

The ECB Girls County Age Group U13, U15 and U17 Competition Rules

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The Girls County Age Group U13, U15 and U17

1 Title of Competition

- 1.1 The title of the competition will be the ECB Girls County Age Group U13, U15 and U17 Competition (ECB GCAG)
- 1.2 3 competitions are referred to within these competition rules:
 - Under 13 ECB Girls' County Age Group Competition
 - Under 15 ECB Girls' County Age Group Competition
 - Under 17 ECB Girls' County Age Group Competition

2 Management of Competition

- 2.1 Competition Manager and all CAG enquires to:
lisa.drummond@ecb.co.uk
Office tel: 0207 4321 273
- 2.2 For clarity, except where these rules refer to "Generic Rules", these rules shall supersede any other rules contained in any other documentation

3 Conditions of Entry

- 3.1 All Counties will be eligible to enter this competition
- 3.2 For the 2011 season entry into ECB GCAG the following conditions must be met:
 - 3.2.1 Fixtures must be confirmed and placed onto play-cricket for ECB GCAG games by 1 April 2011
 - 3.2.2 12 players in each GCAG squad must be named and unique to one squad – they must be registered on play-cricket by 18 April 2011 and must have appropriate club experience to compete

- 3.2.3 Each squad must have a named coach and named manager who are CRB cleared and who attend all games (where not available a suitable replacement must be found for games)
- 3.3 Facilities will be assessed using the Premier League Umpires Pitch Assessment form – which must be completed after each match. It is the responsibility of the away team to ensure umpires complete and return it to ECB
- 3.4 If Counties do not meet the ECB GCAG Conditions of Entry, ECB will retain the right to remove Counties from the ECB GCAG 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 Qualification Criteria for Junior Cricketers (boys and girls)

- 4.1 Refer to Generic Rules 3.4

5 Administration of Competition

5.1 Format of the Competition

- 5.1.1 Each ECB GCAG shall consist of:
 - 5.1.1.1 Regional rounds to be completed by midnight on:
 - 5.1.1.1.1 31 July 2011 for U13 & U15
 - 5.1.1.1.2 14 August 2011 for U17
 - 5.1.1.2 Quarter Finals to be played for U13 and U15 on 6th August (reserve 13 August 2011)
 - 5.1.1.3 Semi-finals and finals for all age groups to be played in a festival format on 30 & 31 August 2011 (reserve date for finals will be 10th September 2011)

- 5.1.2 Following completion of regional rounds the following draws shall be made:

AGE	Quarter final 1	Quarter final 2	Quarter final 3	Quarter final 4
U13	W.Mids v West	North v RU	East v E.Mids	London v South
U15	East v West	London v W.Mids	E.Mids v South	North v RU
	Semi final 1 Winners QF1 v QF2		Semi final 2 Winners QF3 v QF4	
U17	Semi final 1 Winner of South 1 v Runner up of North 1		Semi final 2 Winner of North 1 v Runner up of South 1	
	National Finals – winner of SF1 v SF2			

5.2 Entering Players and Squads

- 5.2.1 Counties will be required to enter their squads on their own play-cricket site before 18 April, 2011
- 5.2.2 When Registering additional players after April you must email lisa.drummond@ecb.co.uk with the request and apply via the play-cricket site
- 5.2.3 Each squad should contain no less than 12 players that are not named in any other age group squad for that County
- 5.2.4 Counties should also apply for player registration to the ECB GCAG through their own County's play-cricket site (The Competition Manager can advise further on how to do this)

5.3 Amending Fixtures

- 5.3.1 All fixtures have been entered onto play-cricket by the Competition Manager

- 5.3.2 All fixtures should be managed online through each County's play-cricket site
- 5.3.3 The designated Home County will be required to enter fixture details prior to 1 April 2011 – these details should include:
 - 5.3.3.1 Date of fixture
 - 5.3.3.2 Venue of fixture
 - 5.3.3.3 Time of fixture
- 5.3.4 If changes are made to fixtures during the season, the home side will be expected to amend fixture details and email the Competition Manager of the fixture change immediately
- 5.4 Rearrangement of matches
 - 5.4.1 Only cancelled matches (not abandoned matches) can be rearranged in the ECB GCAG for 2011. If a match started but did not fulfil the minimum number of overs to constitute a result, it will be recorded as an abandoned matches and relevant bonus points gained shall be awarded to both teams
 - 5.4.2 If a match needs to be rearranged due to unfit conditions or for other extenuating circumstances, Counties will be able to rearrange matches
 - 5.4.3 All matches must be played within the ECB GCAG timescales and notification of a change of fixture must be sent to the Competition Manager
 - 5.4.4 If matches cannot be rearranged and there is no fault on the part of either County, a cancelled match shall be recorded
 - 5.4.5 If Counties cannot agree an alternative date the original fixture date given prior to 1 April 2011 will count as the "original" fixture date and the Competition Manager will allocate points accordingly

