

## THE CONSTITUTION

1. The Association shall be called "The South Wales Cricket Association".
2. Membership of the Association shall imply agreement by every Club and its players, officials and Members to abide by the Association's Constitution and Rules and to accept the jurisdiction of the Management Committee and its Sub Committees.
3. Officers
  - a. The Officers of the Association shall be the President, the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Solicitor, and the Honorary Assistant Secretary
  - b. The election of the Officers shall be made at the Annual General Meeting.
4. Management Committee
  - a. The entire management of the Association shall be vested in a Management Committee consisting of
    - i. the Officers
    - ii. the Umpires' Administrator
    - iii. the Team Manager
    - iv. Life Members
    - v. 8 representatives elected by the Clubs, provided that no more than one such representative may be a member of the same club. Any representative who attends fewer than half the Management Committee meetings in any year, shall not be eligible for re-election at the subsequent AGM.
    - vi. One representative from the Association's South Wales Premier Cricket League (SWPCL) clubs.
    - vii. The Management Committee shall have power to co-opt a member or members to the Management Committee and any such co-opted member shall be entitled to vote in any meeting.
  - b. The Management Committee shall meet on such occasions as a meeting may be called by the Chairman or the Honorary Secretary and six shall be a quorum
  - c. The affairs of the Association in all matters not by this constitution reserved for the Association in General Meeting shall be managed by the Management Committee or by such Sub-Committees as it may appoint.
  - d. All Officers of the Association are ex-officio members of all Sub Committees.
  - e. The Management Committee shall nominate two of its members to represent the Association on the Management Committee of the SWPCL, one of whom shall be the SWPCL representative referred to in clause 4 (a) (vi)
  - f. The Management Committee shall have the power
    - i. to appoint the Umpires' Administrator and the Team Manager
    - ii. to co-opt a member from any member Club to fill a vacancy on the Management Committee.

- g. The Chairman and the Honorary Secretary, plus any three members of the Management Committee, may act as an Emergency Committee when necessary.
- h. Day to day operation of the Association shall be the responsibility of the Chairman and the Honorary Secretary whose decisions shall be subject to ratification at the next Management Committee Meeting.

5. Finances

- a. The monies and funds of the Association shall be dealt with by and through an account or accounts with HSBC Bank plc or such other Bank as the Management Committee may from time to time approve.
- b. The accounts shall be in the names of the Chairman, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer for the time being, and all cheques shall be signed by at least two of them.
- c. The Association's financial year shall end on 30<sup>th</sup> September in each year.
- d. All monies which have become due to the Association may be sued for in the name of the Honorary Secretary.

6. Vice-Presidents

- a. The Association may invite companies, organisations or individuals to become vice-presidents on payment of an annual donation.
- b. No vice-president shall have any voting powers in the affairs of the Association.

7. Subscriptions

- a. Clubs elected to membership of the Association shall pay an Annual subscription of such sum as is determined from time to time by the Management Committee.
- b. Each member Club shall purchase no fewer than two tickets for the annual dinner, which will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday in October of each year (when possible).
- c. The Association shall have the power to raise an annual levy on all member Clubs and the amount of any such levy shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting.
- d. All dues must be paid not later than 31st May in each year. Failure to do so will result in the Club being fined £10.

8. General Meetings

- a. The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than the second week in December in each year
- b. The following business shall be transacted at the Annual General Meeting.
  - i. The accounts, which will have been professionally examined, for the

- financial year ending on 30<sup>th</sup> September immediately preceding the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted. A copy of the accounts shall be sent to each member Club at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting.
- ii. Any alteration or revision of this Constitution or the Rules, notice of which must have been sent to the Hon. Secretary at least twenty-eight days before a General Meeting and to Clubs at least fourteen days before a General Meeting. No alteration or revision of this Constitution or the Rules shall be made without a clear majority of those present and voting except in respect of Paragraphs 9 and 14 of the Constitution for which a three quarters majority is required for any alteration or revision.
  - iii. Election of new Clubs to membership - Applications for membership in any season must be received at least 28 days prior to a General Meeting and before 1<sup>st</sup> March. No application for membership of the Association shall be accepted unless, before the General Meeting at which it is scheduled to be considered, the Grounds Sub-Committee has inspected the facilities proposed to be used and confirmed that they meet the standard required to play in Division 3.
  - iv. Election of Officers and Representatives on the Management Committee. Nominations must be sent to the Honorary Secretary twenty-eight days before the Annual General Meeting. Existing Officers and Representatives shall be automatically nominated for re-election.
  - v. Election of New Life Members following a recommendation from the Management Committee.
- c. Each Club in full membership of the Association will be entitled to one vote at Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings. Life Members, Members and Officers of Management Committee will not be eligible to vote at the said meetings, unless they are the sole representative of a club in attendance.
  - d. In the event of a tied ballot, the Chairman shall exercise a casting vote.
  - e. A Special General Meeting shall be called on receipt by the Hon. Secretary of a written request signed by the Secretaries of no fewer than five Clubs, or by the Chairman or by the Management Committee. Each request shall state clearly the nature of the business to be discussed and shall be accompanied by a payment of £60 to cover expenses of such a meeting. Notice of such meeting shall be sent to all member Clubs by the Hon. Secretary at least fourteen days in advance. The rules for the conduct of such a meeting shall be the same as the rules of the Annual General Meeting.
  - f. Any Club failing to send a representative to a properly constituted General Meeting of the Association must send an acceptable written explanation to the Hon. Secretary within 7 days, otherwise the Management Committee shall impose a £60 fine.
  - g. A pre-season distribution meeting shall be held in April in each year. Any Club failing to send a representative to that meeting must send an acceptable written explanation to the Hon. Secretary within 7 days, otherwise the Management Committee shall impose a fine of £60.
9. Expulsion from Membership

