



2024 HANDBOOK LEAGUE AND CUP RULES

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County-Wide Under-9 Performance Rules

1. To be eligible to participate in the Under 9s competition, a player must be under 9yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year. In the case of a female player, 10yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year.
2. Matches will be played in accordance with the fixture list prepared by League Executive, usually at 6pm on a Wednesday evening, unless agreed by both clubs and notified to Divisional Co-Ordinator.
3. Each team will comprise 6 players per side.
4. Matches will be one innings per side, comprising 12 six ball overs.
5. The pitch will measure 15 yards. Boundary size 30 meters.
6. The ball shall be a light weight softball or rubber ball.
7. No protective equipment is necessary.
8. The batting side will be divided into pairs.
9. Each pair shall bat for a full 4 overs.
10. Each pair shall be exchanged after the 4th and 8th overs.
11. Batters shall have unlimited lives but each life lost will result in 5 runs being added to the fielding team's score.
12. Wides and No Balls shall count two runs, but there will be no additional ball bowled. Please do not be strict on no balls or wides, use as much flexibility as possible.
13. Each player shall bowl 2 overs.
14. All Bowlers will bowl from one end. Batters will swap at the end of each over.
15. The winning team shall be the side scoring the greatest number of runs following additions for wickets taken.
16. Result points will be awarded as follows:
 - Win 20 points (no bonus points)
 - Tie 7 points plus bonus points
 - Draw 5 points plus bonus points
 - Loss 0 points plus bonus points
17. Bonus points will be awarded as follows:
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for scoring 40, 45, 50, 55 and 60 runs within 12 overs. Runs added for wickets taken do not count towards these bonus points.
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for every 2 wickets taken.

County-Wide Under-9 Harry Hubber Competition Rules

1. The rules for County-Wide Under-9 Performance League will apply except for:

Rule 2 – Matches will be played on a date and time agreed between the two clubs and notified to the Divisional Co-Ordinator. To arrange a match, by 31st May, the home club must offer the away club two dates. Home clubs are encouraged to offer dates prior to school holidays. Failure by the home club to offer two dates by the specified timescales or by the away accept either of those dates will result in forfeiture of the fixture.

Rule 6 – A hard ball shall be used weighing 4 and $\frac{3}{4}$ ounces and must be either pink or orange but does not need to be a new ball.

Rule 7 – Protective equipment is required, including the wearing of helmets by batters and wicketkeepers.

Under-11s

1. To be eligible to participate in the Under 11s League, a player must be under 11yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year. In the case of a female player, 12yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year.
2. Matches will be played in accordance with the fixture list prepared by League Executive, usually at 9.30am on a Sunday morning, unless agreed by both clubs and notified to Divisional Co-Ordinator.
3. Each team will comprise 8 players per side.
4. Matches will be one innings per side, comprising 16 six ball overs.
5. The pitch will measure 17yds.
6. Boundary should be a maximum of 40 meters.
7. All Bowlers will bowl from one end. Batters will swap ends for the start of each new over.
8. A hard ball shall be used weighing 4 and $\frac{3}{4}$ ounces and must be either pink or orange but does not need to be a new ball.
9. The batting side will be divided into pairs.
10. Each pair shall bat for a full 4 overs.
11. Each pair shall be exchanged after the 4th 8th and 12th overs.
13. Each team will commence the innings with 0 runs on the scoreboard and 5 runs will be added to the fielding team's total for every wicket taken. If the team batting second loses a wicket, the target will increase by 5 runs for every wicket taken.

14. Wides and No Balls shall count two runs, but there will be no additional ball bowled, unless it is the last over of the match when a Wide/No Ball shall be scored as one run, and an additional ball should be bowled for each Wide/No Ball called.
15. Each player except the wicketkeeper shall bowl a minimum of 1 over with a maximum of 3.
16. Teams must not change their wicketkeeper during an innings unless the wicketkeeper is injured. Both teams must agree with the injury replacement.
17. The winning team shall be the side scoring the greatest number of runs following additions for wickets taken.
18. Result points will be awarded as follows:
 - Win 20 points (no bonus points)
 - Tie 7 points plus bonus points
 - Draw 5 points plus bonus points
 - Loss 0 points plus bonus points
19. Bonus points will be awarded as follows:
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for scoring 40, 50, 60, 70 and 80 runs within 12 overs. Runs added for wickets taken do not count towards these bonus points.
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for every 2 wickets taken.

