

The ECB Women's Twenty20 Cup Competition Rules

16

The Women's Twenty20 Cup

1 Title of Competition

- 1.1 The title of the competition will be the ECB Women's Twenty20 Cup (ECB WT20 Cup)

2 Management of Competition

- 2.1 The management of the ECB WT20 Cup will be run through the ECB Competitions Department
- 2.2 All pre-match day competition queries should be referred through **Lisa Drummond** (the Competition Manager)
lisa.drummond@ecb.co.uk
Office tel: 0207 4321 273
- 2.3 Each Regional Round venue will have an allocated ECB Venue Manager available (see separate ECB Venue Manager Roles & Responsibilities)

3 Conditions of Entry

- 3.1 The following Conditions Of Entry must be met:
 - 3.1.1 Each squad must have a named coach and named manager who are CRB cleared and who attend all matches (where not available a suitable replacement must be found for all matches)
 - 3.1.2 Each County can name a maximum of 14 players for the ECB WT20 Cup. These players must be registered for the ECB WT20 Cup via their own play-cricket site no later than Monday 25th July, 2011
 - 3.1.3 If Counties do not meet the ECB WT20 Cup Conditions of Entry, ECB will retain the right to remove Counties from the ECB WT20 Cup with immediate effect.

- 3.2 If Counties do not meet the ECB WT20 Cup Conditions of Entry, ECB will retain the right to remove Counties from the ECB WT20 Cup with immediate effect. All Counties will have the opportunity to provide evidence in support of their actions within 7 days of being notified of a potential breach

4 Women's Senior County Eligibility Criteria

- 4.1 A player is eligible to play for a County at senior level if she meets any of the following criteria (all players in the ECB WT20 Cup must meet this eligibility):
- 4.1.1 She was born within that County
- 4.1.2 She currently resides in that County and has been resident there for 6 months prior to 1st May, 2011
- 4.1.3 She plays for a Club that is located within that County and has played for that Club since the start of the 2010 season
- 4.2 Where a player only has eligibility to play for a County that does not provide competitive senior County cricket, she is entitled to represent any County without meeting any of the above eligibility criteria. Such cases need to be authorised by the Head of Women's Cricket before that player represents a chosen County side (email to clare.connor@ecb.co.uk)
- 4.3 Where a player meet the eligibility of several Counties she is entitled to choose which County she would like to represent during the 2011 season. Such cases need to be authorised by the Head of Women's Cricket before that player represents a chosen County side (email to clare.connor@ecb.co.uk)
- 4.4 One overseas player, defined as a player not qualified for England under the ECB Regulations governing the qualification of Women Cricketers for England, may play for a County per season regardless of any qualification criteria. Overseas players must be registered with a women's Club and must play Club cricket during the season

- 4.5 She has been loaned to a County and all parties including ECB are satisfied that the criteria of the 2011 Player Loan System has been met (see separate Player Loan System paper available from clare.connor@ecb.co.uk)
- 4.6 Based on **ECB** Guidelines for Junior Players in Open Age Cricket, revised October 2010, no under 12 age group players or younger may take part in the ECB WT20 Cup, unless they are deemed by ECB performance managers to be of a standard to compete in any **U13** girls' county age group competition. This is providing they are at least 11 years old, and in school Year 7 on 1st September in the year preceding the season and have written parental consent to play.

4.7 ADDITIONAL NOTES

- 4.7.1 Other than when involved in the Player Loan System, a player may only represent one County at senior level in any given season for all Competitions (LV ECB WCC and WT20 Cup)
- 4.7.2 A player may feasibly represent different Counties at ECB Girls County Age Group level and senior level in any given season. Such a scenario would be where a County offers girls junior cricket but not senior County cricket
- 4.7.3 Where a player has played for a County in previous seasons they retain the right to represent that County until they are eligible to play for another County

5 Administration of Competition

5.1 Entering Players and Squads

- 5.1.1 Counties will be required to enter and register all players on their own play-cricket site prior to the season
- 5.1.2 Counties should also apply for player registration to the ECB WT20 Cup through their own County's play-cricket site before 25th July, 2011 (The Competition Manager can advise further on how to do this)

5.2 Fixture setting

- 5.2.1 The Competition Manager will be responsible for setting all fixtures for the ECB WT20 Cup
- 5.2.2 Dates for the Regional Rounds of the competition will be 2nd & 3rd August, 2011. All teams will play each other once in their Regional Divisions with a final match and 3rd/4th playoff. The winners of each Regional Division 1 and the next best overall runner up from all Division 1s will compete in ECB WT20 Cup Finals' Day on Saturday 17th September, 2011
- 5.2.3 The Competition Manager will issue venue details and timings for the Regional Rounds no later than 30th April, 2011

