

These are the 2015 Playing Rules which are a shorter version of the:

WEST SURREY YOUTH CRICKET LEAGUE
Rules and Regulations

For any issues concerning these rules please e-mail
Tony Bennett on tonybennett900@gmail.com

NB: These rules apply to the League competitions.
The Knockout Cup competitions have some special rules available from
Darren Talbot (darren@twenty20cricketcompany.com)

PLAYING CONDITIONS (by age group)

The MCC Laws of Cricket shall apply except for the deductions of penalty runs and as stated hereafter.

1. UNDER 17, UNDER 15 AND UNDER 14 COMPETITIONS

- a. These Competitions are for players under the ages of 17, 15 years and 14 years respectively on the 1st September prior to each season.
- b. A new full sized ball shall be used.
- c. There shall be no restriction on the placing of fieldsmen other than provided for in the Laws of Cricket.
- d. No player may bowl more than 20% of the total number of overs specified in an innings, even for the purpose of completing an over in the event of an injury. In a 20 over match no bowler may bowl more than 4 overs.
- e. Under 14 and Under 15 batsmen shall retire after any scoring shot takes their score above 49 runs and will not return. A batsman need not retire if his retirement would end the innings because his team would be all out.

2. U11 (Main League only) UNDER 12's AND 13's COMPETITION

- a. These competitions are for players under the age of **11 (Main League only)** 12 and 13 on the 1st September prior to each season. **These competitions (and all those for older teams) will be for teams of 11 players.**
- b. The pitch shall be 21 yards (**20 yards – U11 only**). Should this not be possible and a 22 yard pitch is used, the bowlers back foot must be behind the popping crease in the delivery stride.
- c. The ball shall be a new 4 3/4 oz. Junior Ball.
- d. The stumps may be a minimum 25 ins above the ground.
- e. **Under 11 (Main League)**, Under 12 and Under 13 batsmen shall retire after any scoring shot takes their score above 29 runs and will not return. A batsman need not retire if his retirement would end the innings because his team would be all out.

- f. Seven players on the fielding side must bowl. No player shall bowl more than 4 overs.
- g. Wides and no balls count 2 runs with no extra ball except normal laws shall apply in the final over of each innings. Any additional runs scored shall count.
- h. No fielder, except the Wicket keeper, shall be allowed to field nearer than 11 yards, measured from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side.

3. UNDER 10 (both leagues) AND UNDER 11 (Gladys Chitty only) COMPETITIONS

NB: The U11 Main League will be played under the same rules as for U12s (except pitch length will be 20 yards) – see above.

- a. The Competitions for players under the age of 10 years (**Main League and Gladys Chitty**) and 11 years (**Gladys Chitty only**) respectively on the 1st September prior to each season. League Division and Finals Matches shall be played as "Pairs Cricket" **with teams of 10 players** as follows:
 - b. The pitch shall preferably be:
 - Under 10 - 19 yards
 - Under 11 - 20 yards

Should a 22 yard pitch be used, then the bowler's back foot must be behind the popping crease in the delivery stride or at the umpire's discretion.
 - c. The ball shall be a new 4 3/4 ounce Junior Ball.
 - d. The stumps may be a minimum 25 inches above the ground. Each team shall normally consist of 10 players. If a team fields less than 10 players then only the complete number of pairs scores shall count.
 - e. The batting side shall be divided into pairs. Each pair shall bat for 4 overs.
 - f. The players batting shall have unlimited lives but each life lost shall result in 4 runs being deducted from the total. The batting pair will change ends at the fall of each wicket except upon the last ball of the over.
 - g. Seven players on the fielding side must bowl. No player shall bowl more than 4 overs, even if one of their team is injured.
 - h. Wides and no balls count 2 runs with no extra ball except normal laws shall prevail in the final over of each innings. Any additional runs scored shall count.
 - i. Each team shall commence its Innings with a score of 200 runs.
 - j. No fielder, except the Wicketkeeper, shall be allowed to field nearer than 11 yards, measured from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side.