- a. Subject to paragraph 9(b), a Club may be expelled from membership of the Association for any reason sufficient to a majority of three-fourths of those present and voting at a General or Special General Meeting summoned by a circular issued not less than seven days before such meeting, such circular to state the name of the Club against which the motion of expulsion is desired. Any Club so expelled shall be held to have forfeited all rights to participate in the assets of the Association.
  - b. No Club shall be expelled from membership of the Association only by reason of it participating in the South Wales Premier Cricket League (SWPCL) as a Club nominated by the Association to play in the SWPCL.
10. Clubs to send Names and Addresses of Secretary etc.
  - a. Each Club must send to the Honorary Secretary before the 31<sup>st</sup> January of each year, the names, addresses and telephone numbers of its Secretary, Umpire nominees and all other material for inclusion in the Handbook
11. Protests
  - a. The Management Committee shall have power to adjudicate in all disputed matters in the competitions, or any affairs of the Association, and their decision shall be final.
  - b. Any Club protesting against another Club or against the result of a match must, within seven days of the alleged offence, lodge its protest, together with a deposit of £60 with the Hon. Secretary of the Association and must also enclose at the same time a duplicate copy of the protest which the Hon. Secretary must immediately send to the Club protested against.
  - c. Unless the above mentioned deposit be made, the protest will not be entertained.
  - d. The Club or Clubs concerned must be represented by their official representatives at the adjudication of the protest. Those representatives shall not be allowed to be present or to vote while the Management Committee is arriving at a decision.
  - e. Any Club failing to sustain its protest may have its deposit withheld at the discretion of the Association.
12. Penalties
  - a. The Management Committee shall have power to inflict such penalties as they may determine for violation of the Constitution or the Rules, except such as have the penalty already stated, including increase in fines, doubling fines, and/or points deducted if considered appropriate with regard to late payment of monies due to the Association.
  - b. Except where otherwise provided, all fines imposed under the Constitution or the Rules, are payable to the Honorary Treasurer by the date of the next Management Committee meeting after they have been imposed. Any fines not so paid are automatically doubled.
13. Rescinding Previous Resolutions

- a. No resolution of the Management Committee shall be rescinded at any subsequent meeting without ten days notice having been given to the Hon. Secretary and the proposal circulated amongst the Management Committee at least seven clear days before such meeting.
14. Premier League Participation
- a. The Association will nominate Clubs to participate in the SWPCL subject to them paying the Association's annual subscription and any other fees levied on all members.
  - b. Clubs so nominated will remain full members of the Association and by playing in the SWPCL shall be deemed to comply with this Constitution in relation to participating in the Association's Championship.
  - c. These rules shall apply to Clubs participating in the SWPCL to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the rules of the SWPCL.
  - d. For each season only one Club will be nominated by the Association to play in the SWPCL. The Club nominated will be the most successful Club in the Championship or if that club is ineligible for, or declines promotion, the runner-up in the Championship.
  - e. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI's of clubs relegated from the SWPCL shall in the following season play in Division 1 of the league and 2<sup>nd</sup> XIs in Division 3.
  - f. In the event of the SWPCL disbanding, then those Clubs returning to the South Wales Cricket Association would enter in the First Division and corresponding movements to try to maintain ten clubs in each division, would be made by the Management Committee.  
Should any former SWCA Club be withdrawn from the SWPCL for whatever reason, then they would be allowed to return to the First Division of the SWCA with the League Management Committee of the SWCA making appropriate arrangements to fit them in.
  - g. Notwithstanding paragraph 8 (b)(ii) the provisions of this paragraph 14 may only be changed by a majority of three fourths of those present and voting at a General Meeting.
15. All Member Clubs must be affiliated to Cricket Wales.
16. All Member Clubs must have Public Liability Insurance Cover of at least £5 million and must provide evidence of the same to the Management Committee when required.
17. Each Club shall supply the Honorary Secretary with an E-mail address for correspondence Purposes. All Correspondence from the League to Clubs will be sent by E-mail to the last notified address. All correspondence from Clubs to the League may be sent to the Honorary Secretary at the E-mail address shown in the handbook or other address notified by him.
18. Matters Not Provided For
- a. Should any matters arise affecting the Association not provided for in the Constitution or the Rules, the Management Committee shall have the power to deal with these.

# THE RULES

## PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND DISCIPLINE

1. Player's Registration and Qualification
  - a. To be eligible to play for any club in an Association match, every player shall be registered via Play-Cricket.com with that club in accordance with the registration procedure prescribed from time to time by the Management Committee.  
**and**
  - b. Once registered with a club, a player shall remain registered with that club until formally transferred in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraph 3, provided that a player who has not played for any club in an Association match for more than three years may register with another club without being transferred.
  - c. No player shall play in one cricket season for more than one club in a match or matches to which the League Match Rules apply unless the player has the consent of the Management Committee.
  - d. No player shall after the end of June make a first appearance of the season in a match to which the League Match Rules apply unless:-
    - i. They are appearing for the Club they last played for in any League match  
or
    - ii. Their appearance is sanctioned in advance by the Honorary Secretary who may in consultation with the Chairman refer any particular case to the Management Committee in which event the player must not play until sanctioned by the Management Committee provided they are not prevented from playing by the provisions of rule 1(e)  
or
    - iii. their appearance is sanctioned in advance under the provisions of rule 1(h)(iii) or sanction is not required by virtue of rule 1(h)(iv)
  - e. No player shall without the consent of the Management Committee play in a match to which the League Match Rules apply if during that season they have already played in a Saturday league match for another club not being a member of the Association. Applications for permission for dual registration from a player registered with another league may be made to the Management Committee and must be submitted prior to the start of the season. Such applications will be considered on a case by case basis. Short term 'holiday' transfers will not be allowed unless the player is a student or member of H.M. Forces returning home.
  - f. No player who is currently fully contracted to play first class cricket in UK or elsewhere shall play in any match to which the Association's Rules apply unless they have been registered with the Association's Secretary before that season commences, provided that no club may register more than one such player. This does not apply to players who are only engaged by County Cricket Clubs on development contracts.
  - g. No player shall play in a match to which the Association's Rules apply if they have played in an official Test Match during the current or previous calendar year. For the purposes of this rule 'Test Match' is any match played between test playing countries over one or more days.

- h. No player shall play in any match to which the Association's Rules apply if he is not qualified to play for England under the provisions set out by the England and Wales Cricket Board in its Regulations relating to such qualification unless,
  - i. the player's sole residence is and has been for the last 6 months in this locality  
and
  - ii. the player has not played first-class cricket in the last three years  
and
  - iii. Application is made in writing to the Hon. Secretary and the player's appearance is sanctioned in advance by the Honorary Secretary who may in consultation with the Chairman refer any particular case to the Management Committee for approval provided that for applications received after June 30<sup>th</sup> in any season a player whose appearance is approved may only play for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI of his new club for the remainder of that season.  
Provided that
  - iv. This rule 1h) shall not apply to players who are under 16 on 31st August of the previous season.
  - v. This rule 1(h) shall not apply to a player who is enrolled on and attending a full time course at a recognised educational establishment in the locality during the current academic year provided that application for such player to play is made in writing to the Hon. Secretary and the player's appearance is sanctioned in advance by the Honorary Secretary who may in consultation with the Chairman refer any particular case to the Management Committee for approval.
  
