

PLAYING CONDITIONS

METRO BANK ONE DAY CUP WOMEN'S LEAGUE 3



**England and Wales Cricket Board, Lord's Cricket Ground
St John's Wood, London, NW8 8QZ
England**

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Application

The Laws of Cricket 2017 Code (3rd Edition - 2022), as amended by these Playing Conditions, apply to the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 3 from the Effective Date.

Effective Date means 1 April 2026

Note on Overriding Safety Concerns

If at any time the Designated Safety Officer at a venue that is hosting a game to which these Playing Conditions apply determines that there is or may be a safety risk to any person at the venue, they should inform the umpires and other match officials at the earliest possible opportunity. The Designated Safety Officer may take such action and implement such measures as they determine necessary to address that risk, consulting with the Head Grounds Manager and the umpires (and any other personnel they consider necessary) as appropriate to the nature of the risk identified.

Any requirements within these Playing Conditions may be overridden solely to the extent necessary to address the identified safety risk, and any action or measures taken to achieve this that would otherwise be incompatible with any requirement in these Playing Conditions shall not be deemed a breach of the relevant Playing Condition(s). So far as is possible, all reasonable steps should be taken to implement any necessary actions or measures in a way that mitigates any non-compliance with these Playing Conditions.

If it is alleged that any team has failed to act in good faith when taking certain actions as permitted by this section that would otherwise be in breach of any Playing Condition, or has failed to take adequate preparatory steps or provide sufficient resources to minimise any reasonably foreseeable breach of these Playing Conditions that arises from any action taken to address a safety risk, the matter may be referred to the Cricket Regulator for further investigation.

For the purposes of these Playing Conditions, **Designated Safety Officer** means the person that is designated as the "Venue Safety Officer" on the venue's safety certificate, or, if that person is not present or at venues with no such certificate, the person with overall responsibility for health and safety matters at the venue.

1 LAW 1 – THE PLAYERS

1.1 Law 1.1 (Number of players) shall be replaced by:

By agreement of the captains, either one or both may nominate 12 players but with 11 only to bat per innings. For the avoidance of doubt one captain, by agreement, may nominate 12 players when the opposing captain has elected to nominate 11. A match shall however be able to commence if one or both sides nominate nine or ten players. A match shall not commence if either team is unable to nominate at least 9 players. After the match has commenced, should a team have fewer than 9 players able to play, the Competition Technical Committee shall have ultimate authority over the continuation of the match.

If, during the match and for whatever reason, a side is reduced to fewer than the original number of nominated players, the match shall continue as long as it is possible to do so under the Laws.

When a side consists of 12 nominated players, there shall be no limit on the number of occasions an exchange of nominated players can take place when that side is fielding, always providing not more than 11 fielders shall field at any one time.

Umpires shall be informed of all player exchanges on every occasion.

1.2 Law 1.2 (Nomination and replacement of players) shall be replaced by:

Each Captain shall nominate her players in writing to one of the umpires before the toss. No player may be replaced after the nomination of teams and before the umpire has called Play without the consent of the opposing captain (not to be unreasonably withheld) and ECB Domestic Cricket Operations. No player may be replaced after the umpire has called Play before the first ball of the match other than in the circumstances of Playing Condition **Error! Reference source not found.** below.

If after a Captain has nominated her players, it is discovered that someone who was not on the list has commenced their batting innings or commenced their run up to bowl, as though a nominated player, the offender shall take no further part in the match and no replacement, including the original nominated player shall be allowed. If the identity of the original nominated player is not self-evident, that player shall be identified by the Captain for approval by the Umpires (or ECB Domestic Cricket Operations).

2 LAW 2 – THE UMPIRES

2.1 Law 2.1 (Appointment and attendance) shall be amended as follows:

Two umpires shall be appointed, one for each end to control the game as required by the Laws and Playing Conditions with absolute impartiality.

2.2 Clothing and Equipment

In all matches, players shall wear clothing and equipment in accordance with the Women's Tier 3 Competition Regulations.

2.3 Law 2.2 – Change of umpire - shall apply except that if there has to be a change of umpire, the duties of all umpires shall be determined by ECB.

2.4 Law 2.7 – Fitness for play - shall apply with the addition that:

The safety of all persons within the ground is of paramount importance to the ECB. In the event that any threatening circumstance to any person, whether actual or perceived, comes to the attention of any umpire (including for example weather, pitch invasions, act of God, etc), then the players, officials and any other person should immediately be asked to either leave the field of play in a safe and orderly manner and relocate to a safe and secure area, or to remain on the field of play or to not enter the field of play, in each case depending on the particular threat and as instructed by the Designated Safety Officer in accordance with the Note on Overriding Safety Concerns which appears at the top of this document.

2.5 Law 2.8 – Suspension of play in dangerous or unreasonable circumstances shall apply with the following additions:

2.5.1 The umpires shall disregard any shadow on the pitch from the stadium or from any permanent object.

2.5.2 Following any inspection, the umpires will report their findings immediately to both captains and to the Ground Authority.

2.6 Sight Screens

Sight Screens shall be black.

3 LAW 3 – THE SCORERS

3.1 Law 3.1 (Appointment of scorers) shall apply.

3.2 Law 3.2 (Correctness of scores) shall apply.

4 LAW 4 – THE BALL

4.1 Balls to be used

White Newbery Elite 142g cricket balls conforming to the specifications laid down by the ECB, shall be used, and spare used balls for changing during a match shall also be of the same brand and specification. Match balls and match replacement spare balls must be of 2026 manufacture. All match balls, new and spare balls, shall pass both ring tests of the ball gauge. Except as provided for in Laws 4.5 and 4.1.2, the fielding captain, or their nominee, may select the ball with which they wish to bowl which shall be from the whole of the supply of new balls provided by the Ground Authority. Such selection must take place in the presence of the umpires, and the ball shall not be marked in any way.

