

HUNTINGDONSHIRE CRICKET BOARD LIMITED
GIFFORD CUP AND CHRISTMAS CUP COMPETITIONS RULES & REGULATIONS

NAME

1. There shall be two midweek cricket Cups. The Senior will be known as the Gifford 120 and the Junior will be known as the Christmas 120.

PROPERTY

2. The Cups shall never become the property of any club so long as the competitions are in existence. The Committee, so elected, shall have the sole right as to their disposal. The Cups are insured against loss by fire and burglary and premiums shall be paid by the HCB.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

3. The management of the Competition shall be in the hands of the Huntingdonshire Cricket Board Limited Competitions Committee. All matters in dispute concerning these rules shall be decided by the Committee. Any appeal against this decision must be made within 5 days of receipt of the decision and made to the Secretary of the HCB Competitions accompanied by a fee of £10, which shall be returnable in the event of the appeal being sustained. The HCB Appeals Committee will hear all appeals.

COMPETITORS

- 4.1 The competitions shall be open to any Cricket Club located in the 'Old County' of Huntingdonshire and Peterborough or approved by the Competitions Committee and confirmed at the AGM. A Huntingdonshire Under 19 representative team may play in the Gifford 120. All participating Clubs must be affiliated to the ECB.
- 4.2 Club teams from the East Anglian Premier League, The Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire League, the Northants Championship, The Lincolnshire Premier League, Rutland League Division 1 and Millman League Division 1 may not enter the Christmas 120.

CUP COMPETITION ENTRY AND MATCHES

- 5.1 Clubs already participating in the competition will be regarded as continuing their entry from year to year unless, in writing not later than 31st August in the year preceding the year of the competition, they intimate to the Committee that they no longer desire to participate.
- 5.2 Clubs wishing to enter for the first time, or enter after a period of not participating must make an application to the committee not later than 31st August in the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place.
- 5.3 The entrance fee for both competitions shall be decided annually by the Committee and advised to the participating Clubs at the time of the Competitions AGM.
- 5.4 Both competitions shall be organised on a League basis with each team either playing each other home and away, or home or away, as determined by the Competitions Committee.
- 5.5 Seeding of teams will be at the discretion of the Competitions Committee, as and when necessary.
- 5.6 Four points shall be awarded to the winning team. Matches may be replayed subject to the provisions of Paragraphs 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4. In the event of a tied match or it not being possible to rearrange a cancelled/abandoned match, two points shall be awarded to each team.
- 5.7 In the event of teams finishing with the same number of points, league positions will be determined by the highest run rate and, if still equal, by the most wickets taken.

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- 5.8 In the competitions finals if the scores are equal at the end of the match the winner shall be determined as follows:-
- The team losing fewer wickets
 - If still equal, the team with the higher score at the end of the penultimate over
 - If still equal, the team with the higher score at the end of the third from last over [i.e. the 18th over in a 20 overs innings], if still equal the team with the higher score at the end of the fourth from last over [i.e. the 17th over in a 20 overs innings] etc
 - If still equal by the toss of a coin

PLAYERS

- 6.1 Every player must be a bona-fide registered member of the Club.
- 6.2 All Clubs shall register their players for their respective Competition at least 7 days before a Club plays its first match in either competition by registering their players on their Club's play-cricket website. Additional players may be registered from time to time but not after 31 July in each year.
- 6.3 Clubs may also register players who do not usually play for the Club.
- 6.4 Huntingdonshire representative team players must be registered through the Huntingdonshire Cricket Board play-cricket website in accordance with paragraph 6.2.
- 6.5 Clubs with a senior and junior team in the competitions shall indicate the nine core players who will feature in the Gifford 120. Core players are not eligible to play in the Christmas 120. A list of the nine core players must be sent to the Competitions Secretary at least 7 days before a Club plays its first match in either competition.
- 6.6 A player who has played for a senior or a junior team shall not be disqualified from playing in a representative team in the Gifford 120, subject to the provisions of rules 6.5 and 6.7.
- 6.7 A player from a 1st XI or 2nd XI with more than four senior team appearances in any competitive Club matches in the last two months, whether completed or otherwise, is not eligible to play in the Christmas 120. The above time period includes the previous playing season if less than two months have elapsed at the time a match is played in the current season.
- 6.8 The ECB Guidelines relating to Junior Players in Open Age Cricket shall apply.
- 6.9 A cricketer may only be eligible to play in the competition for one club in any one season.
- 6.10 No Club may play more than one overseas player in either of the competitions. A cricketer who is not qualified for England under the current ECB regulations but who is ordinarily resident in this country can only play as a non overseas player if he has been resident in this country for a period of 24 consecutive months before the date of his registration and he has not been out of the country for longer than 35 days consecutive of 70 days in total during the previous 24 months. A cricketer who is not qualified for England under the current ECB regulations but who has been resident in England and Wales for the immediately preceding four consecutive years can only play if he has spent a minimum of 210 days in each year within England and Wales. European Economic Area nationals are exempt from this rule as are permanent residents of the UK working or studying abroad.
- 6.11 A Club may make an application to the Competitions Secretary for special registration of a player. Applications under this section must: -
- Gifford 120 and Christmas 120 Competition Rules 20 October 2014