- 2. No player shall play in any match to which the Association's Rules apply if they are currently in dispute with any previous Club or Association until such dispute has been resolved e.g. a suspension has been lifted or monies owed paid.
  
- 3. The procedure to be adopted in regard to the transfer of any player shall be as follows:
  - a. The person desiring transfer must send written application to the Hon. Secretary of the Association, together with a written statement from the Secretary or other competent official of his present club, giving consent or otherwise.
  - b. If the consent of his present club is not withheld, the Hon. Secretary shall, unless in consultation with the Chairman of the Association it is agreed that there are reasons why such transfer should be considered by the Management Committee, duly sanction such transfer.
  - c. If such consent be not given, or the Hon. Secretary and Chairman agree as aforesaid, the Management Committee shall adjudicate on the matter at its next meeting and its ruling shall be final.
  - d. For applications received after June 30<sup>th</sup> in any season a player whose transfer is approved may only play for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI of his new club for the remainder of that season.
  
- 4. Disciplinary Procedures
  - a. The Management Committee shall appoint a disciplinary Sub Committee

comprising a Disciplinary Sub Committee Chairman and four Members of the Management Committee.

- b. The disciplinary Sub Committee shall deal with all complaints received by the Association concerning the conduct of any player, official or Member of any of its Clubs. At least three Members of the disciplinary Sub Committee must be present before a complaint can be dealt with.
- c. A complaint must be notified in writing to the Hon. Secretary and may relate to conduct in or at any match played under the Association's rules or any match involving an Association representative team or any other match or to any matter affecting the interests or reputation of the Association.
- d. The disciplinary Sub Committee shall deal with complaints as speedily as possible and in the manner it thinks appropriate to each complaint. It may consider evidence in written form or in person from such witnesses as it decides necessary in order to deal properly with a complaint but in any event the person against whom the complaint is made shall be entitled to a personal hearing if he requests it and provided a personal hearing does not cause any undue delay to the complaint process.
- e. If the disciplinary Sub Committee decides on the balance of probabilities to uphold a complaint it may impose such sanctions as it deems appropriate taking into account the seriousness of the misconduct and the individual's previous conduct. The sanctions available to the disciplinary Sub Committee include the power to suspend a player from playing in any of the Association's matches.
- f. Any person against whom a decision is made by the disciplinary Sub Committee shall have the right to appeal against that decision. The appeal must be notified in writing to the Hon. Secretary within 7 days of the original decision and must be accompanied by a payment of £60 to cover the cost of the appeal which sum may be refunded.
- g. Appeals will be heard by the Management Committee (but excluding the members of the disciplinary Sub Committee) and will be dealt with as speedily as possible and in the manner the Management Committee deems appropriate to each case. Except in the case of an appeal that relates only to the sanctions imposed, no appeal will be permitted unless it is supported by new evidence that was not taken into account by the disciplinary Sub Committee when it made the original decision.
- h. The Management Committee when dealing with appeals may vary the decision of the disciplinary Sub Committee in whichever way it deems appropriate including increasing the severity of any sanction imposed.
- i. Any player suspended by the Association shall be ineligible to play in any form of cricket for the period of the suspension.

## 5. Ineligible Players

- a. Any Club playing an ineligible player in any Association Match shall in the case of a League Match be subject to a deduction of 26 points and a fine of £60, and shall in the case of a Cup Match be expelled from the competition and fined £60.



## ASSOCIATION UMPIRES

1. Umpires
  - a. The selection and control of umpires shall be through a Sub-Committee elected by and from the Management Committee.
  - b. They may receive nominations of suitable umpires from all clubs in the Association, and may also appoint other suitable umpires not connected with Clubs in the Association. The Committee must satisfy themselves of the ability of the nominees to officiate as umpires.
  - c. Match appointments shall be made by the Umpires' Administrator subject to the supervision of the Sub-Committee.
  - d. All Umpires must give a telephone number to which late cancellation messages may be sent. The Umpire must make arrangements to call for such messages.
  - e. An Umpire unable to fulfil a league appointment must notify the Umpires' Administrator at least seven days before the date on which the match is to be played.
  - f. Nominated Umpires must be at the ground at least 45 minutes before the agreed time for play to commence. If only a single Nominated Umpire is present, he shall stand at the bowlers end throughout the match. The Captains shall agree on a substitute who will stand only at the strikers end. If no suitable person to act as umpire is available, the duties shall be shared by the players in turn.  
In matches where the Association has not appointed an umpire, each batting side shall umpire its own innings, unless otherwise agreed by the captains prior to the start of the match.
  - g. The Umpires shall be the sole judges of the fitness of the ground, weather and light. When assessing the fitness of the ground the umpires must inspect the conditions without the interference or involvement of any other persons.
  - h. Umpires must report any team which fails to follow the mode of play detailed in League Match Rule 17 (Appendix A) and Cup Match Rule 17 (Appendix C) regarding the number of overs to be bowled.
  - i. No officially appointed League Umpire shall play for a club in the League without the permission of the Management Committee.
  - j. Umpires must send their reports on misdemeanours to the Hon. Secretary within seven days of the match.
  - k. At the conclusion of each innings, Umpires must check the scores, and must sign the Result Card at the end of the match, after checking that the scores and points shown are correct.
  - l. Umpires must bring to the attention of both Captains any reports which they are going to make, e.g. failure to bowl overs, late start no scorer, etc.
  - m. Umpires will be paid a match fee as determined from time to time by the

Management Committee. Subject to League Match Rule 23 (Appendix A) and Cup Match Rule 13 (Appendix C), the fee shall be paid by the home club.

- n. All umpires must have Public Liability Insurance cover. Non-members of the ECB ACO must send a copy of their current certificate to the Hon. Secretary before the start of each season.
2. Clubs who nominate any of their members to stand as league umpires may be allocated additional points. One point will be awarded to the Club's highest placed XI in the Association for each match to which the nominated member is appointed by the Umpires' Administrator. The conditions of appointment of any such nominees including training and insurance requirements shall be prescribed from time to time by the Management Committee. No person who has stood as a league appointed umpire in the Association's matches before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 shall be eligible to be nominated under this rule. No person may be nominated under this rule for more than three seasons.
  3. Complaints Regarding Umpires
    - a. Complaints against Umpires will only be considered when made in writing by any Captain, or on behalf of the Committee of a Club, and must be sent to the Hon. Secretary. Such complaints must state full particulars. They will then be dealt with by the Committee concerned and will be treated as strictly confidential, except when accumulated complaints against an Umpire render action necessary.
    - b. The Umpires Sub-Committee shall have power to deal with and suspend any Umpire found to be guilty of inefficiency, persistent late arrival or non attendance at any matches during the cricket season. Umpires are allowed the right of appeal to the Management Committee.
  4. Umpires will enforce the "Code of Conduct".

