



**Leinster Cricket Union
Season 2017**

General Playing Regulations and Administration

LEINSTER CRICKET UNION OPEN COMPETITIONS

GENERAL PLAYING REGULATIONS [2017]

1 ELIGIBLE PLAYERS

1.1 To be eligible to play in a cricket match conducted under the aegis of the Leinster Cricket Union a person must, subject to regulation 1.2, meet one of the following criteria:

- [i] be eligible to play international cricket for Ireland under current International Cricket Council [ICC] Rules
- [ii] be approved by the Open Competitions Committee to play cricket in Leinster as an Overseas Player in accordance with Regulation 1.3
- [iii] be an EU national resident in Ireland
- [iv] be a non-EU national resident in Ireland who is entitled to reside and work in Ireland or a full-time student of a recognised second or third level college in Ireland¹,
- [iv] be part of a 'cricket exchange programme' as approved by the Development Committee under regulation 1.5.

1.2 A person shall not be eligible to play cricket in a Leinster competition under S1.1 [ii], [iii],[iv] or [v] if that person has played, within the previous 12 months, in a First Class Match as defined by the ICC or in an overs competition for countries, provinces or regions that would normally participate in First Class Cricket or such other overs competitions as the Open Competitions Committee considers the equivalent of the above. This regulation does not apply if the first class match(es) played were in competition(s) under the auspices of Cricket Ireland.

1.3 A club may apply to register an Overseas Player subject to the following conditions:

- (i) the application for registration must be made to the Open Competitions committee before 1st May,
- (ii) the applicant must have a valid employment visa / work permit,
- (iii) the applicant must hold suitable cricket coaching qualifications and be available to provide up to two hours coaching services to the LCU per week, the details to be agreed between the LCU and the club.
- (iv) the applicant must provide evidence of police vetting to satisfy child protection requirements.

1.4 In exceptional circumstances a club may apply to register an Overseas Player under Regulation 1.3 after the 1st May. It shall be at the discretion of the Open Competitions Committee to determine if such circumstances apply in a particular case.

1.5 To be eligible for registration under Regulation 1.1, the following must apply.

- (i) The application must be made by a second level educational establishment on behalf of a pupil. The application must be submitted by 30th November and the pupil must not have played first class cricket.
- (ii) The age limit should be the same as that for ICC Under 17 tournaments. This to apply whether or not the pupil is from an Associate country.
- (iii) Exchanges can be agreed between schools and the Development Officers ONLY. However in ALL cases the Cricket Leinster Development Committee will approve all agreements and subsequent applications.
- (iv) The Development Committee will ask clubs to apply to host pupils coming in through the development officers and will make the allocation.

¹ This regulation requires that the person concerned has the appropriate work permit or employment or student visa but does not apply to persons permitted to work in Ireland on foot of a Working Holiday Authorisation of less than 12 months duration nor does it cover non-EU nationals who have come to Ireland by any form of prior arrangement with a club. Such persons will normally be classed as overseas players in accordance with regulation 1.1 (ii).

Draft Criteria for ALL clubs who host pupils are:

- a) the club must field a team in the relevant age group in youth competitions
- b) They will also ask clubs to nominate a player who will be the exchange.
- c) they must be housed with people of a similar age
- d) Garda vetting and child protection must be in place in the club and in the host house
- e) the committee must be satisfied that the exchange will benefit the players and the club
- f) a plan for entertaining the pupil outside cricket must be in place and submitted with the application

1.6 No more than one Overseas Player will be eligible to play for a club in any competitive match played under the auspices of the Union, unless and to the extent that the Open Competitions Committee shall determine otherwise.

2 REGISTRATION

2.1 All players intending to play in the current season must be registered with the LCU, using the registration system on the Cricket Leinster website. A player will not be permitted to play in a match or be included in starrings until he has been properly registered in such a manner.

2.2 (i) The registration process includes the payment of a fee to the LCU, the level of such fee to be set by the Executive Committee of the LCU.

(ii) The registration process includes the provision of photo identification for the purposes of evidence of identity for competitions. An individual who has not provided it is not registered properly and playing him leaves a team open to sanction.

(iii) Any queries regarding player identity in competition shall be reported to OCC who may impose such sanction as they see fit if they are satisfied that any attempt at identity fraud has been committed.

2.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the registration of a player does not imply compliance with the criteria for eligibility to play in a cricket match under the aegis of the Leinster Cricket Union as set out under Regulation 1. In this context, where a player falling under items 1. 1 [iii] or [iv] (note footnote 1) above with previous cricketing experience (particularly if this is outside Leinster), joins a club for the first time, the club must immediately make contact with OCC, provide such details as OCC may require and obtain specific approval for the player. Until this is done, playing such a player or including him/her in a starring list without such approval may lead to the OCC imposing sanction."