4.2 Law 4.3 (New ball) shall not apply. Each fielding team shall have two new balls for its innings, to be used in alternate overs, i.e. one from each end.

In a match reduced to 25 overs or less per side before the first innings commences, each team shall have only one new ball for its innings.

5 LAW 5 – THE BAT

Law 5 shall apply.

6 LAW 6 – THE PITCH

6.1 All maintenance issues should be carried out with the guiding principle that they should ensure that conditions are as similar as possible for both sides throughout the match.

6.2 Law 6.3 (Selection and preparation) shall apply with the following additions:

Captains, umpires and Head Grounds Managers should co-operate to ensure that, prior to the start of any day's play, no-one bounces a ball on the pitch or strikes it with a bat to assess its condition or for any other reason, or causes damage to the pitch in any other way.

In the event of any dispute, the umpires in consultation with the Ground Authority will rule and their ruling will be final.

7 LAW 7 – THE CREASES

Law 7 shall apply.

8 LAW 8 – THE WICKETS

Law 8 shall apply.

9 LAW 9 – PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PLAYING AREA

9.1 Law 9 shall apply with the addition that:

9.2 All maintenance issues should be carried out with the guiding principle that they should ensure that conditions are as similar as possible for both sides throughout the match.

10 LAW 10 – COVERING THE PITCH

10.1 Law 10 shall apply with the addition that:

10.2 All maintenance issues should be carried out with the guiding principle that they should ensure that conditions are as similar as possible for both sides throughout the match.

10.3 Law 10.1 (Before the match) shall apply with the addition that:

10.3.1 The umpires shall establish prior to the toss which method of covering of the match pitch shall be used during the course of the match.

10.4 Law 10.2 (During the match) and Law 10.3 (Removal of covers) shall be replaced by:

10.4.1 The whole pitch shall be covered:

- (a) In the event of play being suspended on account of rain during the specified hours of play, and at the interval between innings on account of rain.
- (b) The covers shall be removed prior to the start of play provided it is not raining at the time, but they will be replaced if rain falls prior to the commencement of play. The time for the removal of covers shall be at the Groundsperson's discretion.

10.4.2 Covering During Play

- (a) In order to make play possible, the umpires may decide to have particularly wet or muddy areas covered by mats or blankets whilst play is in progress.
- (b) Any pitch(es) being prepared for a future match may be protected by a porous mat in order to avoid unnecessary damage.

11 LAW 11 – INTERVALS

11.1 Interval between innings

11.1.1 There shall be a 30-minute interval between innings, taken from the call of Time before the interval until the call of Play on resumption after the interval. Law 11.9 (Agreement to forgo intervals) shall not apply.

11.1.2 If the innings of the team batting first is completed prior to the scheduled time for the interval, the interval shall take place immediately and the innings of the team batting second will commence after the interval.

11.1.3 The prescribed interval timing above may be reduced by the umpires taking into account the intention of not having a prolonged interval after a lengthy interruption close to the conclusion of the innings of the team batting first. However, the minimum interval shall not be less than 10 minutes.

11.1.4 A drinks interval of 5 minutes shall be permitted in innings of 25 overs or more duration and shall be taken at the first end of over after half the total number of overs in that innings have been bowled. The drinks interval shall be additional time to the time allocated to the innings. In consultation with the captains, the umpires shall determine

at the toss for innings whether drinks intervals shall be taken; if so, one shall be taken in each innings. The only circumstances in which a drinks interval can and shall later be dispensed with is if an innings is reduced to less than 25 overs or if, at the point when half of the total number of overs in the innings have been bowled, fewer than five overs have been bowled since play resumed following an earlier interruption. An individual player may be given a drink either on the boundary edge or at the fall of a wicket, on the field, provided that no playing time is wasted. No other drinks shall be taken on to the field of play without the permission of the umpires. Any person taking drinks onto the field shall be dressed in proper cricket attire.

12 LAW 12 – START OF PLAY; CESSATION OF PLAY

12.1 Hours of Play

12.1.1 Unless otherwise agreed by ECB, normal hours of play for daytime matches will be 10.30am– 5.20pm, consisting of two sessions of play of 3 hours and 10 minutes each.

No extra time is allocated to group matches.

12.1.2 Play may continue after the scheduled or re-scheduled close of play, subject to conditions of ground, weather and light, until the required number of overs has been bowled or a result achieved. See Playing Condition 16 below.

12.2 Length of Innings

12.2.1 In Uninterrupted Matches:

- (a) Each team shall bat for 50 overs unless all out earlier.
- (b) If the team fielding first fails to bowl the required number of overs by the scheduled time for the cessation of the first innings, play shall continue until the required number of overs has been bowled, and Playing Condition 12.3 will apply.
- (c) If the team batting first is dismissed in less than 50 overs, the team batting second shall be entitled to bat for 50 overs.
- (d) If the team bowling second fails to bowl 50 overs by the scheduled time for the cessation of the second innings, the hours of play shall, subject to conditions of ground, weather and light, be extended until the required number of overs has been bowled or a result has been achieved and Playing Condition 12.3 shall apply.

