

This version of the rules is effective in all Cockspur Club Twenty20 (CCT20) matches from 30th August 2009 to 28th September 2009. Except as varied hereunder the Laws of Cricket (2000 Code, 3rd Edition - 2008) shall apply.

1. Entry

Open to all clubs which qualify from ECB Premier League Twenty20 competitions recognised by ECB Cricket Partnerships Department.

2. Match arrangements

All matches are to take place on or before the dates prescribed in the table below

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Reserve Date</i>
District Finals Day*	on or before 2nd August	none
League Final	on or before 16th August	none
Area Finals Day	30th/31st August	7th September
Regional Final	13th September	20th September
National Finals Day	28th September	none

3. Umpires

Until Area Finals umpires are to be arranged locally. From Area Finals onwards appointments will be made by ECB Regional Coordinators, at which stage clubs must complete and return an ECB Umpires Report form after each match.

4. Duration

1 innings per side, each limited to a maximum of 20 overs.

5. Scheduled Hours of Play

Start times are to be agreed by participants at Area and Regional Finals and determined by ECB at Finals Day. It is recommended that the listed sunset time is considered when agreeing start times; the HM Nautical Almanac Office 'Daylight/Moonlight Diagram' should be used for this purpose.

Teams have 1 hour 15 minutes to bowl 20 overs. In the event of an interruption or delay during the 1st innings, the calculation of the number of overs to be bowled shall be based upon one over for every 3 ¾ minutes in the total time available for play up to the scheduled close of play. In the 2nd innings of the match, overs shall be reduced at a rate of one over for every full 3 ¾ minutes lost, unless the 1st innings has finished early or the 2nd innings started early, in which case no overs are lost until the time that has been gained is subsequently lost.

6. The Result

Each side must have faced (or had the opportunity to face) a minimum of 5 overs in order to constitute a match. In the event of the side in the 1st innings batting for longer than the side in the 2nd innings the target score shall be decided by average run rate based on the number of legitimate balls faced. If tied at the completion of a match, the team that has lost fewer wickets shall be adjudged the winner. If tied on average run rate then fewer wickets lost at the close of the 2nd innings shall determine the winner. If this gives no result, then the team with the higher score at the end of 5th completed over shall be adjudged the winner. If still equal, the side with the higher score at the end of 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st completed over shall be adjudged the winner.

7. Rearrangement of overs due to inclement weather

The objective of rearranging overs is to give the greatest opportunity for a match of equal overs without reverting to a bowl out.

If in the view of the ECB Organiser - bearing in mind the prevailing ground, weather and light conditions - it is considered to be most unlikely that the full quota of overs will be bowled in any match; it is recommended that a pre-emptive decision is made to reduce overs in both innings equally. The level of the reduction will be made at the discretion of the umpires and ECB Organiser.

8. Bowl Out

If the match is interrupted by weather such that no result can be obtained by the means described in the previous paragraph and the teams cannot agree to rearrange the match, a bowl out shall take place. Five registered players shall be nominated from the original team selected for the match to bowl two balls each at a full set of stumps on a standard pitch. The side achieving the greatest number of hits of the wicket shall be deemed the winner. In the event of a tie, sudden death format will decide the victor. In the event of a bowl out not being possible a draw will be held to determine the team which shall progress, if this is the case at Finals Day the event shall be cancelled.

9. Timed out

The incoming batsman must be in a position to take guard, or for his partner to be ready to receive the next ball, within 1 minute 30 seconds of the fall of the previous wicket. Any infringement of this rule shall result in the incoming batsman being declared out by the umpires.

10. Balls

ECB will supply balls for the Area Finals, Regional Finals and Finals Day. Prior to this it is the responsibility of the home team to supply match balls.

11. Fielding restrictions

No more than five fielders may be on the leg-side at the time of delivery at any stage of the innings.

Two semi-circles with a diameter of 30 yards shall be drawn from the centre stump at either end and joined by a straight line ('the 30 yard circle') and circles with a diameter of 15 yards shall be drawn from the centre of the popping crease at each end ('the 15 yard circle'). Fielding restrictions apply for the first 6 overs of each innings of each match. Upon delivery during this period two fielders must be in stationary catching positions within the 15 yard circle at the striker's end with only two fielders outside the 30 yard circle. After 6 overs have been bowled, four fielders must be inside the 30 yard circle.

