

NatWest Under 15 National Club Championship

Competition Rules

1 Title

The title of the Competition shall be the NatWest Under 15 National Club Championship for the Harry Secombe Trophy.

2 Management

Please refer to Generic Rule 1.

3 Entry

3.1 County

Please refer to Generic Rule 2.

3.2 Clubs

All competing cricket clubs must be affiliated to the ECB through their County Board. Each club must apply to enter their County Competition by the date specified by their County Board. A club can only enter the County Competition of one County Board irrespective of how many County Boards they are affiliated to. Counties must submit a list of competing clubs and contact addresses each year to the ECB Competitions 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 Competitions 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 Competitions Department.

4.2 National Stage Rounds 1 and 2

Matches in the National Stage Rounds 1 and 2 (previously known as County Playoffs) shall be undertaken in accordance with the draw and timetable made each year by the ECB. Arrangements for these matches are to be made by the respective County Organisers in consultation with the clubs involved. The results must be notified to the ECB Competitions Department immediately following each match.

4.3 National Stage Group Finals

The National Stage Group Finals (previously known as Regional Finals) shall be organised with four teams playing two National Last 16 matches, one Quarter Final and one playoff match on one day at one of four venues. All arrangements for these matches shall be made by the ECB Competitions Department.

4.4 National Stage Semi Finals and Final

The National Stage Semi Finals and Final (previously known as National Finals) shall be organised with four teams playing two Semi Finals, one Final and one third place playoff match, all on one day at one venue. All arrangements for these matches shall be made by the ECB Competitions 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 15 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. Overseas exchange students who are based in England and Wales for less than three months are not eligible to take part in this competition. A player may play for only one club in the Competition in any one season.

7 Cricket Balls

Each County Board shall be responsible for determining the supply of cricket balls for their own County Competition except the County Final. The ECB shall be responsible for supplying two cricket balls for each match played in the County Final and National Stages of the competition.

8 Helmets & Faceguards

Please refer to Generic Rule 9.

9 Umpires

Each County Board shall be responsible for the appointment of umpires in their County Competition and for home matches for their County Champion in the National Stage Rounds 1 and 2. The ECB shall appoint all umpires for all other National Stage matches. All appointed umpires must be full members of the ECB Association of Cricket Officials. All umpires must have current CRB clearance.

10 Match Results

10.1 County

Each winning club must forward the result of their match to their County Board immediately following the completion of each match.

10.2 National Stage Rounds 1 and 2

Each winning club must add the result of their match to the Play-Cricket website following each match in Rounds 1 and 2.

10.3 National Stage Group Finals Onwards

Each club must hand a completed result sheet to the ECB match manager immediately following each of the Last 16, Quarter Final, Semi Final and Final matches. If an ECB match manager is not present, the winning club must add the result of their match to the Play-Cricket website.

11 Code of Conduct

Please refer to Generic Rule 11.

12 Coaching

Please refer to Generic Rule 12.

Playing Conditions

The Laws of Cricket (2000 Code 5th Edition – 2013) shall apply with the following exceptions:

1 In all Matches

- 1.1 Matches shall consist of one innings per side.
- 1.2 Each innings shall be a maximum of 20 overs duration. A minimum of 5 overs a 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 prior to the National Stage Semi Finals. In Semi Finals and Final the Duckworth/ Lewis method will be employed.
- 1.3 No bowler shall bowl more than four overs in a match. In matches of less than 20 overs per side the number of overs per bowler will be reduced pro rata.

Generic Playing Condition 2.1 will apply at all stages of the Competition.
- 1.4 When a batsman reaches or passes the personal total of 50 runs they must 'retire' and will not be allowed to return. A batsman can continue their innings beyond 50 if their 'retirement' would end the innings before the agreed number of overs have been bowled.
- 1.5 The team scoring the most runs in its innings shall be the winner.
- 1.6 Restrictions on the placement of Fieldsmen – without Inner Circles

Generic Playing Condition 3 will apply at all stages of the Competition.
- 1.7 Junior Fielding Restrictions

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 5.

The Team Manager shall be responsible for identifying to the umpires any players who are in the Under 13 age group or younger.

1.8 Law 40.2 – Wicket Keeping Gloves

Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 8.

1.9 Law 42.6 – Dangerous and Unfair Bowling

1.9.1 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.

1.9.2 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.

2 In County Competitions

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

3 In National Stage Matches

3.1 In the event of the scores of each team being equal the winner shall be determined as follows:

3.1.1 The side which has taken the greater number of wickets.

3.1.2 If still equal, the side with the higher score at the end of 19 overs. If still equal, the score at the end of 18 overs, etc.

3.1.3 If still equal five 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 alternatively in a sudden death bowl out until a winner has been achieved. Please refer to Generic Playing Condition 9.

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 for that round.

3.2.2 Or, if weather permits, the winner shall be decided by a 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.