12.2.2 Delayed or interrupted matches.

- (a) To constitute a match, a minimum of 10 overs has to be bowled to the side batting second, unless a result has been achieved earlier.
- (b) Delay or interruptions to the innings of the team batting first.
 - (i) When playing time has been lost (see above) the revised number of overs to be bowled in the match shall be based on a rate of 3.8 mins per over in the total time available for play (that is, time already played added to time remaining though not including the time allocated to the interval).

Should calculations regarding numbers of overs result in a fraction of an

over, the fraction shall be ignored. In the event of a suspension occurring in the middle of an over, the number of total overs to be bowled in the match will be calculated as if the over in progress at the time of the interruption had been completed (note however 12.2.2(b)(ii) below). The innings of the team batting first will continue from the point of the interruption.

The revision of the number of overs should ensure, whenever possible, that both teams have the opportunity to bat for the same number of overs. (Where this is possible, if the total number of overs in the match thereby calculated results in an odd number of total overs in the match, then one over shall be added and the new total divided in half).

- (ii) The team batting second shall not bat for a greater number of overs than the first team unless the latter completed its innings in less than its allocated overs.

A fixed time will be specified for the commencement of the interval, and also the close of play for the match, by applying a rate of 3.8 mins per over in respect of each over already bowled and/or scheduled to be bowled in each innings, rounding up any part minutes to the next full minute. All relative delays, interruptions in play, and the duration of the interval will be taken into account.

If this calculation produces a close of play time that is earlier than the original time for cessation of play then one additional over should be allocated to each team, with the interval and close of play times being recalculated accordingly.

If there is more than one interruption to the innings of the side batting first, the above calculations should always be based on the original scheduled close of play, rather than the rescheduled close resulting from the previous interruption.

- (iii) If the team fielding first fails to bowl the revised number of overs by the specified time, play shall continue subject to conditions of ground, weather and light until the required number of overs has been bowled or the innings is completed, and Playing Condition 12.3 shall apply.

In all reduced overs matches both teams will be given one over's leeway in addition to any time that the umpires might allow for stoppages. Allowances prior to a stoppage are carried forward for the purposes of the application of Playing Condition 12.3 only – they do not influence the recalculated number of overs or the scheduled close of either innings.

- (c) Delay or interruptions to the innings of the team batting second.

- (i) When playing time has been lost (see above) and, as a result, it is not possible for the team batting second to have the opportunity of receiving its allocated, or revised allocation of overs in the playing time available, the number of overs shall be reduced at a rate of 3.8 mins per over in respect of the aggregated lost playing time. However, should the innings of the team batting first have been completed prior to the scheduled, or re-scheduled time for the commencement of the interval, then any calculation relating to the revision of overs shall not be effective until an amount of time equivalent to that by which the second innings started

early has elapsed.

Should the calculations result in a fraction of an over the fraction shall be ignored. In the event of a suspension occurring in the middle of an over, the number of total overs lost will be calculated as above and the innings of the team batting second will continue from the point of the interruption. (Note 12.2.2(c)(ii) below).

- (ii) A rescheduled time for the close of play will be fixed by applying a rate of 3.8 minutes per over in respect of each over already bowled and/or re-scheduled to be bowled in the innings, rounding up any part minutes to the next full minute. (The timing and duration of all relative delays and interruptions in play with respect to the second innings will be taken into account in specifying this time.) This calculation should not cause the match to finish earlier than the time that was set for the cessation of play at the commencement of the second innings.

The team batting second shall not bat for a greater number of overs than the first team unless the latter completed its innings in less than its allocated overs.

If, at the time at which play is able to resume, the number of overs required to be bowled in the second innings have already been bowled, then there shall be no further play and the result shall be determined by the Duckworth Lewis Standard method.

- (iii) If the team fielding second fails to bowl the revised overs by the scheduled or re-scheduled close of play, the hours of play shall be extended subject to conditions of ground, weather and light until the overs have been bowled or a result achieved, and Playing Condition 12.3 shall apply.

In all reduced overs matches the fielding team will be given one over's leeway in addition to any time that the umpires might allow for stoppages.

Allowances prior to a stoppage are carried forward for the purposes of the application of Playing Condition 12.3 only – they do not influence the recalculated number of overs or the scheduled close of play.

12.3 Over Rate Penalties

12.3.1 All sides are expected to be in position to bowl the first ball of the last of their 50 overs within 3 hours 10 minutes playing time. In the event of them failing to do so, one fewer fielder shall be permitted outside the fielding restriction area referred to in Playing Condition 28.1.3 than would normally be the case in the over in progress at the time. All penalties in this regard will be imposed immediately if the ball is dead, or if not, immediately the ball first becomes dead after the scheduled or re-scheduled cessation time for the innings.

12.3.2 The full quota of overs will be completed.

12.3.3 If the innings is terminated before the scheduled or re-scheduled cut off-time, no over rate penalty shall apply. If the innings is interrupted, the over-rate penalty will apply based on the re-scheduled cessation time for that innings.

12.3.4 The umpire shall inform the fielding team captain when taking the field for the first time and on every subsequent occasion if play is interrupted, the scheduled cessation

time for that innings. The umpire at the bowler's end will inform the fielding captain, the batter and fellow umpire of any time allowances as and when they arise. (This matter will not be subject to retrospective negotiation). In addition, in all reduced overs matches, the fielding team will be given one over's leeway. For the avoidance of doubt, one over's leeway means that the fielding side must be in position to bowl the first ball of the penultimate over by the scheduled or rescheduled cut off time.

