

A possible solution to updating your 4th edition of Tom Smith's

As you will realise, there were some changes to the Laws of Cricket that came into effect on 1st October, 2013. Many of these changes were to wording of the Laws in an attempt to make them clearer & more understandable but others were more significant.

I have adapted the information on the MCC website that lists & explains those changes. <http://www.lords.org/mcc/laws-of-cricket/law-changes-2013-explained/> I've used that to update my own copy of Toms Smith's as, it seems, there are no known plans to update & re-issue it as a 5th edition at this stage.

In doing this, I realised that there were likely to be others who needed to do the same, so I've put together a Word document that anyone might use. This is designed to be cut up (along the "cut" lines shown) & pasted into any edition 4 of Tom Smith's. I suggest that you only cut along the cut lines in the first instance & then check that the size is correct or if additional trimming is needed before proceeding. When all seems satisfactory, it's possibly best to attach the updated section by one edge, using some sort of paper glue. This allows one to look back at the original wording of that Law that was used prior to the latest changes. If correctly cut & attached the additions should largely cover the old Law section.

I have labelled each change or addition listed below (in the main part of this document) in a similar way to that is used in the Laws themselves. So, as an example. 24.6 (a) (i) refers to Law 24, section 8 sub section (a) paragraph (i). This enables you to locate a position in Tom Smith's where the update would best be inserted.

In some cases there are additional sections to be added to the existing Law &, with the addition of some of these, it's necessary to renumber by hand the sections or subsections following an addition. For example, Law 24.6 where existing sections 6 to 15 need renumbering 7 to 16. Hence, for the benefit of others using this document, I have added a note to that effect - above a section where this & other actions might be appropriate.

Having said all of the above, my usual liability waiver applies. In no way is it a complete fix as I've not covered what I believe are "changes of little importance to interpretation". Also, I hope the cut & paste works as I planned it but no guarantees on this either.!!!

My apologies for the small font size but this seems to be the best way to ensure that the changes fit reasonably well over the various sections they replace.

Good luck to all who use this quick & dirty fix. Please let me know if you find serious problems with it.

Trevor Woodage

Law 2.8. Transgression of the Laws by a batsman who has a runner

(a) A batsman's runner is subject to the Laws. He will be regarded as a batsman except where there are special provisions for his role as a runner. See 7 above and Law 29.2 (Which is a batsman's ground).

(b) A batsman who has a runner will suffer the penalty for any infringement of the Laws by his runner as if he had been himself responsible for the infringement. In particular he will be out if his runner is out under either of Laws 37 (Obstructing the field) or 38 (Run out).

(c) When a batsman who has a runner is striker he remains himself subject to the Laws and will be liable to the penalties that any infringement of them demands. In the case of Run out and Stumped, however, special provisions, set out in (d) and (e) below, apply to him as a striker who has a runner.

(d) If a striker who has a runner is out of his ground when the wicket at the wicket-keeper's end is fairly put down by the action of a fielder, otherwise than in (e) below, then, notwithstanding (b) above and irrespective of the position of the non-striker and the runner, he will be out Run out. However, Laws 38.2(a) and 38.2(b)(i) (Batsman not Run out) shall apply.

(e) If a striker who has a runner is out of his ground when the wicket at the wicket-keeper's end is fairly put down by the wicket-keeper, without the intervention of another fielder, and if both the following conditions are satisfied,

**his runner is within his ground
he makes no movement towards the bowler's end other than action in**

receiving and/or playing or playing at the ball,

he is

- (i) Not out if No ball has been called.**
- (ii) Out Stumped if the delivery is not a No ball. In this case,**

**however, Law 39.3(a) (Not out Stumped) shall apply.
If either of the two conditions is not satisfied, then he is out Run out.
Law 38.2(a) will apply.**

(f) If a striker who has a runner is himself dismissed as in either (d) or (e) above, runs completed by the runner and the other batsman before the wicket is put down shall be disallowed. However, any runs for penalties awarded to either side shall stand. See Law 18.6 (Runs awarded for penalties). The non-striker shall return to his original end.