6 Playing Conditions

6.1 Laws of Cricket

- 6.1.1 Except as varied hereunder, the Laws of Cricket (2000 Code 4th Edition – 2010) shall apply

6.2 Umpires

- 6.2.1 ECB shall be responsible for appointing umpires for all matches in this competition. All umpires will be ECBACO members
- 6.2.2 Before the toss the umpires shall:
 - 6.2.2.1 Ascertain the hours of play and agree them with the captains
 - 6.2.2.2 Agree the balls to be used during the match. See Law 5 (The ball)
 - 6.2.2.3 Clarify times and durations of intervals for meals
 - 6.2.2.4 Communicate any special conditions of play affecting the match
 - 6.2.2.5 Inform the scorers of the above

6.3 Scorers

- 6.3.1 It is the responsibility of each team to provide a nominated scorer for all matches during the ECB WT20 Cup
- 6.3.2 Coach, Manager and squad members will not be permitted to be the nominated scorer
- 6.3.3 Scorers shall be members of the ECBACO

6.4 Duration

- 6.4.1 Each team shall bat for 20 overs unless they are all out earlier
- 6.4.2 Each innings shall last for no longer than 1 hour and 15 minutes
- 6.4.3 Innings will be separated by a 15 minute interval, unless interruptions have occurred where the umpires can waive / amend this interval time
- 6.4.4 If the team batting first is dismissed in fewer than 20 overs, the team batting second shall be entitled to bat for 20 overs

6.5 Slowness of Play

- 6.5.1 If the team fielding first fails to bowl the required number of overs by the scheduled time, play shall continue until the required number of overs has been bowled. The interval shall be reduced to enable the second innings to commence at the scheduled time, subject to there being a minimum interval of 10 minutes. The team batting second shall only receive the number of overs it completed in the scheduled time. For example the team fielding first bowls 18 overs in the scheduled time. Play shall continue until the required number of overs has been bowled. The team batting second shall only receive 18 overs in which to chase the required total score

6.5.2 If the team fielding second fails to bowl the 20 overs by the scheduled time, the hours of play shall be extended until the required numbers of overs have been bowled or a result is achieved

6.5.3 If the umpires declare the slowness of play was through no fault of the fielding side the umpires can waive some or all of the penalty above

6.6 Drinks / Stoppages in Innings

6.6.1 No drinks intervals shall be permitted in ECB WT20 Cup

6.6.2 An individual player may be given a drink either on the boundary edge or at the fall of a wicket, on the field, provided that no playing time is wasted No other drinks shall be taken onto the field without the permission of the umpires

6.7 Teams

6.7.1 Each captain shall nominate 11 players in writing at the toss, plus a maximum of 3 substitute fielders

6.7.2 No player (of the named playing eleven) may be changed after the toss without the consent of the opposing captain

6.7.3 Coaches and non-players are not permitted to coach whilst the match in progress

6.7.4 Coaches and non-players (other than a physio) are not permitted to enter the field of play at any time once play has commenced

6.8 Pitch and Facility Requirements

6.8.1 A full, 22 yard wicket shall be used

6.8.2 The boundary shall be a minimum of 55 yards (20.29 metres) and a maximum of 70 yards (64 metres) and these distances shall be measured from the centre of the pitch

6.9 Equipment

6.9.1 Cricket Balls

6.9.1.1 A 5oz hardball will be used

6.9.1.2 The Competition Manager will provide all match balls to each County for the number of matches played

6.9.1.3 Each County should provide a spare ball for their **fielding** innings

6.9.1.4 In the event of the ball becoming wet and soggy as a result of play continuing in inclement weather or it being affected by dew, and in the opinion of the umpires being unfit for play, the ball may be replaced for a ball that has similar amount of wear, even though it has not gone out of shape

6.9.1.5 If the ball is to be replaced, the umpire shall inform the batter. Either the batter or bowler may raise the matter with the umpires and the umpires' decision as to a replacement or otherwise will be final

6.9.2 Helmets and Protective headwear

6.9.2.1 See generic rule 9

6.10 Bowlers, Wides & No Balls

6.10.1 Bowlers will be restricted to a fifth of the allocated overs in the innings

6.10.2 Where the total overs are not divisible by 5, one additional over shall be allowed to the maximum number per bowler necessary to make up the balance

6.10.3 In the event of a bowler breaking down and being unable to complete an over, the remaining balls will be allowed by another bowler. Such part of an over will count as a full over only in so far as each bowler's limit is concerned

6.10.4 ECB's Fast Bowling Directive will apply for all ECB WT20 Cup matches

6.10.5 Wide Balls

6.10.5.1 Any **offside** delivery which in the opinion of the umpire does not give the batter a reasonable opportunity to score shall be called a wide

6.10.5.2 Any delivery that would have passed down the **legside** of the batter whilst in her normal stance shall be called a wide

