

The Club Premier League Competition Rules

1 Title

The title of the Competition will be the ECB Club Premier League.

2 Management

Please refer to Generic Rule 1.

3 Entry

Please refer to Generic Rule 2.3.

4 Competition Structure

- 4.1 The Premier League will be divided into two Regional Sections, North and South.

5 Cricket Balls

Please refer to Generic Rule 4.
Women's 5oz balls will be used for the competition.

6 Team Sheets

Please refer to Generic Rule 8.

7 Fixtures

- 7.1 The ECB will produce a fixture schedule and circulate it to all competing teams, with relevant contact details. Clubs must supply their contact details for the coming season to the ECB Cricket Department no later than 30 November.
- 7.2 Clubs shall be responsible for making the arrangements for each of these fixtures.
- 7.3 Where the Home Club for a given Premier League match cannot obtain a suitable ground on the prescribed date, they may, provided the opposing Club agrees, seek permission from the ECB to play the fixture away.

- 7.4.1 If, on the day of a Premier League match, conditions are unfit, or if for any other reason no play is possible, **the match may be rearranged only if express permission is obtained from the ECB to do so.** Otherwise the match shall be declared a 'No Result' match. (see also Playing Condition 9).
- 7.4.2 Clubs may use any dates for rearrangement of fixtures providing that both Clubs agree. However, the priorities laid down in the Domestic Programme still apply and, if agreement cannot be reached between the Clubs, the original date will stand. Any agreed changes must be notified to the ECB. In any case, all League matches must be completed on or before the 7 September.
- 7.4.3 If a Club, having agreed the rearrangement of a fixture, and is subsequently unable to fulfil the rearranged fixture, their opponents will receive full Win points but no bonus points and the match will count as a played match.

8 Eligibility to Play

- 8.1 Each player must have been listed to the ECB as a member of the Club for which she plays in the Competition. Each Club must enter their list of squad player names onto their club play-cricket site by 1 April. Any player not listed on Play-Cricket cannot play in the Premier League until she is listed.
- 8.2 If a player joins a Club after the list has been sent to ECB, her name must be specifically notified to the ECB before she can play in any Competition matches for that Club. Such notification shall be made, in writing, at least twenty four hours before the first match in which she plays.
- 8.3 No player may play in the Competition for more than one Club in one season. A cricketer who is registered by an ECB Premier League Club to play in an ECB Premier League (North or South) during the current season can only play for a non-Premier League Club during the same season with the explicit prior permission of the League within which that non-Premier League Club is playing.

8.4 No more than one player not qualified for England (as defined in Generic Rule 3.1) can play for a Club in any one game unless covered by Generic Rule 3.5.5.

8.5 Failure to comply with any of the requirements in 8.1, 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4 will lead to forfeiture of the match or matches.

9 Umpires and Scorers

9.1 Please refer to Generic Rules 5 and 6.

9.2 If a Club has no appointed umpire, and no replacement can be found, then a player must withdraw from playing to perform this role throughout the match. The Result Sheets will contain space for reporting on non-appointment of umpires.

9.3 If a Club has no appointed scorer, and no replacement can be found, then a player must withdraw from playing to perform this role throughout the match.

9.4 Clubs must supply umpires and scorers with copies of the Competition Rules and Playing Conditions.

10 Premier League Match Results

Please refer to Generic Rule 11.

10.1 The League table will be automatically updated once results and scorecards are entered onto the Play-Cricket.com website (see Generic Rule 10). Clubs will only receive any points gained in a match if the result and full scorecard details are entered into Play-Cricket.com within 48 hours of the end of the match.

10.2 Any disputes on the points awarded for any match must be notified to the ECB Cricket Department within 72 hours of the match being completed otherwise they will not be considered.

11 Final

11.1 There will be no Premier League Final in 2008.

12 Teams Defaulting or Withdrawing

- 12.1 If a team defaults from a Premier League match, they will automatically be withdrawn from the Competition and will be relegated to the appropriate lower Club League in the following season. All points awarded to either side in any matches played by the defaulting team will be expunged.
- 12.2 If a team withdraws from a Premier League (or section of the Premier League), then all points gained from matches against that team in the League (or section) shall be expunged from the records.

Playing Conditions

The Laws of Cricket (2000 Code 2nd Edition - 2003) will apply, with the following exceptions:

1 Hours of Play

- 1.1 Unless there is a prior agreement between captains and umpires to the contrary matches will start at 11.00pm unless delayed by adverse conditions of ground, weather or light. If the start time is altered, all references to playing times must be adjusted accordingly.
- 1.2 Each match will consist of one innings by each side. Each innings shall be not more than 50 overs.
- 1.3
 - (a) The playing time allowed for the first innings shall be 170 minutes (2hrs 50mins).
 - (b) No drinks interval is to count as playing time.
 - (c) If the full 50 overs are not bowled within the designated playing time, the innings shall continue until the side batting first has received 50 overs. However, the maximum number of overs for the side batting second shall be reduced to the number received by the side batting first within the designated limit, except as detailed in 1.3.d. The over in progress at the time the designated limit is exceeded shall count as a complete over.
 - (d) If the umpires consider that the slowness of play in the first innings was due to matters beyond the control of the side fielding first, they shall be empowered to waive some or all of the penalty in 1.3.c.
- 1.4 If adverse conditions of ground, weather or light interfere with the progress of play, the umpires shall be empowered to re-arrange the number of overs to be bowled by each side so that, as far as possible, each team shall have the opportunity of batting for the same

number of overs (minimum 20 overs). As a rough guide for re-arrangements, a rate equivalent to 3 overs in 10 minutes should be expected. For calculation purposes in interrupted matches only, a finishing time of 5.10pm should be taken.