6 Entering Results onto Play-cricket

6.1 Match results must be entered onto play-cricket by:

Requirement	Time frame
Home team to enter full result & scorecard onto play-cricket	24 hours after match
Away team to confirm result on play-cricket	72 hours after match
All amended fixtures to be confirmed via Lisa Drummond	72 hours prior to matches taking place

7 Playing Conditions

7.1 Laws of Cricket

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

7.2 Umpires

7.2.1 For the Regional & Quarter final rounds the home county shall be responsible for allocating both umpires that have appropriate qualifications and are members of the ECBACO

7.2.2 For the semi finals and final dates ECB shall be responsible for allocating umpires

7.2.3 Before the toss the umpires shall:

7.2.3.1 Ascertain the hours of play and agree with the captains:

7.2.3.2 Agree the balls to be used during the match. See Laws of Cricket – Law 5 (7.2.3.2 The ball).

7.2.3.3 Clarify times and durations of intervals for meals

7.2.3.4 Communicate any special conditions of play affecting match.

7.2.3.5 Inform the scorers of the above.

7.3 Scorers

- 7.3.1 It is the responsibility of each team to provide a nominated scorers for all matches during the ECB GCAG
- 7.3.2 Coach, Manager and squad members will not be permitted to be the nominated scorer
- 7.3.3 Scorers shall be members of the ECBACO

7.4 Duration

- 7.4.1 Unless both teams agree otherwise, the match start time will be 14:00
- 7.4.2 Matches will be played with the following timings:
 - 7.4.2.1 For U13 – 30 overs per innings within 100 minutes (1hr 40 - excluding drinks / stoppages)
 - 7.4.2.2 For U15 – 35 overs per innings within 120 minutes (2hrs - excluding drinks / stoppages)
 - 7.4.2.3 For U17 – 45 overs per innings within 150 minutes (2hrs 30 - excluding drinks / stoppages)
- 7.4.3 Innings will be separated by a 30 minute interval, unless interruptions have occurred where the umpires can waive / amend this interval time
- 7.4.4 If the team batting first is dismissed in less than their allocated overs, the team batting second shall be entitled to bat for their full allocated overs

7.5 Slowness of Play

- 7.5.1 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 28 overs in the scheduled time. Play shall continue until the required number of overs has been bowled. The team batting second shall only receive 28 overs in which to chase the required total score.

7.5.2 If the team fielding second fails to bowl their allocated 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

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

7.6 Drinks / Stoppages in innings

7.6.1 Each innings will be allowed 1 drinks interval of 5 minutes (unless exceptional conditions where 2 drinks intervals will be allowed)

7.6.2 These intervals cannot take place if:

7.6.2.1 less than 60 minutes has passed since previous interval

7.6.2.2 less than 10 overs remaining in the innings

7.7 Teams

7.7.1 Each captain shall nominate 12 players in writing at the toss, plus any number of substitute fielders.

7.7.2 No player (of the named playing 12) may be changed after the toss without the consent of the opposing captain

7.7.3 Only 11 of the named players can bat but all players can bowl

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

7.7.5 Fielders can be switched at any time during the innings – with the umpires permission and between overs and during intervals

7.7.6 Coaches shall be allowed to enter the field of play during drinks intervals to support their team and captain – this should not interfere with match timings and is at the discretion of the match officials (umpires)

7.8 Pitch and Facility Requirements

7.8.1 Wicket length

7.8.1.1 For U13, 21 yards should be used

7.8.1.2 For U15 and U17 a full size wicket should be used (22 yards)

7.8.2 Boundary size

7.8.2.1 For U13: between 30m (33 yards) and 55m (60 yards)

7.8.2.2 For U15: between 35m (38 yards) and 65m (71 yards)

7.8.2.3 For U17: between 50m (55 yards) and 70m (77 yards)

7.9 Equipment

7.9.1 Cricket Balls

7.9.1.1 For U13 age group a 4 ¾oz hardball will be used

7.9.1.2 For U15 and U17 age groups a 5oz hardball will be used

7.9.1.3 The Competition Manager will provide all match balls to each County Cricket Board for the number of games played

7.9.1.4 Each County has to provide a match ball and a spare (the latter not provided by the ECB) for their fielding innings