6.10.6 No Balls

6.10.6.1 The umpire at the bowler's end shall call and signal **No Ball** if a ball which they consider to have been delivered without having previously touched bat or person of the striker:

6.10.6.1.1 That either bounces more than **ONCE** or

6.10.6.1.2 Rolls along the ground before it reaches the popping crease

6.10.6.2 If the bowler bowls a foot fault, the striker will receive a free hit. If the delivery for the free hit is not a legitimate delivery (any kind of no ball or a wide ball), then the next delivery will become a free hit for the batting team

6.10.6.2.1 For any free hit, the striker can be dismissed only under the circumstances that apply for a no ball, even if the delivery for the free hit is called a wide ball

6.10.6.2.2 Field changes are not permitted for free hit deliveries unless there is a change of striker

6.10.6.2.3 Following the normal No Ball signal the umpires will then signal a free hit by extending one arm straight upwards and moving it in a circular motion

6.11 Field Placements and Restrictions

6.11.1 At the instant of delivery, there may not be more than 5 fielders on the leg side

6.11.2 Pitch Markings – Inner Ring Fielders

6.11.2.1 Two semi-circles shall be drawn on the field of play. The semi-circles shall have as their centre the middle stump at either end of the pitch. The radius of each of the semi-circles shall be 25 yards (23 metres). The semi-circles shall be linked by two parallel straight lines drawn on the field. The fielding restriction areas should be marked by continuous painted white lines or 'dots' at 5 yard intervals. During the first 6 overs of each innings (in an uninterrupted match), only two fielders shall be permitted outside the 25 yard fielding restriction area at the instant of delivery

6.11.2.2 For the remaining overs, no more than 5 fielders shall be permitted outside the 25 yard fielding restriction area

6.11.2.3 In circumstances where the number of overs for the team batting first team is reduced, the number of overs for which the above restrictions shall apply shall be reduced in accordance with the table below. For the sake of clarity, it should be noted that the table shall apply to both the 1st and 2nd innings of the match:

Total Overs in reduced innings	No. of overs for which fielding restrictions will apply
5-8	2
9-11	3
12-14	4
15-18	5
19	6

6.11.2.4 In the event of an infringement of any of the above fielding restrictions, the square leg umpire shall call and signal 'No Ball'

6.12 Junior Fielding Restrictions

- 6.12.1 For U13 and U15 players: no player will be allowed to stand closer than 11 yards and 8 yards from the middle of the wicket respectively, until the batter has played the ball. This is with the exception of the wicket keeper and fielders on the off-side behind the wicket
- 6.12.2 For any player aged 16 and over: players that stand within 6 yards of the batter must wear a helmet with the exception of the wicket keeper and fielders on the off-side behind the wicket
- 6.12.3 The umpire should ensure these restrictions are not breached and must stop the game until the distance is correct

6.13 Fitness of Play (Ground Condition & Light)

- 6.13.1 All references to ground include the pitch. See Law 7.1 (Area of pitch)
- 6.13.2 It is solely for the umpires to decide whether either conditions of ground, weather or light or exceptional circumstances mean that it would be dangerous or unreasonable for play to take place. Conditions shall not be regarded as either dangerous or unreasonable merely because they are not ideal
- 6.13.3 Conditions shall be regarded as dangerous if there is actual and foreseeable risk to the safety of any player or umpire
- 6.13.4 Conditions shall be regarded as unreasonable if, although posing no risk to safety, it would not be sensible for play to proceed
- 6.13.5 When there is a suspension of play it is the responsibility of the umpires to monitor conditions. They shall make inspections as often as appropriate, unaccompanied by

any players or officials. Immediately the umpires together agree that the conditions are no longer dangerous or unreasonable they shall call upon the players to resume play

6.14 Delay or Interruption – First Innings

- 6.14.1 If playing time has been lost the revised number of overs shall be based on a rate of 16 overs per hour in the total time available for play
- 6.14.2 The revision of the number of overs should ensure, where possible, that both teams have the opportunity of batting for the same number of overs
- 6.14.3 The team batting second should not be allocated more overs than the team batting first
- 6.14.4 As soon as the total minutes playing time remaining is less than the completed overs faced by team 1 multiplied by 3.8, then the first innings is terminated

6.15 Delay or Interruption - Second Innings

- 6.15.1 When playing time has been lost and, as a result, it is not possible for the team batting second to complete its allocated overs in the playing time available, the number of overs shall be reduced at a rate of 16 overs per hour in respect of the lost playing time. Fractions of overs should be ignored for this purpose
- 6.15.2 In addition, should the innings of the team batting first have been completed prior to the scheduled, or rescheduled time for the commencement of the interval, then any calculation relating to the revision of overs shall not be effective until an amount of time equivalent to that by which the second innings started early has elapsed
- 6.15.3 A fixed time shall be specified for the close of play by applying a rate of 16 overs per hour. The timing and duration of all relative delays, extensions in playing hours and interruptions in play will be taken into consideration in specifying this time

