during a match.

Although the most likely cause of concussion is by a direct blow to the head caused by being hit by the ball, players may also suffer concussion from a blow to the head through collisions with each other, running into walls/fences around the boundary, or hitting their head on the ground.

Where a blow to the head occurs, however mild, the umpires shall proceed with the following steps:

1. Immediately call and signal dead ball
2. If in their opinion the player appears to be seriously/significantly injured or if they are unconscious or bleeding, ask the ground authority to call for medical help and discourage the player from moving or being moved.
3. If the player seems not to be seriously injured etc, require a responsible adult on their team to assess whether or not the player is fit to continue.
4. If they say they can continue, umpires should monitor the player and if they have any concerns whatsoever about their condition, they should repeat Steps 1-3.
5. If told the player can continue umpires should continue to monitor them and if they have any concerns whatsoever about their condition, they should repeat steps 1-3. If the responsible adult still says they can continue and either umpire continues to have concerns about the player, the umpires shall leave the field and refuse to officiate.

Note: The term Responsible Adult means a person from the injured player's Club with a duty of care over the player and determined by the injured player's Club to be capable of making a decision as to the player's health and/or welfare. In all circumstances the Responsible Adult must be over 18.

Full details of the ECB Guidance is available at;

<https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2022/02/14/8ffa5674-a3cf-4d88-823c-8862556e8e09/Managing-the-Risk-of-Concussion-in-Recreational-Cricket-V0.3.pdf>

