



Vitality Women's County T20

Competition Rules

This competition will use the Generic 20 overs per side Playing Conditions.

1 **Title**

The title of the competition will be the Vitality Women's County T20 (Vitality WCT20)

2 **Management of Competition**

- 2.1 The control of the Competition shall be undertaken by the P&G Advisory Group and all decisions relating to these rules or to matches played in the Competition shall be final and binding on all concerned.
- 2.2 The ECB and P&G Advisory Group may delegate any of their powers and duties.

3 **Entry**

- 3.1 Entry into any of ECB's County Competitions shall be open to those County Boards recognised by the ECB.
- 3.2 Counties who participated in the previous year's Competition shall automatically be included for the following season unless written notification to the contrary is given by 1st September in the year prior to the Competition. A County wishing to enter or be re-admitted to a Competition must give written notice to that effect to the ECB Competitions Department by 1st September in the year prior to the Competition.
- 3.3 Each squad must have a named coach and named manager who are DBS cleared and who attend all matches (where not available a suitable replacement must be found for all matches)

4 **Competition Structure**

4.1 **Format of the Competition**

Division 1 & 2 – The format shall be league based with each County playing each other across four fixture dates.

Division 3 – Split into three regionalised groups on a league basis with Counties playing across four separate fixture dates.

4.2 **Fixture setting**

4.2.1 Fixture dates for the 2020 season have been set as:

Round 1	Friday 8th May
Round 2	Monday 25th May
Round 3	Sunday 7th June
Round 4	Sunday 21st June

Matches will take place at 10:30, 13:30 and 16:30 on each match day with the exception of Division 3, Group C whose matches will start at 11am and 3pm. If all teams are in agreement to amend these start times (while taking into consideration sunset times) then this will be permitted.

4.2.2 The dates and times of fixtures have been predetermined and uploaded onto the Play-Cricket website. It is the responsibility of the host County to inform all visiting County sides of the venue details. Host Counties must also inform the ECB (sue.laister@ecb.co.uk) of their playing venue.

4.3 Matches that are cancelled or abandoned cannot be rearranged.

4.4 Rescheduled cut off times for affected matches will be as follows:

	Scheduled Start Time	Latest Start Time (5 overs per team)	Cut-off Time (latest possible finish)
Match 1	10:30	12:30	13:15
Match 2	13:30	15:30	16:15
Match 3	16:30	18:30	19:15

For rounds involving two-pitch venues (Division 3, Group C):

	Scheduled Start Time	Latest Start Time (5 overs per team)	Cut-off Time (latest possible finish)
Match 1	11:00	13:00	13:45
Match 2	15:00	17:00	17:45

5 Qualification of players – Women’s Senior County Eligibility Criteria

A player is eligible to play for a County at senior level if she meets any of the following criteria (all players in the Vitality WCT20 must meet this eligibility):

- 5.1 She was born within that County.
- 5.2 She currently resides in that County and has been resident there for 6 months prior to 1st May 2020.
- 5.3 She is attending an educational establishment within that County.
- 5.4 Where a player only has eligibility to play for a County that does not provide competitive senior County cricket, she is entitled to represent any County without meeting any of the above eligibility criteria. Such cases need to be authorised by the Competitions Officer before that player represents a chosen County side (email to sue.laister@ecb.co.uk)
- 5.5 Where a player meets the eligibility of several Counties she is entitled to choose which County she would like to represent during the 2020 season. Such cases need to be authorised by the Competitions Officer before that player represents a chosen County side (email to sue.laister@ecb.co.uk)
- 5.6 Two overseas players, defined as a player not qualified for England under the ECB Regulations governing the qualification of Women Cricketers for England, may play for a County per season regardless of any qualification criteria. Only one overseas player may be fielded in any one match.
- 5.7 She has completed the Dual Registration Form, this scheme replaces the Player Loan system, and all parties including ECB are satisfied that the criteria of the 2020 Dual Registration Scheme have been met (see separate Dual Registration System for Women’s County Cricket paper available from sue.laister@ecb.co.uk).

- 5.8 A player may play for a County for whom the player is not qualified only if the player has not been selected by the County/Counties for whom the player is otherwise qualified and has obtained the written consent of that County/those Counties. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. There is no requirement to obtain the consent of the County of birth.

In the event of a dispute the matter shall be referred to the ECB, whose decision shall be final.