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- (i) Be made to the Competitions Committee at least 7 days before the match in which it is expected the individual will play and
 - (ii) Be made to the Committee by a statement setting out reasons for making the application and
 - (iii) Where the player has previously played for a Club within the area controlled by the HCB or any other ECB approved Cricket Board by a letter from the players previous club indicating that there is no objection to the application.
- 6.12 Any member of the Competitions Committee being an interested party in the application for special registration shall not be allowed to adjudicate on that application.

PLAYERS AND OBJECTIONS THERETO

- 7.1 Any objection to a player must be forwarded to the Secretary of the opposing Club and the Competitions Secretary not later than three days after the match. The objection shall be accompanied by a fee of £10, which shall be returnable in the event of the objection being sustained. If the objection is sustained the offending club may ultimately be disqualified from the competition.
- 7.2 The home Club shall within three days of the match being played notify the result to the Competitions Secretary and enter the scorecard onto play-cricket.
- 7.3 Any Club failing to comply with this rule will be fined by the Competitions Committee. The fine for each instance of failure will be £10. Failure to pay these fines or to register their players seven days prior to their first game in the competition will result in the Clubs exclusion from the competition.

PLAYING RULES

8. The playing rules of the competition are defined in Appendix A.

GROUND FOR FINAL MATCHES

9. The final ties of both competitions shall be played on such ground as the Competitions Committee decides & the Competitions Secretary shall make the arrangements for the final.

DATES OF PLAY

- 10.1 The date upon which matches shall be played shall be specified by the Competitions Committee at the time the draw is made.
- 10.2 If due to inclement weather the match is not played, the participating teams may make arrangements to play the match.
- 10.3 A rearranged match may be played by agreement under the normal rules of the competition, detailed in playing rule 1 (see Appendix A).
- 10.4 In the case of a rearranged match the home team shall be responsible for advising the Competitions Committee Secretary and the Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Association of Cricket Officials [ACO] appointment service of the date, time and venue of the rearranged game, such notification to be given at least 6 days before the match is scheduled to take place.

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UMPIRES APPOINTMENTS

11. The Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire ACO Appointment Service shall appoint umpires in all matches except the final when the appointment will be made by the Huntingdonshire ACO. The competing teams shall pay the umpires so appointed, before the commencement of play, their travelling expenses, luncheon in the case of whole day matches and a fee, the amount, which shall be determined by the Huntingdonshire ACO.

CUPS

12. The Club winning the competition will be presented with the appropriate Cup but will not be allowed to retain it. HCB will be responsible for ensuring the name of the winning Club is engraved on the Cup.

RECORDS

13. At the Annual General Meeting of the HCB the Competitions Secretary will report the names of the winning Clubs for inclusion of the minutes.

NOTICE OF ALTERATION OF RULES

- 14.1 Any matter not covered by these rules shall be decided by the Competitions Committee.
- 14.2 No rule may be added to or altered except at the Competitions AGM and then only provided notice has been received by the Competitions Secretary in writing by the 31st August prior to the AGM and the rule change has been approved by the HCB.

CONTINGENCY

15. Any decision that cannot be practically decided by the full committee, up to three days preceding the scheduled match date, shall be determined by the chairman, Secretary and one other member of the Competition Committee.

