

Kent Cricket
Indoor Cricket Rules
(Senior)

Local Rules and Interpretations
-Reviewed September 2022

Kent Cricket, Indoor Cricket Rules

Local Rules and Interpretations

(2022 Version)

(Interpretations of local rules appear in italics)

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1. Title

The title of the Competition shall be the Kent Cricket, (Venue) Indoor Cricket League. When sponsorship is available, the sponsor's name may be incorporated in the title.

2. Management

The control of the competition shall be undertaken by the League Organiser (Kent Cricket) and all decisions relating to these rules or to matches played in the competition shall be final. Local Rules can only be changed via permission of the League Organiser.

Rule Changes

Any clubs proposing rule changes for the following season shall hand them to the League Organiser before the 31st July. All proposed changes shall be circulated to clubs at least 14 days before the start of the league season.

3. Entry

The competition shall be open to any bona fide cricket club which is a member of the ECB through the County Board (Kent Cricket).

4. Fees

The fees payable for entry into the respective league shall be fixed by the League Organiser and communicated to the clubs prior to the season starting. Fees shall be paid to the League Organiser by clubs as stated in the league registration process.

A club may enter more than one side in the competition, but each team will be considered as a separate club with player eligibility.

5. The Competition

All matches shall be played in accordance with the rules in force for that year as published by the ECB for their Indoor 6-a side National Championship. These rules alongside the local rules shall constitute the playing conditions for the competition up to, but **not including** the ECB County Finals.

The League structure will be reviewed each season and will be issued before each season takes place. The structure will be subject to the number of teams entered.

In the event of teams tying on points at the end of the season, league positions shall be decided on run rates per over.

The team winning the Division One shall represent the district in the ECB County Finals.

The League Management Committee reserve the right to either refuse entry, or place in any of the league and divisions, a club seeking entry to the Kent Cricket, Indoor Leagues.

6. Qualification of Players

ECB Generic Rule 3.6 (See Appendix A)

Players may play for more than one club, as long as the clubs in question play in separate district qualifying competitions. A nominated player for the County and Regional Finals cannot have played in more than one district qualifying competition.

7. Registration of Players

Teams must provide an up to date squad list (Squad within PlayCricket) at the beginning of the season from which they can pick their team. The list shall follow ECB directives and indicate the age groups of all young players at the start of the forthcoming season.

Should a team not be able to field a side from the names on their list, then on two occasions per season, that team may pick a player from a lower division, or a player from a 2nd team or 3rd team in the same division, providing that the player is a member of the club that wishes to select him and that the umpires or the League Organiser are informed prior to the game. **If a player registered with a lower-ranked team is required to play up a third time, then they must be re-registered with that higher-ranked team and cannot then play for any lower-ranked team.**

No player may play down to any lower-ranked team at any time.

Illegal Player

Any team that does not follow these rules and fields an illegal player shall be subject to sanctions applied by the League Organisers. Which could be a reprimand and/or fine up to **£40.00** and/or game concessions and/or have points deductions and/or expulsion of the league.

Clubs signing up to the Voluntary Code of Cricket and Umpires Indemnity

When Clubs register for the league, they will automatically be signing up to, and accepting both the Voluntary Code of Conduct and also, that there is no right of appeal against any sanctions contained within it. They shall also be accepting that no umpire shall be held liable for any incident that occurs as a result of a breach of ECB Guidelines for young cricketers in adult matches that should be enforced by their Club.

8. Rules of Match Play

Team sheets

Prior to each match, captains shall provide ECB team sheets to the umpires, indicating the nominated players, the age groups of younger players and specifically, any player under the age of 18 on the day of the match.

Teams failing to arrive

A Team is deemed to have failed to arrive if, at the scheduled start time, it is unable to field at least four players. **If a team is unable to field a minimum of 4 players, then the game will be deemed a concession; 2 points will be awarded to the opposition and in addition, 2 points will be deducted from the team unable to field a side and the conceding team will be liable for the opposition's match fee. This rule includes any team who cannot field a side for any reason other than the exceptional circumstances referred to in the section titled, 'Failure to complete a match'.**

A team failing to arrive for two games shall automatically be suspended for the remainder of the indoor season and all records of the matches played shall be deleted from the records.

Starting on time

Teams must be ready to start play at the scheduled start time, or as soon thereafter when the umpires are ready. Failure to do so shall result in the offending team having one over deducted from their batting innings for every 2.5 minutes that the game is delayed.

The toss

The toss shall be made at least 10 minutes prior to the start of a match. Whenever possible, at least one umpire shall be in attendance.

If after the toss a side has not got a scorer, the local regulation 12 will apply, nullifying the original toss.

Players arriving late

Nominated players arriving after the scheduled start time shall be allowed to bat or bowl immediately, without any restriction.