12.3.5 Over-rate penalties apply only to innings of 15 overs or more duration unless a penalty has been applied before 15 overs have been bowled.

12.3.6 This is the only penalty for a slow over-rate.

12.4 Ringing of the Bell

The bell will be rung five minutes before the start of play and before the termination of an interval, when the umpires shall go to the wickets.

13 LAW 13 – INNINGS

13.1 Law 13.1 shall be replaced by the following:

The match will consist of one innings per side each innings being limited to a maximum of 50 overs. No reserve days are allocated for any group matches.

13.2 Number of Overs per Bowler

13.2.1 No bowler may bowl more than ten overs, however, in a delayed start, or interrupted match, where the overs are reduced for both sides, or for the side bowling second, 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 – e.g. after 16 overs, rain interrupts play and the innings is reduced to 32 overs. Both opening bowlers have bowled 8 overs. Two bowlers can bowl 7 overs and three bowlers can bowl 6. Bowlers 1 and 2 have already exceeded this limit. They count as the two bowlers who were allowed the extra over (7 as opposed to 6) and so any other bowlers are limited to 6 overs.

13.2.2 When an interruption occurs mid-over and on resumption the bowler has exceeded the new maximum allocation, they will be allowed to finish the incomplete over.

13.2.3 In the event of a bowler breaking down and being unable to complete an over, the remaining balls will be bowled by another bowler. Such part of an over will count as a full over only in so far as each bowler's limit is concerned.

13.2.4 The number of overs bowled by each individual bowler shall be indicated on the scoreboard, from the commencement of an innings.

13.3 Fast Bowling

Any regulations or guidelines on fast bowling notified by the ECB from time to time shall apply. It shall be the responsibility of the captain of any player to whom the fast bowling regulations or guidelines apply to inform the umpires of such and to apply the regulations or guidelines.

14 Any deviation from the fast bowling regulations or guidelines (as applicable) shall have no

implications on the course of the match or competition in question**LAW 14 – THE FOLLOW-ON**

Law 14 shall not apply.

15 LAW 15 – DECLARATION AND FORFEITURE

The captain of the batting side may not declare their innings closed at any time during the course of a match.

16 LAW 16 – THE RESULT

16.1 Laws 16.1, 16.4 and 16.5.2 shall not apply.

16.2 When a match is completed without applying the Duckworth Lewis Standard method, the team scoring the higher number of runs shall be the winner. If the scores are equal the match is tied.

16.3 If, due to suspension of play after the start of the match, the number of overs in the innings of either team has to be revised to a lesser number than that originally allotted (minimum of 10 overs in a Group match) , then a revised target score should be set for the number of overs which the team batting second will have the opportunity of facing, this revised target being calculated by the Duckworth Lewis Standard method. A par score will be set for the second innings. If the par score is equalled the match is tied.

16.4 If a match is abandoned before it has been played to a conclusion and before the team batting second has received its allotted number of overs (providing that it has received not less than 10 overs in a Group match) , the result shall be decided by the Duckworth Lewis Standard method. If on abandonment the score of the team batting second is equal to the par score, the match is tied.

16.5 If after the restart of play it is discovered that the wrong Duckworth Lewis Standard target has been set the faulty target shall stand.

16.6 In the event of a match being tied:

16.6.1 In a Group Stage match, each team will be awarded two points.

16.7 In a Group Stage match, if it is not possible for both teams to receive the minimum of 10 overs necessary to constitute a match, the match shall be declared No Result and each team shall be awarded 2 points.

16.7.1

16.8 In the event of a Group Stage match being abandoned due to a pitch that has been deemed dangerous by the umpires, the home team shall be awarded 0 points and a Loss for tiebreaker purposes regardless of the score when the match was abandoned. The visiting team shall be awarded 2 points if the match was not constituted, 0 points if it had lost a constituted match, 4 points if it had won a constituted match or five (5) points if it had won a constituted match with a bonus point and a No Result, Loss or Win respectively for tiebreaker purposes. In respect of net-run-rate for the home team, they shall be considered only to have scored 0 runs but to have faced the scheduled number of overs when the first innings commenced. Net run-rate shall apply in the usual way for the visiting team.

16.9 Points System in the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 3

16.9.1 Division 1 - each team will play 7 matches, playing each team in the Group home or away.

Division 2 - each team will play every other team in their Group home or away.

Points shall be awarded in the Group Stage as follows:

Result	Points
Win with bonus points	5
Win without bonus point	4
No Result / Tie	2
Loss	0

A winning team that achieves a run rate of 1.25 times that of the opposition shall be awarded one bonus point. A team's run rate will be calculated by reference to the runs scored in an innings divided by the number of overs faced. See Appendix B.

16.9.2 The Groups are as detailed in the Women's Tier 3 Competition Regulations.

16.9.3 Division 1 - The first-place team in the Group will win the Division. There are no National Finals, nor promotion to League 2 for the 2027 season. The 2 last placed teams shall be relegated to Division 2 for the 2027 season.

Division 2 – The first-place teams in Group 2A & 2B shall be promoted to Division 1 for the 2027 season, there are no National Finals.

The tie-breakers for teams finishing on equal points will be:

- (a) The team with the higher net run rate in the Group matches will be placed in the higher position (see below).
- (b) If still equal, the teams will be ordered according to which team achieved the most points in the matches played between them. (Note that if this only separates one team when more than two teams are considered by this tiebreaker, only the remaining teams move to the next tiebreaker).
- (c) Wicket-taking strike rate (number of balls bowled per wicket taken).
- (d) In the event that teams cannot be separated by 16.12.3(a) to 16.12.3(c) above, this will be done by drawing lots.