2.4 (i) Players may not be registered to play for more than one club at any one time. However a general exception is provided to players registered with Dublin University in that they may at the same time be registered for another club in respect of competitions in which Dublin University teams do not participate - see 3.5 below in relation to eligibility of DU players for such competitions. For the avoidance of doubt, a player may play in a league fixture for his/her second club only when the scheduled Dublin University fixtures for the team on which s/he is listed (all eleven players) on the Dublin University starring list in force at the time are completed.

(ii) Any player changing club must first notify the former club of his/her intention to do so. The player must then file a request to change club under the system on the Cricket Leinster website. Any such request received is immediately forwarded to the player's existing club who have the right to object. Any such objection must be submitted to the website and copied to the Secretary of the OCC within 4 days. If no objection is received within that period, the change will be actioned, but see (iv) below regarding a "cooling off" period. If consent is being refused, the reasons for this must be specified. Clubs may not withhold their consent to a player moving unreasonably. In this context, any player who plays for his/her club after 1st July in a particular season will be deemed to be a person of good standing with that club unless OCC is shown by the club that there is good reason why this should not be so (footnotes 1 and 2). If the OCC upholds the objection, the change cannot occur unless

and until the matter is resolved between the player and the former club or OCC is satisfied that reasonable attempts at resolution have been made and the objection can no longer be upheld.

(iii) The OCC may separately refuse a transfer or allow it subject to certain conditions if it is considered unreasonable having regard e.g. to the number and type of matches already played by the player for his/her former club that season. In this context, players and clubs should note in particular 2.5 below regarding appearances in cup competitions.

(iv) A “cooling off” period of at least ten days applies between appearances for different clubs. Failure to observe this may lead to sanction.

(v) There is no charge for changing club during a season.

2.5 A player shall not be permitted to play in the semi-final or final of a cup competition if he has not been registered to play for the club at the date of a previous round of the relevant competition. This regulation does not apply to players registered initially with Dublin University Cricket Club. A player being registered for a club on or after 1st August shall not be eligible to play in a league competition match without the specific permission of the Open Competitions Committee³. A player being registered for a club for the first time shall not be eligible to play in a cup competition if he has already played for his former club in a cup competition.

2.6 It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure that players competing in any match under the aegis of the LCU are registered. Failure to ensure compliance may result in the OCC overturning a result, declaring a match void or deducting points. In extreme cases a monetary fine, as determined by the Finance Committee of the LCU may be imposed by that committee.

2.7 Any notice required to be given or any correspondence from the LCU shall be sent by e/mail to the address provided by the club concerned or, if no such address is provided, to the Secretary of the club as set out on the Cricket Leinster website. Correspondence from clubs should be sent by e/mail to michaelsharp@eircom.net.

¹ For the purpose of determining what is an unreasonable withholding of consent to move club, the fact that a person is of good standing with the former club will weigh heavily in deciding the matter.

² It may be deemed reasonable to refuse consent if the appearance after 1st July was on the basis of an agreement to pay a subscription on a phased basis over a period, this agreement was being adhered to at the time of the appearance but was later broken by the player.

³ In general permission will only be granted in the following situations

- a) The individual is a player of very little previous experience and is essentially only “making up the numbers” on the club’s lower teams or
- b) The individual is a player who is well known to OCC who has not been playing recently and is to play at level(s) commensurate with past performances.

3 LEAGUE AND CUP STARRING LISTS

3.1 Each club shall submit on the LCU website starring system, before the second Wednesday of April in each year, or such other date as the OCC may prescribe, a complete list of its regular playing members arranged in order of selection: 1st XI, 2nd XI, etc.

3.2 Updated player lists shall be submitted in the same manner before the second Wednesday of each subsequent month from May to September. Revised lists shall come into effect on the Saturday following the second Wednesday in each

month except with the specific permission of the Secretary of the Open Competitions Committee. Lists may only be altered once a month in this way except where a player is being removed as required under regulation 6.1 below or for Dublin University players or because of exceptional circumstances which have been explained to and accepted by the Secretary of the Open Competitions Committee