### **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ALL CLUBS**

1. This Code of Conduct applies to all matches played under the control of the Association, and is intended to assist in maintaining HIGH STANDARDS.
2. Clubs shall be responsible for the behaviour of their Officials, Members and Players. The role of the Captain is ensuring that high standards are established and maintained is emphasised. The Captains are responsible for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of the game as well as within the laws.
3. Intimidation, aggressive behaviour and deliberate distraction of opponents are unacceptable, Examples of misconduct include but are not limited to:
  - a. Any show of dissent.
  - b. Any unacceptable comment or gesture.
  - c. Swearing, Spitting or Sledging.
  - d. Any action which could be construed as unfair play.
  - e. Any violent conduct.
4. The Umpires' decisions are final - any aggressive questioning, show of dissent, or failure to comply with Umpires' instructions are unacceptable. Attention of all Clubs and Umpires is drawn to Disciplinary Rule 4 and Umpires Rule 3.

5. Each player has a duty to observe the Laws of Cricket and behave in a manner which complies with the spirit of the game, however, the ultimate responsibility lies with the Captain, who should deal promptly and effectively with any misconduct, or indeed with any circumstance which may lead to misconduct. The Captains responsibility in this area relates to the periods prior to, during and after the game.
6. Clubs are encouraged to take action against members for failing to comply with this Code, but this will not prevent the Management Committee, in accordance with Disciplinary Rule 4 and Umpires Rule 3, taking whatever steps it considers necessary.

### **Memo for All Umpires and Captains in the Association**

In an effort to improve relationships and to get a more uniform approach, all Umpires are being asked to pay more attention to the following Laws of Cricket. The end result of this is that Captains of Teams whose players fail to behave in an appropriate manner will also themselves be reported to the Disciplinary Procedure.

Any apologies made will be taken into consideration by the Disciplinary Committee, but will not prevent the Report from going forward.

#### **The Laws of Cricket - The Preamble - The Spirit of Cricket**

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action which is seen to abuse the spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the Captains.

1. There are two Laws which place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the Captain

#### **Responsibility of Captains**

The Captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.

#### **Player's Conduct**

In the event of any player failing to comply with instructions by an Umpire, or criticising by word or action the decisions of an Umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the Umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other Umpire and to the player's Captain and instruct the latter to take action.

2. Fair and Unfair Play

According to the Laws the Umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. The Umpires may intervene at any time and it is the responsibility of the Captain to take action where required.

3. The Umpires are authorised to Intervene in Cases of:

Time Wasting; Damaging the Pitch; Dangerous or Unfair Bowling; Tampering with the Ball; Any other action that they consider to be Unfair.

4. The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:

Your opponents; your own Captain and Team; The Role of the Umpires; the game's traditional values.

5. It is against the Spirit of the Game:

To dispute an Umpire's decision by word, action or gesture. To direct abusive language towards an opponent or Umpire. To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance:

- (a) to Appeal knowing that the batsman is not out.
- (b) to advance towards an Umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.
- (c) to seek or distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side.

6. Violence

There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.

7. Players

Captains and Umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a Cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

Law 1.4 - Responsibility of Captains

The Captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit and Tradition of the game as well as within the Laws. See The Preamble - The Spirit of Cricket and Law 42.1 (Fair and Unfair play - Responsibility of Captains).

Law 42.1 Fair and Unfair Play. Responsibility of Captains

The responsibility lies with the Captains for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit and Traditions of the game, as described in The Preamble - The Spirit of Cricket, as well as within the Laws.

**Child Welfare**

The Association adopts as part of its Rules and will comply with, apply and enforce the ECB "Safe Hands" Policy for the time being in force and the Cricket Wales Child Welfare Policy dated 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 or any amendment or revision of that Policy.

**Equity**

To strive to the best of its ability to ensure that equitable treatment is given to all with whom it has contact irrespective of age, gender, religion, disability, ethnic origin or sexual orientation.

**Chwarae Teg**

To promote Good Behaviour in Junior Cricket Teams in accordance with the Sports Council for Wales Chwarae Teg Initiative 2001, and any amendments made to these guidelines from time to time either by that Body or any of its approved successors.

## GENERAL MATCH RULES

1. All matches must be played under the Laws of the M.C.C. with the exceptions listed below and the mode of play as set out in the League Match and Cup Match Rules.
  - a. Law 42.6(b) - The bowling of a FAST high pitched delivery. To be worthy of a caution such a delivery must be bowled AT the striker. If such a delivery is bowled away from the direct line of the striker then a penalty of a NO BALL is sufficient.
  - b. Law 42.6(a) - The bowling of fast short pitched deliveries. Any delivery whatever its direction, which, after pitching, PASSES ABOVE head height of the striker standing upright at the crease is to be called NO BALL with no caution to the bowler.
2. The Association will implement fully all ECB Playing Guidelines.

## LEAGUE MATCH RULES

1. The Home side shall provide two new 1<sup>st</sup> XI approved balls, one for each innings in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 of the league. In Divisions 4 and below, new 2<sup>nd</sup> XI approved balls may be used. In Division 4 and below, if new balls are not used, the Home team must provide two S.W.C.A approved balls in good condition. In all matches, the visiting Captain shall choose which ball his team shall use to bowl.
2. Only official S.W.C.A. stamped balls as approved by the Management Committee are to be used.
3. Championship Structure
  - a. The Management Committee shall determine the structure of divisions for playing the Championship during each season. The structure will be a ladder system and will take into account the number of Clubs in membership of the Association not playing in the SWPCL and will be based as far as reasonably possible on the principle that each division should comprise ten Clubs. Divisions 6 and 7 will be regionalised into East and West Divisions and clubs allocated between those Divisions in each season as the Management Committee shall determine. At the end of each season only the champion club in each Division shall be promoted to Division 5.
  - b. Subject to 3(c) below there shall be promotion and relegation between the various divisions in accordance with the table annexed to these rules. Should any team eligible for promotion belong to a Club which already has a team in the Division immediately above, that team shall not be promoted. Should any team liable to relegation belong to a Club which already has a team in the Division immediately below, both teams shall be relegated. In case of any dispute as to promotion and relegation, the Management Committee's decision shall be final.
  - c. No Club may be promoted to a higher division unless it meets the standard required for that higher division as determined by the assessment of the Grounds Sub Committee in its routine assessments of all Clubs undertaken from time to time. Only clubs holding a current ECB Clubmark Accreditation on 1<sup>st</sup> September in any year shall be eligible to play in Division One in the following season.

