AIM OF THE GAME

The toss of a coin decides which team will bat or bowl first – it's the fairest way. The team bowling has 11 players on the field. The team batting always has two players on the field standing at the wicket. The team with the most number of runs on the board at the end of the day will be deemed the winner!



HOW TO SCORE RUNS

The batter hits the ball and runs to the other end of the crease. The more they run back and forth, the more runs they get.

4 RUNS The batter hits the ball far and it touches grass before crossing over the boundary rope.

6 RUNS The batter his the ball over the boundary rope on the full. This is a big deal!



HOW TO TAKE A WICKET

'Wicket' is a word that is central to the game of cricket. It can be used to describe the 22 yards between the stumps OR the stumps collectively (bails included) OR the act of hitting these stumps and dismissing the batter. Simple!

The most common ways to take Wickets and get the batter out are:

BOWLED The bowler hits the stumps with the ball and the bails fall off. **CAUGHT** The batter hits the ball in the air and a fielder catches it without letting it bounce.

LBW Short for 'Leg Before Wicket' this means the umpire thinks that the ball would have hit the stumps if it hadn't hit the batter's legs first. **RUN OUT** A fielder gets the ball while a batter is trying to complete a run. The fielder then hits the stumps before they can return any part of their body or bat over the front crease.



UMPIRE GESTURES

What the umpires mean when they're waving their arms:

WIDE Both arms outstretched – the bowler has bowled the ball too wide for the batter to be able to hit it. **NO BALL** One arm outstretch – the bowler's foot has gone over the bowler's crease when bowling or a full toss, which is a ball that does not bounce, from a pace bowler reaches the batsman at waist height or above. **BYE** A waving gesture – the batter misses the ball and takes a run. **LEG BYE** They pat their knee and then wave – the ball hits the batters pads or body and they take a run.

OUT Gestures one finger in the air, usually the first finger – the fielding team must appeal, usually shouting HOWZAT! (meaning 'how is that?') for the umpire to declare the batter out. **4 RUNS** Waves one arm from side to side – good news! **6 RUNS** Both arms stretched up into the air – great news!