- 3.3 For league matches eight names shall be marked ("starred") on each team as being ineligible to play on any lower team but may play on any higher team. The three names not marked on each team shall be eligible to play for the next lowest team in the club but not below that. Only one of these three players may play in a particular match for the lower team.
- 3.3 For cup matches the league starring list shall apply subject to the following:
Eight names shall be marked ("starred") on each team as being ineligible to play on any lower team but may play on any higher team.
The three names not marked on each team shall be eligible to play for the next lowest team in the club but not below that. Only one of these three players may play in a particular match for the lower team. Players cannot play more than one Cup Final in any season without the express approval of the OCC.
- 3.4 Players who are not available on a regular basis should not be included on a starring list. By regular is meant that they should be known to be available for at least one match within the forthcoming four week period (see para 6). Players not so available should not be included on a starring list and are regarded as other registered players. Such players are not necessarily eligible for all levels. They should play only at a level broadly commensurate with their ability and in accordance with the level at which they may have been starred and/or played in the recent past. A club may request a ruling on any such player at the time when a list is being submitted.
- 3.5 Eligibility of players registered for Dublin University for competitions in which that club does not compete - As per 2.4 (i) above, such players are eligible, but only for competitions as determined by their position on the Dublin University starring list in force at the time.
- 3.6 Playing Ability - The Open Competitions Committee (or any club who has a team participating in the same competition as the 1st eleven of the Club to whose player objection is being made) may object to a player of another club playing for its 1st eleven in any competition run under the auspices of the Union on the grounds that the cricketing ability of the individual concerned is so much in excess of the standard generally pertaining in such competition as to make such player's participation unfair to other players and teams participating therein and/or contrary to the best interests of cricket in Leinster. Any such objection shall be notified in writing or email (setting out fully the grounds relied upon) to the Secretary of the Open Competitions Committee. The matter shall then be referred to the Open Competitions Committee for consideration and determination at the earliest opportunity.
Any appeal arising may be made to the LCU Appeals Committee. In the event of a decision being made by the Open Competitions Committee. In the event of an appeal against such decision, the player in question is bound by the decision of the Open Competitions Committee until the appeal is determined as to whether such player is or is not entitled to play in the appropriate competitions.
- 3.7 Representative Players - Players who are regularly selected on representative teams (Inter Provincial/Regional Competition) shall not play below their club's first eleven. A player is regarded as a regular selection when he is chosen (original or substitute) for two such matches in the same season. His ineligibility dates from the time his selection (original or substitution) becomes known.
- 3.8 Sub-fielders - In all league and cup competitions sub-fielders are allowed in accordance with the laws of cricket but shall be of the same grade or lower than the player leaving the field. Exceptions to this may be agreed by the captain of the batting side who shall not withhold consent unreasonably.

4 QUALIFICATION FOR COMPETITIONS RUN BY CRICKET IRELAND

4.1 Qualifiers for the Irish Senior Cup

- 4.1.1 The 8 teams in Division 1 at the start of the 2017 season will qualify for the ISC 2018.
- 4.1.2 Team(s) promoted from Division 2 to Division 1 at the end of the 2017 season will qualify for the ISC 2018.
- 4.1.3 If there are further places in the ISC available to LCU based teams they will be allocated in the order of league finish from the 2017 season. In this context Cork County shall be regarded as a Munster Cricket Union team.
- 4.1.4 Any team not eligible to enter the cup under CI rules shall be excluded from the above determination

4.2 Qualifiers for the National Cup (or equivalent)

- 4.2.1 This competition is open to teams as per the criteria set by Cricket Ireland
- 4.2.2 Eligible teams for 2018 will be allocated places in the order of their league placings from the 2017 season

5 STARRING OF PLAYERS CHANGING CLUBS

Where a player changes clubs as per regulation 2.4, he must be immediately removed from starring lists of his old club and revised lists submitted. The new club shall on making his registration, seek approval for the level at which they propose to play him. He shall not normally however be included on their starring list until the next scheduled update except where a change has to be made under regulation 6.1. If such a player has played in a cup competition for the first club, he is ineligible to play for his second club in any cup competition, including mid-week competitions.

6 UNAVAILABILITY OF PLAYERS/ACCEPTABILITY OF LISTS

- 6.1 Where a player on a starring list has not appeared in at least one league or cup game in four successive weekends*, the club is expected to remove his name and submit a revised list even if it occurs between OCC meetings. The OCC will be monitoring such matters and will review them at its monthly meetings. Where a club has failed in this regard it is open to sanction by OCC. In considering such matters the OCC will take into account the number of games in which the individual could have played and any explanations the club may offer. In exceptional circumstances, such as prolonged inclement weather, the Open Competitions Committee may decide to waive this regulation. Where a game commences but is not completed for weather or other reasons, a result card shall be submitted in the normal way. Where this is done and the OCC is satisfied with the content, it will be counted as an appearance by a player for the purposes of this regulation. A player removed under this regulation will normally remain ineligible for any lower side at least until after the next meeting of the Open Competitions Committee, at which approval for an alteration in eligibility may be sought. This regulation applies in the case of a cup competition from which the particular team has been eliminated but in such cases the OCC will consider whether or not the individual played in the match in which the team was eliminated. Where a list is being amended between OCC meetings under this regulation, players from the "other registered players" list – see regulation 3.4 above – who have now played within the starring period in question may be included. Players may also be moved up from lower teams to fill gaps. Players may not however be moved down without the specific permission of the OCC. Also in the case of clubs with three teams or more, the OCC may decide to be less stringent in the application to the lower teams of that club particularly if these teams play in Division 8 or below.