- d. In addition to the routine assessments undertaken as in (c) above a Club may in any particular season require the Grounds Sub Committee to undertake a further assessment of its ground provided the request is made before the 31st July in that year.
  - e. The Management Committee will issue a fixture list for every season to reflect the structure determined under 3(a) above.
  - f. All matches must be played on Saturdays unless in exceptional circumstances the Management Committee directs otherwise but in any event before 1st September in that year.
  - g. The champion Club in each division each season will be the Club that scores the highest number of points in that season after deducting points as a consequence of penalties imposed on the Club during that season.
  - h. When more than one Club in a division scores the same number of points the following, in order, shall determine which Club has the higher position: the Club winning the greater number of matches; or, if they are still equal, the Club losing the fewer number of matches; or, if they are still equal, the Club winning the greater number of bonus points; or, if they are still equal they shall be considered to have finished in an equal position in their division unless an issue of promotion or relegation arises, in which event the Management Committee will arrange a play off, such play offs being the only matches that may be played after 31st August in any year.
  - i. Clubs may, upon giving notice before 31<sup>st</sup> December, withdraw any of their teams from the League for the season next following.  
Two team clubs admitted to the league shall have their 1<sup>st</sup> XI placed in the next to lowest division and their 2<sup>nd</sup> XI in the lowest division.  
There shall be promotion and relegation in accordance with rule 3(b).
  - j. The champion Club in each division will be presented with the trophy for the relevant division together with a sum of money to assist in the purchase of mementoes for the Club's players.
    - i. All trophies presented as above may be retained by the relevant Club provided that the Club (in writing and signed by an appropriate official of the Club) accepts full responsibility for the trophy whilst in its possession, indemnifies the Association against its loss or damage, and undertakes to return it to the Secretary on or before 31st July of the following season.
    - ii. Failure to return a trophy by this date will result in a fine of £60.
    - iii. Winning clubs who fail to send a representative to the Annual Dinner will not be entitled to receive a sum of money for the purchase of mementoes. A player who has won a divisional award will not be entitled to receive it if he or a representative of his club does not attend the Annual Dinner to receive it.
4. Matches in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 shall be played in accordance with the rules set out in Appendix A. Matches in Divisions 4 and below shall be played in accordance with the rules set out in Appendix B. Matches in the Cup and the Shield shall be played in accordance with the rules set out in Appendix C.

5. Results
  - a. The competing Clubs shall appoint their own scorers, and the home Club must send the result of each match, even if the match is cancelled, to the Assistant Secretary of the Association within four days. In any match in which league umpires officiate, the Captains must also complete an umpires marking sheet and the home club must submit the marking sheet to the Assistant Secretary within four days.
  - b. It is the duty of both Umpires to agree the respective scores at the end of each innings with the scorers. The scorers' result of the match must be confirmed by both Umpires' signatures.
  - c. Any Club failing to submit a fully completed Result Card and where applicable, umpires marking sheet, to the Assistant Secretary within 4 days will be fined £10. The Assistant Secretary will notify the defaulting Club by telephone if the result card and umpires marking sheet is not received. If the original result card or umpires marking sheet or replacements are not received within 14 days of the date of the match, the offending Club will be fined £20 and forfeit all points in the match concerned.
  - d. In addition to all its other duties in relation to results every home team must notify the result before 8:30pm on the day of the match in the manner from time to time prescribed by the Management Committee. Failure to do so will result in a £10 fine.
  - e. Clubs failing to provide a scorer in three or more matches during a season will be considered not entitled to have points awarded for this feature under the standards contained in the Grounds Committee assessment. Such points would only be regained in the season following that in which the Club concerned had provided a scorer for every match.
  - f. For each match the home club shall enter the scorecard on the Play-Cricket website by 6.00pm on the Monday following the match and the away club shall check it by 6.00pm on the Wednesday following the match.
6. Captains of Clubs failing to bowl their overs in the stipulated time must send a written report to the Association Assistant Hon. Secretary within four days if they feel that there were extenuating circumstances.
7. In the event of a Club, without reasons acceptable to the Management Committee, failing to bowl their overs within the appropriate time points shall be deducted as follows:
  - a. First & Second overs - one point each
  - b. Third & Fourth overs - two points each
  - c. Fifth & Sixth overs - three points each and so on.
8. Any Club failing to fulfil a League engagement in any Division shall be fined £60 to be paid to the Association Treasurer by the date of the next Management Committee meeting after the fine has been imposed. If the offending club is the away side, the Treasurer will forward the £60 to the home club. If the offending club is the home side, the Treasurer will reimburse travelling costs to the away club, upon appeal to the Management Committee. In either case the non-offending club will be awarded the maximum number of points available. The Club breaking the engagement shall be liable to expulsion from the Association. At the discretion of the Management

Committee Paragraph 9 of the Constitution shall then apply.

9. In the event of any Club disbanding or being disqualified from taking part in the competition, all matches such Club has played, no matter what the result has been, shall be considered void, and all matches such Club is engaged in shall be considered void, as League matches.

TABLE 1

Number of overs and the closing time for the innings of each side when time is lost because of bad weather before the start of the match or during the innings of the side batting first.

Total Mins Lost	No. of Overs	Innings Ends	Mins. Lost	No. of Overs	Innings Ends
1-7	49	4.28	71-77	39	5.03
8-14	48	4.32	78-84	38	5.07
15-21	47	4.35	85-91	37	5.10
22-28	46	4.39	92-98	36	5.14
29-35	45	4.42	99-105	35	5.17
36-42	44	4.46	106-112	34	5.21
43-49	43	4.49	113-119	33	5.24
50-56	42	4.53	120-126	32	5.28
57-63	41	4.56	127-133	31	5.31
64-70	40	5.00	134-140	30	5.35

Latest time for starting a match - 3.50 p.m. or 4.05 p.m. if tea has been taken.

Table 2

Number of overs to be deducted because of time lost through bad weather during innings of the side batting second.