- k. If 1 team member is unable to bat because of injury, then the other batsman in his pair will face 2 overs (with a "runner" at the opposite end). If the player is injured while batting, the non-injured batsman will face half the number of balls remaining at the time of the injury from the original 4 overs for that pair.

4. UNDER 9 COMPETITIONS and UNDER 8 GCL

- a. U9 Players to be under the age of 9 years on the 1st September prior to the season and U8 players to be under the age of 8 years on the 1st September prior to the season.
- b. Pitch length - **18 yards for both U9 competitions and 16 yards for U8.**
- c. **Ball to be an "Incrediball" or similar brand.**
- d. The stumps may be a minimum of 25 ins.
- e. Each team to comprise 8 players batting in pairs for 4 overs. Each innings will therefore be 16 overs. If a team fields less than 8 players then only the complete number of pairs scores shall count.
- f. Batsmen to have unlimited lives; each life lost shall result in 4 runs deduction; batsmen to change ends after dismissal except on the last ball of an over.
- g. At least 6 of the fielding side must bowl with a maximum limit of 3 overs per bowler, even if one of their team is injured.
- h. Wides and no balls count 2 runs with no extra ball except normal laws shall prevail in the final over of each innings. Any additional runs scored shall count.
- i. No fielder, except the Wicket Keeper, shall be allowed to field nearer than 11 yards, measured from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side.
- j. If a team member is unable to bat because of injury, then the other batsman in his pair will face 2 overs (with a "runner" at the opposite end). If the player is injured while batting, the non-injured batsman will face half the number of balls remaining at the time of the injury from the original 4 overs for that pair.
- k. **All U8 matches must be held as daytime matches.**

5. WSYCL Recent Rule Changes (2014 and 2015)

- (i) **Any ball which passes the batsman "full toss" over waist height will be a no ball regardless of the pace of the bowler. (Waist height is defined as the bottom of the rib cage).**
- (ii) **Any ball which bounces more than twice before reaching the batting crease will be a no ball. (NB: Some Leagues have changed to a "bounces more than once" no ball rule" but this has NOT been adopted by Surrey CC for all junior matches).**

- (iii) **Hospitality.** Home teams in all WSYCL matches should provide a minimum of water and some form of snack/biscuits for both sets of players.
- (iv) **Coping with bad light/shortage of time.** If both teams agree, a pink ball can be used. Similarly if both teams agree, half the overs in an innings can be bowled continuously from one end and then the other half from the other end (this significantly speeds up an innings as there is much less time spent between overs).
- (v) **No County or District players are allowed to play in the Gladys Chitty League (subject to discretion of the Committee in exceptional circumstances – approval must be obtained BEFORE a match).**
- (vi) **In the U8 League all matches must be held as daytime matches.**
- (vii) **(New for 2015) In the Main Leagues, Semi-Finals and Finals will be played at the end of August (Semi-Finals in the morning and Finals in the afternoon). Date will be confirmed during May 2015.**
- (viii) **(New for 2015) All Main League matches to be completed by Sunday 2nd August (with all results to be entered by 6.00 pm on Sunday 2nd August).**
- (ix) **(New for 2015) Gladys Chitty League matches can be played at any time up until 30th August 2015.**
- (x) **(New for 2015) CONCEDED MATCHES.** Too many matches are being conceded. The AGM has therefore decided that matches can only be conceded with the agreement of the League. **BOTH TEAMS** must e-mail Tony Bennett (tonybennett900@gmail.com) the reason why the match is being conceded. The League's decision on whether the concession is acceptable will be final. The League will notify the team claiming the points that they may enter the result as a concession.
- (xi) **(New for 2015) The only U8 League is a Gladys Chitty League. U8 matches will be played on 16 yard pitches.**

6. COACHING

"Coaching" will only be allowed at U11 and younger. For U12 age groups and above. No manager, coach, parent supporter or umpire, either on the field of play or from the boundary should advise the fielding team's captain or any other member of the team about who or how they should bowl, or fielding positions or any other aspect of tactics. Similarly batsmen at the crease should not be coached in how or when to play a particular shot or given any advice which would help them during their innings. If a team thinks their opposition is in breach of this rule they should initially draw it to the attention of the umpires. If the coaching continues the incident should be reported to the Discipline sub-committee chairman (tonybennett900@gmail.com) who will contact the "reported" team for their response. The disciplinary sub-committee will then decide on appropriate action.