* Note that appearances in a midweek T20 cup competitions do not count for the purposes of this regulation.

- 6.2 Lists submitted shall be based on merit. Clubs may be asked by the Open Competitions Committee to furnish explanations for any discrepancies or in respect of any particular entry and/or instructed to make alterations in lists.
- 6.3 Any player who is suspended from playing for more than one match or more than one week should be immediately removed from the starring list for the duration of their suspension.

7 PENALTIES

- 7.1 If it becomes evident to the Open Competitions Committee that a breach of these regulations has occurred, they shall have the authority to issue a warning to the club concerned or impose a penalty including the deduction of points, the declaration of a match to be void, or the reversal of the result of any match affected by the breach of the regulations.
- 7.2 The OCC reserves the right to act upon any incident that it considers against the principle of a duty to act fairly that is not specifically covered by these regulations.

8 MATCH BALLS

- 8.1 Only four piece leather balls may be used in cup and league games. Complaints regarding balls should be made to the Open Competitions Committee. Also see regulation 21 below as to the balls to be used in various competitions.

9. ADMINISTRATION

9.1 Fixtures

Fixtures for Division 1 and Division 2 shall be made by the Open Competitions Committee. In all other leagues, with the exception of Dublin University 2nd and 3rd XIs, each side shall arrange two fixtures with each other in its grade on a home and away basis. Dublin University 2nd and 3rd XIs shall arrange one fixture with other teams in their league.

9.2 Promotion and Relegation

a) For all divisions, the two teams finishing at the top of a league table will normally be promoted one league for the following season and the two teams finishing at the bottom of a league will normally be relegated one league for the following season [see exception for Div 1/2 in b) below]. The Open Competitions Committee may rule against a particular promotion for such reasons as the unsuitability of a ground for a particular league or the undesirability of having two teams from a club in the same league. Also the Committee may decide to promote or relegate team(s) other than those in the top or bottom two places and/or may promote or relegate more or less than two teams should they feel such action merited and/or in the interest of maintaining balanced league structures. Similarly the Committee may promote or relegate a team more than one league up or down respectively should they deem it appropriate.

In Divisions 1-2 league positions will be determined on an aggregate points basis. In matches involving Dublin University 1st XI, the points available to each side will be double the norm shown in paragraph 21.8 of the Regulations governing these competitions. In Divisions 3 – 14 league positions will be determined on a percentage basis.

b) In Divisions 1 and 2 the team that finishes second last in Division 1 and the team that finishes second in Division 2 shall hold a play-off match to be held in Merrion C.C. on Saturday 16th September with the winner playing in Division 1 in 2018 and the loser playing in Division 2. The play-off will be played under the normal regulations for these leagues apart from the Starting Time which shall be 11.00 a.m..

Should the play-off not yield a result, the league placings will determine promotion/relegation in the normal way.

9.3 Equality of points percentages

In the event of two teams finishing exactly level on points or percentages obtained in a final league table, the following system shall be used to resolve the matter

- a) if two teams tie - points obtained in matches between the teams
- b) if more than two teams tying or if a) does not resolve it then NRR on matches between the teams will be used.
- c) If b) still does not separate them all then wickets taken in all league matches will be used.
- d) If c) still does not separate them all then aggregate runs scored in all league matches will be used.

9.3. Refixing of postponed games

Games called off for reasons other than weather

All matches called off for reasons other than weather must be re-fixed. No fixtures made and appearing on the LCU website may be altered for any reason without the prior permission of the Open Competitions Committee or, in case of emergency, a sub-committee of the Open Competitions committee in accordance with LCU Rule 9.1.1.

9.3.1 Applies to Division 1-4 & Senior Cup only

9.3.1.1 The match must be re-fixed on the first available date after the original fixture. Matches in a lower league (at or below Division 9) may be postponed to accommodate this.

9.3.1.2 Within three days of the original fixture the home club should provide to the OCC three re-fix dates that fall within a 14 day period of the original fixture. This will be offered to the away club by the OCC and one of those dates must be accepted. Either club may make a submission to the OCC to deviate from the 14 day rule.

9.3.1.3 Should the teams not be able to agree on a date the OCC will select a date, usually but not limited to the three dates provided for above.