(g) When a batsman who has a runner is not the striker

- (i) he remains subject to Law 37 (Obstructing the field) but is otherwise out of the game.**
- (ii) he shall stand where directed by the striker's end umpire so as not to interfere with play.**
- (iii) he will be liable, notwithstanding (i) above, to any penalty demanded by the Laws should he commit any act of unfair play.**

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5.4. New ball in match of more than one day's duration

In a match of more than one day's duration, the captain of the fielding side may demand a new ball when the number of overs, excluding any part overs, bowled with the old one is equal to or greater than the prescribed number of overs. The Governing Body responsible for the match concerned shall decide the number of overs applicable in that match. This number shall not be less than 75 overs.

The umpire shall inform the other umpire and indicate to the batsmen and the scorers whenever a new ball is taken into play.

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17.1. Practice on the pitch or the rest of the square

(a) There shall be no practice of any kind, at any time on any day of the match, on the pitch or on either of the two strips parallel and immediately adjacent to the pitch, one on either side of it, each of the same dimensions as the pitch.

(b) There shall be no practice of any kind on any other part of the square at any time on any day of the match, except before the start of play on that day or after the close of play on that day. Practice before the start of play

(i) must not continue later than 30 minutes before the scheduled time or any rescheduled time for play to start on that day.

(ii) shall not be allowed if the umpires consider that it will significantly impair the surface of the square.

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17.2. Practice on the outfield

All forms of practice are permitted on the outfield before the start of the day's play on any day or after the close of play on any day

or during the lunch and tea intervals
or between innings,

providing the umpires are satisfied that such practice will not cause significant deterioration in the condition of the outfield.

Such practice must not continue later than 5 minutes before the scheduled or any rescheduled time for play to commence or to resume.

17.3 Practice on the outfield between the call of Play and the call of Time

(a) The restrictions in (b), (c) and (d) below shall apply not only between the call of Play and the call of Time but also during an interval for drinks, or on any other occasion when Time has been called but the players remain on the field of play.

(b) No ball other than the match ball may be used on the field of play.

(c) There shall be no bowling or batting practice on the outfield. However,

bowling a ball to a player in the outfield, using arm action only, although a form of practice shall not be regarded as bowling practice.

(d) All other forms of practice are permitted on the outfield either at the fall of a wicket or during other gaps in play for legitimate activities providing that

(i) only the fielders as defined in Appendix D participate in such practice

(ii) the umpire is satisfied that it will not contravene either of Laws 42.3 (The match ball – changing its condition) or 42.9 (Time wasting by the fielding side).

17.4. Trial run up

A bowler is permitted to have a trial run up provided the umpire is satisfied that it will not contravene either of Laws 42.9 (Time wasting by the fielding side) or 42.13 (Fielder damaging the pitch).

17.5 Penalties for contravention

All forms of practice are subject to the provisions of Laws 42.3 (The match ball – changing its condition), 42.9 (Time wasting by the fielding side) and 42.13 (Fielder damaging the pitch). Additionally, if there is a contravention of any of the provisions of 1, 2, or 3 above, the following penalties will apply. If the contravention is

(a) by a fielder, he shall not be allowed to bowl after the contravention until either at least one hour has elapsed or there has been at least 30 minutes of playing time since the contravention, whichever is sooner.

If the contravention is by the bowler during an over, he shall not be allowed even to complete that over. It shall be completed by another bowler, who shall neither have bowled any part of the previous over nor be allowed to bowl any part of the next over.

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(b) by a batsman,

(i) in the first instance, the umpire shall warn the player that the practice is not permitted, and inform the other umpire, the captain of the fielding side and, as soon as practicable, the captain of the batting side of the reason for this action. This warning shall apply throughout the innings which is about to begin or is in progress. The umpire shall so inform each incoming batsman.

