



KENT CRICKET OUTDOOR EIGHTS SOFTBALL CRICKET COMPETITION U13 & U15 GIRLS' RULES

U13 & U15 Girls, 8 a side, Countdown Cricket, 40 Balls

OVERVIEW

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

Competitions are generally run on a festival basis and involve a round robin regional cluster, after which the successful school(s) are invited to compete in the Kent Cricket County Final.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

Schools are responsible for ensuring all players wear appropriate clothing to the event, i.e., PE kit. Cricket whites are not necessary. Schools are encouraged to bring their own cricket bats to the event. Organisers will supply match balls, stumps, and pitch markings.

RULES

- Recommended boundary sizes defined by age group are listed in **Appendix 1**
- Pitch lengths are defined by age group and are listed in **Appendix 1**
- Bowling should be from one end only (this can be changed for each game to ensure even pitch wear if required) to ensure the game is played as quickly as possible
- Games are anticipated to last no longer than one hour, and umpires and officials/teachers are encouraged to have their players ready to bat and bowl
- Teams shall consist of 8 players each, with a maximum of 10 players per squad
- Each match shall consist of one innings per team; with each innings lasting 40 balls, made up of 8 x 5 ball sets
- Players can bowl a maximum of 10 balls
- A player who is selected to bowl 10 balls can bowl all 10 balls in a row, or this can be split into 2 x sets of 5 balls
- Bowling should be overarm only



- Umpires are instructed to apply a consistent interpretation regarding calling a wide ball. 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 'Wide Ball'.
- In the event of a 'Wide Ball'; 2 runs will be added to the batting team under extras and the innings continues to the next ball. The rules state that a wide ball shall not count as one of the over and shall only be applicable in the last set of five balls of any innings
- Two batters shall be always at the wicket during the innings. In the event of a team losing 7 wickets within the permitted 40 balls, the last batter shall continue batting; facing all the remaining deliveries or until they are dismissed, 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 20, she 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 she scores an additional 20 runs on her return to the crease, unless the batting team have no more batters to come in that have also been retired
- 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 once before reaching the batter this should also be called 'No Ball' (two bounces or more before the popping crease) In the event of a 'No Ball', a 'free hit' will be awarded to the batting team; this means on the next ball, the striking batter cannot be given out by any method of dismissal, apart from being run out. For example, should the striker be bowled or caught from this delivery, they will remain at the wicket and continue batting



SCORING

Please use the paper scoresheet provided. Standard scoring rules of cricket apply (runs completed, plus boundary 4s & 6s), as well as:

- If a No Ball is called, then 2 runs shall be credited under extras, but no extra ball will be allocated
 - However, if a No Ball is bowled in the last set of 5 balls then the ball will have to be re-bowled
 - From a No Ball struck by the batter, runs shall be scored as in scoring regulations, i.e. if a No Ball is bowled and the batter strikes the ball and runs 2 runs, the team shall score 4 in total; 2 runs shall be credited to extras, and 2 runs to the striking batter
 - If a Wide Ball is called, then 2 runs shall be credited under extras, but no extra ball will be allocated
 - However, if a Wide Ball is bowled in the last set of 5 balls then the ball will have to be re-bowled
 - Any additional runs shall be credited under extras every time the batters complete a run, i.e. Wide Ball plus batters running 1 run = 3 runs

RESULT

The team scoring the most runs in its 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 two teams are level on points at the end of the league stages, then the result between the two sides will determine the overall winner. If this cannot decide the outcome, then the calculation below 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. Where matches are rained off / unfinished a bowl out with each person bowling one delivery at 3 stumps shall decide the winners. Eight players will bowl alternately at stumps and if scores are level after eight attempts each it shall go to sudden death where the team with the most strikes with an equal number of deliveries shall be declared the winners. No Ball rule applies with no extra delivery. The ball may only bounce once

METHOD OF DISMISSAL

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

- There will be no LBWs unless a batter deliberately blocks the ball in front of the stumps.

The umpire's decision is final

Appendix 1

ECB RECOMMENDED JUNIOR FORMATS		U9*	U11*	U13*	U15*	U17*
PLAYERS		8	8	Up to 11	Up to 11	Up to 11
PITCH LENGTHS (YARDS)		15	17	19	20 (Girls) 22 (Boys)	22
MAX BOUNDARY (M)		30	35 (Soft ball) 40 (Hard ball)	45 (Girls) 50 (Boys)	50 (Girls) 55 (Boys)	55 (Girls) 60 (Boys)
OVERS PER INNINGS SCHOOLS & CLUBS		12	15	20	20	20
OVERS PER INNINGS TALENT**		NA	Variety** 20 (Girls) 20 (Boys)	Variety** Max. 40 (Girls) 40 (Boys)	Variety**	Variety**
BALL SIZE** (OZ.)		Light / soft rubber ball	4.75	4.75	5.0 (Girls) 5.5 (Boys)	5.0 (Girls) 5.5 (Boys)

* INDICATIVE AGE
 ** A LIGHT / SOFT RUBBER BALL TO BE USED FOR SOFT BALL CRICKET AT ALL AGE GROUPS
 FOR UNDER 16, 12 AND 14 RECOMMENDATIONS, PLEASE REFER TO THE INDIVIDUAL BOYS AND GIRLS RECOMMENDATIONS
 ** TALENT ENVIRONMENTS ARE DEFINED AS CRICKET PLAYED ABOVE CLUB OR SCHOOL, I.E. DISTRICT, REGION, AREA OR COUNTY ARE GROUP
 (DEPENDENT ON THE LOCAL COUNTY DEFINITION / STRUCTURE)
 *** FOR GIRLS, SEE SPECIFIC COUNTY AGE GROUP GUIDANCE