16.9.4 Net Run Rate

A team's net run rate is calculated by deducting from the average runs per over scored by that team, the average runs per over scored against that team.

In the event of a team being all out in less than its full quota of overs, the calculation of the net run rate of both teams shall be based on the full quota of overs to which the batting team would have been entitled and not on the number of overs in which the team was dismissed.

Only those matches where results are achieved will count for the purpose of net run rate calculations. Where a match is abandoned, but a result is achieved under the Duckworth Lewis Standard method, for net run rate purposes Team 1 will be accredited with Team 2's Par Score on abandonment off the same number of overs faced by Team 2. Where a match is concluded but with the Duckworth Lewis Standard method having been applied at an earlier point in the match, Team 1 will be accredited with 1

run less than the final Target Score for Team 2 off the total number of overs allocated to Team 2 to reach the target.

16.9.5 County unable to field a team / conceding a match

This clause relates solely to circumstances where a County is not able to field a team or concedes a match and is distinct from Law 16.3 (Umpires awarding a match) and Playing Condition **2.4**. (Fitness for play).

If a County is not able to field a team for a match in accordance with the Women's Tier 3 Competition Regulations the following shall apply:

- (a) The team that has been unable to field a team or that conceded a match shall be awarded 0 points.
- (b) The team that has been unable to field a team or that conceded a match shall be awarded a Loss for tiebreaker purposes.
- (c) For net run rate purposes, the team that has been unable to field a team shall be considered only to have scored 0 runs but to have faced the scheduled number of overs for the match.
- (d) The opposition team shall be awarded 5 points.
- (e) The opposition shall be awarded a Win for tiebreaker purposes.

16.9.6 Refusal to play by both teams

Should both teams refuse to play in circumstances where the umpires have determined that play should commence or re-commence:

- a) In a Group Stage match, the match shall be deemed a No Result and in respect of net run-rate, the teams shall be considered only to have scored 0 runs but to have faced 50 overs. For tiebreaker purposes, each team shall be awarded a Loss.
- b) .

17 LAW 17 – THE OVER

Law 17 shall apply.

18 LAW 18 – SCORING RUNS

Law 18 shall apply except that Laws 18.5.1 and 18.5.2 shall be replaced by:

- 18.1.1 If either umpire considers that one or both batters deliberately ran short at that umpire's end, the umpire concerned shall, when the ball is dead, call and signal Short run and inform the other umpire of what has occurred and apply 18.2.

A deliberate short run is an attempt by the batters to appear to run more than one run, while at least one batter deliberately does not make good their ground at one end. Provided the umpires believe that there was no intention by the batter concerned to deceive the umpires, it will not be considered a deliberate short run if the batters abandon an attempted run.

- 18.2 The bowler's end umpire shall

- disallow all runs to the batting side
- signal No ball or Wide to the scorers, if applicable
- repeat the Short run signal to the scorers

- award 5 Penalty runs to the fielding side
- award any other 5-run Penalty that is applicable except for Penalty runs under Law 28.3 (Protective helmets belonging to the fielding side)
- inform the captain of the fielding side and, as soon as practicable, the captain of the batting side of the reason for this action.
- Instruct the fielding captain to decide which of the batters at the wicket, including the incoming batter if applicable, shall face the next delivery.

19 LAW 19 – BOUNDARIES

19.1 Law 19.1 (Determining the boundary and the field of play) shall apply with the following additions:

19.1.1 Neither square boundary shall be shorter than 50 yards, nor more than 70 yards. Distances shall be measured from the centre of the pitch to be used. Approval for variation from these sizes must be gained from ECB Domestic Cricket Operations.

A gap of 3 yards between the boundary and any perimeter fencing (or other solid object) is mandatory. If this results in a boundary shorter than the minimum being required, then ECB Domestic Cricket Operations must be contacted for approval for such a boundary to be used.

On grounds where the boundary is not clearly defined by a perimeter fence or edge of grass area, it must be marked by a rope.

19.1.2 In addition to Law 19.1.2, if practicable, sight screens shall be provided at both ends of all grounds.

19.2 Law 19.7 (Runs scored from boundaries) shall apply and in addition, at the point that the ball ceases to be dead subsequent to a boundary being scored or Time has been called, there shall be no scope for review or further review of the number of runs scored from that boundary.

19.3 Law 19.5 (Fielder grounded beyond the boundary) shall apply except that Law 19.5.2 shall be replaced by:

19.3.1 A fielder who is not in contact with the ground is considered to be grounded beyond the boundary if, prior to their first contact with the ball, their final contact with the ground was not entirely within the boundary. This applies to any fielder who makes contact with the ball after it has been delivered by the bowler, whether or not the ball has previously been touched by another fielder.

19.3.1.1 If a fielder's first contact with the ball does not contravene 19.3.1, that fielder may then jump from outside the boundary in order to make contact with the ball whilst airborne. After making contact with the ball once airborne, all subsequent contact with the ground by that fielder, until the ball becomes dead, must be within the field of play. Any subsequent contact with the ground outside the boundary by that fielder during that delivery, whether or not in contact with the ball, will result in a boundary being scored.

19.3.1.2 If the ball is returned to the field of play, whether to another fielder or onto the ground, by a fielder who has jumped from outside the boundary, that fielder must land, and remain, within the boundary until the ball becomes dead. Otherwise a boundary shall be scored.

