

Royal London Club Championship

Competition Rules

This competition will use the Generic 40 overs per side Playing Conditions (p.41).

1 Title

The title of the Competition shall be the Royal London Club Championship, formally known as the ECB National Club Championship.

2 Management

- 2.1 The control of the Competition shall be undertaken by the P&G Committee 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 P&G Committee may delegate any of their powers and duties.

3 Entry

Entry to this competition is by invitation of the ECB.

An enquiry and a submitted application to enter does not guarantee a place in the competition. Inclusion of clubs in this competition is at the sole discretion of the ECB.

All competing Cricket Clubs must be affiliated to the ECB through their County Board. The ECB shall determine the closing date for applications each year. All clubs shall make annual application to enter the competition on the official form supplied by the ECB.

4 Competition Structure

The Competition shall be organised on a knock-out basis with entries initially divided into sixteen Regional groups.

The ECB shall be responsible for making the draw annually.

5 Qualification of Players

Please refer to Generic Rule 3.6 and specifically 3.6.7 and 3.6.8.

If a player is registered for an ECB Premier League Club then he can only play for that club in the National Club Championship. The exception to this is for players representing County Academy sides in their Premier League. As Academies are not eligible for entry into ECB Club Competitions these players are permitted to represent their original club side that they played for before joining the Academy.

6 Cricket Balls

For each match throughout the competition two new Tiflex Oxbridge Windsor cricket balls shall be provided by the ECB.

7 Clothing

Players in all National Club Championship matches will wear clothing and equipment that follow ECB guidelines and is predominantly white.

8 Umpires

The ECB shall be responsible for the appointment of umpires for all matches in the Competition. Appointed umpires will be full members of ECB Association of Cricket Officials where possible and have current DBS clearance.

All clubs must submit a report on the umpires for each match they play in the Competition. This must either be entered online via the 'Who's the Umpire' appointments system.

9 Scorers

Each team shall provide their own competent, non-playing scorer in all matches. If a team fails to provide a scorer a player has to be nominated from the team to take up the duty for the entire duration of the match.

The use of live electronic scoring is strongly encouraged for all matches.

10 Fixtures

All matches to start at 1:00pm unless agreed by both clubs. Both Semi Final matches to start at 12:00pm unless agreed by both clubs. Final to start at 11:00am.

With the exception of Round 1 matches which would ideally be played on or before the scheduled date matches must be played on the scheduled date. Matches can only be played on an alternative date if changed by mutual agreement of the clubs and the ECB, and must be within the time-scale for that Round. Any rearrangement must be with the agreement of the ECB Competitions Department beforehand. Matches where no result can be achieved on the scheduled date can be re-arranged to be played on the wet weather date for that Round.

Subject to the overriding discretion of ECB, matches for the 5th, Quarter-Final, and Semi-Final Rounds must be played on the scheduled dates laid down by the ECB, unless both sides mutually agree to play before the scheduled date and this decision is notified to the ECB Competitions Department. If no result is possible on the scheduled date for the first four Rounds, sides may agree to re-arrange their match providing it is played before the wet weather date for that Round. A wet weather reserve date is designated by the ECB for matches where no result is possible on the original scheduled date for the 5th, Quarter-Final and Semi-Final Rounds.

In the event of no decision being reached in the match because of inclement weather, inability to re-arrange a fixture before the deadline date, or for another reason,

then in the last resort, the decision shall be made by the toss of a coin between the two captains when both captains are present. In the event of the captains not being able to be present, the tossing of the coin shall be referred to the ECB Competitions Department (It is suggested that rather than the tossing of a coin, Clubs should play a match for even a small number of overs, wherever possible, according to the time still available).

The captains shall agree before play begins what action shall be taken if a decision is not reached on that day.

11 Team Sheets

Each side must provide the umpires with a team sheet before the start of the match identifying any player who has not reached the age of 18 on the date of the match and showing the specific age group of any player who is in the Under 19 age group or younger.

12 Match Results

It is the responsibility of the WINNING side to enter the result and full scorecard details onto the appropriate site on Play-Cricket.com within 24 hours of the match being completed and preferably on the same day of the match being completed. The losing side should confirm that the summary result has been correctly entered. Both sides must ensure that their squad details have been entered into Play-Cricket prior to each match they play. Any matches postponed or rearranged should be updated on Play-Cricket as soon as possible.

13 Helmets and/or Faceguards

Any player under the age of 18 playing in any ECB Competition shall be bound by the ECB Directive.

14 Code of Conduct

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