



## **Royal London Under 14 County Cup**

### **Competition Rules**

This competition will use the Generic 45 overs per side Playing Conditions.

#### **1 Title**

The title of the Competition shall be the Royal London Under 14 County Cup.

#### **2 Management**

- 2.1 The control of the Competition shall be undertaken by the Talent 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 Talent Pathway Sub-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 Team by 1st September in the year prior to the Competition.

#### **4 Competition Structure**

- 4.1 The Competition will be organised on a Regional basis as decided by the ECB and there will be four groups.
- 4.2 Fixture dates will be circulated by the ECB Competitions Team, these dates can be changed by mutual agreement so long as the new date is prior to that of the fixture deadline date for the competition (7th August). The dates, start times and venues shall be notified to the ECB Competitions Team via the Play-Cricket website by 15th April by the home County in each fixture. Fixtures may only be changed after this time by mutual consent by the Counties concerned and must be played within the time scale for the Regional Group matches laid down. Details must be notified to the ECB Competitions Team.
- 4.3 Fixtures cannot be re-arranged if the originally scheduled fixture is abandoned even if no play has taken place.
- 4.4 The ECB Competitions Team will conduct a draw for matches in the Quarter Final, Semi-Final and Final rounds, which shall be played on the dates laid down by the ECB Competitions Team.
- 4.5 All matches to start at 10:45am unless agreed by both Counties.

**5 Qualification of Players**

Please refer to Generic Rule 3.4 (Qualification Criteria for Junior Cricketers).  
In addition:

- 5.1 A player may play for only one County in the Under 14 County Cup in any one season, dual registration is not applicable for this competition.  
If a County includes in their team a player who has played for another County, or for whom consent to play him has not been obtained, all points attained by that County in the match or matches shall be forfeited.
- 5.2 In the event of a dispute, the matter shall be referred to the ECB, whose decision shall be final.
- 5.3 Players from the Channel Islands shall be eligible to play for any County in the County Cup provided that they only represent one County in the Competition in any one season.

**6 Number of Players**

Each team can consist of up to 12 players. No more than 11 players can bat or be on the field at any time.

All players must be nominated to the umpires in writing before the toss is made. There is no requirement to nominate which 11 players will bat. Any replacement/ substitution of a member of the fielding side can only be made with the approval of the umpires and only at the end of an over, the fall of a wicket or during an interval. Once a player has taken the field he can play a full part in the match, subject to the provisions of Law 17.6 (Bowler changing ends).

**7 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.

A 5oz ball shall be used for all U14 cricket.

Please note that for all group stage matches, white balls (Tiflex Windsor Pro 5oz) will be provided to all host counties for their home fixtures, therefore the use of black sightscreens will be necessary for all matches.

**8 Pitch Length**

In line with the ECB Junior Formats recommendations, all U14 County Cup matches will be played on pitches measuring 21 yards.

**9 Helmets & Faceguards**

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

10     **Umpires**

Counties shall appoint two umpires who shall be Full Members of the ECB Association of Cricket Officials (ECB ACO) and also have DBS clearance for each home match they play.

For knockout stage matches, the ACO and ECB Competitions Team will appoint umpires to all fixtures.

11     **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.

12     **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.

13     **Match Results**

It is the responsibility of the HOME side to enter the result and full scorecard details onto the appropriate site on Play-Cricket within 24 hours of the match being completed. The AWAY side should confirm that the summary result has been correctly entered within the next 24 hours. Both sides must ensure that their squad details have been entered onto Play-Cricket prior to each match they play.

In the event of the match being abandoned or cancelled it is still the responsibility of the Home County to enter the fact on Play-Cricket.

14     **Points**

The following points system will apply:

Win	<b>4</b>
Tie	<b>2</b>
Abandoned or Cancelled	<b>1</b>
Loss	<b>0</b>

15     **Group Matches**

In the event of teams finishing on equal points in their Group, the final league finishing positions will be decided in the following order of priority:

- a)     When two teams have equal points, the team which was the winner of the Group Match played between them will be placed in the higher position.

When more than two teams have equal points, the team which was the winner of the most number of matches played between those teams will be placed in the higher position.

- b) If still equal, 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.
- c) 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.
- d) In the highly unlikely event that teams cannot be separated by a) to c) above this will be done by drawing lots.

**16 Code of Conduct**

All players, coaches or match officials shall be bound by the MCC Spirit of Cricket and ECB General Conduct Regulations.

**17 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.

The above does not apply to coaches during drinks intervals.