**The 2025 Cricket Paper National Girls U18 100 Ball Cup**

Rules and Regulations

The competition shall forthwith be known as ‘The Cricket Paper National Girls U18 100 Ball Cup’. The competition organiser is Gwen Davies (Schools Cricket Committee). The competition will run from April to July, but the final may need to be played in September at the discretion of the organiser. The competition is open to bona-fide full-time students in year 13 or below of the school/college concerned, in the academic year of the event. Players must have been full time students in the Autumn and Spring terms preceding the summer term competition. In the event of a September final, players must have been full time students in the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms preceding the September final. If a school / college has a pupil that is a contracted professional cricketer (rookie or otherwise) within their squad, and is turning or has turned 19 or older during the period of 1st September 2024 through to August 31st 2025, they will not be eligible for this competition. The breaking of either regulation, inadvertently or deliberately, will result in disqualification from the competition at the discretion of the organiser. Please contact the tournament organiser on the below email if you have any queries with the above ruling. The closing date for entries will be January 4th 2025 after which a draw, with dates for all rounds, will be sent to all competing schools/colleges. An entry fee of £55 to cover administrative costs must be received before March 31st 2025. Failure to do so will mean your place being offered to a school on a reserve list. In the event of withdrawal, the fee will only be refundable if notice is given before March 31st 2025 and a replacement team can be found. The home team will be responsible for organising individual rounds in conjunction and agreement with the away team. There is nothing to stop away team managers being pro-active in contacting opponents, however. Matches can be played on any day of the week and should be arranged as far in advance of the final date for organising the round to allow for postponements due to weather etc. Extensions will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the organiser. Where the home team is unable to provide a suitable venue for the match, the fixture must be reversed and played at the away team venue to ensure the match is completed by the due date. If a match is not played by the due date, the organiser will progress one team to the next round based either on a voluntary walkover given to one team over the other, on one team’s inability to play the game or toss of the coin.

The Match

The Laws of Cricket and The Hundred regulations will apply except where specified below.

Matches shall consist of one innings per team of 100 balls (20 sets – 5 ball sets), or less if the start is delayed or if there are rain delays, as mutually agreed. If the team batting first is bowled out in less than the allocated balls, unused balls will not be available to the team batting last. A bowler will bowl 5 legal deliveries in one set, that same bowler can bowl 10 consecutive legal deliveries if they choose to. There will be a change of ends after ten balls (two sets), regardless of whether one or two bowlers have bowled those 10 balls.

No bowler will bowl more than FOUR sets (20 balls). In the event of an innings being reduced, balls will be restricted on a pro-rata basis. The fielding side is expected to bowl their 100 balls within an hour, at a rate of 5 sets per 15 minutes.

In the event of a bowler being unable to complete a set, the remaining balls will be bowled by another bowler. Such parts of sets will be counted as full sets in both bowler’s allocations.

FREE HITS – free hits will be awarded for waist high and foot fault NO BALLS.

The minimum sets permitted at the start of play shall be 5 SETS per side (25 balls) (fielding restrictions will be reduced on a pro-rata basis with those set out later).

In the event of an interruption, rain or otherwise, the full allocation of sets may still be played despite an interruption, by mutual consent, if sufficient time is thought to be available. In the event that the full allocation cannot be played, the revised target score should be set for the number of sets which the team batting second will have the opportunity of facing. This revised method being calculated by the Duckworth/Lewis method used on Play Cricket or PCS Pro. For an interrupted match to be completed the team batting second must receive a minimum of 5 sets.

If the scores finish level in the knockout rounds, then the team losing the fewer wickets shall be the winner. If scores and wickets are level, then a super set is to be played. If the scores finish level in the final stage of the competition, a super set is to be played.

If a result is required and both teams have travelled to the ground with rain interrupting either the start or part of the match, and there is no time to play 5 sets – a bowl out is to be played where safely possible to produce a result. If a bowl out is not viable due to unsafe conditions, a toss of a coin will be made by the tournament organiser.

Fielding Restrictions – Power Plays

A 25 yard (23m) fielding circle is required and should be clearly marked. Two fielders only shall be allowed outside the 25-yard circle during the powerplay (Sets 1-5, 25 balls). Thereafter, four players shall be allowed outside the 25-yard circle until the 20 sets (100 balls) are bowled.

Match Balls & Kit

In all matches leading up to the final a new 5oz pink ball must be used for each innings, the home team are responsible for providing the match balls. The official Newbery 5oz Pink ball will be used in the final.

It is preferred that schools wear coloured clothing for this competition, however due to the ball being pink, whites are acceptable. Black sight screens are not then required.

The winning team will be responsible for notifying the result of the match as soon as possible by email, including details of any significant performances (individual scores over 35, three wickets or more, century partnerships, hat-tricks etc). Both first and surname should be included.

Reports and results will be circulated to all teams taking part and in The Cricket Paper.

Gwen Davies – Tournament Organiser

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