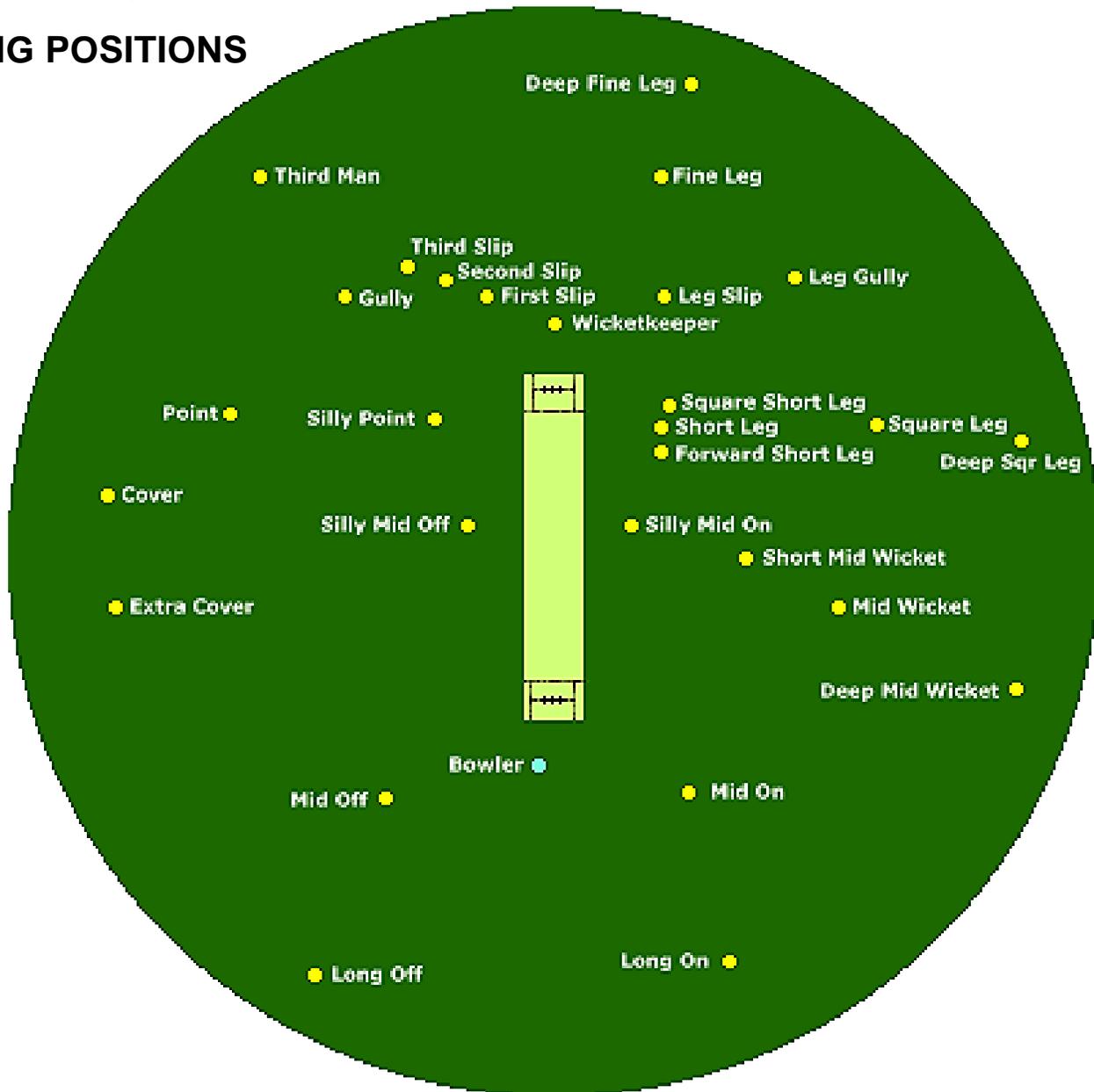


INTRODUCTION TO CRICKET

A Cricket Match Made Simple

A cricket match is played between two teams. Although a cricket team consists of 12 players, only eleven of these players will take the field during the innings in which the team is fielding, with the 12th player remaining in reserve in the likelihood of an injury to a fielding player. One player will always take the position of the wicketkeeper, another player will be designated as a bowler, leaving 9 players to adopt various positions as chosen by the captain within the field of play. The captain has to nominate his players before the toss which marks the start of the game. He cannot change those nominated players without the permission of the opposing team's captain. A substitute, used in cases of injury and approved by the opposing Captain, is not allowed to bat or bowl. An injured batter is allowed to have a runner, but the runner must already be a nominated team member and must have identical attire as the batter for whom he is running. Simply, the team scoring the most runs is the winner.

FIELDING POSITIONS



Measurements

The Pitch

The pitch is the area between the bowling, popping and return creases. It should be 5 ft (1.52m) wide either side of a line joining the center of the middle stumps of the wickets.

The Return Crease

The inside edge of the return crease marking is the crease. It is at each end of the bowling crease and at right angles to it. It is marked to a minimum of 4 ft (1.22 m) behind the wicket and is of unlimited length. The forward extension is marked on the popping crease.

