



CRICKET

Cricket originates from England. Baseball was based on cricket. England, Australia, New Zealand, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, South Africa and many other countries enjoy playing cricket. The number of people who play cricket is second only to Soccer, making it the number two sport in the world.

Equipment

Ball A red ball made of wood, covered in leather - more solid than a baseball ball

Bat A flat shaped bat

Wicket The most important piece of equipment in cricket is three poles pushed into the ground to create the wicket

* Other protective equipment is used by the batsman and the wicket keeper.

Grounds

The circular grounds on which cricket is played is called the 'field'. In the middle of the field there is a long strip called a 'pitch'. The wickets are placed at each end of the pitch. The 'bowler' throws the ball from one end, aiming for the wicket at the other end of the pitch. The 'batsman' stands in front of the wicket for which the bowler is aiming and hits the ball.

Players

There are 11 players to a team. The positions are as follows:

Fielding Team: *Pitcher / Bowler* throws the ball

Catcher/ Wicket Keeper stands behind the wicket to catch the ball

Fielders stand around the pitch to catch the ball

Batting Team: *Batter / Batsman* hits the ball, protecting the wicket.

For points, he hits the ball as far as he can and runs back and forth between the wickets.

Basic Rules

Preparations:

The same as baseball - the bowler, wicket keeper and fielders stand in their positions. Firstly, the bowler throws the ball from one end of the pitch aiming at the wicket. The way to throw the ball is 'run ⇒ jump ⇒ throw'. The bowler must not bend his elbow when throwing the ball! The ball must be thrown so that it bounces off the ground once in front of the batsman. This is to lessen the danger of the batsman being hit by the ball. The bowler throws 6 balls before they must change to a new bowler. There must be at least 2 or more bowlers at one time so that this exchange can take place.