9.3.2 Applies to all other matches

9.3.2.1 Within three days of the original fixture the home club should provide to the OCC three re-fix dates that fall within a 14 day period of the original fixture (before scheduled date of next round for cup matches). This will be offered to the away club by the OCC and one of those dates must be accepted. Either club may make a submission to the OCC to deviate from the 14 day rule.

9.3.2.2 Should the teams not be able to agree on a date the OCC will select a date, usually but not limited to the three dates provided for above.

9.3.2.3 If **both** clubs agree the match may be re-fixed as a 20 over midweek match.

9.3.2.4 Where the teams have already played each other in a league match and the re-arranged match is abandoned for weather reasons it does not need to be further re-fixed.

9.3.2.5 Where both fixtures between teams are postponed, efforts should be made to re-fix both. The OCC may however sanction that only one need be. In such cases, it will normally be the fixture that would have occurred first.

Penalties for non-compliance with re-fixing regulations

9.3.2.6 If the clubs are unable to arrange a date within a period of 14 days of the original match both teams may be penalised up to 25 league points.

9.3.2.7 Should there be any reason, e.g. ground closure, that would prevent the re-scheduling of the match within the entire 14 day period the OCC may at its discretion recommence the 14 day period from a set date.

9.3.2.8 The OCC reserves the right, on appeal, to suspend a points penalty against either or both teams.

9.3.2.9 Where the Committee is satisfied that reasonable attempts have been made without success to find a new date, it may declare the fixture void.

10. REFIXING OF NO RESULT MATCHES (i.e. those which for weather reasons do not yield a result)

10.1 Divisions 1-2 (inclusive)

10.1.1 Apart from the exceptions in 10.1.3 below, all league matches in Divisions 1 to 2 inclusive for which no result is possible due to weather shall be re-fixed as follows. The match shall be played on the home team's ground as a 20 over a side game on a weekday evening no later than 28 days following the date of the original fixture. Should the clubs fail to agree a date within this timescale, the game will be played on the last Friday of the 28 day period day and will take precedence over all matches scheduled for that date.

10.1.2 The playing regulations and points allocations for such fixtures shall be as for a 50 over a side match which has been subject to overs reduction to 20 overs a side on the originally scheduled date.

10.1.2 Should it not be possible for weather reasons to achieve a result on the refixed date, the game shall not be further refixed. The fixture will be recorded as a no result match and 8 points awarded to each side.

10.1.3 The only exceptions to the above are where

- a) the clubs agree to play a match of between 20 and 50 overs a side (both inclusive) on a date within the above timescale without this involving the cancelling of any other scheduled fixture of any grade and with the prior approval of the Open Competitions Committee or
- b) the fixture involves Cork County. In these cases the same timescale applies but irrespective of who was the home team in the original fixture, the refixture shall be a 20 over match played in Laois C.C.
- c) in Divisions 1/2, the original fixture was scheduled for a date after 16th August. In such cases, the game must be refixed but the precise arrangements for such refixture are a matter for the clubs concerned, subject to approval by OCC. The latest date for all such fixtures is Wednesday 13th September.

Regulation 10.1.5 below concerning keeping OCC informed on the situation applies to all such refixtures.

10.1.4 The process of agreeing a refixture should commence as soon as it is evident that the original fixture will not yield a result. If this happens after there has been some play, the LCUSA are happy that the official umpires on the day can assist where possible, in agreeing a refix date. The deadline for reaching agreement is 12.00 midday on the Friday week following the date of the original fixture. Obviously agreement to play the refixture before this deadline is acceptable. Should there be no agreement by this deadline, the final sentence of a) above will apply and the match will be automatically fixed for the last Friday of the 28 day period..

10.1.5 The OCC and the LCUSA should be informed of the refixture date immediately agreement is reached or of failure to do so at the deadline specified in e) above. All verbal exchanges on the matter should be confirmed by e-mail and the OCC provided with copies of all correspondence in this regard at the time when they are generated. If for any reason, a refixture does not happen, the OCC shall investigate the matter and shall be entitled to impose a sanction on one or both teams.

10.1.6 Although the LCUSA will make every effort will to provide official LCU&SA umpires, the nature of a refixture at short notice may not permit this. If no official LCU&SA umpires can be provided regulation 44.6 of the Competition Regulations for Divs 1 – 4 apply.

10.2 Divisions 3 to 16 (inclusive)

10.2.1 With the exception of Division 8 and Divisions 13 to 16 inclusive, league matches in Divisions 3 to 16 inclusive for which no result is possible due to weather shall not be refixed.