20 LAW 20 – DEAD BALL

Law 20 shall apply.

21 LAW 21 – NO BALL

Law 21 shall apply with the following additions:

21.1 Law 21.1 (Mode of Delivery) - there shall be no special agreement under Law 21.1.2 that a ball may be delivered underarm.

21.2 Law 21.15 (Penalty for a No ball) shall apply.

In the event of the striker's end umpire failing to call and signal No Ball when Law 28.4 (Limitation of onside fielders) has been breached, immediately the ball becomes dead the striker may draw the matter to that umpire's attention.

If the striker's end umpire is able to verify the breach they shall call and signal No Ball. If the striker's end umpire is unable to verify the breach then they shall confirm that the events of the delivery shall be unchanged.

21.3 Law 21.10 (Ball bouncing over head height of striker) shall not apply. (See Playing Condition 41.2.4).

21.4 Free Hit after a No Ball

In addition to Playing Condition 21.3 above, the delivery following a no ball shall be a free hit for whichever batter 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 will become a free hit for whichever batter 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 not permitted for free hit deliveries unless there is a change of striker or the No Ball was the result of a field restriction breach in which case the field may be changed to the extent of correcting the breach. However, in all circumstances, any fielder within 15 yards of the striker may retreat to a position on the same line no more than 15 yards from the striker.

The umpires will signal a free hit by (after the normal No Ball signal) extending one arm straight upwards and moving it in a circular motion.

22 LAW 22 – WIDE BALL

Law 22 shall apply with the following exceptions:

22.1 In addition to Law 22.1 (Judging a Wide), any delivery, not being a No ball and not touching the striker's bat or person, that passes outside of the return crease on either side of the striker's wicket shall be called Wide. Law 22.4.1 shall not apply in this circumstance.

22.2 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.

23 LAW 23 – BYE AND LEG BYE

Law 23 shall apply.

24 LAW 24 – FIELDER’S ABSENCE; SUBSTITUTES

24.1 When both teams have nominated 11 players, Law 24.1 (Substitute fielders) shall apply with the following additions:

24.1.1 The opposing captain shall have no right of objection to any player acting as a Substitute.

24.1.2 No Substitute may take the field until the player for whom they are to substitute has been absent from the field for a period of two consecutive complete overs, with the exception that if a fielder sustains an obvious serious injury or is obviously taken ill, a Substitute shall be allowed immediately. A Substitute shall be allowed immediately for all head or blood injuries. Substitutes shall be allowed at the sole discretion of the umpires.

24.1.3 Squad members of the fielding team who are not playing in the match and who are not acting as Substitute fielders shall be required to wear a team training bib whilst on the playing area (including the area between the boundary and the perimeter fencing).

24.2 Law 24.2 (Fielder absent or leaving the field of play) shall apply except:

A player shall only accrue Penalty time if they are absent from the field for longer than 8 minutes. In such cases, the whole of the time that the player is absent from the field shall count as unserved Penalty time. A player’s unserved Penalty time shall be limited to a maximum of 110 minutes (refer Law 24.2.3).

24.3 When one or both teams have nominated 12 players, Laws 24.1, 24.2, 24.3 shall not apply. Playing Conditions 24.1.1 and 24.1.3 above apply. Playing Conditions 24.1.2 and 24.2 do not apply.

25 LAW 25 – BATTER’S INNINGS; RUNNERS

Law 25 shall apply with the following amendment:

25.1 In Law 25.4 (Batter retiring), Law 25.4.3 shall be replaced by:

25.2 If a batter retires for any reason other than as in Law 25.4.2, the innings of that batter shall not resume and that batter is to be recorded immediately as Retired – Out. This Playing Condition shall also apply should a batter retire during an interval or interruption.

26 LAW 26 – PRACTICE ON THE FIELD

Law 26 shall apply with the following additions:

26.1 No practice shall be undertaken on a match pitch during its preparation period (typically the 10 days prior to the match).

26.2 There shall be no bowling or batting practice on any part of the square or the area parallel to the match pitch during the hours of play except between innings.

26.3 Practice facilities – Prior to the day’s play, all grounds are to provide a net for ‘throw-downs’ and either a dedicated grass net area or a net on the square. In addition, every effort should be made to provide practice facilities at other times when teams have the opportunity to practise.

27 LAW 27 – THE WICKET-KEEPER

Law 27 shall apply.

28 LAW 28 – THE FIELDER

Law 28 shall apply with the following additions:

28.1 Restrictions on the placement of fielders

28.1.1 At the instant of delivery, there may not be more than 5 fielders on the leg side.

28.1.2 In addition to the restriction contained in clause 28.1.1 above, further fielding restrictions shall apply to certain overs in each innings. The nature of such fielding restrictions and the overs during which they shall apply are set out in the following paragraphs.

28.1.3 The following fielding restrictions shall apply: Two semi-circles shall be drawn on the field of play. The semi-circles shall have as their centre the middle stump at either end of the pitch.

The radius of each of the semi-circles shall be 25.15 yards (23 metres). The semi-circles shall be linked by two parallel straight lines drawn on the field. The fielding restriction areas should be marked by continuous painted white lines or 'dots' at 5-yard (4.57 metres) intervals, each 'dot' to be covered by a white plastic or rubber (but not metal) disc measuring 7 inches (18 cm) in diameter. See APPENDIX C (Page 32).

