

ECB Indoor 6-a-side National Club Championship

Competition Rules



1 **Title**

The title of the Competition shall be the ECB Indoor 6-a-side National Club Championship.

2 **Management**

2.1 All decisions relating to the interpretation of these rules or to matches played in the Competition shall be made by the ECB and will be final and binding on all concerned.

The ECB may delegate any of their powers and duties, including (where appropriate) to the Cricket Regulator.

2.2 All potential breaches of these Rules, or disputes arising from the application of interpretation of these Rules, shall be referred to a panel of three members of the ECB Recreational Discipline Panel (the "Panel"), whose decision shall be final and binding. The Panel shall consider any such matter in such manner and following such procedures as it considers appropriate and shall not be bound by rules governing the admissibility of evidence in judicial or other proceedings.

The Cricket Regulator shall confirm the identity of the Panel members to the relevant parties. If any party objects to any member of the Panel on the basis of a conflict of interest, the Cricket Regulator shall consider whether it is necessary to appoint a new member of the Panel.

3 **Entry**

All competing cricket clubs must be affiliated to their County Board. Each club must apply to enter their County Competition by the date specified by their County Board. A club may only enter the County Competition of one County Board irrespective of how many County Boards they are affiliated to. Counties must submit a list of competing clubs and contact addresses each year to the ECB Competitions Team by the date specified by the ECB.

4 **Competition Structure**

The Competition shall be run on a County basis until the Regional rounds have been reached. The draw together with venues for Regional Rounds shall be made by the ECB.

4.1 **County**

The Competition shall be organised on a County basis and each County Board shall organise their own Competition to determine a winner to enter the National stages of the Competition. All arrangements for County Competitions shall be the responsibility of each County Board and must be completed and reported to the ECB Competitions Team in accordance with the timetable specified by the ECB. Counties must submit a list of competing clubs each year to the ECB Competitions Team by the date specified by the ECB. The name and contact details of the winning club in each County Competition must be immediately notified to the ECB Competitions Team.

4.2 **Knock Out Rounds**

Matches in the County Playoff round shall be undertaken in accordance with the draw made each year by the ECB Competitions Team. The County Board drawn at home shall be responsible for all match arrangements, and should inform the ECB Competitions Team of the result and scores from all matches in the Knock Out Rounds immediately following their conclusion.

4.3 **Regional and National Finals**

All arrangements for Regional and National Finals shall be made by the ECB Competitions Team.

5 **Eligibility**

The competition shall be open to the winning club of each County Competition provided that all clubs in the County Competition are bona fide clubs and are affiliated to their County Board. Players may only represent one club in the competition in any one season.

6 **Qualification of Players**

A cricketer shall only be eligible to play for a club if he has played for the club in at least 6 league matches during the previous summer. For university clubs that only play in BUCS outdoor league matches (of which there is usually only 5 league matches per season) this requirement is reduced to 3 league matches (for first year students where playing the previous outdoor season for the university would not be possible, they must be a fully paid up member of that club). Players that no longer play outdoor cricket but continue to play indoor cricket are permitted to play for any club providing they are a fully paid up member of that club.

6.1 In addition to the above, clubs are permitted to play;

6.1.1 one player that represented another club during the previous outdoor season.

6.1.2 in addition to 6.1.1, each club is permitted to play a player who has previously played for the club indoors (in the last 4 years, up to and including the 2021/22 indoor season) but no longer play for the club outdoors.

6.1.3 Players identified under 6.1.1 and 6.1.2 must be fully paid up members of the club and Play-Cricket will be used to determine player eligibility where necessary.

7 **Cricket Balls**

The 'Reader Indoor Cricket Ball' shall be used for all matches in the Competition beyond County finals, using a colour of ball suitable for that venue. Each home County Board shall be responsible for providing two new balls for each home match in County playoffs. Other types of balls (i.e. leather or composition) may be used in matches prior to this subject to the approval of the County Board.

8 **Helmets & Faceguards**

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

9 **Umpires**

Each County Board shall be responsible for the appointment of umpires in their County Competition and any home Playoff matches. The ECB shall appoint all umpires for the Regional and National Finals.

All appointed umpires must be full members of the ECB Association of Cricket Officials. It shall be the responsibility of the umpires to ensure that the Rules are properly implemented. All umpires must have current DBS clearance.

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 **Clothing and Equipment**

All players must wear the normal accepted cricket clothing and equipment. This includes wicket-keepers who must wear pads and gloves. Only rubber soled footwear shall be worn by the players. Spikes will not be permitted.

12 **Venue**

Whenever possible matches shall be played in Sports Halls, Gymnasiums or other indoor areas which shall be not less than 100' x 60' x 20' in height. This specification may, however, be varied to meet local conditions for County competitions. For County Playoffs, the above dimensions must be met by the host venue unless agreed in advance by both teams. If the home club is unable to secure a venue that meets these dimensions, the club listed as the away side (providing they are able to secure a suitable venue) should host the County Playoff.

13 **Insurance**

The Home Club/County shall ensure that adequate insurance cover is arranged for Personal Accident and Third Party liability for the match, and to cover damage to property.