7. ALL COMPETITIONS USING A HARD BALL

All players in matches are to wear a helmet with a face guard when batting or standing up to the stumps when keeping wicket in accordance with the ECB's safety guidance.

8. TEAMS IN MAIN AND GLADYS CHITTY LEAGUES

Apart from the U11s, The rules for the Gladys Chitty (friendly) Leagues will be the same as for the Main Leagues but there will be no playoffs. As far as possible teams should have different squads for their Main League and Gladys Chitty League teams. Certainly "leading" players from the Main League should not be played in the friendly league. **No County or District players are allowed to play in the Gladys Chitty League (subject to discretion of the Committee in exceptional circumstances – approval must be obtained BEFORE a match)**. If a club feels that this is being abused they may make a complaint to the rules and Discipline sub-committee who will investigate and take appropriate action. It is very much hoped that all clubs will select teams and play their cricket in the friendly leagues in a particularly positive spirit.

9. DISCIPLINE AND RULES SUB-COMMITTEE

A Discipline and Rules Sub-Committee will be appointed for each season by the Committee. They will be responsible for resolving any disputes regarding interpretation of the rules. They will also be responsible for determining any sanction against an individual or club for breach of the rules (including failure to report results of matches on time) or for unreasonable or unsporting behaviour.

These sanctions may include but are not limited to:

- a. A fine (not to exceed £20 for a first offence and £50 for a subsequent offence)
- b. An order to replay a match
- c. The loss of points for a match
- d. exclusion of a team from an age group from their Division (or League at knockout stage)

Any decision of the Sub-Committee may be appealed to the Committee whose decision shall be final. The Committee may decide on an additional penalty if the appeal is regarded by the Committee as frivolous or unreasonable.

Disputes should be notified to the Sub-Committee chairman Tony Bennett at tonybennett900@gmail.com as soon as possible after the dispute arises.

10. FIXTURE PROGRAMME

A team may request a re-organisation of a fixture up until the freeze date (Sunday 12th April 2015). Fixture changes up to this date must be notified on the Play-Cricket website.

After that date fixtures should normally only be re-arranged because of bad weather (as determined by the home team). Although it is not encouraged, and either team has an absolute right to refuse, dates can also be changed if it genuinely suits the needs of both teams. Changes of fixture dates for these reasons should be notified on the Play-Cricket website by the home team. If a team is unable to fulfil a fixture on the agreed date then the other team will be awarded the points.

Last date for ALL Main League fixtures will be Sunday 2nd August. Gladys Chitty matches can be played up to Sunday 30th August. In the Main Leagues, Semi-finals and Finals will be played at the end of August (Semi-Finals in the morning and Finals in the afternoon). Date will be confirmed during May 2015.

11. RESULT REPORTING

All results must be entered on the Play-Cricket website **by the winning team within 3 days of the fixture date.** Failure to report a result may mean the fixture is declared void and no points awarded. If a fixture is re-arranged for any reason (including weather), this must be recorded on the play-cricket website by the home team within 3 days of the original match date. **NB: While it is the winning team's responsibility to enter the result - EITHER team may do so.**

CONCEDED MATCHES. Too many matches are being conceded. The AGM has therefore decided that matches can only be conceded with the agreement of the League. BOTH TEAMS must e-mail Tony Bennett (tonybennett900@gmail.com) the reason why the match is being conceded. The League's decision on whether the concession is acceptable will be final. The League will notify the team claiming the points that they may enter the result as a concession.

Failure to comply with these reporting requirements may result in sanctions by the Discipline and Rules Sub-Committee.

