



COMMUNITY



Club U8 Mini Super 8's Changes to competition for 2017

Change of age

As from 2017 the competition will be for Under 8's as opposed to Under 9's in previous years, please see below for full details regarding age restrictions including limitations for boys and girls. This is to align with the new ECB All Stars Cricket 5-8 years initiative which will be launching in April/May 2017 and future ECB plans to launch 9-12 programs in the future.

Kent Cricket Community Team is always looking to improve the competitions and services we provide to our clients.

In 2015 we altered the format of the finals day making it easier, simpler and fairer for the qualifying teams. This received fantastic feedback from the clubs involved and will remain in place.

As a direct result of feedback from clubs involved with the 2016 Club Mini Super 8's competition, we have made the following changes to the competition rules and format, mainly around the cluster stage of the competition for 2017 to help improve the experience for all involved, especially the junior players and those teams that do not make it to the finals.

Fixed dates for Festivals

Festivals will be held on selected Sunday mornings during the school term to help clubs to avoid availability issues around school holidays and events such as Father's day etc. Last year several clusters failed to organise tournaments promptly and were unable to complete fixtures after the start of the school holidays.

Finals day will then be held early September once the holidays have finished. Teams will be notified if they have qualified for finals day by mid-July so that they can prepare for the finals and make their players aware of the date for finals day as early as possible. We are aware that this may clash with other sports but the majority of clubs prefer and support this option.

Festival dates for 2017 will be;

Practise round - Sunday 21st May

Competition round 1- Sunday 11th June

Competition round 2- Sunday 25th June

Spare date/Friendly round- Sunday 9th July

Finals day- Sunday 10th September- KCCC Beckenham

We would recommend that clubs that play Sunday cricket do not host festivals on dates that they have a home fixture as festivals may over run.

These dates must be adhered to, **unless all clubs in the cluster agree to a change**, clubs should be aware these dates when they enter the competition, any clubs failing to attend on the specified dates will not be allowed to rearrange fixtures.

We also hope this will help to promote the competition more, as on these dates there will be a lot of activity on social media from all tournaments taking place, generating a real buzz around the events.



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More Matches

To ensure that the maximum numbers of games are available to clubs/players each cluster will have 1 practise festival before the actual competition begins. This will provide more games, enabling new teams/players and coaches to get used to the format before playing the competitive rounds of the competition. There will also be 1 spare date or friendly round after the competitive rounds. These can be used as competition dates should the competition rounds be affected by inclement weather, or they can be used to help teams practise and prepare ahead of finals day, to give additional squad members the chance to play or to introduce younger players to the format in preparation for next year's competition.

This was an option during last year's competition and clubs that had practise rounds found them really beneficial, **this year every cluster will have a practise round, 2 competition rounds and a spare/friendly round.**

This also helps to provide value for money for clubs, and gives more clubs chance to host competitions.

Rule regarding use of tees after 2 consecutive illegal deliveries.

This rule has been removed.



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CLUB UNDER 8 COMPETITION – INFORMATION / RULES

Mini Super 8's Competition 2017

Closing Date for Entry: Sunday 9th April 2017

(note: a limited number of entries may be accepted after this date, but it will not be possible to supply shirts for entries after this date)

KEY DATES:

Closing date for entries:	Sunday 23 rd April 2017
Group Clusters to be published:	Tuesday 2 nd May 2017
Local clusters to be played:	Practise round - Sunday 21st May Competition round 1- Sunday 11th June Competition round 2- Sunday 25th June Spare date/Friendly round- Sunday 9th July
Cluster results submitted by:	Monday 17 th July 2017
Finals Day teams announced:	Monday 17 th July 2017
Finals day:	Sunday 10 th September – KCCC- Beckenham

PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY:

This competition is a softball competition which is intended for beginners to cricket.

It is NOT intended for hardball players, and certainly NOT for regular league or Area program players.

Please honour the spirit of this competition, otherwise we will have to introduce strict legislation and checks on dates of birth, which is burdensome and we really want to avoid it if we can. It is intended to introduce children to the beauty of cricket and the spirit of the game.

Eligibility:

Boys must be under the age of 8 years old as of 31st August 2016. This generally means children in Primary School Year 3 or below.

Girls must be under the age of 9 years old as of 31st August 2016. This generally means children in Primary School Year 4 or below.

Players that are capable and have been playing regular hardball cricket are not eligible.

Coaching:

While encouragement and applause are welcomed, excessive coaching by umpires or managers, or any coaching by anyone from the sidelines (including spectators), is not permitted. Generally excessive coaching is regarded as anything that you would say to your players but not those of the opposition.

Format:

The competition will be organised into clusters of 4 to 6 teams in close geographical proximity.

All clubs will be given the opportunity to host a festival on a Sunday morning.

All matches will be played as mini festivals on Sunday mornings; dates for festivals are below;

Practise round - Sunday 21st May

Competition round 1- Sunday 11th June

Competition round 2- Sunday 25th June

Spare date/Friendly round- Sunday 9th July

Finals day- Sunday 10th September- KCCC Beckenham

Please consider these dates carefully when booking.



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Festival dates CANNOT be changed unless all clubs involved in the cluster agree, and with the permission of the competition organiser.

Timings may be altered to suit clubs in the cluster.

