

ECB/ESCA NATIONAL T20 U15 COMPETITION

PLAYING REGULATIONS - REGIONAL AND NATIONAL FINALS

1. Players are eligible to take part if they were under fifteen years old on 31st August in the year preceding the competition. Players must have been on the roll of the school of the 1st February in the year of the competition in order to take part. If a player is 'over-age' but in the same year group as the eligible pupils in the team, the school may apply by March 31st to the General Secretary for an over-age exemption. Applications will be considered in accordance with ESCA's Overage Players Policy.
2. A team can consist of 12 players of whom 11 may bat and only 11 field at the same time.
3. Length of matches: The length of each innings shall be 20 overs. One hour and fifteen minutes is allowed to bowl the 20 overs. Each side must face 5 overs to constitute a match.
4. A new ball will be provided for each innings
5. No player may bowl more than 4 overs (reduced proportionately for reduced over matches). If a bowler breaks down, the remainder of the over will be bowled by another bowler. Such part of an over will count as a full over when working out each bowler's limit.
6. The side which scores the most runs shall be the winner.
7. If the scores are level, the teams shall complete in a one over per side eliminator to determine the winner.
 - a) The team batting second in the match will bat first in the one over eliminator.
 - b) The loss of two wickets in an over ends the team's one over innings.
 - c) The fielding regulations in place at the end of the game should be the same regulations used for the eliminator.
 - d) The side that scores the most runs will be the winner.
 - e) In the event of the teams having the same score after the one over per side eliminator being completed the process will be repeated until a winner is decided.
 - f) With each subsequent over the batsman and the bowler will change.
8. Fielding restrictions
 - a) At the instant of delivery, there may not be more than 5 fielders on the leg side.
 - b) Two semi-circles shall be drawn on the field of play. The semi-circles shall have as their centre the middle stump at either end of the pitch. The radius of each of the semi-circles shall be 25 yards (23 metres). The semi-circles shall be linked by two parallel straight lines drawn on the field. The fielding restriction areas should be marked by continuous painted white lines or 'dots' at 5-yard intervals.

- c) During the first 6 overs of each innings (in an uninterrupted match), only two fielders shall be permitted outside the 25-yard fielding restriction area at the instant of delivery.
 - d) For the remaining overs, no more than 5 fielders shall be permitted outside the 25-yard fielding restriction area
9. Fielding Restrictions for Reduced Matches. In circumstances where the number of overs for the team batting first is reduced, the number of overs for which the above restrictions shall apply 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 in reduced innings	No. of overs for which fielding restrictions will apply
5-6	1
7-9	2
10-13	3
14-16	4
17-19	5

In the event of an infringement of any of the above fielding restrictions, the square leg umpire shall call and signal 'No Ball'

10. Junior Fielding Restrictions. The standard ECB guidance on close fielding will be followed, and umpires should ensure these restrictions are not breached and must stop the game until the distance is correct.
11. If adverse conditions of weather or light interfere with normal play, the umpires can rearrange the number of overs to be bowled to ensure where possible both teams receive the same number of allocated overs, which must be a minimum of 5 overs to enable a result
- a) In rain affected games, if the stoppage occurs during the first innings overs will be reduced to enable both teams the opportunity to face the same number of overs (ensuring this is a minimum of 5 overs for each innings). If the stoppage occurs during the second innings, overs can be reduced accordingly to ensure a result is obtained
 - b) If the number of overs for the team batting second has to be reduced to fewer than the number of overs allocated to the team batting first, then the target score shall be reduced according to the innings run rate of the team that batted first. In the National Semi-Finals and Final DLS will be applied.
12. Wide Balls. Umpires are instructed to apply a strict and consistent interpretation in regard to this Law in order to prevent negative bowling wide of the wicket
13. Free Hit after a No Ball
- a) The delivery following a no ball shall be a free hit for whichever batter is facing it. Note: this applies to all modes of No ball with the exception of a short-

pitched delivery that passes or would have passed clearly over head-height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease.

- b) 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 batter is facing it.
- c) 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.
- d) Field changes are not permitted for free hit deliveries unless there is a change of striker or the No Ball was the result of a field restriction breach in which case the field may be changed to the extent of correcting the breach. However, in all circumstances, any fielder within 15 yards of the striker may retreat to a position on the same line no more than 15 yards from the striker.
- e) 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.

The National Finals will not be re-arranged. The Trophy will be shared.