Total Mins. Lost	Overs to be Deducted	Total Mins. Lost	Overs to be Deducted	Total Mins. Lost	Overs to be Deducted	Total Mins. Lost	Overs to be Deducted
1-18	0	40-42	12	64-67	19	89-91	26
19-21	6	43-46	13	68-70	20	92-95	27
22-25	7	47-49	14	71-74	21	96-98	28
26-28	8	50-53	15	75-77	22	99-102	29
29-32	9	54-56	16	78-81	23	103-105	30
33-35	10	57-60	17	82-84	24		
36-39	11	61-63	18	85-88	25		



TABLE 3

This table is to assist only with the calculation of Target Finishing Times and is complementary to Tables 1 & 2.

Length of Innings			Length of Innings			Length of Innings		
Overs	Hours	Mins	Overs	Hours	Mins	Overs	Hours	Mins
65	3	47	50	2	55	35	2	02
64	3	44	49	2	51	34	1	59
63	3	40	48	2	48	33	1	55
62	3	37	47	2	44	32	1	52
61	3	33	46	2	41	31	1	48
60	3	30	45	2	37	30	1	45
59	3	26	44	2	34	29	1	41
58	3	23	43	2	30	28	1	38
57	3	19	42	2	27	27	1	34
56	3	16	41	2	23	26	1	31
55	3	12	40	2	20	25	1	27
54	3	09	39	2	16	24	1	24
53	3	05	38	2	13	23	1	20
52	3	02	37	2	09	22	1	17
51	2	58	36	2	06	21	1	13

**APPENDIX A**  
**MATCH RULES DIVISIONS 1 – 3**

1. All matches must start at 1.30 p.m.
2. A match shall not start until both sides have seven or more players present and ready to play. A team not having 7 or more players present fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled start of the match shall be deemed to have lost the toss.
3. If either club is not ready to commence at the time appointed in Rule 1, such club or clubs shall be liable to a fine of not less than £10
4. A player (even if nominated on the Team Sheet) who fails to appear until after the first innings has been completed (whatever the duration of that innings) shall not be permitted to take part in the match other than to field.
5. The following restriction relating to the placement of fielders shall apply in 1st and 2nd division matches.
  - a. At the instant of delivery, a minimum of four fielders (plus the bowler and the wicket-keeper) 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.
  - b. In the event of an infringement, the umpire at the striker's end shall call and signal 'No Ball'
6. Except as otherwise provided by these rules, each match shall comprise 100 overs. The team batting first, hereafter known as Team A, must close their innings after 50 overs unless bad weather interferes - refer to Rules 18 to 20 below.
7. No bowler may bowl more than 10 overs in an innings.
8. If Team A are "all out" or declare their innings closed in fewer than their allocated overs, then the remaining complete overs must be added to Team B's normal entitlement.
9. A "freak declaration" with the deliberate intention of losing a match and limiting the number of points which can be won by the opposing team, will be dealt with by the Management Committee as it sees fit.
10. In order to obtain a definite result, Team B must be "all out", or pass Team A's total, within the prescribed number of overs as mentioned above. If Team A are the winning team they shall be awarded 18 points. If Team B are the winning team they shall be awarded 16 points.
11. If Team B are not "all out" and have failed to reach their opponent's totals at the end of the appropriate number of overs, then the result shall be a draw. Subject to rule 13, the allocation of points shall be in accordance with the following table.

## BATTING DIFFERENTIAL

			Team A	Team B
Team B	1 - 10 runs below Team A	Points Split	6	4
Team B	11 - 20 runs below Team A	Points Split	7	3
Team B	21 - 30 runs below Team A	Points Split	8	2
Team B	31 - 40 runs below Team A	Points Split	9	1
Team B	41 - 50 runs below Team A	Points Split	10	0
Team B	51 or more runs below Team A	Points Split	12	0

12. In an interrupted match where the result is a draw, the batting differential shall only apply if Team B has had the opportunity to bat for the number of overs allocated to them at the start of their innings. If not, then if 60 overs or more have been bowled, 5 points each will be awarded for the DRAW plus bonus points. Otherwise 4 points each will be awarded for the DRAW plus bonus points.
13. If Team B are all out for exactly the same total runs as were scored by Team A, the result shall be a tie and 8 points awarded to each team.  
If Team B are not all out but score exactly the same number of runs as Team A, the result shall be a draw and 8 points awarded to each team.
14. If no play at all is possible due to weather or ground conditions, then both teams shall be awarded 4 points.
15. Bonus Points will be awarded throughout the innings thus:

Batting					
Overs Available	Runs Scored				
45 to 50 Overs	50	90	130	170	200
40 to 44 Overs	45	85	125	165	195
35 to 39 Overs	40	75	110	145	180
Up to 34 Overs	35	70	105	140	165
	Points Awarded				
	1	2	3	4	5

Bowling										
	Wickets Taken									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Overs Available	Points Awarded									
45 to 50 Overs	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5
40 to 44 Overs	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5
35 to 39 Overs	1	1	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5
Up to 34 Overs	1	1	2	3	4	4	5	5	5	5

- a. Bonus points gained in any match shall stand regardless of the result. This also applies in the case of abandoned matches
  - b. If at the fall of a wicket no further batsman is available to come in, the innings of a team shall be deemed to be complete and their opponents will be awarded 5 bowling points.
  - c. If Team B win the match they shall be awarded 1 additional batting bonus point for every two wickets in hand, provided that the maximum total award of batting bonus points shall be 5.
16. There shall be one interval of thirty minutes duration between innings, during which tea may be taken. If, because of rain, tea has already been taken, the interval shall be ten minutes.
  17. Unless an innings closes earlier, Team A and Team B must bowl their allocation of fifty overs within a period of two hours fifty-five minutes, or the appropriate number of overs in the stipulated time in a curtailed match. If they fail to do so, the umpires must note the number of overs which they are short and allow the innings to proceed to its conclusion.
  18. If a game cannot be started at the right time, or if bad weather causes an interruption of the side batting first (Team A), then the number of overs to be bowled by each side shall be reduced by one per Innings for every seven minutes or part thereof of playing time lost (see Table 1).
  19. If the amount of time lost results in the match being reduced to one of less than 60 overs, then the match shall not be allowed to commence.
  20. Interruption during the second Innings:
    - a. Once the innings of Team A has been completed, then the match shall be allowed to run its course, although the total number of overs constituting the match may be fewer than 60,
    - b. If bad weather delays the start or causes an interruption of the side batting second (Team B), then the number of overs shall be reduced by one over for every three and a half minutes or part thereof of playing time lost (see Table 2).
    - c. If bad weather during the second innings causes that innings to be interrupted for no more than five overs then the innings shall continue until those overs have been bowled. However, if more than five overs are lost then the overs to be deducted are shown in Table 2.
  21. In the case of bad weather, the Umpires shall decide as to the fitness of the ground before commencement of a League match. They shall also be the sole arbiters on all aspects of play throughout the duration of the match and of bad light. If a substitute Umpire has to be used Umpires' Rule 1(f) is to be implemented.
  22. Complete covering of the pitch shall be allowed during every League match, should bad weather so demand.
  23. Should the unfit state of the ground preclude any chance of play, the match may be

abandoned by mutual consent provided that it is not before 10-00am or after 11-30pm on the day of the match and that consent has been obtained from the appointed match day contact or other club officer named in the current edition of the handbook or on the League's website at [www.swca2.com](http://www.swca2.com). Only after such consent has been given should the home team inform the umpires. An away club who insist on travelling when a home club wishes to call off a match due to bad weather must pay ALL the umpires' costs if no play is possible.

