



Kent Cricket Under 9 Girls'

Club COUNTDOWN Cricket Festivals

2024 Rules

1. Entry Fees

- a. The cost for this competition is £20.00 per team per festival.
- b. We will invoice your club via your club treasurer at the end of the competition.

2. Eligibility

- a. Players must be aged 8 or under at midnight on 31st August 2023. (i.e., in year 4 or below).
- b. Players should be active members of cricket clubs.

3. Teams We will accept team entries from these categories:

- a) A single club where all players are active members of that club. A single club may play one Year 5 girl, providing they are not a County player. A single club may play one Under 9 guest player, provided that Kent Cricket is notified in advance, the player is not a county player and the guest player's club is not participating in the 2024 Kent Under 9 Countdown Festivals.
- b) A joint collaboration between a maximum of two clubs. Joint clubs may play one Year 5 girl, providing they are not a County player. Joint clubs are not permitted to have guest players from a third club.
- c) Single or joint clubs must not play 'guest', or over age players if sufficient Under 9 year old players are available from their club(s).

4. Teams and Squad Sizes at Festivals.

- a) Single or joint clubs may enter up to two, 6 a side teams per festival.
- b) If entering two teams, players must not be interchanged between teams.
- c) For practical reasons, we recommend that squads should be a maximum of 10 players.
- d) If you have extra players, you may be asked to lend them out during a festival, to other teams who may be short. In our extensive experience of running festivals, teams that come with less than six players are not necessarily disadvantaged, because their best batters have another turn. Therefore, in the interests of fairness, if a team arrives short of players and there are no spare players from other teams, both managers must decide and agree those players who are to bat for a second time. If managers cannot agree, the festival organiser's decision shall be final.



5. UMPIRES and SCORERS and ADULTS in charge of TEAMS

- a. Kent Cricket Personnel will liaise with host clubs regarding parking, first aid point, pitch layout, wickets, boundaries, and anything else concerning the match play during the afternoon.
- b. Kent Cricket will provide the balls and yellow batting tees, and produce a match programme and scoresheet for clubs to print for use specifically at the festival.
- c. For each team entered, clubs will need to provide an umpire and a scorer. Guidance will be provided at the pre festival briefing with adults in charge of teams.
- d. Clubs must bring and use their own wooden/plastic cricket bats, clearly marked with club name.
- e. Clubs are responsible for the First Aid of their own players and MUST bring a First Aid pack with them.

6. Points

For the group stages, the following points will be awarded:

Win = 3 Points

Tie = 2 Points

Loss = 1 Point

League positions shall be decided by,

Points Total

Total Runs

Total Wickets Taken

The result of the match between the teams involved

Finally, a super over!

Parents are advised to bring a picnic, plenty to drink, chairs, clothing for all types of weather and blankets to sit on. We suggest hosting clubs provide catering as a good fundraiser for their club.

7. FORMAT

- a) The format for the festival is divided into a preliminary league section followed by a main and plate sections, depending on the number of participating teams. All teams play to the end of the festival with no teams knocked out early.
- b) Matches are 6-a-side pairs cricket.
- c) The matches will be played on pitches that are 15 yards long, from wicket to wicket.

8. BATTING

- a) Teams start on 0 when they bat. Fielding runs gained by taking wickets are added at the end.
- b) The batting team are organised into three batting pairs, with each pair facing 10 balls (innings 30 balls)
- c) Runs are scored as in the normal rules of the game.
- d) Generally, there are no boundaries and all runs are run, unless local rules dictate.



- e) If the ball is struck across an adjacent pitch, the umpires should on that pitch must suspend play to allow the ball to be retrieved.
- f) Each time a batter is out, 5 runs are awarded to the fielding team, and the other batter of the pair faces the next ball.
- g) Batters change ends at the end of each over (set of 5).
- h) A batter may be out bowled, caught, run out, stumped, hit wicket.
- i) There is no LBW rule unless the batter deliberately blocks the ball with a leg or foot.
- j) Batters do not have to wear batting pads and they may wear batting gloves if they are using bats with rubber grips. Batting gloves **MUST NOT** be worn when using softball cricket bats without rubber grips.
- k) As we are playing with soft ball, helmets are not compulsory, however, they may be worn if preferred.
- l) Free Hit - Following a no ball or a wide, the batter receives a “free hit” from the batting tee, and any runs scored are added to the total for that delivery (for example 2 runs for a wide, plus 1 run from the “free hit” = 3 runs).
- m) Batting Tees are kept immediately behind the striking end wicket. Once the tee has been moved into position near to the batting crease and everyone has retired to a safe distance, batters have 3 seconds to take their free hit, which must be hit in front of square.
- n) If the Free Hit goes directly behind square, all runs from the hit are lost. If the Free Hit starts off in front of square but ends up behind square, any runs completed may be added to the score.
- o) NOTE: - The Free Hit is not an additional ball. It is part of the wide or no ball which preceded it.
- p) Batters cannot be caught off a free hit, but batters can be Run Out.

9. FIELDING

- a) In the fielding team there are 6 fielders, including the wicketkeeper.
- b) Each of the fielding side bowls 5 balls.
- c) No-balls & wides are scored as 2 runs to the batting team and no extra delivery to be bowled.
- d) Bowling is from one end only, decided by the Festival Organiser, but may be changed by the umpires in the interest of safety or practicality.
- e) Fielders may be substituted between overs, or at any time in the case of injury to a player.
- f) With the exception of the wicketkeeper, no fielder is allowed within 10 yards of the batter until the ball is played by the batter (this includes slip/gully area).
- g) Overarm bowling is encouraged for all deliveries. Players must attempt at least 2 overarm deliveries with the first two balls, however, if the player is experiencing difficulties and bowls no balls and wides, she may revert to underarm bowling to complete the five balls.
- h) Fielders do not have to rotate position after each over.
- i) Wicket keepers may keep for entire innings or can be changed and allowed to bowl if required.
- j) Wicket keepers **MAY** wear wicket keeping gloves.
- k) No extra ball for wide or no ball – penalty 2 runs to batting team, except in the last over of each innings, where the penalty for a wide remains as 2 runs.
- l) Penalty runs are added to any runs that are scored from no balls or wides. For example, if two runs are scored as a result of byes from a wide ball, then the total number of runs would be 4, 2 + 2.