



# AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB

## AUCC NET SAFETY POLICY

AUCC strongly encourages a safe environment for all cricketers who use the facilities within Colin Maiden Park and wider Auckland. There are specific guidelines and etiquette when using cricket nets at Colin Maiden Park, for both members and non-members – this is for the safety and benefit of an individual's health and wellbeing.

Preventing injury in specific sports can be challenging, however with the help of AUCC members and the wider cricketing community the nets can be made a safer area for training and playing.

Members will be encouraged to raise any health and safety concerns.

Whether you are observing or actively participating in activities within the vicinity of the nets, the following policy must be followed to ensure the safety of yourself and others around you:

- Adult/Coach to Junior Ratio: 1:5
- **First Aid Kit and First Aider:** Any clinics, academies and events run by the Club Coaches must have an **up-to-date first aid kit** and a qualified **first aider**. We shall also ensure all members are provided with adequate safety information and gear if required.
- **Compulsory Equipment** – A player in the nets facing a **hardball** *regardless of age* must be wearing the correct safety equipment i.e. Helmet (with wired grill), Batting Gloves, Batting Pads (both legs), abdominal protector (Box) – extra equipment highly recommended: thigh pad, arm guard, chest guard, and mouth guard.
- All equipment, including kit bags to be stored away from the net
- **Wicket Keeping (In Nets):** Full protective gear, abdominal protector (Box), Helmet (with wired grill) or face guard, Wicket Keeping gloves, and Wicket Keeping pads.
- **Distance:** An individual should **NOT** be within **10** meters of a batter unless it is a supervisor or coach or has been requested.
- **Never turn you back on a net** – there are certain situations where a player must retrieve his/her ball and return to their bowling marker, at no stage in this process should the player turn their back to the batsman, especially on impact. If possible the batsman should pick up and underarm the bowlers ball back to them.
- **Bowlers:** A safe number of bowler per net is 4–5, or lower, regardless of bowling type (Slow/Pace). Bowlers must be aware of their surrounding and others running into bowl.



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- **Slow Bowlers:** Because their run up is shorter than a pace bowlers, spin/slow bowlers must be aware of the side that pace bowlers are running in from, whether it be over or around the wicket, the slow bowler should move out of the way to create a safe environment.
- **Pace Bowlers:** Workload – A pace bowler should know his or her work load and finish at the recommended number of balls (generally 5–6 overs for youths) to prevent injury. Pace bowlers should be aware of others in the nets and politely ask them to move if they are in the required pathway of mobility.
- **Batters:** A safe amount of batters per net is 1–2. When two batters are in the nets one is striking and the other is alert to impact at the other end of the wicket. Batters should rotate strike every 3–6 balls to maintain a balanced work rate. A non–striking batter should stand on the appropriate side of the wicket and be constantly aware of this.
- **Spectators:** Should be a safe distance from the nets. And at no point should have to enter the nets or distract any cricketers when engaged in activity.
- **Coaches:** Possibly the most important job of all, coaches must initiate the net policy and ensure cricketers are on task and concentrated and aware of potential dangers and outcomes. A coach must assess potential risk and eliminate it i.e. scattered balls (potential for rolled ankles)
- **Light:** Training within the nets (unless indoor) should be done in the hours of daylight – fading light can cause visibility issues.
- **Weather Conditions:** Rain can cause an unstable environment for training, the astro turf should be completely dry to prevent slipping and potential injury.
- The Club must provide maintenance of safe facilities at Colin Maiden Park. However, users should leave the nets in the condition they found them in.
- Any damage needing repair or maintenance requirements shall be reported to the AUCC Club Manager.
- All accidents, injuries or incidents need to be reported to the AUCC Club Manager as required by the Club’s Health and Safety Policy. AUCC will put in place any remedial actions or procedures so as to minimise re–occurrence.

At the first session of every Club–organised programme, this policy needs to be explained to the players. In some cases it will be appropriate for the players to sign–off that they have had this safety policy explained to them, and that they understand it, and that they agree to abide by it at all times when using any net facility.