Subject to the provisions of 28.1.4 below, the Powerplay Overs shall apply for 10 overs per innings to be taken as follows. At the instant of delivery:

- (a) Powerplay 1 – (block of 10 overs for an uninterrupted match) no more than two (2) fielders shall be permitted outside this fielding restriction area. In an innings of 50 overs, these are overs 1 to 10 inclusive.
- (b) During non-Powerplay overs, no more than four (4) fielders shall be permitted outside this fielding restriction area.

28.1.4 In circumstances when the number of overs of the batting team is reduced, the number of overs within Powerplay 1 shall be reduced in accordance with the table below. For the sake of clarity, it should be noted that the table shall apply to both the 1st and 2nd innings of the match.

Innings duration	Powerplay 1
10 – 12	2
13 – 17	3
18 – 22	4
23 – 27	5
28 – 32	6
33 – 37	7
38 – 42	8
43 – 47	9
48 – 49	10

Illustration

If following an interruption, on resumption the total number of Powerplay 1 Overs for the innings has already been exceeded, then there will be no further Powerplay deliveries bowled in the innings. Note that this is the only circumstance under which the Powerplay status can be changed during an over.

A 50 over innings is interrupted after 8.3 overs, and on resumption has been reduced to 28 overs. Powerplay 1 overs are 6 and have already been completed. Non-Powerplay restrictions take effect immediately and do not need to wait until the end of the over.

- 28.1.5 If play is interrupted during an innings and the table in 28.1.4 applies, the Powerplay takes immediate effect. For the avoidance of doubt this applies even if the interruption has occurred mid-over.
- 28.1.6 The scoreboard shall indicate the current Powerplay in progress.
- 28.1.7 In the event of an infringement of any of the above fielding restrictions, the square leg umpire shall call and signal 'No Ball'.
- 28.1.8 In the event of the striker's end umpire failing to call and signal No Ball when the fielding restrictions in this Playing Condition have been breached or when Law 28.4 (Limitation of on side fielders) has been breached, immediately the ball becomes dead the striker may draw the matter to that umpire's attention. If the striker's end umpire is able to verify the breach they shall call and signal No Ball. If the striker's end umpire is unable to verify the breach then they shall confirm that the events of the delivery shall be unchanged.
- 28.2 In order to eliminate any waste of playing time caused by the removal from the field of fielder's protective equipment other than helmets (e.g. shin pads, etc.) such equipment, once taken on to the field, must be worn until the fall of a wicket or until the next interval.
- 28.3 Umpires are not to hold helmets.
- 28.4 If the non-striker chooses not to wear their helmet, they must carry it personally all the time while play is in progress.
- 28.5 A batter may only change an item of protective equipment at the fall of a wicket or at the next interval, unless the equipment is clearly damaged or unserviceable and then only with the approval of the umpires.

29 LAW 29 – THE WICKET IS DOWN

Law 29 shall apply.

30 LAW 30 – BATTER OUT OF HIS/HER GROUND

Law 30 shall apply.

31 LAW 31 – APPEALS

Law 31 shall apply with the following addition:

31.1 Intimidatory Appealing

In the event of an appeal, all members of the fielding team must maintain their fielding positions until a decision is given, unless legitimately in the act of fielding or backing up the ball which is not yet dead. For the purposes of this Playing Condition, a referral to the third umpire will constitute a decision.

32 LAW 32 – BOWLED

Law 32 shall apply.

33 LAW 33 – CAUGHT

Law 33 shall apply.

34 LAW 34 – HIT THE BALL TWICE

Law 34 shall apply.

35 LAW 35 – HIT WICKET

Law 35 shall apply.

36 LAW 36 – LEG BEFORE WICKET

Law 36 shall apply.

37 LAW 37 – OBSTRUCTING THE FIELD

Law 37 shall apply.

38 LAW 38 – RUN OUT

Law 38 shall apply.

39 LAW 39 – STUMPED

Law 39 shall apply.

40 LAW 40 – TIMED OUT

Law 40 will apply except that the incoming batter must be in position to take guard or for their partner to be ready to receive the next ball within 1 minute 30 seconds of the fall of the previous wicket or the retirement of a batter. The incoming batter is expected to be ready to make their way to the wicket immediately, and is expected to jog to the wicket.

41 LAW 41 – UNFAIR PLAY

Law 41 shall apply with the following additions/amendments:

41.1 Matches where a mutually convenient outcome is possible

Where a Match Referee (or if none, the umpires) is concerned that the match is being conducted in a manner that seeks to lead to a mutually convenient outcome, they will notify ECB Domestic Cricket Operations at the earliest opportunity, who in turn will refer the matter to the Cricket Regulator for further investigation in accordance with the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations.

41.2 Law 41.3 (The match ball – changing its condition) shall apply.

41.3 Law 41.6 (Bowling of dangerous and unfair short pitched deliveries) shall apply with the following additions:

41.3.1 Regardless of how wide of the striker a delivery is, there shall be no more than one delivery per over that after pitching pass or would have passed over shoulder height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease.

41.3.2 The umpire shall make it clear to the bowler (and any bowler called upon to complete an over) and the batters at the wicket when a delivery within the limit in 41.3.1 has been bowled. It is unfair if the limit is exceeded and the umpire shall call and signal No ball on each such occasion and consider it as part of the warning sequence in Laws and 41.6.4.41.4

41.3.3 If a short pitched delivery either:

- (a) passes or would have passed over head height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease; or
- (b) passes or would have passed between shoulder height and head height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease; or
- (c) passes between shoulder height and head height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease and wide of the striker so that in the umpire's opinion he is unable to hit it with her bat by means of a normal cricket stroke,

it shall, although not necessarily threatening physical injury, be deemed dangerous in accordance with Law 41.6.1, and considered as part of the warning sequence in Laws 41.6.3 and 41.6.4.