10.2.2 In Division 8 and Divisions 13 to 16, the following shall apply. If within three days of the original fixture, the clubs concerned agree a new date for the match, it may be refixed. Should this game also yield no result, it shall not be further refixed unless it falls under 10.2.3

10.2.3 Where both fixtures between two teams in a league have not yielded a result, the match which was scheduled first shall normally be the one to be refixed.

10.2.4 In all cases regulation 10.1.5 above concerning keeping the OCC informed applies.

11. POSTPONEMENTS

The procedure for seeking a postponement shall be as follows:

- 11.1 a) A club seeking a postponement shall contact the Open Competitions Committee Secretary stating its reason for so doing. If the Secretary consents to the postponement the club shall contact the opposing club and advise of the position. The Secretary may however leave the matter of consent to the opposing club.
- (b) If the Secretary and the opponent agree to the postponement, the match shall be rearranged in accordance with 9.3 above and the onus of making the re-fixture shall be on the club which sought the postponement.
- (c) If the opponent refuses to agree to the postponement it will contact the Secretary giving its reasons for opposing the postponement which may or may not be accepted.

- 11.2 If a game is cancelled or conceded by a club for reasons which do not satisfy the Open Competitions Committee or if no explanation is forthcoming the following procedure shall apply:
- (a) If the Committee is satisfied that for weather reasons the postponed match could not have taken place on the appointed day it shall award no points to either club but the match shall count as a game played in the record of the club in default only. The record of the inconvenienced club shall not be affected.
- (b) If the Committee is satisfied that the postponed match could have taken place on the appointed day it shall regard the match as a game played and shall award walkover points as follows:
- (i) The team that receives the walkover will be credited with 20 points out of 20, 100%
- (ii) The team that concedes the walkover will be penalized 15 points, giving them an effective score of -15 from 25 points, -60%
- (c) In considering whether the match could have been played on the appointed day the Committee will have regard to other matches played on that day in the area where the postponed match was due to have been played. In order to constitute a game played at least 50% of the overs would have to have been bowled in those other matches or in most of them.
- 11.3 **Late Postponements** - If a club fails to fulfil a fixture and has not given its opponents at least three days notice (i.e. Wednesday for Saturday, Thursday for Sunday) then, in addition to any points conceded, the defaulting club may be at the discretion of the Open Competitions Committee subject to a minimum fine of €10 payable to the union. The Committee may impose a higher fine if it is felt that the circumstances warrant it and/or may order the defaulting club to make good any expenses incurred by the inconvenienced club. Where a club is giving notice of a cancellation it must ensure that such notice is given directly to a responsible and identifiable official of the opposing club. Where fines remain unpaid at the end of a season the club concerned will not be permitted to make fixtures until payment is received.
- 11.4 **Cancellation of fixtures through inability to field a team** - Where a club has a number of fixtures scheduled for the same day and finds that it is unable to field all sides, it is the lower/lowest fixture(s) which must be cancelled first. Only in exceptional circumstances and with prior permission of the Open Competitions Committee, will a team be allowed to fulfill a fixture and earn points if a higher team fixture has been cancelled through inability to field a side. This will also apply with regard to the making of refixtures.
- 11.5 **Persistent failure to fulfill fixtures** - Where a team (or a club) is adjudged by the Open Competitions Committee to be persistent offenders in cancelling games without adequate reason or notice, the Committee has the power to impose a points deduction penalty equal to and in addition to any walkover points penalty applied. The Committee may also reverse the venue of any forthcoming corresponding league fixture. (This provision will apply in particular to cancellation of fixtures which involve travel to or from venues outside the main Dublin area).

12 SUBMISSION OF MATCH INFORMATION (including Protests and Claims)

- 12.1 **Match information result submission. (All divisions)** - The result of the match should be recorded on the LCU website by the home team by midnight of the first Tuesday after the finish of the match. The match scorecard should also be submitted by the home team in respect of all competition games, by midnight of the first Tuesday after the finish of the match. All match information must be submitted in a manner approved by the Open Competitions Committee. Note that where a match commences but ends without a result being reached, a result card should still be submitted for starring purposes.
- 12.2 **Grading of Umpires** - Where the Leinster Cricket Umpires & Scorers' Association has provided umpires, **both** teams should access the online grading report forms by going to <https://www.whotheumpire.com/> logging and completing and submitting the form.
- 12.3 **Penalty** - Where any of the above information is not received by midnight of the first Tuesday after the finish of the match, up to 5 points may be deducted from the record of the defaulting side or such other penalty as the Committee may decide to impose.
- 12.4 **Protests/Claims** - All protests and claims for points should be sent in writing to reach the Open Competitions Committee Secretary and the secretary of the opposing club, within 7 days of the match to which they relate. Full

details of the case should be specified and the result submission procedure is not appropriate for this purpose.