- 5.9 Based on ECB Guidelines for Junior Players in Open Age Cricket, revised October 2010, no under 12 age group players or younger may take part in the ECB Vitality WCT20, unless they are deemed by ECB Regional Talent Managers to be of a standard to compete in any U13 girls' county match. This is providing they are at least 11 years old, and in school Year 7 on 1st September in the year preceding the season and have written parental consent to play.

5.10 **ADDITIONAL NOTES**

5.10.1 Other than when involved in the Dual Registration System, a player may only represent one County at senior level in any given season in the Vitality WCT20 Competition.

5.10.2 A player may feasibly represent different Counties at ECB Girls County Age Group level and senior level in any given season. Such a scenario would be where a County offers girls junior cricket but not senior County cricket.

5.10.3 Where a player has played for a County in previous seasons they retain the right to represent that County until they are eligible and play for another County.

6 **Cricket Balls**

The Home side shall provide two new cricket balls for each match when balls are not provided by the ECB. The balls shall be of the standard laid down by the ECB for each Competition and shall be given to the umpires prior to the commencement of the match. The Home side will also be responsible for supplying enough spare balls of equal standard. A new ball must be used at the start of each innings.

- 6.1 A 5oz hardball will be used. For Division 1 and Division 2 this will be a Kookaburra Club Match White Ball. For Division 3 this will be a Kookaburra Club Match Pink Ball.

- 6.2 Each County will receive enough match balls to cover all of the matches that they are hosting.

- 6.3 All County sides present must be able to provide a spare match ball if required (this will generally be one of the two sides involved in the match at the time).

7 **Clothing & Sightscreens**

- 7.1 In all Division 1 and Division 2 matches players shall wear coloured clothing and use black sight screens.

- 7.2 In all Division 3 matches all Counties are encouraged to play in coloured clothing although this is not mandatory, but all players must be in the same kit.

It is noted that coloured shirts and white trousers or traditional all whites would be acceptable in order to assist with the transition. As a pink ball is being used white or black sight screens can be used.

8 Helmets and Faceguards

Any player under the age of 18 playing in any ECB Competition shall be bound by the ECB Directive.

9 Umpires

ECB shall be responsible for appointing umpires through the ACO Regional Appointment Officers for all Division 1 and Division 2 fixtures in this competition.

For all Division 3 fixtures Counties must contact their County ACO to arrange umpire appointments.

10 Scorers

Each team shall provide their own competent, non-playing scorer in all matches. If a team fails to provide a scorer a player has to be nominated from the team to take up the duty for the entire duration of the match.

The use of live electronic scoring is strongly encouraged for all matches.

11 Team Sheets

Each side must provide the umpires with a team sheet before the start of the match identifying any player who has not reached the age of 18 on the date of the match and showing the specific age group of any player who is in the Under 19 age group or younger. It is recommended that the ECB Team Sheet card (available from the local County Board) is used whenever possible.

12 Match Results

It is the responsibility of the WINNING side to enter the result and full scorecard details onto the Play-Cricket website within 24 hours of the conclusion of each Round of the competition.

13 Points

13.1 The following points system shall apply:

Win	4
Tie	2
Abandoned or Cancelled	1
Loss	0
Conceded	0
Team Conceded Against	4

13.2 **Group Matches**

In the event of teams finishing on equal points in a Group, the final standings shall be decided in the following order of priority:

13.2.1 Head to head result(s) of teams tied on total points.

13.2.2 If still equal or if the teams with equal points did not play each other in the Group matches, the team with the higher net run rate in the Group Matches in which a result was achieved will be placed in the higher position.

13.2.3 If still equal, the team with the higher number of wickets taken per balls bowled in the Group Matches in which a result was achieved, will be placed in the higher position

13.2.4 In the highly unlikely event that teams cannot be separated by 13.2.1 to 13.2.3 above this will be done by drawing lots.

14 **Code of Conduct**

All players, team officials, club supporters and umpires shall be bound by the MCC Spirit of Cricket and the ECB Code of Conduct.

15 **Coaching**

Coaching shall not be permitted from the sidelines during a match. In such an event, the umpire shall request the coach/manager/parent/spectator to stop. If this persists, the umpire shall have the power to warn the offending team captain and manager that the matter will be reported to the County Board/ECB.