7.9.1.5 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

7.9.1.6 If the ball is to be replaced, the umpire shall inform the batters. 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

7.9.2 Helmets and Faceguards

7.9.2.1 Please refer to generic rule 9

7.10 Bowlers, Wides and No Balls

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

7.10.2 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

7.10.3 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

7.10.4 ECB's Fast Bowling Directive will apply during all matches in the ECB GCAG

7.10.5 Wide Balls

7.10.5.1 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

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

7.10.6 No-balls

7.10.6.1 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:

7.10.6.1.1 bounces more than once before it reached the popping crease

7.10.6.1.2 rolls along the ground before it reaches the popping crease

7.11 Field Placements and Restrictions

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

7.12 Junior Fielding Restrictions

7.12.1 For U13 and U15: 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

7.12.2 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

7.12.3 The umpire should ensure these restrictions are not breached and must stop the game until the distance is correct

7.13 Fitness of play (Ground Condition and Light)

7.13.1 All references to ground include the pitch. See Law 7.1 (Area of pitch)

7.13.2 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

- 7.13.3 Conditions shall be regarded as dangerous if there is actual and foreseeable risk to the safety of any player or umpire
- 7.13.4 Conditions shall be regarded as unreasonable if, although posing no risk to safety, it would not be sensible for play to proceed
- 7.13.5 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. If the umpires together agree that the conditions are no longer dangerous or unreasonable they shall call upon the players to resume play immediately.
- 7.14 Delay or Interruption – First Innings
- 7.14.1 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
- 7.14.2 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
- 7.14.3 The team batting second should not be allocated more overs than the team batting first
- 7.14.4 As soon as the total minutes playing time remaining is less than the completed overs already faced by team one, multiplied by 3.8, the first innings should be terminated immediately.
- 7.15 Delay or Interruption – Second Innings
- 7.15.1 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

- 7.15.2 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
- 7.15.3 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
- 7.15.4 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
- 7.15.5 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
- 7.15.6 To constitute a match a minimum of 20 for U17 and 15 overs for U13 & U15 per innings should be available
- 7.15.7 Cut off times for affected games would be:
- 7.15.7.1 U13 and U15: 18:30
- 7.15.7.2 U17: 19:00
- 7.15.7.3 If at 18:00 (U13 and U15) and 18:30 (U17), play is in progress and there is no further interruption, play may continue until the agreed number of overs have been completed
- 7.15.7.4 If at 18:00 (U13 and U15) and 18:30 (U17), play is not in progress and umpires declare the number of overs cannot be completed before 18:45 (U13 and U15) and 19:15 (U17) the match will end immediately

7.16 Calculation of Target Score in Reduced Overs Games

- 7.16.1 Using the above calculations, if the stoppage occurs during the first innings, overs will be reduced to enable both teams the opportunity to face the same number of overs (ensuring the minimum number of overs are completed for each innings)
- 7.16.2 If the stoppage occurs during the second innings, overs can be reduced accordingly to ensure a result is obtained
- 7.16.3 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 U13 team batting first makes 90 runs off their full 30 overs. If the innings of the team batting second is reduced to 20 overs, their target score will be 61. This is based on innings run rate of 3 per over plus 1 run to win the match

8 Results

8.1 Match Results and Points

Win	In a match consisting of a minimum of 20 overs, (15 overs for U13 & U15) the team that scored more runs than the opposition wins.	10	+ Bonus Points
Loss	Opposite of win	0	+ Bonus Points
Tie	Scores equal	5	+ Bonus Points
Abandoned	Play possible but fewer than 20 overs bowled by each team (15 for U13& U15)	5	+ Bonus Points
Cancelled	No play possible	0	N/A
Conceded	Opposition team concedes game	10	N/A
	Team conceding game	-5	N/A

8.2 Bonus Points (max of 4 batting and 4 bowling)

	Batting Points* (please read example below)	Bowling Points
ALL	Equal or more than:	1 point for each of the following wickets taken 3, 5, 7 and 9
ECB	1.5 Runs per over (RPO): 1 point	
GCAG	2 RPO: 2 points	
	3 RPO: 3 points	
	4 RPO: 4 points	

- * e.g. an U17 match is reduced to 20 overs per side. The team batting first makes 80 runs. This is 4 RPO which gives them 4 batting bonus points. The team batting second then scores 40 runs off 10 overs, all out. Despite scoring at 6 RPO, the team batting second only earns 2 batting bonus points (because their allocated number of overs was 20).
- If teams have fewer than 11 batsmen – the fielding team shall be awarded full bowling bonus points if only one batter remains

