



**CRICKET  
LEINSTER**

**Cricket Leinster  
Season 2024**

**OCC General Playing Regulations  
and Administration**

## CRICKET LEINSTER OPEN COMPETITIONS GENERAL PLAYING REGULATIONS [2023]

**1. ELIGIBLE PLAYERS**

- 1.1. To be eligible to play in a cricket match conducted under the aegis of the Leinster Cricket Union CLG a person must meet one of the following criteria:
  - 1.1.1. be eligible to play international cricket for Ireland under current International Cricket Council [ICC] Rules
  - 1.1.2. be an EU national or UK national resident in Ireland
  - 1.1.3. 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 Ireland. 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 1.2
  - 1.1.4. be part of a 'cricket exchange programme' as approved by the Cricket Committee under regulation 1.3.
  - 1.1.5. be approved by the Open Competitions Committee to play cricket in Leinster as an Overseas Player in accordance with Regulation 1.2
- 1.2. A club may apply to register an Overseas Player subject to the following conditions:
  - 1.2.1. the application for registration must be made to the Open Competitions committee before May 1<sup>st</sup> for each season. In exceptional circumstances, a club may apply to register an Overseas Player after May 1<sup>st</sup> and it shall be at the discretion of the Open Competitions Committee to determine if such circumstances apply in a particular case
  - 1.2.2. the applicant must have a valid employment visa / work permit
  - 1.2.3. the applicant must hold suitable cricket coaching qualifications and be available to provide up to two hours coaching services to Cricket Leinster per week, the details to be agreed between Cricket Leinster and the club
  - 1.2.4. the applicant must provide evidence of police vetting to satisfy child protection requirements
  - 1.2.5. 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
- 1.3. To be eligible for registration under Regulation 1.1.4, the following must apply.
  - 1.3.1. The application must be made by a second level educational establishment on behalf of a pupil. The application must be submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> November in the year prior to the season of registration
  - 1.3.2. 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.
  - 1.3.3. Exchanges can be agreed between schools and the Development Officers ONLY. However in ALL cases the Cricket Leinster Cricket Committee will approve all agreements and subsequent applications.
  - 1.3.4. The CL Cricket Committee will ask clubs to apply to host pupils coming in through the development officers and will make the allocation. 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
- 1.4. Any player taking part in Cricket Leinster Open competition must not be registered with any club outside Cricket Leinster at the same time.
  - 1.4.1. The only exceptions to this are:
    - 1.4.1.1. Dublin University registered players, subject to clearance by the OCC
    - 1.4.1.2. Munster registered Cork County and Cork Harlequins players who have also registered to play in CL open competitions.

- 1.4.2. Any player covered by the exceptions above must be cleared with the OCC Secretary before playing in CL competitions.
- 1.4.3. The penalties for playing an ineligible player under these circumstances will be at the discretion of the OCC but could include the result being overturned and/or a deduction of 25 league points.

## 2. REGISTRATION

- 2.1. All players intending to play in the current season must be registered with Cricket Leinster, using the registration system on the Cricket Leinster website. A player will not be permitted to play in a match or be included in starting lists until he has been properly registered in such a manner. For players new to cricket in Leinster there is normally a four day processing period between a player registering and being eligible to play in a match, e.g. Tuesday to Saturday, Wednesday to Sunday, Thursday to Monday, Friday to Tuesday, Saturday to Wednesday, Sunday to Thursday, Monday to Friday.
- 2.2. The registration process includes the payment of a fee to Cricket Leinster, the level of such fee to be set by the Executive Committee of the Cricket Leinster.
- 2.3. The registration process includes the provision of suitable 'passport style' photo identification for the purposes of evidence of identity for competitions. Photographs must be head and shoulders only. Anyone found deliberately flaunting this requirement may face a penalty. An individual who has not provided same is not registered properly and playing him leaves a team open to sanction.
- 2.4. 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.
- 2.5. 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 Cricket Leinster as set out under Regulation 1. In this context, where a player falling under items 1.1.2 or 1.1.3 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 Cricket Leinster and provide such details as may be required and obtain specific approval for the player. Until this is done, playing such a player or including him/her in a starting list without such approval may lead to the OCC imposing sanction.
- 2.6. Players may not be registered to play for more than one club at any one time, **however the following shall apply to Dublin University**
  - 2.6.1. **Players planning to play for DUCC 2<sup>nd</sup> XI should advise Cricket Leinster in order to have their registration transferred. For the avoidance of doubt, a player may play in a league fixture for his/her second club only when the scheduled Dublin University 2<sup>nd</sup> XI fixtures are completed.**
  - 2.6.2. **Players planning to play for DUCC 1<sup>st</sup> XI in the Leinster Senior Cup should advise Cricket Leinster in order to have their registration amended in advance of the first round of that competition. Any player that plays for DUCC 1<sup>st</sup> XI in the Leinster Senior Cup must play for DUCC in the Alan Murray Cup.**
  - 2.6.3. **All DUCC 1<sup>st</sup> XI players must transfer to DUCC for the duration of DUCC's involvement in the Alan Murray Cup and may not play for any other club or be placed in another clubs starting list in that time.**
  - 2.6.4. **DUCC must submit a starting list for the month of June and that starting list will apply for the duration of the involvement of DUCC in the Alan Murray Cup**
  - 2.6.5. **Players who play for DUCC in the Alan Murray Cup may not play in another T20 Cup after the conclusion of the Alan Murray Cup without the permission of the OCC**
- 2.7. **Players Changing Clubs**
  - 2.7.1. 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.
  - 2.7.2. 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.
  - 2.7.3. If no objection is received within that period, the change will be actioned, but see 2.9 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. It may be deemed reasonable to refuse consent if the appearance after 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