Awarding of points

Two points shall be awarded to the team who scores the most runs. If the scores are level, the team taking most wickets wins (2 points). If the teams are still level (runs and wickets), 1 point will be awarded to each team (tied match). (*'Bowl outs' shall only be used at the knock out stages of the competition, i.e., the County and Regional Finals. See Appendix C).*

Failure to complete a match

Matches cannot be postponed or rearranged. If the game cannot be played due to circumstances beyond the control of the two teams, e.g. severe weather preventing the arrival at the venue, or flooding within the hall, one point shall be awarded to each team (*In exceptional circumstances, this rule can be varied by the Cricket Sub Committee*).

Interval between innings

The interval between innings shall be no more than five minutes.

Score sheets

Completed score sheets shall be the responsibility of the winning team to upload on to play cricket by Tuesday morning. Failure to do so will result in points not allocated and/or a £10 fine per scorecard.

Practice

To avoid injury or time wasting, "knocking up" using a bat shall not be allowed at any time.

Disputes

On all matters relating to match play, where the captains disagree, the umpires shall make the final decision.

Calling of Wide Deliveries

Umpires shall use a strict interpretation when calling a leg-side wide. A wide shall be called if the ball passes the wicket outside the line of the leg stump without touching the batsman or the bat. The ball must pass on the leg side of the striker

This interpretation covers all divisions.

Double Bounce Deliveries

Further to an ECB Cricket Committee recommendation, it is confirmed that the practice of bowling a ball that bounces twice should be disallowed. It is considered inappropriate for the image and spirit of our game. This applies to all ECB Non First Class competitions listed in this book.

9. Umpires

The League Organiser shall arrange umpires through the Kent ACO. (*See Clause 7 above regarding Umpires Indemnity*)

10. Scorers

Each team shall provide one scorer who must be present when the umpires are prepared to start the match. If one team does not provide a scorer, they shall have 12 penalty runs awarded against them and the winning of the toss shall be awarded to the other team.

If neither team has a scorer, then the batting side shall provide a player to keep score and each innings will be reduced by one over. (*Umpires shall satisfy themselves as to the correctness of runs scored, wickets taken and overs bowled*). **Scores need to be agreed with umpires and captains before leaving the match venue.**

11. Young Players

All young players must be at least 13 years old by 1st September (School year ten) prior to the forthcoming season. **Should any player not meet the age criteria, they will be deemed to be 'illegal' and the match will be forfeited with 2 points deducted and a £40 fine. If a team intends to include a 'young player', a copy of their birth certificate must be sent by post or email to the League Organiser before the first fixture. If a young player, meeting the criteria, has been included at late notice, a copy of their birth certificate must be emailed to the League Organiser the next working day.**

All ECB Directives and Safety Guidance relating to young players shall be strictly adhered to. In addition, all players under the age of 18 shall be required to wear a helmet when wicket keeping. (*This means that wicket keepers under the age of 18 must also wear a helmet when standing **back** to a bowler*).

12. Discipline

Voluntary Code

Any team entering the Kent Cricket, Indoor Cricket Leagues automatically signs up to accepting the Voluntary Code of Conduct (*See Appendix B*). This is in addition to the reporting procedures contained in the current MCC Laws of Cricket.

The Disciplinary Panel shall consist of the League Organiser and the Kent ACO representatives or their deputies.

(APPENDIX A)

ECB GENERIC RULE 3.6

Club Qualifications (Men)

- 3.6.1** A cricketer shall only be eligible to play for a club in an ECB club Competition if he is a bona-fide, fully paid-up member of that club.
- 3.6.2** If a club member of a league, a cricketer shall be deemed to be a bona-fide member of that club if he is eligible to play for that club under the rules of that league.
- 3.6.3** A cricketer shall only be eligible to play in an ECB club Competition for one club in any one season.
- 3.6.4** A cricketer shall not be eligible to play in an ECB club Competition if he receives remuneration for playing cricket and that remuneration is his main source of income (unless covered by 3.6.5.1).
- 3.6.5** A cricketer who is registered and contracted to a First Class County Club shall be ineligible to play in an ECB club Competition unless covered by 3.6.5.1 or 3.6.5.2.
- 3.6.5.1** Bona fide club members who are also registered and contracted to a First Class County can play provided they are under 23 at the 30th September in the year prior to the competition and have not played for their County during the current season in the LV= County Championship, Clydesdale Bank 40 or Friends Provident t20 at the time of the match. If any club fields an ineligible player, they will be disqualified.
- 3.6.5.2** A home-grown club member who is also registered and contracted with a First Class County can play provided they meet the provisions of 3.6.5.1 above and (i) was a bona-fide member of that club for at least two seasons proceeding his 21st Birthday; (ii) has played at least 12 matches in total for the club in the previous two seasons in any ECB Premier Division or League; and (iii) was a member of the club immediately before entering into the contract with the First Class County.
- 3.6.6** A cricketer whose registration and contract to a First Class County Club is cancelled after 1st April may not play in an ECB club Competition until the following season unless covered by 3.6.5.1 & 3.6.5.2.
- 3.6.7** A cricketer shall only be qualified to play in an ECB club Competition if he is qualified to play in a Competitive County Cricket Match or is registered under the provisions of 3.6.8 below as an overseas player resident in England.
- 3.6.8 Overseas Players Resident in England**

