

NatWest Club T20

Competition Rules

1 Title

The title of the competition shall be the NatWest Club T20.

- 2 This version of the rules is effective in all matches in the Competition from 1st August 2015 to 30th September 2015. Except as varied hereunder the Laws of Cricket (2000 Code, 5th Edition – 2013) shall apply.

3 Management

Please refer to Generic Rule 1.

4 Entry

Open to all clubs which qualify from ECB Premier League T20 competitions or otherwise invited by ECB Competitions Department.

Please refer to Generic Rule 2.3.

5 Competition Structure

Each League will hold its own competition open only to clubs affiliated to it, the winner shall progress on to a National Knockout, the draw for which the ECB will be responsible.

6 Eligibility

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

Any club that fields an ineligible player shall be disqualified.

If a cricketer has played for a team in their own local competition, except for a County Cricket Academy, that will cricketer will be ineligible to play for another team in that season.

7 Balls

Please refer to Generic Rule 4.

For each match from the Area Finals onwards ECB will supply pink Tiflex Oxbridge Magna balls to the host club.

8 Clothing

Players in all matches in the Competition will wear clothing and equipment in accordance with ECB guidelines. Clothing at Finals Day will be provided by ECB, clothing in all preceding rounds can be either white or coloured.

9 Umpires

Until Area Finals umpires are to be arranged locally by the host club. From Area Finals onwards appointments will be made by the local ECB Regional Appointments Coordinator. Appointed umpires will be full members of ECB Association of Cricket Officials and have current CRB clearance. ECB shall be responsible for payment for all matches from the Area Finals onwards.

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 (preferred) or be emailed or posted to the ECB Competitions Department, Lord's Cricket Ground, London, NW8 8QZ on the day following the match.

10 Scorers

Please refer to Generic Rule 6.

11 Fixtures

All matches are to take place on or before the dates prescribed in the table below

Stage	Date	Reserve Date
League Final	by 26 July	
Area Finals Day	2 August	9 August
Regional Final	16 August	23 August
National Finals Day	1 September (SWALEC Stadium, Cardiff)	no reserve

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 the Regional Rounds. 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 by the closing date for that Round.

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.

12 Team Sheets

Please refer to Generic Rule 8.

13 Helmets and/or Faceguards

Please refer to Generic Rule 9.

14 Results

Please refer to Generic Rule 10.

15 Code of Conduct

Please refer to Generic Rule 11.

Playing Conditions

1 Duration

1 innings per side, each limited to a maximum of 20 overs.

2 Hours of Play

2.1 Start times are to be agreed by participants at Area and Regional Finals and determined by ECB at National Finals. It is recommended that the listed sunset time is considered when agreeing start times.

2.2 Teams have 1 hour 15 minutes to bowl 20 overs.

2.3 Interval should be no longer than 15 minutes.

2.4 In the event of an interruption or delay during the 1st innings, the calculation of the number of overs to be bowled shall be based upon one over for every 3 ¾ minutes in the total time available for play up to the scheduled close of play. In the 2nd innings of the match, overs shall be reduced at a rate of one over for every full 3 ¾ minutes lost, unless the 1st innings has finished early or the 2nd innings started early, in which case no overs are lost until the time that has been gained is subsequently lost.

3 Rearrangement of overs due to inclement weather

The objective of rearranging overs is to give the greatest opportunity for a match of equal overs without reverting to a bowl out.

If in the view of the ECB Organiser - bearing in mind the prevailing ground, weather and light conditions - it is considered to be most unlikely that the full quota of overs will be bowled in any match; it is recommended that a pre-emptive decision is made to reduce overs in both innings equally. The level of the reduction will be made at the discretion of the umpires and ECB Organiser.