8.3 ECB GCAG Rankings

8.3.1 2011 Regional Round Rankings

8.3.1.1 Counties will be ranked in their respective Regional Pools using the following criteria, in the order given:

8.3.1.2 Average points from completed matches excluding abandoned and/or cancelled

8.3.1.3 Number of points scored between 2 sides when playing each other (including bonus points)

8.3.1.4 Team with the highest net run rate

8.3.2 2011 Quarter finals, Semi finals and finals

8.3.2.1 If quarter finals cannot be played the semi finalists will be determined through (in the following order):

8.3.2.1.1 the overall net run rate in their regional rounds

8.3.2.1.2 In the event of an equal net run rate, the number of runs scored throughout the regional rounds

8.3.2.2 If Semi finals cannot be played the finalists will be determined through either(in the following order)

8.3.2.2.1 their quarter final net run rate or;

8.3.2.2.2 their overall regional rounds net run rate,

8.3.3 Runners up for U13 & U15 quarter finals:

8.3.3.1 the Quarter Finals from all Regional Pools (U13 and U15) AND

8.3.3.2 the group runner up in each U17 Division 1 will be decided on the following criteria, in the order given:

8.3.3.2.1 Average points from completed matches and not abandoned or cancelled matches

8.3.3.2.2 Teams with the highest net run rate (for U17 in their own division)

8.3.4 Runner up for U17 North & South Division 1

8.3.4.1 the Quarter Finals from all Regional Pools (U13 and U15) AND

8.3.4.2 the group runner up in each U17 Division 1 will be decided on the following criteria, in the order given:

8.3.4.2.1 Average points from completed matches and not abandoned or cancelled matches

8.3.4.2.2 The number of points attained between the 2 sides during the regional rounds

8.3.4.2.3 Teams with the highest net run rate in their own division)

8.3.5 2012 Division placings and structure

8.3.5.1 ECB and a focus group will be set up to agree formats and structures for the ECB GCAG during 2012 – the purpose of this group will be to ensure counties are involved in decision making process for this competition

9. Penalties for Breach of ECB GCAG Rules

9.1 Conceding Games

9.1.1 If Counties concede 1 match, funding from the ECB shall be withdrawn for the matches conceded

9.1.2 Should counties concede 1 match, 5 points will also be removed from their overall points in the division

9.1.3 If Counties concede more than 2 matches during 2011, they shall be removed from the ECB GCAG. All points awarded to opposition Counties for matches against this County shall be expunged

9.2 Other Breaches of ECB GCAG Rules

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

9.2.1.1 To remove points obtained in matches during Regional Rounds where the breach occurred

9.2.1.2 To overturn match results based on information obtained relating to a breach in the ECB GCAG rule, during any Round

9.2.1.3 To remove Counties from the ECB GCAG with immediate effect if any Conditions of Entry are not adhered to or if a County breaches an ECB GCAG rule more than once.

9.2.1.4 If a County is removed from the ECB GCAG, all points obtained by other Counties against the removed County shall be expunged

9.2.2 All Counties will have the opportunity to provide evidence in support of their actions within 7 days of being notified of a potential breach

10 Code of Conduct / Spirit of Cricket

10.1 See section 9 of the generic rules in the ECB NFC rules and regulations booklet

11 Appeals and Complaints

11.1 If any County would like to raise a potential breach / issue to the attention of the ECB, they must confirm this by email to lisa.drummond@ecb.co.uk within 72 hours of the breach occurring

11.2 If any County wants to challenge the outcome of a penalty imposed they must inform the Lisa Drummond within 7 days of being in receipt of the decision

11.3 Lisa Drummond will confirm receipt of all complaints / appeals

11.4 All appeals and complaints shall be investigated by Lisa Drummond and the Competition Manager

11.5 The format will be as follows:

11.5.1 Lisa Drummond will receive written notice of complaint / appeal from County

11.5.2 Lisa Drummond will acknowledge receipt of the above and inform the County that has been reported

11.5.3 Lisa Drummond & the Competition Manager will obtain further clarification from all parties concerned

11.5.4 If required Competition Manager & Lisa Drummond will hold a meeting to determine more detail of the events and facts

11.5.5 Sue Redfern will complete a written report on the:

11.5.5.1 Outcomes of the investigation

11.5.5.2 Recommendations

11.5.6 Actions ECB will take resulting in this process and the alleged breach

11.6 All appeals / complaints will be dealt with within 15 working days where ECB are not awaiting information.