

# National Knockout

## A ADMINISTRATION

### A1 Entries

The ECB will lay down the date by which Clubs are to submit entries.

### A2 The plate Competition

All Rules herein except A8.1 to A8.4 apply equally to the Plate Competition.

### A3 The Draw

- 1 All details of the Draw are the responsibility of the ECB and copies can be obtained from there.
- 2 The dates for matches shall be as in the published ECB Domestic Programme for the year, except insofar as variations are specifically permitted by the ECB.

### A4 Eligibility to Play

- 1 Each player must have been listed to the ECB as a member of the Club for which she plays in the Competition. A full list must be submitted to the ECB by 14th April 2003.
- 2 If a player joins a Club after the list has been sent to ECB, her name must be specifically notified to the ECB before she can play in any Competition matches for that Club. Such notification shall be made, in writing, at least twenty four hours before the first match in which she plays. No player will be eligible to play in the semi-final or final unless they have previously played in at least one match in the Competition during the current season.
- 3 No player may play in the Competition for more than one Club in one season. For this purpose the NCKO Competition and the NCKO Plate Competition are to be regarded as the same Competition.

- 4 Failure to comply with any of the requirements in A4.1, A4.2, A4.3 will lead to forfeiture of the match(es).

## **A5 Umpires and Scorers**

- 1 Each Club must appoint one Umpire and one Scorer, capable of performing these duties, for each Club-Round match and the Quarter Finals. They need not necessarily be members of the Club concerned. They shall be appointed for the whole match and may not play in it.
- 2 If a Club fails to provide either or both of these officials, this will be reported to the ECB who will take such action as it sees fit against the Club concerned.
- 3 The Result Sheets will contain space for reporting on non-appointment of umpires or scorers.
- 4 Clubs must supply their Umpires and Scorers with copies of the Knock Out Competition Rules.

## **A6 Balls**

In Club-Round matches, each club shall provide the ball for their fielding innings. [See also Rule B6]

## **A7 Club-Round Match Results**

- 1 At the conclusion of each Club-Round match, each side shall complete a Result Sheet as provided by the ECB. The Result Sheets showing the Team Lists [see Rule B1] shall be signed by the Captains and the Umpires (unless the teams have not travelled to the venue) and must be posted to the address given on the result sheet, to arrive not later than the Wednesday immediately following the match.
- 2 It shall be the responsibility of the Clubs winning Club-Round matches to contact next round opponents. Before the first Club-Round match, the ECB shall circulate to participating Clubs a list of all Clubs in the Competition, together with relevant addresses.

## **A8 Quarter-finals, Semi-Finals and Final**

- 1 The dates for the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final shall be as in the published ECB Domestic Programme for the year.
- 2 The ECB shall be responsible for arranging the grounds and appointing the Umpires and Scorers for the Semi-Finals and Final. The ECB will supply these officials with copies of the Knock Out Competition Rules.
- 3 The ECB will provide the balls and scoresheets for the Semi-Finals and Final.
- 4 The ECB will be responsible for supplying the necessary information about grounds, opponents, etc, to the Clubs in the Semi-Finals matches, and subsequently to the two Clubs in the Final of the Competition.
- 5 For the Plate Competition, Rules A8.1 to A8.4 above shall apply only to the Final.

## **B PLAYING CONDITIONS**

### **B1 Nominated Players**

- 1 Before the toss for innings, each Captain must give a written list of her nominated players for the match to the Umpires. This must include the age group category, actual age on the date of the match and birthday of every player U20 on the date of the match.
- 2 This list must identify any players under 18 who have permission from their parents or guardian to play without a helmet.

### **B2 Scoreboard**

In all Competition matches, it shall be the responsibility of the batting side to ascertain the details of score, wickets and overs from the Scorers and to see that the scoreboard is brought up to date with this information at least at the end of every over.

### **B3 Duration**

- 1 Unless there is an arrangement to the contrary between Captains and Umpires, matches will start at 2.00 p.m. unless delayed by adverse conditions of ground, weather or light.
- 2 Each match will consist of one innings by each side of not more than 40 overs.
- 3
  - a The playing time allowed for the first innings shall be 135 minutes (2hrs 15mins).
  - b No drinks interval is to count as playing time.
  - c If the full 40 overs are not bowled within the designated playing time, the innings shall continue until the side batting first has received 40 overs. However, the maximum number of overs for the side batting second shall be reduced to the number received by the side batting first within the designated limit, except as detailed in B3.3d.