4 Over rate penalties

- 4.1 A 6 run penalty shall apply for each over not bowled in the required time, as determined by the umpires.
- 4.2 All sides are expected to be in position to bowl the first ball of the last of their 20 overs within 1 hour 15 minutes playing time.
- 4.3 In reduced over matches the fielding side has a one over leeway in addition to any time that the umpires may allow for stoppages.
- 4.4 20 overs shall be bowled and the penalty runs are added to the final total.
- 4.5 Umpires are instructed to apply a strict interpretation of time wasting by the batsman (5 run penalties) specifically; batsmen are expected to be ready for the start of a new over as soon as the bowler is ready.

5 Bowl Out

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 9.

6 Timed out

The incoming batsman must be in a position to take guard, or for his partner to be ready to receive the next ball, within 1 minute 30 seconds of the fall of the previous wicket. Any infringement of this rule shall result in the incoming batsman being declared out by the umpires.

7 Fielding restrictions

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 4, with the exception of Generic Playing Condition 4.3 and 4.6 as varied hereunder.

- 7.1 For the first 6 overs of each innings only two fielders are permitted to be outside the field restriction marking at the instant of delivery.

- 7.2 For the remaining overs of each innings only five fielders are permitted to be outside the fielding circle at the instant of delivery.

- 7.3 In circumstances when the number of overs of the batting team is reduced, the number of Fielding Restriction Overs shall be reduced in accordance with the table below. For the sake of clarity, it should be noted that the table shall apply to both the 1st and 2nd innings of the match.

Total overs	No. of overs for which fielding in innings restrictions in clauses above shall apply
5-6	1
7-9	2
10-13	3
14-16	4
17-19	5

8 Boundaries

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 12.

9 Overs per bowler

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 1.

10 The Result

- 10.1 When there is no interruption after play has commenced and when both sides have had the opportunity of batting for the same agreed number of overs, the team scoring the higher number of runs shall be the winner. In the event of the scores being tied, the following shall apply:
- 10.1.1 If tied at the completion of a match, the team that has lost fewer wickets shall be adjudged the winner.

- 10.1.2 If this gives no result, then the team with the higher score at the end of 6th completed over shall be adjudged the winner.
- 10.1.3 If still equal, the side with the higher score at the end of 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st completed over shall be adjudged the winner.
- 10.1.4 If still equal, a one over per side eliminator (10.5) should be used to determine the winner.
- 10.2 For the Group Finals, in the event of the side in the 1st innings batting for longer than the side in the 2nd innings the target score shall be decided by average run rate based on the number of legitimate balls faced.
- 10.3 For Regional and National Finals, if, due to the suspension of play after the start of the match, the number of overs in the innings of either team has to be revised to a lesser number than that originally allocated (minimum 5 overs), then a revised target score should be set for the number of overs which the team batting second will have the opportunity of facing, this revised method being calculated by the Duckworth/Lewis method. A par score will be set for the second innings. If this is exceeded a win for the team batting second shall result. If the par score is equalled then the scores are tied.
- 10.4 For Regional and National Finals, if a match is abandoned before it had been played to a conclusion and before the team batting second has received its allocated number of overs (providing that it has received not less than 5 overs), the result shall be decided by the Duckworth/Lewis method.
- 10.5 In the event of the scores being tied in a quarter-final, semi-final or final when the Duckworth/Lewis method has been used, no account shall be taken of wickets lost. The teams shall compete in a one over per side eliminator to determine the winner. The following procedure will apply should the provision for a one over per side eliminator be adopted in any match.
- 10.5.1 Subject to weather conditions the one over per side eliminator will take place at a time to be determined by the umpires. In normal circumstances it shall commence 10 minutes after the conclusion of the match.
- 10.5.2 The one over per side eliminator will take place on the pitch allocated for the match (the designated pitch) unless otherwise determined by the umpires in consultation with the ground authority.
- 10.5.3 The umpires shall stand at the same end as that in which they finished the match.
- 10.5.4 In both innings of the one over per side eliminator, the fielding side shall choose from which end to bowl.
- 10.5.5 Only nominated players in the main match may participate in the one over per side eliminator. Should any player (including the batsmen and bowler) be unable to continue to participate in the one over per side eliminator due to injury, illness or other wholly acceptable reason, the relevant Laws and Playing Conditions as they apply in the main match shall also apply in the one over per side eliminator.
- 10.5.6 Any penance time being served in the main match shall be carried forward to the one over per side eliminator.
- 10.5.7 Each team's over is played with the same fielding restrictions as apply for a non-Field Restriction Over in a normal NatWest Club T20 match.
- 10.5.8 The team batting second in the match will bat first in the one over eliminator.
- 10.5.9 The Umpires shall select a ball from the box of spare balls which shall be used for both overs of the one over per side eliminator. The ball to be used shall not be a new ball and should have the apparent wear characteristics of a ball that has had between 5 and 20 overs of usage. For the avoidance of doubt, a ball used in the main match shall not be used in the one over per side eliminator.