(ii) if during that innings there is any further contravention by any batsman, the umpire shall award 5 penalty runs to the fielding side. He shall inform the other umpire, the captain of the fielding side and as soon as practicable the

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18.6. Runs awarded for penalties

Runs shall be awarded for penalties under 5 above, and Laws 2.6 (Player returning without permission), 17.5 (penalties for contravention), 24 (No ball), 25 (Wide ball), 41.2 (Fielding the ball), 41.3 (Protective helmets belonging to the fielding side) and 42 (Fair and unfair play). Note, however, the restrictions on the award of penalty runs in Laws 26 (Bye and Leg bye), 34 (Hit the ball twice), 41.3 (Protective helmets belonging to the fielding side) and 41.4 (Penalty runs not to be awarded).

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18.9. Runs scored when a batsman is dismissed

When a batsman is dismissed, any runs for penalties awarded to either side shall stand. No other runs shall be credited to the batting side, except as follows. If a batsman is

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(a) dismissed Obstructing the field, the batting side shall also score the runs completed before the offence.

If, however, the obstruction prevented a catch being made, no runs other than penalties shall be scored.

(b) dismissed Run out, the batting side shall also score runs completed before the wicket was put down.

If, however, a striker who has a runner is himself dismissed Run out, under Law 2.8(d), runs completed by the runner and the other batsman shall be disallowed.

10. Runs scored when the ball becomes dead other than at the fall of a wicket

When the ball becomes dead for any reason other than the fall of a wicket, or is called dead by an umpire, unless there is specific provision otherwise in the Laws

(a) any runs for penalties awarded to either side shall be scored. Note however the provisions of Laws 26.3 (Leg byes not to be awarded) and 41.4 (Penalties not to be awarded).

(b) additionally the batting side shall be credited with

(i) all runs completed by the batsmen before the incident or call

and (ii) the run in progress if the batsmen had already crossed at the instant of the incident or call. Note specifically, however, the provisions of Law 42.5(f) (Deliberate distraction or obstruction of batsman).

11. Batsman returning to original end

(a) When a batsman is dismissed, the not out batsman shall return to his original end

(i) if the striker is himself dismissed in the circumstances of Law 2.8(d) (Transgression of the Laws by a batsman who has a runner).

(ii) and, with the three exceptions of

Run out other than in (i) above
Caught
Obstructing the field,

for all other methods of dismissal.

(b) Other than at the fall of a wicket, the batsmen shall return to their original ends in the cases of, and only in the cases of

(i) a boundary

(ii) disallowance of runs for any reason

(iii) a decision by the batsmen at the wicket to do so, under Law 42.5(g), (Deliberate distraction or obstruction of batsman)

12. Batsman returning to wicket he has left

(a) When a batsman is dismissed Caught, Obstructing the field or Run out other than under Law 2.8, the not out batsman shall return to the wicket he has left but only if the batsmen had not already crossed at the instant of the incident causing the dismissal.

(b) Except in the cases listed in 11(b) above, if while a run is in progress the ball is called dead by an umpire or becomes dead for any other reason except the dismissal of a batsman, the batsmen shall return to the wickets they had left, but only if they had not already crossed in running when the ball became dead.

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Law 19.3. Scoring a boundary

(a) A boundary shall be scored and signalled by the bowler's end umpire whenever, while the ball is in play, in his opinion,

(i) the ball touches the boundary, or is grounded beyond the boundary.

(ii) a fielder with some part of his person in contact with the ball, touches the boundary or has some part of his person grounded beyond the boundary.

(iii) the ball, having crossed the boundary in the air, is first touched by a fielder who has not satisfied the conditions in 4(i) below.

(b) The phrases 'touches the boundary' and 'touching the boundary' shall mean contact with

**either (i) the boundary edge as defined in 2 above
or (ii) any person or obstacle within the field of play which has been designated a boundary by the umpires before the toss.**

(c) The phrase 'grounded beyond the boundary' shall mean contact with

either (i) any part of a line or solid object marking the boundary except the boundary edge

or (ii) the ground beyond the boundary edge

or (iii) any object in contact with the ground beyond the boundary edge.

