

### The Bowling Crease.

IV. The Bowling Crease must be in a line with the Stumps, six feet eight inches in length; the Stumps in the centre; with a return crease at each end towards the Bowler at right angles.

### The Popping Crease.

V. The Popping Crease must be four feet from the Wicket, and parallel to it; unlimited in length, but not shorter than the Bowling Crease.

### Placing the Wickets.

VI. The Wickets must be pitched opposite to each other by the Umpires, at the distance of twenty-two yards.

VII. It shall not be lawful for either party during a match, without the consent of the other, to alter the ground by rolling, watering, covering, mowing, or beating, except at the commencement of each innings, when the ground may be swept and rolled at the request of either party, such request to be made to one of the Umpires within one minute after the conclusion of the former innings. This rule is not to prevent the striker from beating the ground with his bat near to the spot where he stands during the innings, nor to prevent the bowler from filling up holes with saw-dust, &c., when the ground is wet.

"Complaints having been made to the Mary-le-bone Club that some persons, when at the wicket, are in the habit of making holes in the ground for a footing, the Committee of the Mary-le-bone Club are of the opinion that the umpires should be at liberty to prevent the practice, if they consider that it in any way interferes with the other batsmen."—*Bell's Life*, June 4, 1854.

VIII. After rain, the Wickets may be changed with the consent of both parties.

### The Bowler.

IX. The Bowler shall deliver the ball with one foot on the ground behind the bowling crease, and within the return crease, and shall bowl four balls before he change Wickets, which he shall be permitted to do only once in the same innings.