The Bowling Crease

The bowling crease is marked in line with the stumps at each end. It is 8 ft 8 in (2.64 m) long and the stumps are in the center.

The Popping Crease

The popping crease is the back edge of the crease marking; it is placed in front of and parallel to the bowling crease. The back edge of the crease marking is 4 ft (1.22m) from the center of the stumps

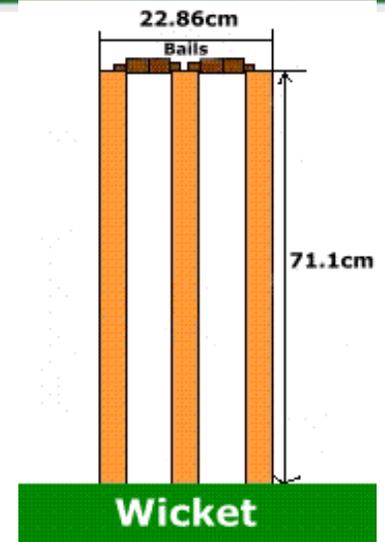
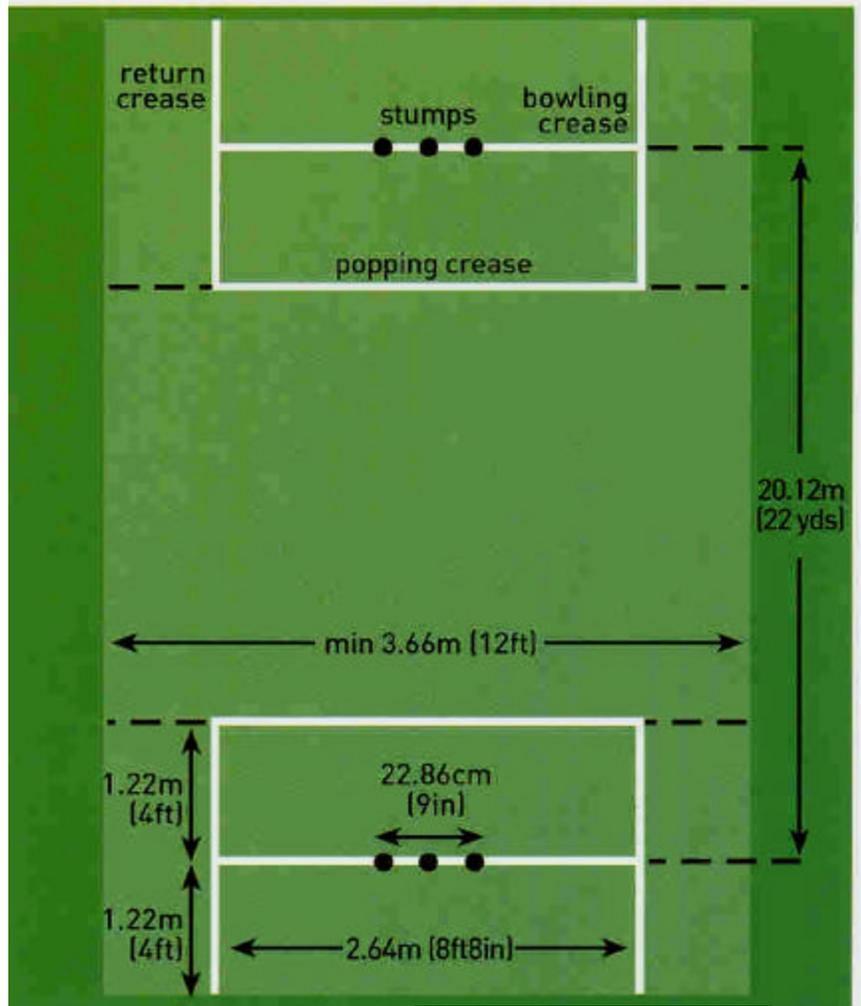
and must extend to a minimum of 6 ft (1.83m) either side of the line of the wicket. There is no length limit.

The Wickets

There are two sets of wickets, consisting of three wooden stumps each with two sets of wooden bails on top. The wickets should be 9 ins (22.86 cm) wide. They are pitched opposite end parallel to one another at 22 yds (20.12 m) distance, between the centers of the middle two stumps.

The Stumps

The stumps must show 28 ins (71.1 cm) above the ground and be of equal size. They must be thick enough to stop the ball from passing between them.



The Bails

The bails are $4 \frac{3}{8}$ in (11.1 cm) long and must not add more than $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.3 cm) to the height of the stumps when placed on top.

The Bat

The bat must be no more than 38 ins (96.5 cm) long and the blade, which must be wood, must be no wider than $4 \frac{1}{4}$ inches (10.8 cm).

The Ball

The ball must weigh not less than $5 \frac{1}{2}$ oz (155.9 g) when new, or more than $5 \frac{3}{4}$ oz (163 g) and must be between $8 \frac{3}{16}$ ins (22.24 cm) and 9 ins (22 cm) in circumference.