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4. Ball beyond the boundary

After it has crossed the boundary in the air, a ball may be caught, subject to the provisions of Law 32, or fielded provided that

**(i) the first contact with the ball is by a fielder, not touching or grounded beyond the boundary, who has some part of his person grounded within the boundary or whose final contact with the ground before touching the ball was entirely within the boundary.
Any fielder subsequently touching the ball is not subject to this restriction.**

**(ii) neither the ball, nor any fielder in contact with the ball touches, or is grounded beyond, the boundary at any time during the act of making the catch or of fielding the ball.
The act of making the catch, or of fielding the ball, shall start from the time when the ball first comes into contact with some part of a fielder's person and shall end when a fielder obtains complete control both over the ball and over his own movement.**

5. Runs allowed for boundaries

(a) Before the toss the umpires shall agree with both captains the runs to be allowed for boundaries. In deciding the allowances the umpires and captains shall be guided by the prevailing custom of the ground.

**(b) Unless agreed differently under (a) above, the allowances for boundaries shall be 6 runs if the ball having been struck by the bat pitches beyond the boundary, but otherwise 4 runs. These shall be described as a Boundary 6 and a Boundary 4 respectively, although the number of runs awarded may not be 6 or 4 if other allowances have been agreed under (a) above.
These allowances shall still apply even though the ball has previously touched a fielder. See also (c) below.**

(c) A Boundary 6 will be scored if and only if the ball has been struck by the bat and pitches beyond the boundary. The ball is to be regarded as pitching beyond the boundary even though before it has pitched, a fielder

(i) catches it within the boundary but either has some part of his person touching the boundary or grounded beyond the boundary when he catches the ball or, after catching it, subsequently touches the boundary or grounds some part of his person beyond the boundary while carrying the ball but before completing the catch. See Law 32 (Caught).

ii) comes into contact with the ball in the circumstances of 3a (iii) above.

(d) The award for all other boundaries scored under 3 above, for which either the ball was not struck by the bat or did not pitch beyond the boundary as defined above, will be a Boundary 4, including a case under 3(a)(iii) when the ball has pitched within the boundary before contact with the fielder.

Note: the following is an additional time when the ball becomes dead. Add to existing 23.1(a)

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Law 23.1(a) The ball becomes dead when

- (x) the match is concluded in any of the ways stated in Law 16.9 (Conclusion of match).

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Note: the following 24.6 is an additional instance when a NO ball is called. Paste at top of page 134 & renumber by hand existing sections 6 to 15 to become 7 to 16.

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24.6. Bowler breaking wicket in delivering ball

Either umpire shall call and signal No ball if, other than in an attempt to run out the non-striker under Law 42.15, the bowler breaks the wicket at any time after the ball comes into play and before he completes the stride after the delivery stride. See Appendix D. Laws 23.4(b)(viii), 23.4(b)(ix) and 10 below will apply.

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Note: Delete by hand from existing 25.8 the words "33 Handled the ball,"

Note: Delete by hand from existing 30.1(b) the words "33 Handled the ball,"

32.3. A fair catch

Providing that in every case

- neither (i) at any time the ball
- nor (ii) throughout the act of making the catch as defined in Law 19.4, any fielder in contact with the ball

is, as described in Law 19.3(b), touching the boundary or grounded beyond the boundary, a catch shall be considered to be fair if

- (a) the ball is hugged to the body of the catcher or accidentally lodges in his clothing or, in the case of a wicket-keeper only, in his pads. However, it is not a fair catch if the ball lodges in a protective helmet worn by a fielder.
- (b) the ball does not touch the ground even though the hand holding it does so in effecting the catch.
- (c) a fielder catches the ball after it has been lawfully struck more than once by the striker, but only if it has not been grounded since it was first struck.
- (d) a fielder catches the ball after it has touched an umpire, another fielder or the other batsman.
However, it is not a fair catch if at any time after having been struck by the bat and before a catch is completed the ball has touched a protective helmet worn by a fielder.
- (e) a fielder catches the ball after it has crossed the boundary in the air, provided that after being struck by the bat, the first contact with the ball is by a fielder, not touching or grounded beyond the boundary, who has some part of his person grounded within the boundary or whose final contact with the ground before touching the ball was entirely within the boundary.
Any fielder subsequently touching the ball is not subject to this restriction. See Law 19.4 (Ball beyond the boundary).
- (f) the ball is caught off an obstruction within the boundary that has not been designated a boundary by the umpires before the toss.

