



KENT CRICKET HARDBALL EIGHTS SCHOOL'S COMPETITION 2024

U15 Girls, 8-a-side Hardball, 15 overs per innings max

OVERVIEW

Kent Cricket would like to provide female students with access to a fun and inclusive format of hardball cricket, representing their school.

The Competition will involve a round robin regional cluster, after which the successful school(s) are invited to compete in the Kent Cricket County Final.

UMPIRES & SCORERS

Umpires and scorers in the first instance will be the PE Staff. For the County Final, umpires will be provided by Kent Cricket. The role can also be taken on by trained ECB Cricket Activators/Young Leaders.

CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT

Schools are to provide their players with the appropriate cricket clothing, i.e., PE kit. Cricket whites are not necessary.

Schools are requested to bring their own cricket kit to each fixture (bats and full protective kit including helmets). For fixtures occurring at the Regional Cluster, each school will provide one 5oz women's match ball (1 per innings), either brand new or in reasonable condition, (a spare would be recommended), stumps and pitch markings. For the final, Kent Cricket will supply all necessary women's match balls.

The ECB new safety directives on the wearing of helmets by young Players (Under 18), was issued in February 2000. This requires that young players (Under 18) should not be allowed to bat, or stand up to the stumps when keeping wicket, without a helmet against a hard ball. ECB have recently issued a directive on the use of helmets in line with the new British Standards. Further detail can be found [here](#).



PITCHES

Pitches for the regional cluster rounds are to be booked and prepped by the host school. The pitch for the County Final will be arranged by Kent Cricket.

BOUNDARY SIZE: 50 Yards

LENGTH OF CREASE: 20 Yards (as per ECB Recommendations)

Play should be from one end only (this can be changed halfway through each innings to ensure even pitch wear if required). This helps the game to be played quickly.

FINALS DAY

Venue: The Mote Cricket Club, ME15 7RN

Date: Thursday 29th June 2023

Time: 13:00 – 17:00 (approx.)

WET WEATHER/INDOOR

Should the Regional Clusters or County Finals not be able to take place outdoors due to weather conditions, then schools/Kent Cricket should look to re-organise.

PLAYING CONDITIONS

- Players must be year 10 and below at the beginning of the competition.
- We do not currently exclude players of any level (School, Club, Area, County, Regional, England) because we want to ensure healthy participation.
- Teams shall consist of 8 players, with a maximum of 10 per squad.
- Each match shall consist of one innings per school, a maximum of fifteen 6 ball overs. If time is pressured, the number or length of overs can be reduced at the discretion of both schools. Please note the maximum overs for bowling should also be reduced.
- A maximum of three overs is to be bowled by each bowler. The nominated wicketkeeper cannot bowl.



- Two batters shall always be at the wicket during an innings. In the event of a team losing 7 wickets within the permitted overs, the last batter shall continue batting, with the last batter out remaining at the wicket as a non-striker. This is known as 'Last Batter Stands'.
- When a batter reaches or passes a personal total of 30, they shall retire, but may return on the departure of the 7th batter. Retired batters must return in order of their retirement and take the place of the retiring or dismissed batter. Two 'live' batters shall be at the wicket until such time as the 7th wicket has fallen. The batter shall retire again when they score an additional 30 runs on their return to the crease, unless the batting team have no more batters to come in.
- If the ball passes, or would have passed, above shoulder height when the ball has pitched, or above waist height without the ball pitching of the batter standing upright at the crease, the umpire at the bowler's end shall call and signal 'No Ball'. If the ball bounces more than twice before reaching the batter, this should also be called 'No Ball'. (i.e. three bounces or more before the popping crease is a No Ball)

Umpires are instructed to apply a consistent interpretation regarding wide balls. Pitch markings are encouraged to be used to aid this.

- If the ball passes either side of the wicket sufficiently wide to make it virtually impossible for the striker to play a 'normal cricket stroke' both from where they are standing and from where they should normally be standing at the crease, the Umpire shall call and signal a 'Wide'.

NOTE: The above provision for wides does not apply if the striker contacts the ball.

RESULTS

The team scoring the most runs in their innings shall be the winner. If the scores of both teams are equal, then the team taking the greater number of wickets wins.

If two teams are level on points at the end of the league stages,

1. The result between the two sides will determine the overall winner.
2. Run rate will decide the winners.

This is calculated as follows – The total runs scored in the group games are added together with the wickets taken, each wicket taken will count as 10 runs towards the total. This will then be added together and the team with the highest overall score will win. If scores are still level after this, then it will go to the team who has taken the most wickets in their games. If a result cannot be reached after all this, then a bowl out between the two teams will take place.



The host school contact for the Regional Cluster Rounds is requested to send in the group results to Kent Cricket via helen.fagg@kentcricket.co.uk, copying in the participating school teacher(s), within 48 hours. We will need the total runs and number of wickets for each team within each fixture.

SCORING

Standard scoring rules of cricket apply (runs completed, plus boundary 4s & 6s) as well as:

No Ball

- A No ball shall score 2 penalty runs, recorded as a no ball extra
- From a No ball struck by the batter, runs shall be scored as in scoring regulations
- Law 24.14, stating that a no-ball shall not count as one of the over, shall only be applicable in the last over of any innings.

Wide

- If a wide ball is called, then 2 runs shall be credited under extras; any additional runs shall be credited under extras every time the batters complete a run, i.e., wide ball plus batters running one run = 3 runs
- Law 25.7, stating that a wide ball shall not count as one of the over, shall only be applicable in the last over of any innings.

METHODS OF DISMISSAL

Apart from the normal methods of dismissal contained in the Laws of Cricket, the following applies: -

In a 'Last Batter Stands' scenario, if the non-striking batter is run out then this will class as a dismissal, and the innings will be classed as completed.

THE ORGANISER'S DECISION IS FINAL.