- 2.7.4. 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.
  - 2.7.5. 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.
  - 2.7.6. The fee for any transfers will double from 1st May and all transfers will cease on 1st July unless agreed by the OCC.
- 2.8. 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 2.11 below regarding appearances in cup competitions.
  - 2.9. A "cooling off" period of at least seven days applies between appearances for different clubs. Failure to observe this may lead to sanction.
  - 2.10. A player being registered for a club for the first time shall not be eligible to play in a Cup or League Cup competition if he has already played for his former club in the same competition
  - 2.11. A player shall not be permitted to play in the final of a Cup or League cup competition if they have not played in a previous round of the relevant competition without the specific permission of the OCC.
  - 2.12. A player being registered for a club on or after 1<sup>st</sup> August shall not be eligible to play in a league, Cup or T20 League Cup competition match without the specific permission of the Open Competitions Committee
  - 2.13. It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure that players competing in any match under the aegis of Cricket Leinster 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 may be imposed by the OCC.
  - 2.14. Any notice required to be given or any correspondence from Cricket Leinster 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 email.

### 3. STARRING LISTS

- 3.1. Each club shall submit on the Cricket Leinster website starring system, before the first Wednesday of April (i.e. by 10 p.m. on the Tuesday) or other such 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 first Wednesday of each subsequent month from May to September. Revised lists shall come into effect on the Saturday following the first Wednesday in each month, except with the specific permission of the Secretary of the OCC. Lists may only be altered once a month in this way, except where a player is being removed as required under Regulation 3.11 below or for Dublin University players or because of exceptional circumstances which have been explained to and accepted by the Secretary of the OCC. Late submission of starring lists may incur a penalty of 5 points per league team
- 3.3. For all 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.
  - 3.3.1. All starrings must be based on playing merit, across XIs and particularly withing the 8/3 split within teams, with the 11 players ranked in a position of skill, with the better players in the top eight, and weaker players in the bottom three.
  - 3.3.2. This will be monitored closely by the OCC. Clubs must consult with the OCC if they have any concerns. Failure to star on playing merit may lead to penalties being applied.
  - 3.3.3. For matches in Division 21 and Minor 2 Cup, a second starred player may be selected if both are **Development** players. Any reported breach of this regulation will result **in the annulment of**

the league match result where the defaulting team receives zero points and the other team gets 20 points or overturning of the Minor 2 Cup match as applicable

### 3.4. Cup Final Eligibility

3.4.1. Players cannot play more than one Knockout Cup Final in any season without the express approval of the OCC

3.4.2. Players cannot play more than T20 League Cup Final in any season without the express approval of the OCC

3.5. Players who are not available on a regular basis should not be included on a starring list. In this context, "regular" means that they should be known to be available for at least one match within the forthcoming four week period (see para 6). Players not 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. For the avoidance of doubt, this is a four-week consecutive rolling period since their last appearance) or for first starring, from the first week of the season. 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. The OCC will endeavour to provide updates to clubs from the beginning of June indicating where players may need to be removed. However, clubs will need to monitor the period prior to this to ensure that players submitted are in fact available and playing. If clubs are found to have included players in any monthly starring list who should have been removed, they may face a penalty.