14 **Code of Conduct**

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

Playing Conditions

1 **Laws**

The Laws of Cricket (2017 Code 3rd Edition - 2022) shall apply with the exception of the following playing regulations:

- 1.1 Teams shall consist of six players each.
- 1.2 Each match shall consist of one innings per team.
- 1.3 Each innings shall consist of a maximum of 12 six ball overs.
- 1.4 No more than 3 overs shall be bowled by any individual. In calculating each individual's accrued number of overs, part of an over shall be deemed as a full over.
- 1.5 There shall be a 10 minute interval between innings.
- 1.6 Two batters shall be at the wicket at all times during an innings. In the event of a team losing five wickets within the permitted 12 overs, the last batter shall continue batting with the fifth batter out remaining at the wicket as a non-striker.
- 1.7 When a batter reaches or passes a personal total of 25 they shall retire, but may return to the crease on the departure of the fifth batter. Retired batters must return in order of their retirement and take the place of the retiring or dismissed batter. Two 'live' batters shall be at the wicket until such time as the fifth wicket has fallen. The batter shall retire again when they score an additional 25 runs on their return to the crease unless they are the last remaining batter, in which case they can complete their innings.
- 1.8 If the ball passes, or would have passed, above shoulder height of the batter standing upright at the crease, the umpire at the bowler's end shall call and signal 'No Ball'. If any venue uses only a half-mat, any ball not pitching on the mat shall be called a 'No Ball'.
- 1.9 **Wide Ball - Judging a Wide**
In addition to Law 22 the following will apply:
Umpires are instructed to apply a very strict and consistent interpretation in regard to this Law in order to prevent negative bowling wide of the wicket.

Any offside or legside delivery which in the opinion of the umpire does not give the batter a reasonable opportunity to score shall be called a wide. For guidance purposes, a legside wide should be called if a ball passes on the legside outside the pads of the batter standing in a normal batting position.

2 **Results**

The team scoring the most runs in its innings shall be the winner. If the scores of both teams are equal, then the team taking the greater number of wickets shall be the winner. If the teams are still equal, a 'bowl out' contest will be held to achieve a winner. If circumstances make the contest impossible, the match shall be decided by the toss of a coin.

3 **Scoring**

The scoring for Indoor Cricket shall take place as follows:

- 3.1 A ball struck to hit the boundary wall behind the bowler without touching the floor or any other wall or ceiling shall count boundary 6 runs.

If, however, the ball touches the floor but does not touch any of the other walls or the ceiling and hits the boundary wall, then it shall count as boundary 4 runs.

3.1.1 Before the toss, the umpires shall agree with both captains the exact interpretation of 'boundary wall', 'ceiling', 'side wall' and 'back wall'.

3.1.2 If a ball is struck into an open gallery along a wall that is not a boundary wall, the ball becomes dead and the striker is credited with 1 run.

3.2 A ball struck to hit the ceiling or one or more of the side or back walls shall count 1 run, even if the ball subsequently hits the boundary wall in which case it remains in play.

2 additional runs shall be scored if the batters complete a run (if the ball is struck to hit the ceiling or side or back wall and a batter is then run out 1 run shall be scored).

3.3 2 runs shall be scored if the striker plays the ball and it does not hit a wall and the batters complete a run.

3.4 A Bye shall count as 1 extra if the ball hits a wall (including the boundary wall); a leg-bye shall count as 1 extra if the ball hits a wall (including the boundary wall). In each case if the batters complete a run 2 additional extras shall be scored.

3.5 2 Byes or 2 leg-byes shall be scored if the batters complete a run without the ball hitting a wall.

3.6 **No Ball**

3.6.1 A No Ball shall score 1 penalty run, recorded as a No Ball extra, in addition to any other runs scored under 3.6.2 and 3.6.3.

3.6.2 From a No Ball struck by the batter, runs scored as in Scoring Regulations 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 shall be accredited to the striker. If the batters do not run and the ball does not touch any wall or ceiling, then just the penalty shall be scored.

3.6.3 From a No Ball not struck by the batter, or from one striking their person when they are trying to avoid being hit by the ball, runs shall be scored as in Scoring Regulations 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3; these shall be credited as No Ball extras.

3.7 **Wide**

3.7.1 A Wide Ball shall score 1 penalty run, recorded as a Wide extra, in addition to any other runs scored under 3.7.2 and 3.7.3.

3.7.2 If a Wide Ball is called and the ball goes on to hit the ceiling or any wall, then 1 run shall be credited under extras; 2 additional runs shall be credited under extras every time the batters complete a run.

3.7.3 If a Wide Ball is called but it does not hit the ceiling or any wall, 2 runs shall be credited under extras for every run completed by the batters.

3.8 An overthrow hitting any wall or walls shall count as only 1 run to the batter or to the total of extras as appropriate. Additional overthrows can only ensue from each additional throw which goes on to hit a wall or walls (the batters shall not change ends).

3.9 If in the opinion of the umpire the ball becomes lodged in netting or in any obstacle then the umpire shall call and signal 'dead ball' and award 1 run. The batters shall return to their original ends.

4 **Methods of dismissal**

Apart from the normal methods of dismissal contained in the Laws of Cricket, the following variations shall apply:

- 4.1 The batter shall be caught out by a fielder after the ball has hit the ceiling, the netting or any wall except directly from the boundary wall, provided the ball has not touched the floor.
- 4.2 The last not-out batter shall be given out if the non-striker running with them is given out.
- 4.3 The batter or the non-striker shall be given not out if the ball rebounds from a wall or ceiling and hits a wicket without being touched by a fielder.