A cricketer who is not qualified under 3.6.7 above, but who is ordinarily resident in this country can qualify as an overseas player resident in England and play in ECB club Competitions only if;

he has been resident in this country for a period of eighteen months before the date of his request for registration.

he has been out of this country for longer than 35 days consecutively or 70 days in total during the previous two years.

any remuneration he receives from playing cricket is not his main source of income.

The definition of 'ordinary resident' shall be in the absolute discretion of the body responsible for registration of the player in the relevant Competition.

Any such player MUST be properly registered with their ECB accredited Premier League or, if the club does not play in an ECB accredited Premier League, the player MUST be registered directly with the ECB Competitions Department, having completed an ECB 'Category 3 – Overseas Player' registration form. The club MUST have received the appropriate paperwork either from the League they participate in or the ECB Competitions Department showing that the player is registered PRIOR to the start of the match. No player shall be registered after 30th June in any season.

A player, who has a home in this country and has been granted 'Exempt' status, who subsequently accepts a temporary work assignment, not related to cricket, in another country may apply to re-instate his previous 'Exempt' status immediately on his return to this country. Approval is at the discretion of the registration body and is not automatic.

(Appendix B)

Beckenham/CANTERBURY DISTRICT INDOOR CRICKET LEAGUE

Voluntary Code of Conduct (2014)

(Covering clubs, Officials, players and spectators)

When a club participates in the Beckenham/Canterbury District Indoor League, anyone who is part of that club, be they an official, player or spectator, is deemed to be covered by the above code.

Level A Offences :-

- A1** Abuse of cricket equipment, fixtures or fittings at the venue
- A2** Dissent at an umpire's decision, be it verbal or by gesture
- A3** Using language or a gesture that is obscene, offensive or insulting
- A4** Acting in a manner that is contrary to the Spirit of Cricket or bringing the game into disrepute

The above Level A Offences, when reported, will bring an automatic suspension from the next two matches

Level B Offences :-

- B1** Any of the above offences repeated in a 12-month period

B2 Any physical violence or threatening behaviour at the venue

B3 Appealing or advancing at an umpire, in an aggressive manner

B4 Acting in a manner that is contrary to the Spirit of Cricket or bringing the game into disrepute

The above Level B Offences, when reported, will bring an automatic suspension from the next four matches.

The Disciplinary Panel can increase any ban for a Level B Offence.

Suspensions shall be carried over to the following season if applicable.

Any breach of discipline shall be reported to the League Organiser or his deputy as soon as possible after the incident. After consideration by the Disciplinary Panel the club and/or the player involved shall be informed of the result within 72 hours of the incident.

Definition of 'The Venue' – The building housing the playing area for indoor matches and all surrounding areas contained within the confines of the Kent County Cricket Ground.

(APPENDIX C)

Bowl Outs

Only to be used in County and Regional Finals

(Summary of ECB Generic Playing Conditions Rule 9)

The team scoring the most runs in an 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, the following form of 'bowl out' contest shall be held to achieve a winner.

Five nominated players from each side shall bowl two over-arm deliveries each at a wicket (conforming to Law 8) from a wicket pitched at a distance of 22 yards. The side which bowls down the wicket (as defined in Law 28.1(a)) the most times shall be the winner.

If the scores are equal, the same players shall bowl one ball each alternatively to achieve a result on a 'sudden death' basis. If the circumstances make the contest impossible, the match shall be decided by the toss of a coin.

The following shall also apply in respect of 'bowl outs': -

The same suitably acceptable ball (not a new one) shall be used by both teams.

If a bowler bowls a 'foot-fault no ball' it shall count as one of his deliveries but shall not count towards the score of the team.

Each team shall appoint a wicketkeeper to stand behind the wicket but out of reach of the stumps.

(APPENDIX D)

A Team with less than 6 Players, available to bat

There must always be two live batsmen at the wicket during an innings until the last available wicket falls. Then the last man shall continue batting with the last dismissed batsman as the non-striker.

This local rule will enable a retired batsman to return in order of their retirement and take the place of the retiring or dismissed last available batsman.

A team who may be already handicapped by injuries to players, or only have 4 or 5 players in their team at the start of the match will now be allowed to complete an innings in the true Spirit of Cricket. This local rule will over-ride the anomalies contained in the ECB Indoor 6-a-side playing conditions (Rule 1.6 & 1.7).