

the cricketer

Village Cup

Match rules - 2017

1 The Laws of Cricket as laid down by MCC shall apply, together with the following special conditions:

- (a) Games will start at 1pm unless agreed otherwise by both captains and umpires.
- (b) Each side shall bat for 40 overs unless their innings is completed earlier or the captains agree to a lesser number of overs before the match.
- (c) No bowler may bowl more than 8 overs. Part of an over will count as a full over only in so far as each bowler's limit is concerned. When it is agreed that a match shall consist of fewer than 40 overs, no bowler may bowl more than one fifth of the total overs to be bowled by his side.
- (c) Wide ball – judging a wide: umpires are instructed to apply a very strict and consistent interpretation in regard to this Law in order to prevent negative bowling.
- (e) The side which scores more runs will be the winner.
- (f) If the scores are level, the side which has lost fewer wickets shall be the winner.
- (g) If still equal, the side which received fewer balls at the end of the match shall be the winner (wides and no-balls do not count).
- (h) If still equal, the side which has scored more runs at the end of 20 overs shall be the winner.
- (i) If still equal, the side which has lost fewer wickets at the end of 20 overs shall be the winner. If still level, that is to say both sides having scored the same number of runs and having lost the same number of wickets at the end of 20 overs, the result will be decided by a bowling competition. See Rule 12.
- (j) If the side batting second equals its opponent's score off the last ball of the match, providing they have lost fewer wickets, then they have won the match and the ball is dead.
- (k) If rain or bad light curtails play before the completion of a match, the result will be decided in favour of the side which has scored the faster runs per over THROUGHOUT THE INNINGS, provided that at least 20 overs have been bowled to the side batting second. If the scoring-rates are identical, then the side with the higher score after 20 overs shall be the winner; if still equal, the side which has lost fewer wickets over the first 20 overs shall be the winner. If still equal, the result will be decided by a bowling competition. See Rule 12.
- (l) If the start of the match is delayed by the weather or if there is a subsequent interruption, the captains may agree to a lesser number of overs, the minimum being five. In quarter-final fixtures and beyond, jurisdiction is given to umpires to decide the number of overs to be played to complete a fixture which is delayed or has a subsequent interruption. Minimum of five overs per side.
- (m) If a match that has started is abandoned before each side has completed 10 overs then Rule 12 applies.
- (n) Exceptionally, if a match is abandoned by the umpires in the circumstances where the side batting first is all out after 10 overs, and the side batting second has scored one run fewer than the first side's completed innings total after 11 overs with no wickets lost, the side batting first shall have its total score divided by the full allotment of 40 overs to establish their run-rate.
- (o) Five penalty extras shall not be awarded from the preliminary round to round 4 of the competition, with the exception of those awarded under Laws 41.2 (illegal fielding) and 41.3 (protective helmets belonging to the fielding side).
- (p) ECB directives concerning young cricketers must be adhered to. This includes the directives on young fast bowlers, fielding positions, protective helmets and the restrictions on young players in open-age cricket.
- (q) All teams are required to hand a teamsheet to the umpires and/or the opposing captain before the start of play. These are to include the age of the player and whether or not they are required to wear a protective helmet.
- (r) From round 5 onwards, the following fielding restrictions shall apply:
 - (i) At the instant of delivery a minimum of four fielders, plus the bowler and wicketkeeper, must be within 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 (the fielding circle).
 - (ii) In the event of infringement, the square-leg umpire shall call no-ball.
 - (iii) The fielding circle shall be marked by painted white 'dots' at five-yard intervals, each 'dot' to be covered by a white plastic or rubber (but not metal) disc measuring seven inches in diameter.
 - (iv) If one or more fielders leave the field because of sustaining an obvious serious injury, and for no other reason, the minimum number of fielders required inside the circle shall be reduced correspondingly.
- (s) Runners are still allowed in The Cricketer Village Cup despite being banned from international cricket.

Match rules continued

2 Matches must be played on the dates laid down in the draw. Any club unable to fulfil a fixture on the scheduled date of a match must concede the match to the other club. Should a match be rearranged for any reason other than the weather, an agreement in writing by BOTH clubs is necessary for the alternative date to be binding. Without this written agreement, the club which was unable to fulfil the original scheduled fixture must concede the match if a result cannot be reached on the alternative date. With this written agreement, the club which is unable to fulfil the rearranged fixture must concede the game.

3 If rain prevents a result, the match will be replayed on the following Sunday, or an agreed earlier date. All replays will be held on the ground of the original VISITING side unless otherwise agreed, regardless of whether the match was postponed before or after the start of play. Captains may on the other hand agree to decide the result by a bowling competition. In this event, regardless of weather, each member of both teams will bowl one ball at a wicket. (NB. A wicket consists of THREE STUMPS and two bails.) The side breaking the wicket the greater number of times will be the winner. Umpires will officiate to ensure fair play (including no-balls). All players MUST bowl overarm.

4 Umpires and scorers

From the preliminary round up to (but not including) the national quarter-finals, each team will provide an umpire. From the quarter-finals and thereafter the organisers will arrange all umpiring appointments. Each team MUST provide a scorer in all matches. Umpires and scorers must be CRB-checked in accordance with legal requirements. If it is not possible for a club to provide an umpire, that club can use a playing member if both captains agree. The opposition's appointed umpire is to stand at both ends, with playing members standing at square leg.

5 In every round of the competition except the final each club will provide one ball. Umpires must agree that the condition and quality of the balls are similar. Each side MUST bowl with the ball they provide and the home side is responsible for providing spare balls. The organisers will provide cricket balls for the final.

6 Difficulties or disputes should be referred to the organisers immediately but will only be considered if submitted in writing by a club official with a copy sent to the secretary of the other side concerned. The decision of the organisers on all matters affecting the competition, whether included in these rules or not, is final and binding.

7 Any player/players who are placed on report (in writing) by the match umpires for violating the Code of Conduct and the Spirit of Cricket will be referred to their respective cricket club and officials of the cricket league in which the players and club are associated so that an official disciplinary hearing can be conducted in accordance with the respective cricket league disciplinary code of practice. The final outcome of any disciplinary hearing will be conveyed to The Cricketer, along with a copy of the umpires' disciplinary report.

8 Result cards from BOTH sides must be returned to the organisers immediately after the match has been played. In the event of a replay the organisers must be informed as to the agreed date and venue. Results can be submitted via www.nationalvillagecup.com or sent by text to 07410 718083

9 The highest standards and best spirit of the game as specified in the 'Preamble to the Laws of Cricket' must be observed both on and off the field. In the unlikely event of any team failing to uphold these standards, the organisers reserve the right to disqualify them.