In matches where no umpires have been appointed, a home side which fails to notify the away side's appointed match day contact two hours before the agreed start time of issues with the fitness of the ground, shall be liable to pay the visiting team the sum of £50.

**APPENDIX B**  
**MATCH RULES DIVISION 4 AND BELOW**

1. Unless both teams agree otherwise, the scheduled hours of play shall be 1.30 pm until 6:40 pm. There shall be one interval of thirty minutes duration between innings, during which tea may be taken. If, because of rain, tea has already been taken, the interval shall be ten minutes.
2. Clubs may play on an artificial pitch provided that the ground to be used does not have any grass pitches. The artificial pitch and the ground must both be approved by the grounds sub-committee prior to the start of each season in which the artificial pitch is to be used.
3. A match shall not start until both sides have seven or more players present and ready to play. A team not having 7 or more players present fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled start of the match shall be deemed to have lost the toss. If either club is not ready to commence at the time appointed in Rule 5, such club or clubs shall be liable to a fine of not less than £10.
4. A player (even if nominated on the Team Sheet) who fails to appear until after the first innings has been completed (whatever the duration of that innings) shall not be permitted to take part in the match other than to field.
5. Matches may start at any time between 12.30 pm and 2.00 pm by agreement between the respective clubs provided that in the absence of agreement otherwise by 6pm on the day preceding the match, the default start time of 1.30 pm shall apply. If the teams agree that the start time is varied agreement must also be reached as to the absolute finishing time of the match which can be no later than 7.10 pm.
6. All matches will consist of one innings per side. Each innings shall be limited to 40 six-ball overs subject as below. A team shall not be permitted to declare its innings closed.
7. No bowler may bowl more than 8 overs. In a delayed start, or interrupted, match where the overs are reduced no bowler may bowl more than one-fifth of the total overs allowed (unless such a number has been exceeded before the interruption), except that where the total overs are not divisible by five, an additional over shall be allowed to the minimum number of bowlers necessary to make up the balance.
8. A result can be achieved only if both teams have had the opportunity of batting for at least 15 overs, unless one team has been all out in fewer than 15 overs or the team batting second scores enough runs to win in fewer than 15 overs. All matches in which a match has begun but both teams have not had the opportunity of batting for a minimum of 15 overs shall (subject to the provisions of this paragraph) be declared 'Abandoned'.
9. Rearrangement of the number of overs may be necessary due to a delayed start or one or more interruptions in play as a result of adverse ground, weather or light conditions or any other reason.
  - a. The timing and duration of all suspensions of play (including all intervals) or delays during the match will be taken into account when calculating the length of time available for either innings.

- b. The object shall always be to re-arrange the number of overs so that, if possible, both teams have the opportunity of batting for the same number of overs.
  - c. For the purpose of calculation, 3½ minutes is allowed for each over.
- 10. Where the maximum number of overs available to both sides remains unaltered once play has commenced, the team scoring the higher number of runs shall be the winner. If the scores are equal, the result shall be a Tie and no account shall be taken of the number of wickets which have fallen.
- 11. If the team batting second has not had the opportunity to complete the agreed number of overs, and has neither been all out, nor has passed its opponent's score, the following shall apply:
  - a. If the match is abandoned before the Close of Play, the result shall be decided on the average run-rate throughout the innings.
  - b. If, due to suspension of play, the number of overs in the innings of the side batting second has to be revised, their target score shall be calculated by multiplying the reduced number of overs by the average runs per over scored by the side batting first. If the target involves a fraction of a run, the final scores cannot be equal and the result cannot be a tie.
  - c. In the event of the team batting first being all out in fewer than their full quota of overs the calculation of their average 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.
- 12. A team's average run rate is calculated by dividing the number of runs scored in its innings by the number of legitimate balls received during that innings. In the case of the team batting first being dismissed in fewer than the number of overs allocated for their innings, the calculation will be based on the number of balls that the team was scheduled to receive and not on the number actually received. In the case of the team batting second being unable to receive their allocated overs, the calculation of their average run rate will be based on the actual number of legitimate deliveries received by them during their innings. The average run rate can be calculated to any number of decimal positions and a tie can only be achieved if the average run rates are identical.
- 13. Points shall be awarded as follows;
  - a. To the winning side, 10 points for the win. If the scores finish level, 5 points each, whether or not the team batting second is all out.
  - b. To both sides, batting and bowling points in accordance with the tables annexed to the Handbook based on the number of overs actually available in the innings in question
  - c. In the event of an abandoned match, 4 points each. In an abandoned game, batting and bowling points earned before the abandonment shall be awarded to each side
  - d. In the event of a cancelled match, 4 points each.

14. Should the unfit state of the ground preclude any chance of play, the match may be abandoned by mutual consent on the day of the match provided that consent has been obtained from the appointed match day contact or other club officer named in the current edition of the handbook or on the league's website at [www.swca2.com](http://www.swca2.com). In matches where no umpires have been appointed, a home side which fails to notify the away side's appointed match day contact two hours before the agreed start time of issues with the fitness of the ground, shall be liable to pay the visiting team the sum of £50.