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4. Fielder beyond the boundary

A catch shall not be made and a Boundary 6 shall be scored if after the ball has been struck by the bat a fielder

- (i) has some part of his person touching or grounded beyond the boundary when he catches the ball, or after catching it subsequently touches the boundary or grounds some part of his person beyond the boundary while carrying the ball but before completing the catch as defined in Law 19.4.
- ii) catches the ball after it has crossed the boundary in the air without the conditions in 3(e) above being satisfied.
See Laws 19.3 (Scoring a boundary) and 19.5 (Runs allowed for boundaries).

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Law 33 Handled the ball

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1. Out Handled the ball

The striker is out Handled the ball if, except in the circumstances of 2 below, in the act of playing a ball delivered by the bowler, he wilfully strikes the ball with a hand not holding the bat. This will apply whether No ball has been called or not and whether it is the first strike or a second or subsequent strike.

The act of playing the ball shall also encompass both playing at the ball and striking the ball more than once in defence of his wicket.

2. Not out Handled the ball

Notwithstanding 1 above,

(a) the striker will not be out Handled the ball if the strike with a hand not holding the bat is in order to avoid injury.

(b) the striker will not be out Handled the ball but will be liable to be out Obstructing the field if he makes a strike with a hand not holding the bat

(i) unless trying to avoid injury, as a lawful second or subsequent strike which prevents a catch. See Law 37.3 (Obstructing a ball from being caught).

(ii) unless trying to avoid injury, after he has completed the act of playing the ball, as defined in 1 above.

(iii) at any time while the ball is in play, to return the ball to any fielder, without the consent of a fielder. See Law 37.4 (Returning the ball to a fielder).

3. Bowler does not get credit

The bowler does not get credit for the wicket.

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34.4. Runs scored from ball lawfully struck more than once

When the ball is lawfully struck more than once, as permitted in 3 above, only the first strike is to be considered in determining what runs may be scored.

(a) If on the first strike the umpire is satisfied that

- (i) the ball first struck the bat*
- or (ii) the striker attempted to hit the ball with his bat*
- or (iii) the striker attempted to avoid being hit by the ball*

the batting side shall not be credited with any runs but any penalties that may be applicable shall stand except that a penalty under Law 41.3 (Protective helmets belonging to the fielding side) is not to be awarded.

(b) If the umpire considers that on the first strike none of the conditions in (a) has been met, then no runs or penalties will be credited to the batting side other than the one run penalty for a No ball if applicable.

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34.5. No runs permitted from ball lawfully struck more than once – action by the umpire

(a) If no run is attempted but the ball reaches the boundary the umpire shall call and signal Dead ball and disallow the boundary.

(b) If the batsmen run, and

(i) neither batsman is dismissed and the ball does not become dead for any other reason, the umpire shall call and signal Dead ball as soon as one run is completed or the ball reaches the boundary. The run or boundary shall be disallowed. The batsmen shall be returned to their original ends.

(ii) a batsman is dismissed or for any other reason the ball becomes dead before one run is completed or the ball reaches the boundary, all the provisions of the Laws will apply except that the batting side shall not be credited with any runs, except the penalties permitted under 4(a) or 4(b) above as appropriate.

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Law 37 Obstructing the field

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1. Out Obstructing the field

Either batsman is out Obstructing the field if he wilfully attempts to obstruct or distract the fielding side by word or action. In particular, but not solely, it shall be regarded as obstruction and either batsman will be out Obstructing the field if while the ball is in play and after the striker has completed the act of playing the ball, as defined in Law 33.1, he wilfully strikes the ball with

- (i) a hand not holding the bat, unless this is in order to avoid injury. See also Law 33.2 (Not out Handled the ball).*
- (ii) any other part of his person or with his bat. See also Law 34 (Hit the ball twice).*

2. Accidental obstruction

It is for either umpire to decide whether any obstruction or distraction is wilful or not. He shall consult the other umpire if he has any doubt.