Cup matches

20. Points awarded for each round robin cup match will be the same as for league games. See rules 18 and 19.
21. In the event of a tie in a knockout cup match the match will be decided by a "super-over" played to final over conditions. The team batting second in the match will bat first in the super-over.

Under-13s

1. To be eligible to participate in the Under 13 League, a player must be under 13yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year. In the case of a female player, 14yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year.
2. Matches will be played in accordance with the fixture list prepared by League Executive, usually at 6pm on a Wednesday, unless agreed by both clubs and notified to Divisional Co-Ordinator.
3. Each team will comprise 11 players per side.
4. Matches will be one innings per side, comprising 20 six ball overs.
5. The pitch will measure 19yds.
6. Boundary should be a maximum of 50 meters.
7. A hard ball shall be used weighing 4 and $\frac{3}{4}$ ounces and must be either pink or orange but does not need to be a new ball.

8. ECB Bowling and Fielding restrictions will apply.
9. A minimum of 7 bowlers are to be used.
10. No bowler is permitted to bowl more than 3 overs per innings.
11. When a batter reaches or passes the personal total of 30 runs, they must 'retire', and they will not be allowed to return to the crease. A batter can continue their innings beyond 30 runs if their 'retirement' would end the innings before the agreed number of overs have been bowled.
12. In the event of a batter retiring hurt, they will not be able to return to the crease for the remainder of the innings.
12. The designated wicket keeper will not be allowed to be changed, or bowl, during the innings unless, in the occurrence of an injury when they may be substituted.
13. The winning team will be the one scoring the most runs, regardless of wickets lost.
14. Result points will be awarded as follows:
 - Win 20 points (no bonus points)
 - Tie 7 points plus bonus points
 - Draw 5 points plus bonus points
 - Loss 0 points plus bonus points
15. Bonus points will be awarded as follows:
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for scoring 60, 70, 80, 90 and 100 runs.
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for every 2 wickets taken. A team being dismissed is deemed to have lost 10 wickets.

Cup matches

16. Points awarded for each round robin cup match will be the same as for league games. See rules 14 and 15.
17. In the event of a tie in a knockout cup match the winning team will be the team that took the most wickets. If this is tied, then the winning team will be the team with the highest score at the end of the penultimate over. If still a tie, then continue count-back for the score at the end of the pre-penultimate over, and so on.

Under-15s

1. To be eligible to participate in the Under 15s League, a player must be under 15yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year. In the case of a female player, 16yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year.
2. Matches will be played in accordance with the fixture list prepared by League Executive, usually on a Monday evening commencing at 6pm.
3. Each team will comprise 11 players per side.

4. Matches will be one innings per side, comprising of 20 six ball overs.
5. The pitch will measure 22yds.
6. A hard ball shall be used weighing 5 and ½ ounces and must be either pink or orange but does not need to be a new ball.
7. ECB Bowling and Fielding restrictions will apply.
8. No bowler is permitted to bowl more than 4 overs per innings.
9. When a batter reaches or passes the personal total of 50 runs, they must 'retire' and they will not be allowed to return to the crease. A batter can continue their innings beyond 50 runs if their 'retirement' would end the innings before the agreed number of overs have been bowled.
10. In the event of a batter retiring hurt, they will not be able to return to the crease for the remainder of the innings.
11. The designated wicket keeper will not be allowed to be changed or bowl during the innings, unless in the occurrence of an injury when they may be substituted.
12. The winning team will be the one scoring the most runs, regardless of wickets lost.
13. Result points will be awarded as follows:
 - Win 20 points (no bonus points)
 - Tie 7 points plus bonus points
 - Draw 5 points plus bonus points
 - Loss 0 points plus bonus points
14. Bonus points will be awarded as follows:
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for scoring runs
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for every 2 wickets taken. A team being dismissed is deemed to have lost 10 wickets.