13 END OF SEASON

Sunday 17th September is the final date for all league games in all grades. Points will not be awarded for games played after this date except where they have been specifically sanctioned.

14 PLAYER AWARDS

Player Awards will be made as per the structure outlined on the Cricket Leinster Website.

15. THE PITCH

- 15.1 Between the innings of any game the wicket shall be swept and rolled for not more than seven minutes, if so desired by the side batting second.
- 15.2 In games continuing beyond one day the following regulations shall apply. Before the time of commencement of play on each day after the first, the wicket shall be cut and swept under the supervision of the umpires. Before the time of commencement on each day the wicket shall be rolled for not more than seven minutes, if so desired by the batting side.
- 15.3 Should a match be abandoned after commencement for reasons other than weather a report must be sent by the umpires to the OCC. If there are no LCU&SA appointed umpires to the match the OCC will seek a report from the host club.
- 15.4 Subject to the contents of the report the OCC may take action against the host club including but not limited to the reversal of the result of the match.

16 NON-TURF WICKETS

- 16.1 League matches in all grades may be played on non turf wickets.
- 16.2 For matches in Division 1 & 2 and in the Senior Cup the following shall apply:
 - 16.2.1 Clubs should notify opposing teams before April 1st which scheduled fixtures will be played on non turf wickets. If, for weather or other reasons, a home club subsequently wishes to change a fixture from grass to a non-turf pitch (or vice versa) they should notify the opposition at least two days before the day of the match. If, on the day of the match, the scheduled surface is unplayable and the alternative is, then play may only commence with the agreement of both captains and umpires. If the pitch is changed under these circumstances, or no play is possible at all, a report must be sent by the umpires to the OCC and the OCC may take action against the host club including but not limited to the reversal of the result of the match.
 - 16.2.2 For matches in Divisions 3-14, and all cups below Senior, 16.3 below shall apply:
- 16.3 Clubs should at the start of the season notify opposing teams that certain scheduled fixtures will be played on non-turf pitches. If, for weather or other reasons, a home club subsequently wishes to change a fixture from grass to a non-turf pitch (or vice versa) they should notify the opposition at least two days before the day of the match. If on the day of the match, the scheduled surface is unplayable and the alternative is, then play may only commence with the agreement of both captains.

17 SAFETY OF YOUNG PLAYERS

Restrictions apply in this regard. These are contained in an appendix (normally appendix 3) in each of the various sets of competition regulations.

18 CHILD PROTECTION

The provisions set out in the Child Protection section on the Cricket Leinster website apply to all activities.

19. UNFAIR PLAY

Provisions covering this are contained in the various competition regulations.

20. SUSPECT BOWLING ACTIONS

20.1 LCUSA Procedure

The following is the recommended process to be followed in the event that an Umpire suspects that, in his/her opinion, an individual player's bowling action may not conform to the Laws of Cricket.* NOTE: This process does not apply to a clear and obvious contravention of Law 24.2, which shall be applied at all times.

- (i) On the first occurrence in a match of what the umpire suspects is an illegal action the umpire should make a note, to be used as a formal record if required in future, containing the name of the player, over and ball.
- (ii) Upon a second occurrence (recorded as above) the umpire concerned should first establish if his colleague has similar concerns / recordings.
- (iii) The Captain of the fielding side must be alerted in the presence of both umpires as to the nature and recorded facts of the observations and informed that a report will be made in writing to the LCU&SA immediately following the completion of the game. It is the responsibility of the Captain to inform the player concerned and the game should continue without undue delay. The calling of subsequent "No Balls" should be discouraged as finite assessment would not have been made at that time.
- (iv) If in the opinion of BOTH Umpires their concern regarding the player's bowling action is of such a nature that it could affect the game itself, then TOGETHER they may agree to
 - a) Advise the Fielding Captain of their concerns and recommend that he takes appropriate action, which could mean amending delivery action or remove from bowling attack
 - b) Inform the Captain, who will inform the bowler, that each subsequent delivery, suspected to be illegal, WILL be called "No Ball."
- (v) **Post Match Report** - A concise report must be written by the observing Umpire(s) and signed by both Officials to be sent within 48 hours of the game to the LCU&SA Honorary Secretary.
- (vi) Upon receipt of the report the details of the report will be entered into a database maintained by the LCU&SA Hon Secretary only. For information purposes the LCU&SA will make regular reports to the Cricket Leinster group advising of the number of reports on the database.
- (vii) If the report is the second regarding the player and his/her bowling action, within any 36 month period, the LCU&SA will notify the relevant Cricket Leinster group (OCC, Womens Branch, Youth Branch). (Subsequent reports from the same umpire will not count as a second report.) **The player must not bowl until an assessment of the bowling action has taken place.**
- (viii) The relevant Cricket Leinster group secretary refers the issue to the players club advising that they carry out an internal assessment and make a report back to that group. This assessment and report should happen within a 14 day period of notification. (See 20.2 and 20.3 below re criteria)
- (ix) This report is considered by the Cricket Leinster Director of Coaching (DOC)
- (x) If that report clears the bowlers action and the report is accepted by the DOC, the player is free to bowl in all competitions.