## **Appendix C**

### **Cup and Shield Match Rules**

1. The Association shall organise two knockout competitions. Member clubs from the Premier League and Divisions 1 and 2 of the Association shall be eligible to enter the Cup. Clubs from Divisions 3 and below shall be eligible to enter the Shield. Clubs may enter more than one team. No player shall be permitted to play for more than one of his Club's Cup or Shield teams in any season.
2. Except during the months of April and May, all players must have played in at least four League matches for the club during the current season, or the season immediately prior to the current season. They must be registered members of the club.
3. No player may play for more than one club in either competition in any one season and no player may play for more than one of his clubs teams in any season.
4. Only players eligible under Eligibility Rule 1 will be allowed to play. Clubs are responsible for ensuring that all players participating in either competition are eligible to play.
5. Matches will normally be played on Sundays.
6. Clubs shall advise the Hon. Secretary by the 1st January if they are not entering either Competition that coming season. The Quarter Finals and subsequent rounds shall be by open draw. The Management Committee shall determine the format of earlier rounds having regard to the number and location of the clubs which have entered either Competition in any season. The finals shall be played at a venue to be determined by the Management Committee.
7. As soon as the draw for either Competition has been made, the Secretary will arrange to send to Clubs details of the draw, together with the 'Nominated Sundays' on which matches in the various rounds should be played.
8. The 'Nominated Sundays' are mandatory unless both clubs agree to play under the same match rules on another day. If bad weather prevents play on the Nominated Sunday, then clubs will agree to play the match on any day up to and including the Friday before the Nominated Sunday for the next round.
9. If there is no play on the agreed day, or if the match is abandoned before being completed, the venue is reversed for each subsequent attempt to play the match. The side hosting the attempt to play the match must offer at least two dates during the permitted period and the Away side must choose one of these dates.
10. If a team travels to their opponents ground and play starts but then bad weather prevents the match from being completed, the game must be replayed on the ground of the team who had travelled.

11. If bad weather prevents a match from being played, then the tie may be decided as set out in Cup Rule 26.
12. The Association is entirely responsible for the organisation and administration of both competitions.
  - a. In the event of any dispute arising during and affecting the course of either competition, clubs must contact the Secretary and/or Chairman, by telephone, within 1 day of the dispute, confirming the protest in writing within 3 days and also sending a copy of the protest to any other club involved within 3 days.
  - b. Following any response from the other club, the Secretary will refer the matter to the Emergency Committee of the Management Committee who will come to a decision which shall be binding on participating clubs.
13. The Association will arrange Umpires for each match. The Umpires' fees shall be such sum as the Management Committee shall from time to time determine and shall be shared equally between the two Clubs, except the finals when the Association will pay the fees.
14. Except the finals, all matches shall commence at 2.00 pm or at such other time as may be mutually agreed by the Clubs. There will be an interval of 10 minutes between innings.
15. Except the finals when the Association will provide a new ball for each innings the Home team must provide 2 balls in good condition although not necessarily new and the visiting Captain shall choose which ball his team shall use to bowl. Only official SWCA stamped balls as approved by the Management Committee are to be used.
16. Rules 17, 18, 21, 22, and 24 shall apply to all rounds except the finals.
17. Each team shall bat for 20 overs unless they are all out or a result has already been achieved before the 20 overs have been bowled. The bowling side is expected to bowl its overs in a maximum of 1 hour and 10 minutes and if they fail to do so the Umpires may, where they think it appropriate, report any shortfall to the Management Committee.
18. No bowler shall bowl more than 4 overs.
19. The following restriction relating to the placement of fielders shall apply.
  - a. At the instant of delivery, a minimum of four fieldsmen (plus the 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.
  - b. In the event of an infringement, the umpire at the striker's end shall call and signal 'No Ball'.
20. 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. The umpires shall signal a free hit after the normal no ball signal by extending one arm straight upwards and moving it in a circular motion.

21. In addition to applying Law 25, umpires shall call a ball wide if it passes both outside the batsman and outside the line of the leg stump.
22. If bad weather causes the start of a match to be delayed beyond 5.00pm the match shall not commence and Rule 9 shall apply.
23. In a match interrupted by weather after it has started the following provisions will apply:
  - a. Complete covering of the pitch shall be allowed.
  - b. There shall be a target finishing time of 7.30 pm. If there is insufficient time for each team to receive 20 overs, allowing three and a half minutes per over, by the target finishing time, the match shall be abandoned and Rule 10 will apply.
24. The finals of both competitions shall take place on the same day at a single venue to be selected by the Management Committee. The matches shall be played in accordance with the current version of the ECB National Club twenty20 Playing Conditions (“the National Conditions”) as published from time to time on the ECB website provided that
  - a. National Conditions 7 and 15 shall not apply
  - b. Cup Match Rule 19(a) shall apply in place of National Condition 8
  - c. The hours of play shall be determined by the Management Committee.
25. In the event of a tie, the team losing the lesser number of wickets shall be the winners. Should these be equal, the team with the lesser number of extras in their innings shall be the winners. Should these be equal, then the team with the highest run rate in runs per over shall be the winners.
26. When, because of bad weather, it is impossible to play a match on the last scheduled day, then the match may be decided by a Bowling/Fielding competition, thus:
  - a. Bowling: Five bowlers shall each bowl one fair delivery over-arm at the wickets pitched normally as for a match with no batsman in front of them. For every ball which first pitches and then hits the wickets, two points shall be scored, but only one point if the stumps are hit by a ‘full toss’.
  - b. Fielding: The other five players and the wicket-keeper shall take part in the fielding competition. From directly behind the wickets (in the long-stop position), a marker shall be set 50 yards or so from the stumps. In turn, five fielders shall throw a ball from behind this marker to the wicket-keeper standing at the wicket, who may not ground any part of his person outside the rectangle enclosed by the popping crease, bowling crease, and the forward extensions of the return creases. Two points shall be scored for every ball which is caught by

the wicket-keeper full pitch and one point if it is caught by him after bouncing once only.

- c. The winning side shall be the one which scored the highest total aggregate of points in the two events. In the event of a tie, the competition shall continue, one player at a time, until one side is ahead.
- d. The umpires appointed for the match shall supervise the running of the competition.

As an alternative to the Bowling and Fielding competition, clubs may mutually agree to toss a coin for the right to proceed to the next round of the Cup Competition.

- 27. The result of each match and other required information needed to operate the competitions must be conveyed to the Secretary of the Association by telephone by WINNING clubs IMMEDIATELY after the match has been played and confirmed in writing. Only those results and performances received in writing by the Secretary within 5 days of the match will be considered and clubs failing to submit results may be removed from the competitions.
- 28. Any Club failing to fulfil a Cup or Shield fixture shall be fined £60 to be paid to the Association Treasurer by the date of the next Management Committee meeting after the fine has been imposed and will be suspended from participation in either competition for the following season. If the offending club is the away side, the Treasurer will forward the £60 to the home club. If the offending club is the home side, the Treasurer will reimburse travelling costs to the away club, upon appeal to the Management Committee.