CODE OF CONDUCT

16. Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Cricket Disciplinary Committee will hear all disciplinary matters involving players, clubs and officials in these cup competitions.

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APPENDIX A

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

DURATIONS AND TIMES OF PLAY

- 1.1 Matches shall be played on any midweek evening and shall usually take place between 6.00 and 9.00pm. Different start times may be mutually agreed by both Clubs and, in such instance, the Competitions Secretary must be informed at least 6 days before the scheduled date of the match.
- 1.2 Each innings shall consist of 20 six ball overs and shall be bowled in 1 hour and 20 minutes. The final over of an innings must be started within 1 hour and 15 minutes otherwise the bowling side will forfeit six penalty runs for every over they are short.
- 1.3 In the event of a game being interrupted by inclement weather the umpires shall decide upon the number of reduced overs, the minimum amount being 12 overs.
- 1.4 In the event of anticipated inclement weather, the umpires and captains may liaise, and providing all parties agree, the number of overs, the minimum amount being 12 overs, may be reduced in order to constitute a match.

FITNESS OF GROUND

- 2.1 No match may be cancelled prior to the scheduled start of play without the agreement of the umpires.
- 2.2 If the ground chosen by any club is considered unfit on the day of the scheduled match, the opposition may lodge a protest before the match commences with the umpires. Should the umpires agree to the condition of the ground, their decision shall be final but, if the umpires do not agree, the match shall be played on that day. In either event, reports from opposing teams and umpires shall be sent to the Competitions Secretary. In the case of a replayed match the Committee may order the game be played on the ground of the appealing Club or on a neutral ground.

THE BALL

- 3.1 For each match in the competition each team shall provide a new pink cricket ball of a standard agreed by the HCB Competitions Committee. For the final the balls will be provided by the HCB.
- 3.2 Two spare balls are to be provided by the home team for use during the match if they are required. The replacement ball to be used is at the discretion of the umpires.
- 3.3 The umpires shall retain possession of the match ball(s) throughout the duration of the match when play is not actually taking place. During play umpires shall periodically and irregularly inspect the condition of the ball and shall retain possession of it at the fall of a wicket, a drinks interval, or any other disruption in play.

BOWLING RESTRICTIONS

- 4.1 No bowler may bowl more than four overs in any one innings. If the number of overs faced by the batting side is reduced at the start of the match then no bowler shall bowl more than 20% of the available overs.
- 4.2 Bowlers are restricted to a run-up of 15 yards and the home Club is responsible for marking the limit.

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NO BALL

- 5.1 Any delivery which after pitching passes or would have passed clearly over head height of the the striker standing upright at the crease, and in the umpires opinion so prevents the striker from being able to hit it with his bat by means of a normal cricket stroke, although not threatening injury, shall be called a no ball and be considered part of the repetition sequence in Law 42.6 (a) (i).
- 5.2 Any delivery which after pitching passes or would have passed clearly over shoulder height of the striker standing upright at the crease, and in the umpires opinion he is able to hit it with the bat by means of a normal cricket stroke shall, if applicable, be considered part of the repetition sequence in Law 42.6 (a) (i).
- 5.3 If the bowler oversteps the bowling crease in delivering the ball the umpire shall call a no ball and the batsman is entitled to a free hit of the next delivery.
- 5.4 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 will become a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it. A legitimate delivery for a free hit counts as a ball in the over as it is not a free ball. 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 not permitted for free hit deliveries unless there is a change of striker.
- 5.5 Any delivery which passes or would have passed on the full above waist height of the striker standing upright at the crease is deemed to be dangerous and unfair, whether or not it is likely to inflict physical injury on the striker, and either umpire shall call and signal no ball for the delivery. If the umpire at the bowler's end deems such a delivery not to be slow paced, the bowler shall be cautioned in accordance with Law 42.7.

WIDE

- 6.1 Any offside delivery that in the opinion of the umpire does not give the batsman a reasonable opportunity to score shall be called a wide. A leg side delivery passing by the batsman in their normal stance shall be called a wide.
- 6.2 Any delivery which after pitching passes clearly over shoulder height of the striker standing upright at the crease and wide of the striker so that in the umpire's opinion he is unable to hit it with his bat by means of a normal cricket stroke, although not threatening physical injury, shall be called a wide and shall be considered part of the repetition sequence in Law 42.6 (a) (i).
- 6.3 It is not necessary to have the additional marks 17inch inside the Return Crease. The interpretation of a wide delivery remains at the discretion of the umpire.