- d If the Umpires consider that the slowness of play in the first innings was due to matters beyond the control of the side fielding first, they shall be empowered to waive some or all of the penalty in B3.3c.
- 4 If adverse conditions of ground, weather or light interfere with the progress of play, the Umpires shall be empowered to re-arrange the number of overs to be bowled by each side so that, as far as possible, each Team shall have the opportunity of batting for the same number of overs (minimum 10 overs). As a rough guide for re-arrangements, a rate equivalent to 3 overs in 10 minutes should be expected. For calculation purposes in interrupted matches only, a finishing time of 6-45 p.m. should be taken.
- 5 If the number of overs for the first innings has to be thus reduced, Umpires shall calculate the new time limit for that innings on the basis of 18 overs per hour, rounded up to the next five minutes.
- 6 In a match in which there have been stoppages for adverse ground, weather or light conditions (and only in such matches):
- a If at 6-30 p.m. play is in progress, and there is no further interruption, play may continue for 9 more overs after the one in progress or until the agreed number of overs have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
- b If at 6-30 p.m. an interruption of play is in progress, or if an interruption occurs at or after 6-30 p.m. there shall be no resumption of play unless the Umpires consider there is a prospect of completing the minimum 10 overs before 7-15 p.m..
- 7 The number of overs for the team batting second shall not be reduced merely because the team batting first has been dismissed in less than the agreed number of overs.

## **B4 Ground, Weather and Light**

Law 3, sections 8 and 9 shall apply, that is it is for the Umpires to decide on the fitness of ground, weather or light for play. If they decide that conditions are unreasonable or dangerous, then they will not allow play to take place. If, however, they agree that ground or weather conditions are unsuitable but not dangerous, then the Captains have the right to agree to continue (or commence) play or, in unsuitable light conditions, the batting Captain has the right to decide to continue or commence play. In unsuitable light conditions, the batsmen at the wicket may deputise for the Captain. Appeals against conditions shall be allowed as in Law 3 section 9 (c).

## **B5 Intervals**

There shall be a tea interval of 30 minutes. As far as possible this shall be taken at the conclusion of the first innings; in this case no extra allowance shall be made for the 10 minutes between innings.

## **B6 Balls**

- 1 The balls shall be as specified in Law 5.6(i).
- 2 There shall be one new ball for each innings.
- 3 Law 5.2 shall apply, that is all balls used in the match shall be approved by the Captains and Umpires before the toss.
- 4 The balls, once approved, shall remain in the possession of the Umpires until brought into use.

## **B7 Wicket-Keeping Gloves**

Compliance with Law 40.2, the new regulations on wicket-keeping gloves, is not required in season 2003.

## **B8 Helmets**

Any player under the age of 18 playing in this Competition must wear a helmet when batting and when standing up to the stumps when keeping wicket unless a parent or guardian has given prior written consent.

## **B9 Boundaries**

It is recommended that, other than in exceptional circumstances, the size of the boundary shall be not less than 50 metres and not greater than 70 metres. Distances shall be measured from the centre of the pitch being used.

## **B10 Fielding Restrictions**

- 1 The ECB Directives on fielding restrictions for Junior Age Groups will be observed.
- 2 In this Competition;
  - a No young player in the Under 15 age group or younger shall be allowed to field closer than 7.3 metres from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side, until the batsman has played at the ball.
  - b For players in the Under 13 age group and below, the distance is 10 metres.
  - c These minimum distances apply, even if the player is wearing a helmet.
  - d Should a young player in these age groups come within the restricted distance, the Umpire must stop the game immediately and instruct the fielder to move back.
  - e In addition, any young player in the Under 16 to U18 age groups, who has not reached the age of 18, must wear a helmet when fielding within 5.5 metres of the bat, except behind the wicket on the off side. Players should wear appropriate protective equipment whenever they are fielding in a position where they feel at risk.

## **B11 Limitation of Overs by Any one Bowler**

- 1 The ECB Directives on fast bowling for Junior Age Groups will be observed.

- 2 In an uninterrupted match, no bowler may bowl more than one-quarter of the agreed number of overs for the innings.
- 3 If, after revision of the number of overs, the new limit for each bowler is not a whole number, then for the minimum number of bowlers only it shall be interpreted as the next whole number above.
- 4 If a bowler is incapacitated or suspended during an over, another bowler will complete the over, subject to the provisions of Law 22.8. The two part overs shall each count as a full over insofar as each bowler's limit is concerned, but not otherwise.
- 5 If the number of overs has to be revised after the start of the match then:
  - 1 For the first such revision
    - a If the first innings is completed before the revision, all bowlers thereafter, in the second innings, shall be limited to one-quarter (interpreted as in B11.3) of the revised total.
    - b If the revision occurs before the completion of the first innings, or if the first innings has to be prematurely terminated at this point, then all subsequent bowlers, if any, in the first innings shall be limited to one-quarter (interpreted as in B11.3) of the revised total and:
      - i) If the number of overs agreed for the second innings is the number actually bowled in the first innings, the limit for each bowler in the second innings will be one-quarter (interpreted as in B11.3) of the revised total. If, however, one or more bowlers in the first innings exceeded this new limit then a maximum of two bowlers in the second innings may also exceed the limit, matching, each to each, two bowlers in the first innings. The second side may not then use fewer than four bowlers, unless the first side used fewer than four.

