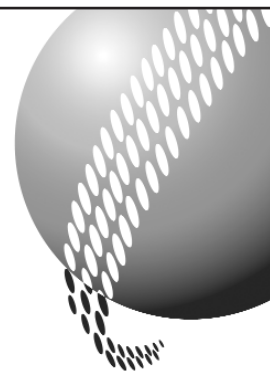




SPIRIT OF CRICKET

UNDER-13 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

An ECB Event



Competition Rules 2008

1 Title

The title of the Competition shall be the MCC Spirit of Cricket Under 13 National Club Championship for the Ken Barrington Cup.

2 Management

- 2.1 The control of the Competition shall be undertaken by the ECB Recreational Cricket Group (RCG) and all decisions relating to these rules or to matches played in the Competition shall be final and binding on all concerned.
- 2.2 The ECB and RCG may delegate any of their powers and duties.

3 Entry

3.1 County

Counties who participated in the previous year's Competition shall automatically be included for the following season unless written notification to the contrary is given by 1 October in the year prior to the Competition. A County wishing to enter or be re-admitted to a Competition must give written notice to that effect to the ECB Cricket Department by 1 October in the year prior to the Competition.

3.2 Clubs

Each club must apply to enter their County Competition by the date specified by their County Board. A club may only enter the County Competition of one County Board irrespective of how many County Board's they are affiliated to. Counties must submit a list of competing clubs and contact addresses each year to the ECB Cricket Department by the date specified by the ECB.

4 Competition Structure

4.1 County

The Competition shall be organised on a County basis and each County Board shall organise their own Competition to determine a winner to enter the National stages of the Competition. All arrangements for County Competitions shall be the responsibility of each County Board and must be completed and reported to the ECB Cricket Department in accordance with the timetable specified by the ECB. The name and contact details of the winning club in each County Competition must be immediately notified to the ECB Cricket Department.

4.2 Preliminary Round and Regional Finals

The winning team from each County Competition shall qualify for the Regional Finals. All arrangements for the Regional Finals shall be undertaken by Regional Organisers who shall be appointed annually by the ECB. The Regional Finals shall be organised with four teams playing two semi-finals, one Regional Final and a third/fourth place play-off. The County Boards involved in each region may be drawn to play a Preliminary Round to reduce the number of participating Counties at the Regional Final to four.

4.3 National Finals

The winning team from each of the eight Regional Finals shall participate in the National Finals which take place over five days as a residential cricket festival. All arrangements for the National Finals shall be made by the ECB Cricket Department.

5 Eligibility

The Competition shall be open to all clubs which are affiliated to the England and Wales Cricket Board through their County Board. Clubs should enter the Competition of the County in which they are physically located (as per the ECB Cricketing County boundaries as currently defined). If a club wishes to enter the Competition of another County for reasons of easier travel or historical precedent this can be arranged provided that the permission of the home County Board is obtained. Such permission should not be unreasonably withheld. A club may enter one or more teams but Rule 6 will apply in so far as each team will be considered as a separate club.

6 Qualification of Players

A player may represent a club in the Competition if they are under 13 years of age at midnight on 31st August prior to the season of the Competition. All players must be bona-fide Junior Members of the club they represent and play for the club in the Junior League or Leagues that the club enters. A player may play for only one club in the Competition in any one season.

7 Cricket Balls

Each County Board shall determine the supply of cricket balls for their own County Competition. The ECB shall be responsible for supplying cricket balls for the Regional and National Finals and for any Preliminary Round matches.

8 Helmets

Any player playing in this ECB Competition must wear a helmet with a faceguard when batting and when standing up to the stumps when keeping wicket.

9 Umpires

Each County Board shall be responsible for the appointment of umpires in their County Competition. The ECB shall appoint all umpires for any County Play-offs and the Regional and National Finals. All appointed umpires must be full members of the ECB Association of Cricket Officials. All umpires must have current CRB clearance.

10 Finance

Each county will receive £5 for each team participating in their County Competition. Reasonable travel expenses will be paid to each club in the Preliminary Rounds, Regional and National Finals, subject to a completed claim form being submitted by 30th September in the year of the Competition.

11 Match Results

- 11.1 County & Preliminary Rounds
Each club must forward the result of their match to their County Board immediately following the completion of each match.
- 11.2 Regional & National Finals
Each club must hand a completed result sheet to the ECB/Regional Organiser immediately following each of their matches.

12 Code of Conduct

All players, team officials and umpires shall be bound by the MCC Spirit of Cricket and the ECB Code of Conduct.

13 Coaching

Coaching shall not be permitted from the sidelines during a match. In such an event, the umpire shall request the coach/manager/parent to stop. If this persists, the umpire shall have the power to warn the offending team captain and manager that the matter will be reported to the County Board/ECB.