FAIR BALL

- 7 Notwithstanding the provisions of playing rules 5.1, 5.2 and 6.2 a bowler shall be limited to a total of one short pitched delivery per over. The umpire shall make it clear to the bowler and batsman at the wicket when a delivery within this limit has been bowled. If the limit is exceeded the umpire will invoke playing rules 5.1, 5.2 and 6.2 and signal a no ball on each occasion and adopt the procedures laid down in Law 42.7.

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FIELDING RESTRICTIONS AND POWERPLAY

- 8.1 At the instance of delivery, there may not be more than 5 fieldsmen on the leg side.
- 8.2 Both competitions will deploy a powerplay which, once called, cannot be reversed. For the first 6 overs of an innings (4 overs in an innings reduced to 12 overs), at the instance of delivery, a minimum of seven fielders, plus the bowler and wicketkeeper must be in an area bounded by two semi circles centred on each middle stump, each with a radius of 30 yards, and joined by a parallel line on each side of the pitch. Only two players are allowed outside the fielding circle during the time described in this rule. In the event of an infringement the square leg umpire shall call a no ball. The fielding circle shall be marked with white plastic or rubber discs ideally seven inches in diameter and placed at five yard intervals. Appendix B shows the set-up [the 15 yards marks need not be marked and can be left to the discretion of the umpires].
- 8.3 Two inner circles shall be drawn on the field of play. The circles shall have as their centres the centrepiece of the popping crease at either end of the pitch. The radius of each of the circles shall be 15 yards. These fielding restriction areas shall be marked by 'dots' but the segment of the circles used for the slip positions shall not be demarcated. During the powerplay there must be a minimum of two stationary fielders within this area. However when a fast bowler is bowling the fielders may be permitted to stand deeper if standing at slip, gully and leg slip. Appendix B shows the set-up.
- 8.4 From the seventh over of an innings (fifth over in an innings reduced to 12 overs), at the instance of delivery, a minimum of four fielders, plus the bowler and wicketkeeper must be in the 30 yards radius area. Only five players are allowed outside the fielding circle during the time described in this rule. In the event of an infringement the square leg umpire shall call a no ball.

DELAYED INTERRUPTED OR TERMINATED MATCH

- 9.1 When playing time has been lost the revised number of overs to be bowled in the match shall be based on a rate of 15 overs per hour (4 minutes per over), which is inclusive of the provision of drinks intervals, in the total remaining time available for play.
- 9.2 The revision of the number of overs should ensure that both teams have the opportunity of batting for the same number of overs.
- 9.3 If, due to suspension of play, the number of overs in the innings of the side batting second is revised, their target score shall be calculated by multiplying the reduced number of overs by the average runs per over (run rate) scored by the side batting first plus 1 run. The target set will always be a whole number and one run less will constitute a Tie.
- 9.4 In the event of the team batting first being all out, or have declared their innings in less than their full quota of overs, the calculation of their run rate shall be based on the full quota of overs to which they would have been entitled and not on the number of overs in which they were dismissed. The rule shall apply only where the team batting second has not had the opportunity to bat for the agreed number of overs.
- 9.5 If the innings of the side batting second is suspended (with at least 12 overs bowled) and it is not possible for the match to be resumed, the match will be decided by comparison with the average run-rate throughout both innings.
- 9.6 To constitute a match, a minimum of 12 overs have to be bowled to the side batting second, subject to the innings not being completed earlier.

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- 9.7 If required the original finish time shall be extended at the discretion of the umpires to allow for completion of the match if playing conditions are suitable.
- 9.8 If the team fielding second fails to bowl the revised overs by the scheduled or re-scheduled close of play, the hours of play shall be extended until the overs have been bowled or a result achieved.
- 9.9 Umpires shall notify the captains of the time of resumption of play following any delay or suspension, immediately they have reached a decision. The Umpires shall be responsible for calculating the revised number of overs to be played in the match and for notifying the decision immediately to all concerned.

CLOTHING

- 10 Clubs may play the match in coloured clothing although the colour must not clash with the colour of the ball.

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APPENDIX B
Fielding Circle Diagram

