



SUSPECT BOWLING ACTION PROTOCOL

1. If either umpire considers that a bowler has a suspect action, they should firstly consult with their colleague and establish whether they both have similar concerns. A note should be made containing relevant details to be used as a formal record should further action be required.
2. If either umpire subsequently has continued concerns that the bowler's action is suspect, both umpires should consult again and decide whether further action should be taken. If they believe that further action should be taken, they should advise the captain of the fielding side about their concerns and advise that a report will be made in writing to the NWCU Operations (brian.acheson@northwestcricket.com) following the game. It is the responsibility of the captain to inform the player concerned and the game should continue without undue delay. (The calling of "No Balls" should be discouraged unless it is blatantly obvious, as finite assessment would not have been made at that time.)
3. If BOTH/EITHER Umpire(s) remain(s) concerned that the bowler's action is suspect and is such that it could unduly affect the game, then TOGETHER they may agree to:

i) Advise the Fielding Captain of their concerns and recommend that he/she takes appropriate action, which could mean the bowler amending their delivery action or stopping bowling.

And/or

ii) Advise the Fielding Captain to inform the bowler that, under Law 21.3, any further delivery by the bowler that is considered as suspect will be called No Ball and a first and final warning issued, and that any subsequent delivery that is considered as suspect will be called No Ball and the bowler will be suspended immediately from bowling for the rest of the innings and reported to the NWCU

The umpire(s) should again make a note of all relevant details.

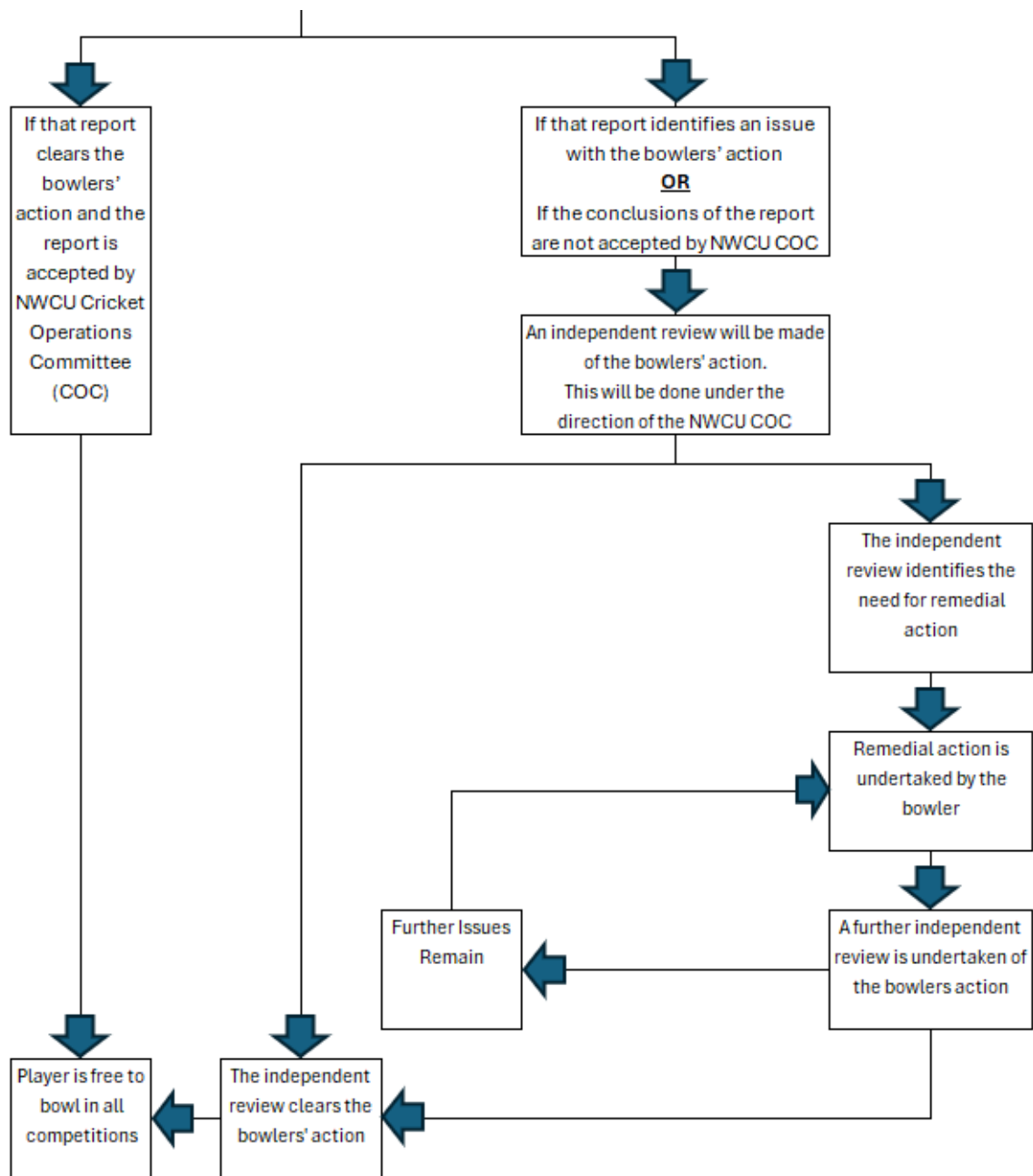
4. Post-match Report A post-match report form must be completed by the Umpire(s) and sent by email to the NWCU Operations within 48 hours of the game.

5. Upon receipt of the report, the details will be entered into a database maintained by the NWCU Operations. For information purposes, the NWCU Operations will make regular reports to the NWCUSA, advising of the number and nature of reports on the database.
6. **Preliminary Stage for Under 18s:** This preliminary stage for players under 18 is to discourage early drop out from cricket.

In the circumstances of an under 18 player who is reported for a suspect bowling action, the report must be sent to the NWCU Operations. Staff will intervene with the player, parent and club to create a development plan. The development plan will include intervention from the NWCU pathway coaches if the player in question is currently in a NWCU pathway group. If the player is not included in a NWCU pathway group, the cricket staff will contact the player's parents and club coach to advise on a development plan. If the under 18 player is reported for a second time within any 36-month period, this will act as the first official report and then the same process for adults follows.

7. If the report is the second regarding the player and his/her bowling action within any 36-month period, the NWCU Operations will notify the NWCUSA. Subsequent reports from the same Umpire will not count as a second report.
8. The NWCU will refer the issue to the player's club advising that the player is to arrange assessment with the NWCU Pathway Manager who will report back to the NWCU Cricket operations Committee (COC). This assessment will cost £100 which must be paid in advance, and report should happen within a 14-day period of notification.
9. The player must not bowl again until an assessment of his/her bowling action [by the NWCU Cricket Performance Team] has taken place. The assessment and subsequent report will then be considered by the NWCU COC.

10. See diagram below



11. At the conclusion of the NWCUCricket Operations Committee's review of a suspect bowling action, the player and/or club can request an independent review. The independent review will be conducted through the biomechanical department of Loughborough University. This assessment can be done via video analysis and will cost £400, payable by the player and/or club. If the player and/or club wish to proceed with an independent review, they should contact the NWCUCricket Operations Committee.