Playing Conditions

The Laws of Cricket (2000 Code 2nd Edition – 2003) shall apply with the following exceptions:

1 In All Matches

- 1.1 The pitch shall be 21 yards in length.
- 1.2 The ball shall weigh 4.75oz.
- 1.3 The stumps shall be 27" above the ground and 8" wide (see Law 8.4).
- 1.4 Matches shall consist of one innings per side.
- 1.5 Each innings shall be a maximum of 20 overs in duration. A minimum of 10 overs per side will constitute a match. If the number of overs available to each side are not equal then run rate will be used to decide matches.
- 1.6 No bowler shall bowl more than four overs in a match. In matches of less than 20 overs a side the number of overs bowled per bowler will be reduced pro rata.
- 1.7 When a batsman reaches or passes the personal total of 30 runs they must 'retire' and will not be allowed to return. A batsman can continue their innings beyond 30 if their retirement would end the innings before the agreed number of overs have been bowled.
- 1.8 The team scoring the most runs in its innings shall be the winner.
- 1.9 Junior Fielding Restrictions
 - 1.9.1 No young player in the Under 13 age group or younger shall be allowed to field closer than 11 yards (10 metres) from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side, until the batsman has played at the ball. A fielder shall be allowed to move into the restricted area to make a catch or field the ball provided that they were outside the area when the stroke was made.
 - 1.9.2 These minimum distances apply even if the player is wearing a helmet.
 - 1.9.3 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.
- 1.10 Law 40.2 - Wicket-Keeping Gloves will apply in all ECB competitions.

2 In County Competitions

The procedure for arriving at the winner should the scores be equal shall be determined by each County Board.

3 Preliminary Rounds

- 3.1 In the event of the scores of each team being equal the winner shall be determined as follows:
 - 3.1.1 The team which has taken the greater number of wickets.
 - 3.1.2 If still equal, the side with the highest score at the end of 19 overs, if still equal, at the end of 18 overs, 17 overs, etc.
 - 3.1.3 If still equal, 5 players shall be nominated to bowl alternately at the wickets from the bowler's end and the team scoring the most hits shall be the winner. In the event of the number of hits being equal, the above 5 bowlers shall be nominated to bowl alternately in a sudden death bowl-out, until a winner has been achieved.
 - 3.1.3.1 In the event of no result being obtained by other methods and where there is no reserve date on which to play the game, a bowl-out (outdoors or indoors) will take place to achieve a result. Five players from each side will bowl two overarm deliveries each at a wicket (conforming to Law 8) from a wicket pitched at a distance of 21 yards with, if practicable, bowling, popping and return creases marked (conforming to Law 9). The side, which bowls down the wicket (as defined in Law 28.1a) the most times, shall be the winner. If the scores are equal, the same players will bowl one ball each alternately to achieve a result on a 'sudden death' basis.
The following shall also apply in respect of bowl-outs:
 - 3.1.3.2 The same suitably acceptable ball (not a new one) will be used by both teams. If this ball becomes wet, it may be changed subject to the umpires' approval.
 - 3.1.3.3 If a bowler bowls a No ball it will count as one of the two deliveries but will not count towards the score of the team.
 - 3.1.3.4 If the original match has started, then the five cricketers nominated to take part in the 'bowl-out' must be chosen from the eleven cricketers and 12th man selected to play in the match. If there has been no play in the original match (the toss has not taken place), the five cricketers may be selected from any of the players in the squad as registered on Play-Cricket.
 - 3.1.3.5 Each side will appoint a wicket-keeper to stand behind the wicket but out of reach of the stumps.
 - 3.2 In the event of a rain curtailed match:
 - 3.2.1 The match can be rearranged if, before the original game has been started, both sides can mutually agree a reserve date before the deadline date of that round.
 - 3.2.2 Or, if weather permits, the winner shall be decided by bowl-out, as defined in 3.1.3 above.
 - 3.2.3 Or, if a bowl-out is not possible, the winner shall be decided by the toss of a coin.

4 Regional Finals

- 4.1 In the event of the scores of each team being equal the winner shall be determined as in 3.1 above.
- 4.2 In the event of a rain curtailed match:
 - 4.2.1 The match must be replayed on the reserve date laid down by the ECB.
 - 4.2.2 If weather curtails the reserve date, the winner shall be decided by a bowl-out, as defined in 3.1.3 above.
 - 4.2.3 Or, if a bowl-out is not possible the winner shall be decided by the toss of a coin.

5 National Finals

- 5.1 Matches in the National Finals will be played on a league basis with each team playing each other once.
- 5.2 The winning team in each match shall score 10 points. In the event of an abandoned match or a tie each team shall score 5 points.
- 5.3 In the event of two or more teams finishing with an equal number of points, their league positions shall be determined using their run-rate during their completed matches played at the Finals, calculated by dividing legitimate balls faced by runs scored.