To enter results you need to be registered as a "Fixtures and Results Administrator" on your club's play-cricket website. This is done by your own club's play-cricket administrator. Their name can be found on the "about us" page of your club's play-cricket website.

(NB: If a result is entered on your Club's Play-Cricket website then that automatically and immediately updates both the overall WSYCL Play-Cricket website and your opponent's play-cricket website – they are in effect 3 "views" of the same information.)

12. QUALIFICATION

- a. Each competition shall be open to boys and girls.
- b. No player may represent more than one club in the League in the same season without the agreement of the Committee.
- c. If any team plays one or more over-aged players the game shall be awarded to the opposing side.
- d. If both teams play one or more over age players, then NO POINTS will be awarded for the match in question.
- e. **Girls. To encourage more girls to play cricket, girls will be able to play in all WSYCL competitions up to 2 years below their age group ie an U13 girl could play in any age group from U11 upwards.**

13. DURATION OF MATCHES

- a. Normally all matches Mon-Fri shall start at 6.00 pm, Saturdays and Sundays at 10.00 am (or by arrangement).
- b. Each match shall normally consist of each Team playing a maximum of 20 - six ball overs. U9 matches are normally 16 overs.

- c. In the event of a late start, the number of overs to be played shall be agreed upon by the Colts Managers before the match begins but the minimum number of overs constituting a match shall be 14 overs per side. Pairs matches should be reduced to 3 overs a pair (15 overs).

14. UMPIRES, the ECB Code of Conduct and the Spirit of Cricket

Each team will supply an Umpire for League Matches who shall be a competent responsible, appropriately vetted adult.

The WSYCL emphasise that all teams, coaches and supporters/parents must comply with both the ECB Code of Conduct (Appendix 1) and the Spirit of Cricket (Appendix 2). Where the Laws of Cricket place responsibilities on the Captain, these responsibilities shall be placed on the manager at U14 age group and younger.

All clubs are encouraged to display the Code of Conduct and Spirit of Cricket in their Clubhouses and to ensure that everyone involved with their Club is encouraged to live up to its high standards.

The penalty runs provision is not used by the WSYCL - other than the 5 run penalty for the ball hitting clothing/helmet etc left on the ground by the fielding team.

15. MATCH BALLS

Unless a ball is lost or in the opinion of the umpires unacceptably damaged, only 1 ball will be used in each match. The home team should provide a new ball or a ball in good condition for use during the match.

16. AWARD OF POINTS

- a. The team scoring the greater number of runs shall win the match and points shall be awarded as follows: Win - 4 Points; Tie - 2 Points for each Team; Loss - 0 Points
- b. If a game is not played or is abandoned after the start due to pitch *I* weather conditions and no alternative date can be agreed then two points shall be awarded to each side. Should a game not be played subsequent to a re-arrangement – after the freeze date - then the side requesting the alteration shall forfeit the points. No points shall be awarded for any game not played for reasons other than those included above.
 - c. Should a team withdraw from the League during the season than any points obtained against such a side shall be void.

17. POSITIONS IN THE LEAGUE TABLE

- a. The winner of each division in the Main Leagues shall be the team with the highest number of points.
- b. If, after the resolution of all matches, there are two or more Teams in a division with the same number of points, the winner shall be determined as follows:

The winning team will be determined by:

- (i) if 2 teams are equal, the winner of the match between the two teams;
 - (ii) if there is no winner between 2 teams or if there are more than 2 teams with the same number of points, the one with the higher net run rate as used on the play-cricket website system. "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 its net run rate shall be based on the full quota of overs to which it would have been entitled and not on the number of overs in which the team was dismissed."
- c. The Champions of each age group shall be determined as follows:
- (i) In a One Division Competition: The top 2 teams in the division play a Final. The top team has the option to play at home.
 - (ii) In a Two Division Competition: The winner of each division will be at home to the second team in the other division in Semi-Finals and the winners shall playoff in a Final.
 - (iii) In a Three Division Competition: the winner of each Division will be joined in the Semi-Finals by the highest finishing second team in the 3 Divisions. Where divisions have different numbers of teams, the numbers of teams will be made equal by ignoring the results against the team(s) at the bottom of the table in those divisions with more teams than the smallest division in the age group.**

The highest finishing second team will be the one with the highest average number of points per games due to be played (not per games played as in previous years). If 2 or more teams are still tied, the team with the highest net run rate will qualify. Semi-final winners shall playoff in a final.