In circumstances when the number of overs of the batting team is reduced, the number of Fielding Restriction Overs 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	No. of overs for which fielding in innings restrictions in clauses above shall apply
5-6	1
7-9	2
10-13	3
14-16	4
17-19	5

Upon delivery any infringement of these fielding regulations shall result in the ball being deemed a no ball, signalled by the striker's end umpire.

12. Overs per bowler

Each bowler may bowl a maximum of 4 overs. In a delayed or interrupted match, no bowler may bowl more than one fifth of the total overs allowed unless such a number has been exceeded before the interruption.

13. Free Hit after a foot-fault no ball

The delivery following a no ball called for a foot fault shall be a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it. 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 shall become a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it. 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 wide ball.

Field changes are permitted for free hit deliveries providing all effective fielding restrictions are adhered to. The umpires shall signal a free hit by (after the normal no ball signal) extending one arm straight upwards and moving it in a circular motion.

14. Judging a Wide

Umpires are instructed to apply very strict and consistent interpretation in regard to this Law in order to prevent negative bowling wide of the wicket. Any leg-side delivery shall be deemed a wide ball. Any off-side delivery which in the opinion of the umpire does not give the batsman a reasonable opportunity to score shall be deemed a wide ball also. A penalty of one run for a wide shall be scored. This penalty shall stand in addition to any other runs which are scored or awarded. All runs, which are run or result from a wide ball, which is not a no ball, shall be scored wide balls.

15. Fast, short-pitched bowling

A bowler shall be limited to one fast short-pitched delivery per over. Such a delivery is defined as a ball which passes or would have passed above the shoulder height of the striker standing upright at the crease. A ball deemed to be so shall be signalled as a no ball by either umpire.

16. High Pitched Balls

A high pitched ball is defined as a ball which passes or would have passed over waist height of the striker standing upright at the crease. A ball deemed to be so shall be signalled as a no ball by either umpire.

17. Over rate penalties

A 6 run penalty shall apply for each over not bowled in the required time, as determined by the umpires. All sides are expected to be in position to bowl the first ball of the last of their 20 overs within 1 hour 15 minutes playing time. In reduced over matches the fielding side has a one over leeway in addition to any time that the umpires may allow for stoppages. 20 overs shall be bowled and the penalty runs are added to the final total.

Umpires are instructed to apply a strict interpretation of time wasting by the batsman (5 run penalties) specifically; batsmen are expected to be ready for the start of a new over as soon as the bowler is ready.

18. Eligibility

Players must have been registered with an ECB Premier League club before 1st July 2009.

A cricketer shall only be eligible to play for a club in the CCT20 if he is a bona-fide, fully paid-up member of that club. That is, the club at which he plays the majority of his cricket.

A cricketer shall only be eligible to play in the CCT20 for one club in any one season.

A cricketer shall not be eligible to play in the CCT20 if he receives remuneration for playing cricket and that remuneration is his main source of income.

A cricketer who is registered and has a contract of any length which allows them to play for a First Class County Club shall be ineligible to play in the CCT20 unless covered by rules below.

Bona fide club members who are registered and have a contract of any length which allows them to play with a First Class County are unable to play unless they are 'Home Grown' players. For the purposes of this competition such a player shall be defined as a player with first class experience who was a member of the club prior to his 21st birthday.

If any club fields an ineligible player, they shall be disqualified.

A cricketer whose registration and contract to a First Class County Club is cancelled after 1st April 2009 may not play in an ECB club competition until the following season.

A cricketer shall only be qualified to play in the CCT20 if he is qualified to play in a Competitive County Cricket Match or is registered under the provisions of ECB Generic Rule 3.6.8 as an overseas player resident in England, below.

Overseas Players Resident in England

A cricketer ordinarily resident in this country can qualify as an overseas player resident in England and play in ECB club competitions only if:

- he has been resident in this country for a period of two years before the date of his request for registration
- he has not been out of this country for longer than 35 days consecutively or 70 days in total during the previous two years
- any remuneration he receives from playing cricket is not the main source of his income.

The definition of 'ordinarily resident' shall be in the absolute discretion of the body responsible for registration of the player in the relevant competition.

Any such player must be properly registered with their ECB accredited Premier League Registration Secretary. No player shall be registered after 30th June in any season.

A player, who has a home in this country and has been granted "Exempt" status, who subsequently accepts a temporary work assignment, not related to cricket, in another country may apply to re-instate his previous "Exempt" status immediately on his return to this country. Approval is at the discretion of the registration body and is not automatic.