3. Obstructing a ball from being caught

The striker is out should wilful obstruction or distraction by either batsman prevent a catch being made. This shall apply even though the obstruction is caused by the striker himself in lawfully guarding his wicket under the provision of Law 34.3 (Ball lawfully struck more than once).

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4. Returning the ball to a fielder

Either batsman is out Obstructing the field if, at any time while the ball is in play and without the consent of a fielder, he uses his bat or any part of his person, including a hand not holding the bat, to return the ball to any fielder.

5. Runs scored

When either batsman is dismissed Obstructing the field,

(a) unless the obstruction prevents a catch from being made, runs completed by the batsmen before the offence shall be scored, together with any runs awarded for penalties to either side. See Laws 18.6 (Runs awarded for penalties) and 18.9 (Runs scored when a batsman is dismissed).

(b) if the obstruction prevents a catch from being made, runs completed by the batsmen shall not be scored but any penalties awarded to either side shall stand.

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38.1. Out Run out

(a) Either batsman is out Run out, except as in 2 below, if, at any time while the ball is in play,

- (i) he is out of his ground*
- and (ii) his wicket is fairly put down by the action of a fielder.*

(b) (a) above shall apply even though No ball has been called, except in the circumstances of 2(b)(i) below, and whether or not a run is being attempted.

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38.2. Batsman not Run out
Notwithstanding 1 above,

(a) A batsman is not out Run out if

(i) he has been within his ground and has subsequently left it to avoid injury, when the wicket is put down.

Note also the provisions of Law 29.1(b) (When out of his ground).

(ii) the ball has not subsequently been touched by a fielder, after the bowler has entered his delivery stride, before the wicket is put down.

(iii) the ball, having been played by the striker, or having come off his person, directly strikes a protective helmet worn by a fielder and, without any other contact with him or any contact with any other fielder, rebounds directly on to the wicket. However, the ball remains in play and either batsman may be Run out in the circumstances of 1 above if a wicket is subsequently put down.

(b) The striker is not out Run out

(i) if he is out Stumped. See Laws 2.8(e)(ii) (Transgression of the Laws by a batsman who has a runner) and 39.1(b) (Out Stumped).

(ii) either in the circumstances of Law 2.8(e)(i) (Transgression of the Laws by a batsman who has a runner) or, otherwise,

if No ball has been called and he is out of his ground not attempting a run and the wicket is fairly put down by the wicket-keeper without the intervention of another fielder.

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Note: below is an addition to the end of 38.4

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The non-striker shall return to his original end. See Law 2.8 (Transgression of the Laws by a batsman who has a runner).

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39.3. Not out Stumped

(a) Notwithstanding 1 above, the striker will not be out Stumped if he has left his ground in order to avoid injury.

(b) If the striker is not out Stumped he may, except in the circumstances of either of Laws 2.8(e)(i) or 38.2(b)(ii), be out Run out if the conditions of Law 38.1 (Out Run out) apply.

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41.3. Protective helmets belonging to the fielding side

Protective helmets, when not in use by fielders, should, if above the surface, be placed only on the ground behind the wicket-keeper and in line with both sets of stumps.

If a protective helmet belonging to the fielding side is on the ground within the field of play, and the ball while in play strikes it, the ball shall become dead and, except in the circumstances of Law 34 (Hit the ball twice), 5 penalty runs shall then be awarded to the batting side, in addition to the penalty for a No ball or a Wide, if applicable.

Additionally runs completed by the batsmen before the ball strikes the protective helmet shall be scored, together with the run in progress if the batsmen had already crossed at the instant of the ball striking the protective helmet. See Law 18.10 (Runs scored when the ball becomes dead other than at the fall of a wicket). If, however, the circumstances of Law 34 apply, neither the 5 penalty runs nor any runs to the batsman are to be awarded. See Law 34.4 (Runs scored from a ball lawfully struck more than once).

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Appendix D Definitions and explanations of words or phrases not defined in the text

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Delivery stride is the stride during which the delivery swing is made, whether the ball is released or not. It starts when the bowler's back foot lands for that stride and ends when the front foot lands in the same stride. The stride after the delivery stride is completed when the next foot lands, i.e. when the back foot of the delivery stride lands again.

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