Please refer any questions about this slightly complex structure (but fairer than in previous years!) to tonybennett900@gmail.com

- (iv) In a Four Division Competition: Semi-Finals will be played between each Division winner. Semi-final winners shall playoff in a final.
- (v) For Three and Four division competitions, teams for each Semi-Final shall be determined by a Draw. The Club drawn first for each tie shall arrange the venue on a date arranged by mutual agreement. **In 3 division competitions, the highest finishing second team will play away in their Semi-Final.**

In the event of any dispute over dates for Semi-Finals, the Discipline and Rules Sub-Committee will make the final decision.

In the Gladys Chitty Leagues, league tables are informal only and there are no play-offs and no "official" winners.

18. SEMI-FINALS AND FINALS

- a. The Committee shall be responsible for the arrangement of the Semi-Finals and Finals of the Main Leagues which will take place at the end of August. The competing Clubs shall be responsible for the provision of Scorers. Some matches may be at neutral grounds, others will be at the home ground of one of the finalists.
- b. The winner of any Semi-Final or Final shall be the team scoring the highest number of runs, in the number of overs as determined. If after the prescribed number of overs have been played and the scores are level, the winners shall be the team losing fewer wickets.
- c. If due to weather conditions, the Final cannot be played on the arranged date, or on a re-arranged date, the Final is then cancelled. The Finalists shall be awarded any trophies by arrangement with the Committee.

APPENDIX 1

Code of Conduct and Spirit of Cricket

1. The ECB is committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. This Code of Conduct incorporates the Spirit of Cricket, as set out below. It applies to all matches played under the auspices of the ECB and may be applied to cricket in general.
2. The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of Cricket as well as within the Laws.
3. Players and team officials must at all times accept the umpire's decision. Players must not show dissent at the umpire's decision or react in a provocative or disapproving manner towards an umpire at any time.
4. Players and team officials shall not intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an umpire, another player or a spectator.
5. Players and team officials shall not use crude and/or abusive language (known as "sledging") nor make offensive gestures or hand signals nor deliberately distract an opponent.
6. Players and team officials shall not make racially abusive comments nor indulge in racially abusive actions against fellow players, officials, members and supporters. Clubs must operate an active open door membership policy whilst respecting player qualification regulations and welcome players/members irrespective of ethnic origin.
7. Players and team officials shall not use or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs.
8. Clubs must take adequate steps to ensure the good behaviour of their members and supporters towards players and umpires.

APPENDIX 2

Preamble to the Laws - the Spirit of Cricket

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action which is seen to abuse this spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the Captains.

1. There are two Laws which place responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the captain.

Responsibility of Captains

The Captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.

Player's Conduct

In the event of a player failing to comply with instructions by an umpire, or criticising by word or action the decision of an umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, and instruct the latter to take action.

2. Fair and Unfair Play

According to the Laws the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. The umpires may intervene at any time and it is the responsibility of the Captain to take action where required.

3. The umpires are authorised to intervene in cases of:

- Time wasting
- Damaging the pitch
- Dangerous or unfair bowling
- Tampering with the ball
- Any other action that they consider to be unfair

4. The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:

- Your opponents
- Your own Captain

- The roles of the umpires
- The game's traditional values

5. It is against the Spirit of the Game:

- To dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture
- To direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire
- To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance:
 - (a) to appeal knowing that the batsman is not out
 - (b) to advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing
 - (c) to seek to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side

6. Violence

There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.

7. Players

Captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution towards this.