- 1.5 If the number of overs for the first innings has to be thus reduced, the umpires shall calculate the new time limit for that innings on the basis of 18 overs per hour, rounded up to the next five minutes.
- 1.6 In a match in which there have been stoppages for adverse ground, weather or light conditions (and only in such matches):
 - (a) If at 4.40pm play is in progress, and there is no further interruption, play may continue for 9 more overs after the one in progress or until the agreed number of overs have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
 - (b) If at 4.40pm an interruption of play is in progress, or if an interruption occurs at or after 4.40pm, there shall be no resumption of play unless the umpires consider there is a prospect of completing the minimum 10 overs before 5.25pm.
- 1.7 The number of overs for the team batting second shall not be reduced merely because the team batting first has been dismissed in fewer than the agreed number of overs.

2 Intervals

There shall be a tea interval of 30 minutes. As far as possible this shall be taken at the conclusion of the first innings; in this case no extra allowance shall be made for the 10 minutes between innings. Umpires and captains can agree an extended lunch break before the match if lunch facilities are an unreasonable distance, all timings must be adjusted.

3 Boundaries

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 12.

4 Fielding Restrictions

Please refer to Generic Playing Conditions 5 for junior players.

Please refer to Generic Playing Conditions 4 for senior players. The inner circle shall be 13 yards (12 meters). The outer circle shall be 25 yards (23 meters).

5 Limitation of Overs by Any One Bowler

Please refer to Generic Playing Conditions 1 and 2.

6 Law 25 - Wide Ball

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 7.

7 Wicket-Keeping Gloves

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 8.

8 Helmets

Please refer to Generic Rule 9.

9 Scoreboard

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 13.

10 Result of a Match

- 10.1 (a) A result can be achieved only if both teams have batted for at least 20 overs, unless either team has been all out in fewer than 20 overs, or unless the team batting second pass their opponents' total in fewer than 20 overs.
- (b) A match in which there is some play but in which one or both teams has not had the opportunity of batting for a minimum of 20 overs shall be declared a 'No Result' match (See also Rule 10.4).

10.2 Providing the condition in 10.1.a above is met, and both sides have had the opportunity of batting for the same number of overs, the result shall be determined as follows:

- (a) The side scoring the greater number of runs shall be the winner.
- (b) If at the conclusion of both innings, the scores are equal, the side having lost fewer wickets shall be the winner.
- (c) If the scores and wickets are all equal, then the match shall be declared a 'Tie'.

10.3 If the number of overs for the team batting second has to be curtailed to fewer than that allocated to the team batting first then their target score shall be reduced in the same ratio as the number of overs has been reduced, calculated to any number of decimal places.

- (a) Any part over at the end of either innings shall count as a full over in the calculation.
- (b) For the side batting first, the number of overs shall be the number allocated, even though they may have been dismissed in fewer overs. For the side batting second the number of overs shall be the number actually received.

11 Points System

11.1 Match Points

For a Win.....	20 points no bonus points
For a Tie.....	16 points to each Team no bonus points
For a Loss	0 points plus bonus points
No Result/Abandoned (some play)	6 points plus bonus points
Cancelled/Abandoned no play.....	10 points no bonus points
Conceded	20 points no bonus points (To team who did not concede)

11.2 Bonus Points

11.2.1 Batting Points

1 bonus point is awarded for scoring 125, 150, 175 and 200 runs

- (a) Maximum Batting points shall be 4.

11.2.2 Bowling Points

1 bonus point is awarded for taking 3, 5, 7 and 9 wickets.

Maximum bowling points shall be 4.

12 Premier League Ranking

- 12.1 Clubs will be ranked, within their own Premier League or section, by the total number of points gained.

13 Final

- 13.1 There will be no Premier League Final in 2008.

14 Promotion and Relegation

- 14.1 There will be no promotion into the North or South Premier League's in 2009.

- 14.2 There will be a maximum of 6 teams in the North and South Premier Leagues. The appropriate number of teams will be relegated into Regional Leagues in 2009.

15 Drinks

- 15.1 Drinks intervals will be arranged and taken on the field of play in accordance with Law 15, except as indicated below.

- 15.2 Drinks may be taken on the field of play after not less than 60 minutes without interruption since the last resumption of play, providing that,

- (a) Such drinks intervals have been agreed prior to the start of play

- (b) At least 10 overs of an innings remain to be bowled and, before lunch, at least 25 minutes remain before the interval.
- 15.3 If weather conditions warrant it, the umpires and captains are permitted to agree that more frequent drinks breaks be taken providing this agreement is made before the start of the match.

16 Disputes

Please refer to Generic Rule 13.