6.15.4 If the team fielding second fails to bowl the revised number of overs by the scheduled or rescheduled close of play, the hours of play shall be extended until the overs have been bowled or a result achieved, whichever comes first

6.15.5 The number of overs for the team batting second shall not be reduced due to the team batting first being dismissed in fewer overs than they were allocated

6.15.6 To constitute a match a minimum of 5 overs per innings should be available

6.15.7 Rescheduled cut off times for affected matches will be as follows:

	Match	Scheduled Start Time	Latest Start Time (5 overs per team)	Cut-off Time (latest possible finish)
Day 1	Match 1	11:00	14:00	14:45
	Match 2	15:00	18:15	19:00
Day 2	Match 3	10:00	13:00	13:45
	Match 4 (Final & 3rd v 4th)	14:00	17:15	18:00

6.16 Calculation of Target Score in Reduced Overs Games

6.16.1 If the number of overs for the team batting second has to be reduced to fewer than the number of overs allocated to the team batting first, then the target score shall be reduced according to the innings run rate of the team that batted first

e.g. the team batting first makes 120 runs off their full 20 overs. If the innings of the team batting second is reduced to 10 overs, their target score will be 61. This is based on innings run rate of 6 per over plus 1 run to win the match

7 Results

7.1 Match Results and Points

Win	In a match consisting of a minimum of 5 overs the team that scored more runs than the opposition wins.	2
Tie	Scores equal	1
Loss	Opposite of win	0
Cancelled & Abandoned	Either no play or each team has batted for less than 5 overs	0

7.2 ECB WT20 Cup Division Rankings – Regional Rounds

7.2.1 After match 3 of the Regional Rounds, Counties will be ranked according to the following criteria, in the order given. This will determine who plays who in the Final and who plays in the 3rd V 4th play-off in Match 4:

- Number of points
- Team with the most wins
- Net run-rate explained in the generic rules

7.3 Progressing to Finals' Day

7.3.1 The 3 winners of each of the Finals in Division 1s will progress to Finals' Day on 17th September

7.3.2 If it is impossible to play a Final in any of the Division 1s due to weather, the winner of that Division 1 will be determined from the matches that were played as follows:

- Number of points
- Team that won between the two sides when playing each other
- Net run-rate

7.3.3 The 4th team to compete on Finals' Day will be the best Runner-Up from the Regional Division 1s and will be decided by the following criteria:

7.3.3.1 If all Division 1s complete a Final (match 4) - the losing team with the best NRR in their Final will progress to the Final Days on 17th September

7.3.3.2 If all Division 1s failed to complete a Final (match 4) – the team with the best NRR from the matches played (excluding any Final that might have occurred) will progress to Finals' Day as best Runner-Up

7.4 Entry for 2012 season

7.4.1 Counties who win their respective Regional Division Final will be promoted for 2012 and will replace Counties that lost their respective 3rd V 4th play-off from the division above their existing division

7.4.2 ECB will have the right to amend Regional Divisions as a result of new Counties entering the competition

8 Penalties for Breach of ECB WT20 Cup Rules

8.1 Conceding Games

8.1.1 If a County concedes 1 match they shall be removed from the ECB WT20 Cup with immediate effect and all points relating to matches involving that County shall be expunged

8.2 Other Breaches of ECB WT20 Cup Rules

8.2.1 Where a County has breached any ECB WT20 Cup rule or Condition of Entry stated within this document, the Competition Manager shall have the right to apply the following penalties:

- To remove points obtained in matches where the breach occurred
- To overturn match results based on information obtained relating to a breach in the ECB WT20 Cup
- To remove Counties from the ECB WT20 Cup with immediate effect if any Conditions of Entry are not adhered to or if a County breaches an ECB WT20 Cup rule more than once

- 8.2.2 If a County is removed from the ECB WT20 Cup, all points obtained by other Counties against the removed County shall be expunged

9 Code of Conduct / Spirit of Cricket

- 9.1 Refer to NFC Discipline Regulations and Guidelines except in the case of "Appeals and Complaints" as explained in the section 10 below.

10 Appeals and Complaints

- 10.1 If any County would like to raise a potential breach / issue to the attention of the ECB, they must confirm this in writing to the Venue Manager within 1 hour
- 10.2 If any County wants to challenge the outcome of a penalty imposed they must inform the Venue Manager within 1 hour of the decision being made
- 10.3 The Venue Manager will confirm receipt of all complaints / appeals
- 10.4 All appeals and complaints shall then be investigated by both the Competition Manager and the Head of England Women's Cricket (Clare Connor)
- 10.5 All appeals / complaints will be dealt with within 1 hour

