

Royal London Club Championship

Competition Rules



This competition will use the Generic 40 overs per side Playing Conditions.

1 **Title**

The title of the Competition shall be the Royal London Club Championship, formally known as the ECB National Club Championship.

2 **Management**

2.1 The control of the Competition shall be undertaken by the Development Pathway Sub-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 Development Pathway Sub-Group may delegate any of their powers and duties.

3 **Entry**

Entry to this competition is by invitation of the ECB through places allocated to leagues. It is the responsibility of the leagues to determine how the places allocated to them are given to clubs. All leagues will be informed at the start of the season how many places will be allocated for the following season i.e. leagues informed at start of 2021 season how many places will be allocated for the 2022 competition. Number of places allocated to leagues may be adjusted year on year based on success within the competition of clubs from each league.

All competing Cricket Clubs must be affiliated to the ECB through their County Board. The ECB shall determine the closing date for nominations each year.

4 **Competition Structure**

The Competition shall be organised on a knock-out basis with entries initially divided into sixteen Regional groups. The ECB shall be responsible for making the draw annually.

5 **Qualification of Players**

Please refer to **Generic Rule 3.6**.

If a player is registered for an ECB Premier League Club they can only play for that club in the Royal London Club Championship. The exception to this is for players representing County Academy sides in their Premier League. As Academies are not eligible for entry into ECB Club Competitions these players are permitted to represent their original club side that they played for before joining the Academy.

6 **Cricket Balls**

For each match throughout the competition two new Dukes County 'A' cricket balls shall be provided by the ECB.

7 **Clothing**
Players in all Royal London Club Championship matches will wear clothing and equipment that follow ECB guidelines and is predominantly white.

8 **Umpires**
The ECB shall be responsible for the appointment of umpires for all matches in the Competition. Appointed umpires will be full members of ECB Association of Cricket Officials where possible and have current DBS clearance.

All clubs must submit a report on the umpires for each match they play in the Competition. This must be entered online via the 'Who's the Umpire' appointments system.

9 **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 mandatory for all matches.

10 **Fixtures**
All matches to start at 1:00pm unless agreed by both clubs. Both Semi Final matches to start at 12:00pm unless agreed by both clubs. Final to start at 11:00am.

Matches must be played on the scheduled date. Matches can only be played on an alternative date if changed by mutual agreement of the clubs and the ECB, and must be within the time-scale for that Round. Any rearrangement must be with the agreement of the ECB Competitions Team beforehand. Matches where no result can be achieved on the scheduled date can be rearranged to be played on the wet weather date for that Round.

A wet weather reserve date is designated by the ECB for matches where no result is possible on the original scheduled date all rounds.

In the event of no decision being reached in the match because of inclement weather, inability to rearrange a fixture before the deadline date, or for another reason, then in the last resort, the decision shall be made by the toss of a coin between the two captains when both captains are present. In the event of the captains not being able to be present, the tossing of the coin shall be referred to the ECB Competitions Team (It is suggested that rather than the tossing of a coin, Clubs should play a match for even a small number of overs, wherever possible, according to the time still available).

The captains shall agree before play begins what action shall be taken if a decision is not reached on that day.

- 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.
- 12 **Match Results**
It is the responsibility of the WINNING side to enter the result and full scorecard details onto the appropriate site on Play-Cricket.com within 24 hours of the match being completed and preferably on the same day of the match being completed. The losing side should confirm that the summary result has been correctly entered. Both sides must ensure that their squad details have been entered into Play-Cricket prior to each match they play. Any matches postponed or rearranged should be updated on Play-Cricket as soon as possible.
- 13 **Helmets and/or Faceguards**
Any player under the age of 18 playing in any ECB Competition shall be bound by the ECB Directive.
- 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.