In that case, the second side may use as few bowlers as the first side insofar as is consistent with the other provisions of the paragraph.

- ii) If the number of overs agreed for the second innings is fewer than the number actually bowled in the first innings, then the minimum number of bowlers for the second side shall be four or the number actually used in the first innings, whichever is fewer. Each shall be limited to one-quarter, one-third or one-half of the total, according as this minimum is four, three or two bowlers. In each case a fractional limit shall be interpreted as in B11.3. Once the minimum number of bowlers for the second innings has been set it shall not be changed, even if there are further interruptions.
- (2) For any further revision

All subsequent bowlers shall be limited to one-quarter (interpreted as in B11.3) of the revised total or, if a reduced minimum number of bowlers is already in operation, to the appropriate fraction thereof, as set out in B11.5.1b.(ii).

## **B12 Wide Ball**

The wide ball is defined as laid out in Law 25.

## **B13 Slowness of Play**

Laws 42.9 and 42.10 replace the regulations on "slowness of play" included in previous years and are to be strictly applied.

## **B14 Result of a Match**

- 1 A result can be achieved only if both teams have batted for at least 10 overs, unless either team has been all out in fewer than 10 overs, or unless the team batting second pass their opponents' total in fewer than 10 overs.

- 2 Providing the condition in B14.1 is met and both sides have had the opportunity of batting for the same number of overs, the result shall be determined as follows;
  - a The side scoring the greater number of runs is the winner.
  - b If, at the conclusion of both innings, the scores are equal, the side having lost fewer wickets shall be the winner.
  - c If the scores and wickets are both equal, the winner shall be decided as follows;
    - i If both teams have batted for at least 30 overs, the respective scores at the end of the first 30 overs of each innings shall be compared.
    - ii If these scores are still equal, or if both sides have not batted for at least 30 overs, the respective scores at the end of 20 overs shall be compared.
    - iii If these scores are still equal, or if both sides have not batted for at least 20 overs, the respective scores at the end of 15 overs shall be compared.
    - iv If these scores are still equal, or if both sides have not batted for at least 15 overs, the respective scores at the end of 10 overs shall be compared.
- 3 If the side batting second is prevented by conditions of ground, weather or light from having the same number of overs as the side batting first, but has batted for at least 10 overs, then the result of the match shall be decided as in B14.2a., B14.2b. and B14.2c. above on the basis of scores, as follows;
  - a The score for the side batting second shall be the score at the end of the last completed over.
  - b The score for the side batting first shall be their score at the end of the same number of overs.
- 4 If there has been no play, or if the side batting second has not had the opportunity of batting for at least 10 overs, or if for any other reason the result cannot be

decided in any of the above ways, then, other than in the Final, the match shall be decided by the toss of a coin. If the teams have not travelled to the venue, then either one or more representatives of each team shall meet to conduct the toss. Alternatively, the Executives of the teams may, if they wish, pass the responsibility for the toss to the Rules Arbitration Panel.

- 5 If, in the Final, there has been insufficient play for a result to be valid the teams shall be considered joint winners of the Competition. This will also apply if for any other reason the result cannot be decided in any of the stated ways.

### **B15 Special Conditions**

- 1 A Captain may not declare her innings closed.
- 2 The Umpires have the discretion to consider a stoppage for exceptional circumstances on the same basis as one for conditions of ground, weather or light (Law 3 section 10).
- 3 In this Competition, Law 42 section 11 (b), the protected area will be as defined except that it will only extend 4ft/1.22 m in front of each popping crease.

### **B16 Other Conditions of Play**

Except as specified in Rules B1 to B15 above, the matches will be played in accordance with the Laws of Cricket current in 2003, namely the MCC 2000 Code, except that in Law 2.2, if the wicket-keeper is injured, a substitute shall be allowed to act as wicket-keeper providing the opposing Captain consents.

### **B17 Disputes**

Any dispute arising from the application or interpretation of these Rules shall be referred to a Rules Arbitration Panel appointed for the purpose by the ECB. Any decision of this Panel shall be final and binding on the parties concerned.

## **B18 Drinks**

- 1 Drinks intervals will be arranged and taken on the field of play in accordance with Law 15, except as in B18.2 and B18.3 below.
- 2 Drinks may be taken on the field of play after not less than 60 minutes without interruption since the last resumption of play, providing that:
  - a Such drinks intervals have been agreed prior to the start of play
  - b At least 10 overs of an innings remain to be bowled and, before lunch, at least 25 minutes remain before the interval.
- 3 If weather conditions warrant it, the Umpires and Captains are permitted to agree that more frequent drinks breaks be taken providing this agreement is made before the start of the match.