41.3.4 Law 21.10 shall not apply. A delivery as described in 41.2.3(a), if not a No ball and not touching the striker's bat or person, shall be called and signalled Wide (refer Law 22).

41.3.5 A delivery as described in 41.2.3(c), if not a No ball, and not touching the striker's bat or person, shall be called and signalled Wide (refer Law 22).

41.3.6 Law 41.6.5 shall not apply. Any warnings applied in Law 41.6.3 shall be added to any warnings applied in Law 41.7 and action taken according to Law 41.6.4.

41.4 Law 41.7 (Bowling of dangerous and unfair non-pitching deliveries) shall apply with the following amendment:

41.4.1 Law 41.7.5 shall not apply. Any warnings applied in Law 41.7 shall be added to any warnings applied in Law 41.6.3 and action taken according to Law 41.7.4.

42 LAW 42 – PLAYERS' CONDUCT

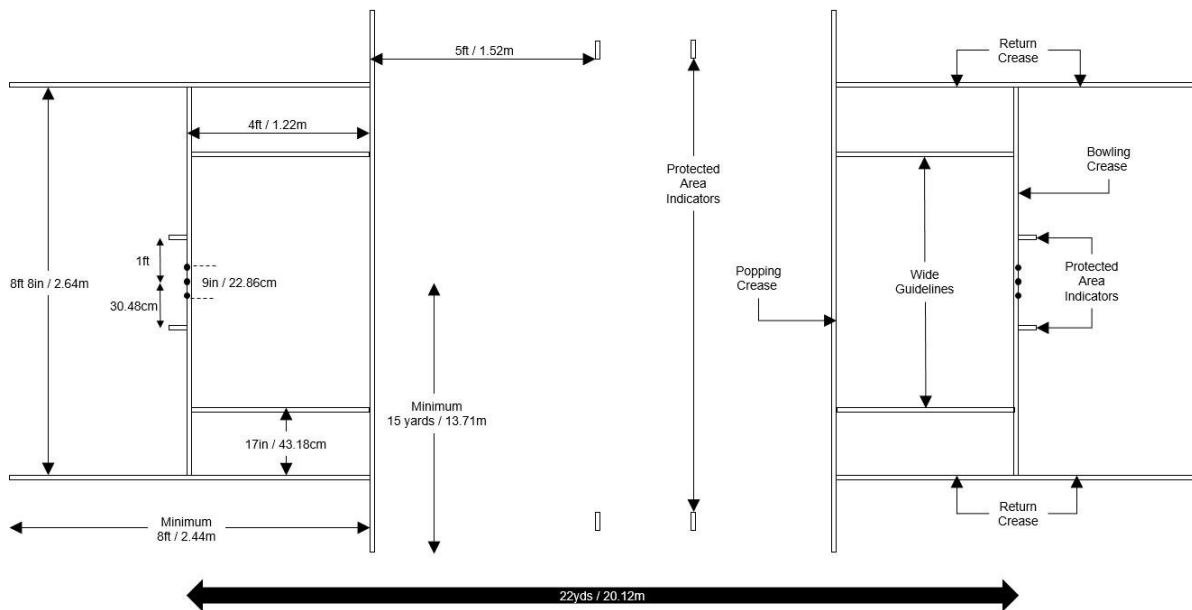
Law 42 shall apply with the following amendments:

42.1 In Laws 42.1.4, 42.2.2.2, 42.3.2.2, the batters at the wicket may deputise for their captain.

42.2 In Laws 42.1.4, 42.4.2.2, 42.5.2.2, a team representative may deputise for their captain.

42.3 The ECB Recreational Conduct Regulations shall also apply as appropriate and as separately detailed.

APPENDIX A



APPENDIX B**Bonus Points System for the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 3**

One bonus point for any team that achieves victory with a run rate 1.25 times that of the opposition.

A team's run rate will be calculated by reference to the number of runs scored divided by the number of legitimate overs/balls faced.

Where a side is all out, the number of overs to be used is the maximum number of overs that side was otherwise eligible to face.

Where matches are shortened and targets revised through the Duckworth Lewis Standard method, bonus run rates and bonus defensive targets are derived as a function of the revised target score (less one run) and maximum overs.

Whenever a target, or revised target, is set, the exact number of overs/balls within which the side batting second must achieve this target in order to gain the bonus point should be announced. Once these overs/balls have been bowled, if the target has not then been achieved the bonus point cannot be gained by any subsequent event, e.g. a multiple scoring shot, or extras.

a) Examples of criteria for the award of bonus points

Team Batting First		Team Batting Second		Team Bowling Second	
Score	Run Rate	Req Run Rate	Balls to Win (Overs)	Req Run Rate	Target Score
350	7	8.75	40	5.6	280
325	6.5	8.125	40	5.2	260
300	6	7.5	40	4.8	240
275	5.5	6.875	40	4.4	220
250	5	6.25	40	4	200
225	4.5	5.625	40	3.6	180
200	4	5	40	3.2	160
175	3.5	4.375	40	2.8	140
150	3	3.75	40	2.4	120

Note: The target score shown in the last column is the maximum total that the team batting second can make for the team batting first to qualify for the bonus point.

APPENDIX C