Common sense must prevail at all times; ultimately we want to provide as much cricket as possible for the juniors.



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Rules

- Each team should consist of a squad of no more than ten players and only eight players in each game. Players should be junior members of the cricket club. Please note the comments below about the level of experience we are targeting with this competition.
- A player can only be replaced during a match if injured.
- **All Boys must be under the age of 8 years old as of 31st August 2016.** Usually, this means they will be in Year 3 or below at primary school (but school year is not of itself a determinant of age). **Teams should be prepared AND EQUIPPED to show evidence of age if requested.**
All Girls must be under the age of 9 years old as of 31st August 2016.
At least 4 members of the squad must be Under 8 at midnight on 31 August 2016.
No more than 4 girls U9 per team i.e. an all-girls team must have at least 4 U8 girls playing.
- **Regular hard ball league or Area program players must NOT be included in the team. Any regular Area program or hard ball players reported or identified at any stage during this competition, including the finals, will be asked to stand down from the competition. Teams selecting regular hard ball league or Area program players may be disqualified at any time.**
- Each team must play each other team in the cluster **exactly** twice.
- A soft junior windball is to be used in each game. (not an incrediball)
- It is the manager's responsibility to have their team ready to play their game within ten minutes of the previous game finishing.
- If the teams are not ready then the team ready has the right to claim the game.
- The distance from wicket to wicket should be **16 yards**. Wickets can be prepared on a good quality outfield.
- All overs will be four ball overs.
- Every player must bowl one over including the wicket keeper.
- Batsmen may use Kwik cricket (plastic) bats or wooden bats, Kent Cricket recommend that all players use a bat of an appropriate size and weight.
- Wicket keepers are allowed to use wicket keeping gloves, if they wish. Standard rules of cricket apply regarding penalty runs should a fielder use a wicket keeping glove whilst the ball is live.
- Batsman can wear batting gloves if they wish.
- Although it may be easier to rotate player's clockwise one place after each over, it is not compulsory. It depends on your club's preference. Players do not all have to keep wicket; however, everyone must bowl one over in an innings.
- Each innings will start with a score of 200.
- An Innings will last for 8 overs, each batting pair occupy the crease for two four-ball overs.
- The playing area will have now boundary (no 4's/6's all runs must be run except wides/no balls)



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- A batsmen can be out by:
 - (i) bowled
 - (ii) caught
 - (iii) run out
 - (iv) stumped
 - (v) hit wicket

They **cannot** be out LBW, unless the batter deliberately blocks a ball, which would have hit the stumps, with his body.

- For every wicket, five runs are deducted from the total and the non-striker faces the next ball.
- At the end of each over, the batsmen should change ends.
- Each batting team will be umpired with their own team manager at the bowler's end and the opposing team manager at square leg or point.
- No fielder, except the wicketkeeper, can enter the 'no fielder' safety zone until the ball has been hit. The zone is a circle, radius 8 metres, around the batting crease. Wicketkeepers must be far enough back from the wickets to be out of range of a swinging bat.
- If a fielder is in the zone, then any umpire calls a no ball. If the wicketkeeper encroaches beyond a safe distance, the umpire immediately calls a dead ball.
- If at any time, there is an unexpected intervention in the game, such as player from a neighbouring game intruding, or audible coaching from the sidelines, the umpire immediately calls a dead ball.
- Except in the final over of the innings, if a wide ball or no ball is bowled, **TWO** runs, **plus any extra runs scored**, will be added to the total and there will not be an extra ball.
- If no balls or wides are bowled in the **last** over, extra balls are to be bowled until 4 legitimate deliveries are completed. **Two** runs, **plus any extra runs scored**, will be added to the total.
- If a dead ball is called, the ball is replayed.
- A ball that bounces three times or more before reaching the batsman will be classed as a no ball.
- If any runs are taken on a no ball or wide they are added to the total plus the extra. E.g. if a pair run 1 on a wide, it is a total of 3 runs.
- There will be 24 places available for finals day.
- Teams will be split into clusters of 4, 5 or 6 teams, based on close geographic location.
 - Clusters of 4 teams - 1 qualifier for finals day (1st place).
 - Clusters of 5 teams - 1-2 qualifiers for finals day (1 automatic qualifier, second- dependant on number of clusters, will be decided by points total followed by 'Runs scored + (wickets taken x 10)- see below, if points tied)
 - Clusters of 6 teams - 2 qualifiers for finals day (1st/2nd).



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- If a team wins they score 3 points, tie 2 points and lose 1 point. There are no bowl-outs to resolve tied games or leagues, except in the final on finals day, when a bowl out at a set of stumps will decide the winner.
- A tie on points in any cluster or group (finals day) will be decided by using the following formula;
$$\text{Runs scored} + (\text{wickets taken} \times 10)$$

The team with the higher value will be placed highest. Because of this, it is essential that scores and wickets are recorded accurately at each fixture.
- If a leg is cancelled due to the weather then the leg must be rearranged if at all possible using the spare date of Sunday 9th July.
- **Cluster results must be submitted to Matthew Fagg by Sunday 17th July 2016.**
- In all matters of arbitration, the decision made by the competition organiser is final.

Matthew Fagg– Kent Cricket Community Team
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