If the ball needs to be changed, then playing conditions as stated for the main match shall apply.

- 10.5.10 The loss of two wickets in the over ends the team's one over innings.
- 10.5.11 In the event of the teams having the same score after the one over per side eliminator has been completed, if the original match was a tie under the D/L method, clause 10.3.13 immediately applies. Otherwise, the team whose batsmen hit the most number of boundaries combined from its two innings in both the main match and in the one over per side eliminator shall be the winner.
- 10.5.12 If the number of boundaries hit by both teams is equal, the team whose batsmen scored more boundaries during its innings in the main match (ignoring the over per side eliminator) shall be the winner.
- 10.5.13 If still equal, a count-back from the final ball of the one over eliminator shall be conducted. The team with the higher scoring delivery shall be the winner. If a team loses two wickets during its over, then any unbowed deliveries will be counted as dot balls. Note that for this purpose, the runs scored from a delivery is defined as the total team runs scored since the completion of the previous legitimate ball, i.e including any runs resulting from wides, no ball or penalty runs.

Example:

Runs scored from:	Team 1	Team 2
Ball 6	1	1
Ball 5	4	4
Ball 4	2	1
Ball 3	6	2
Ball 2	0	1
Ball 1	2	6

In this example both teams scored an equal number of runs from the 6th and 5th ball of their innings. However team 1 scored 2 runs from its 4th ball while team 2 scored a single so team 1 is the winner.

- 10.5.14 If still equal, then another one over per side eliminator shall be played in accordance with 10.5.

11 ECB Fast Bowling Directives.

The ECB Fast Bowling Directives will apply to all matches in this competition. Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 2.

12 Free Hit after a foot-fault no ball

- 12.1 The delivery following a no ball called for a foot fault shall be a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it.
- 12.2 If the delivery for the free hit is not a legitimate delivery (any kind of no ball or a wide ball), then the next delivery shall become a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it.
- 12.3 For any free hit, the striker can be dismissed only under the circumstances that apply for a no ball, even if the delivery for the free hit is called wide ball.
- 12.4 Field changes are permitted for free hit deliveries providing all effective fielding restrictions are adhered to.
- 12.5 The umpires shall signal a free hit by (after the normal no ball signal) extending one arm straight upwards and moving it in a circular motion.

13 Law 25 – Wide Ball - Judging a Wide

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 7.

14 Law 42.6 – Dangerous and Unfair Bowling

Law 42.6 (i) (a) Bowling of Fast, short-pitched balls, will apply.

15 Law 42.6 (b) Bowling of high full pitched balls, to be amended to read as follows:

Any high full pitched ball (regardless of its pace) which passes or would have passed above waist height of the striker standing upright at the crease shall be called and

signalled No ball by the umpire at the bowler's end. In addition, if the high full pitched ball is fast, it shall be deemed dangerous and unfair and the umpire at the bowler's end, in addition to the call and signal of No ball, will adopt the procedures of Law 42.7.

16 Law 42.7 - Dangerous and Unfair Bowling - action by the umpire

Law 42.7 applies except that the reference to Law 42.6 is the amended Law 42.6 as above.