Cup matches

15. Points awarded for each round robin cup match will be the same as for league games. See rules 13 and 14.
16. In the event of a tie in a knockout cup match the winning team will be the team that took the most wickets. If this is tied, then the winning team will be the team with the highest score at the end of the penultimate over. If still a tie, then continue count-back for the score at the end of the pre-penultimate over, and so on.

Under 18s

1. To be eligible to participate in the Under 18s League, a player must be under 18yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year. In the case of a female player, 19yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year.
2. Matches will be played in accordance with the fixture list prepared by the League Executive, usually on a Tuesday evening commencing at 6pm.
3. Each team will comprise 11 players per side.
4. Matches will be one innings per side, comprising of 20 six ball overs per side.
5. The pitch will measure 22yds
6. A hard ball shall be used weighing 5 and ½ ounces and must be either pink or orange but does not need to be a new ball.
7. ECB Bowling and Fielding restrictions will apply.
8. No bowler is permitted to bowl more than 20% of the available overs per innings. Where the total overs are not divisible by five, an additional over will be allowed to the minimum number of bowlers necessary to make up the balance, (e.g., if 18 overs are available, three bowlers may bowl four overs and no other more than three overs.)
9. There are no batting restrictions.
10. The designated wicket keeper will not be allowed to be changed or bowl during the innings, unless in the occurrence of an injury when he/she may be substituted.
11. The winning team will be the one scoring the most runs, regardless of wickets lost.
12. Result points will be awarded as follows:
 - Win 20 points (no bonus points)
 - Tie 7 points plus bonus points
 - Draw 5 points plus bonus points
 - Loss 0 points plus bonus points
13. Bonus points will be awarded as follows:
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for scoring runs
 - 1 point (up to a maximum of 5) for every 2 wickets taken. A team being dismissed is deemed to have lost 10 wickets.

Cup matches

14. In U18 cup competitions the following additional rules will apply:
 - Front Foot No Ball & Free Hit: A 'Free Hit' will be allowed for each 'no ball' called for a front foot infringement by a bowler. Field changes are not permitted for 'free hit' deliveries unless there is a change of striker.

- Tight Leg Side Wides: Umpires are instructed to apply a very strict and consistent interpretation of MCC Law 25.1 to prevent negative bowling wide of the wicket. Any offside or leg-side delivery which, in the opinion of the umpire, does not give the batsman a reasonable opportunity to score, shall be called a wide ball.
 - Fielding Circle: At the instant of delivery, a minimum of four fielders (plus the bowler and wicket keeper) must be in an area bounded by two semi-circles centred on each middle stump (each with a radius of 30 yards) and joined by a parallel line on each side of the pitch. In the event of an infringement the square leg umpire shall call no ball. The fielding circle should be marked by painted white dots at 5 yard intervals, each dot to be covered by a plastic or rubber (not metal) disc measuring seven inches in diameter.
15. Points awarded for each round robin cup match will be the same as for league games. See rules 12 and 13.
16. In the event of a tie in a knockout cup match the winning team will be the team that took the most wickets. If this is tied, then the winning team will be the team with the highest score at the end of the penultimate over. If still a tie, then continue count-back for the score at the end of the pre-penultimate over, and so on.

Under 19s

1. The rules for Under 18 competitions shall apply except for:

Rule 1 - To be eligible to participate in the Under 19s League, a player must be under 19yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year. In the case of a female player, 20yrs on Sept 1st of the previous year.

Rule 2 – Matches are to be played in accordance with the fixture list prepared by the League Executive on a date and time agreed between the two clubs and notified to the Divisional Co-Ordinator. To arrange a match, by 31st May, the home club must offer the away club two dates. Home clubs are encouraged to offer dates 31st July to enable completion of the group phase of the competition and allow time for play-offs. Failure by the home club to offer two dates by the specified timescales or by the away accept either of those dates will result in forfeiture of the fixture.

Rule 14 including Front Foot No Ball and Free Hit, Tight Leg-Side Wides and Fielding Circle will apply to all Under 19 games.