- (xi) If that report identifies an issue with the bowlers action OR if the conclusions of the report are not accepted by the DOC, an independent review will be made of the bowlers action. This will be done under the auspices of the DOC or his/her representative
- (xii) The Independent review clears the bowlers action. The player is then free to bowl in all competitions.
OR
The Independent review identifies the need for remedial work to the bowlers action,
- (xiii) Remedial action is undertaken by the bowler.
- (xiv) A further independent review is carried out . Revert to (xi) etc..

20.2 Cricket Leinster Criteria for Evaluating Suspect Bowling Actions

(i) If a bowler has been the subject of two umpires' reports relating to a suspect action (as outlined in the Cricket Leinster "Suspect Bowling Action Reporting Process" available in the Regulations/Guidance section of the Cricket Leinster website), the player's action will be assessed to determine if the action is legal or not.

(ii) If video footage is required to be analysed by the Cricket Leinster Suspect Actions Review Group, this must be submitted as outlined in 20.3 below. Any such footage will be reviewed by the group and a determination made as to the fairness of the action, based on the ICC Regulations for Review of Suspected Illegal Bowling Actions, which sets a limit of 15° of straightening of the arm during the action:

- (iv) Outcome of review
 - (a) The review clears the bowlers action – see 20.1.(xii) above.
 - (b) Where the review determines that one or more, but not all, types of delivery are illegal, the bowler may not subsequently bowl the delivery or deliveries identified as illegal in a match, until remedial work has been completed and video evidence submitted to verify the legality of the amended action (as outlined in the Reporting Process). The bowler may continue to bowl the delivery or deliveries determined to be legal during the review. This information will be conveyed to the player's club and to the LCU&SA to ensure correct implementation of the decision.
 - (c) In order for a type of delivery to be deemed illegal during the review process, only one example of the delivery need be determined to be illegal (i.e. above the 15° limit for straightening of the arm).

20.3 Cricket Leinster Guidelines for Video Recording of Bowlers Reported for Suspect Actions

In order for the club to properly assess its own player, it may have to review video evidence. If it becomes necessary for the CL Suspect Actions Review Group to assess the action, then video evidence will be required. In order to ensure consistency of the evaluation process, the following guidelines on video recording of bowlers have been prepared:

- (a) To ensure the highest quality of slow motion or still images of the video, the recording should be done with the maximum possible number of frames per second. This is particularly important if it becomes necessary to use biomechanical software to evaluate the angle of the bowling arm throughout the delivery. Many smart phones and tablets are capable of recording video at 60 frames per second, and the more modern devices can record at even higher speeds. Dedicated video cameras may be capable of even higher frame speeds. In order for accurate analysis to be performed of still frames from the video, 50 frames per second is the minimum speed required.
- (b) The bowler should be recorded from side on and from behind for each type of delivery. Side-on means level with the popping crease on the same side as the bowling arm, i.e. on the leg side for a right arm bowler bowling to a right handed batsman, and from behind means directly back from the bowler's end umpiring position. Avoid filming of the bowler against a dark background as this makes it more difficult to evaluate the angle of the bowling arm throughout the action.
- (c) The recording should be made from a distance far enough back in each case (but no further) to ensure that the bowler's body, including all four limbs, is fully visible throughout the action.
- (d) The bowler should wear a short-sleeved top for the video recording, to ensure that the positions of the upper and lower arms can be accurately determined throughout the action.

- (e) The recording should include the bowler' stock delivery and any variations bowled – e.g. alternate ball, quicker ball etc. These should all be bowled at normal match speed. Three examples of each delivery should be filmed from behind and three from the side.
- (f) A voice over on the recording should identify each of the deliveries as it is about to be bowled.
- (g) It may be necessary to submit a number of separate emails to the OCC if the total file size is too large for transmission in a single email.

21. CLOTHING, BALLS, SIGHTSCREENS.

These details are given in the various competition regulations but are listed here for convenience.

- a) White clothing, red ball, white sightscreens - League matches in all Divisions
All 40 over Cup matches (Senior to Minor 2).
- b) Coloured clothing, white ball, black sightscreens - Alan Murray cup matches.
- c) White clothing, pink ball, white or black sightscreens – T20 cups apart from Alan Murray