3.6. Decisions made by the Open Competitions Committee may be appealed to CL's Decisions Appeals Board. In the event of an appeal against any such decision, the player in question is bound by the decision of the OCC 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

3.7.1. Players who are regularly selected on representative teams (e.g. Ireland national team, Ireland Wolves, Inter-Provincial/Regional Competition) shall not play below their club's first eleven, without the agreement of the OCC. A player is regarded as a regular selection when he is chosen (original or substitute) for two such matches in the same season. His/her ineligibility dates from the time his/her selection (original or substitution) becomes known. Players who are selected for the any of the above squads, and whose selection renders them unavailable to play club cricket, may remain in their club's starring lists without appearing for their club for the duration of the above squad period. Once the relevant squad time has elapsed, players will be expected to play in their club's next appropriate match or be removed immediately from the starring list.

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.

3.9. Starring of Players Changing Clubs – Where a player changes clubs, as per regulation 2.7, he/she 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/she 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 T20 competition for the first club, he/she is ineligible to play for his/her second club in any T20 competition.

### 3.10. Unavailability of Players / Acceptability of Lists

3.10.1. Where a player on a starring list has not appeared in at least one League, Cup or T20 League Cup game in four successive weekends (Note that appearances in any T20 competitions will now count for the purposes of this regulation), the club is expected to remove his/her name and submit a revised list for consideration even if it occurs between OCC meetings. Teams may not necessarily have fixtures every week, so the OCC will expect any player who has missed two matches in a rolling four-week period, to play in the next available fixture or they will need to be removed. If having declared to play they subsequently do not do so, the club may also face a penalty. The OCC will monitor such matters and review them at its monthly meetings.

3.10.2. Where a club has failed in this regard it is open to sanction by the 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 OCC may decide to waive this regulation.

- 3.10.3. 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.
- 3.10.4. A player removed under this regulation will normally remain ineligible for any lower side at least until after the next meeting of the OCC, at which approval for an alteration in eligibility may be sought.
- 3.10.5. 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.
- 3.10.6. Lists submitted shall be based purely on playing merit. Clubs may be asked by the OCC to furnish explanations for any discrepancies or in respect of any particular entry and/or instructed to make alterations in lists.
- 3.10.7. 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.

#### **4. QUALIFICATION FOR COMPETITIONS RUN BY CRICKET IRELAND**

##### **4.1. Qualifiers for the Irish Senior Cup**

- 4.1.1. The 8 teams in the Premier League in the 2024 season will qualify for the Irish Senior Cup in 2025.
- 4.1.2. **The top two ranked** teams from the Championship at the end of the 2024 season will qualify for the Irish Senior Cup in 2025.
- 4.1.3. If there are further places in the Irish Senior Cup available to Cricket Leinster based teams, they will be allocated in the order of league finish from the 2024 season. In this context Cork County and Cork Harlequins shall be regarded as Munster Cricket Union teams.
- 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 CI.
- 4.2.2. Eligible teams for 2025 will be allocated places in the order of their league placings from the 2024 season

##### **4.3. Qualifier for the 2024 All-Ireland T20 Competition**

- 4.3.1. The winner of the 2024 Alan Murray Cup Competition shall play in the AI T20 in 2024.

#### **5. PENALTIES**

- 5.1. If it becomes evident to the OCC that a breach of these Regulations has occurred, it shall have the authority to issue a warning to the club concerned and/or impose a penalty including the deduction of points, declaration of a match to be void, the reversal of the result of a match affected by any such breach, or any such other penalty that the OCC may decide.
- 5.2. 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

#### **6. MATCH BALLS**

- 6.1. Only four-piece leather balls may be used in League and T20 League Cup matches. Complaints regarding cricket balls should be made to the OCC.
- 6.2. For matches in the Premier League, Championship, 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Premier League & Division 4 the prescribed **White** cricket ball must be used for all matches. A new ball must be used in each innings.
- 6.3. For matches in the Leinster Senior League and Senior 2 Cup the prescribed White cricket ball must be used for all matches. A new ball must be used in each innings.
- 6.4. For matches in the Alan Murray Cup and the Tillain Cup, the prescribed White cricket ball must be used for all matches. A new ball must be used in each innings.

- 6.5. All other T20 Competitions should be played with a new Pink Cricket Ball at the start of each innings.
- 6.6. For matches in Division 5 to 10 inclusive and Division 21, the prescribed Pink cricket ball must be used for all matches. A new ball must be used in each innings.
- 6.7. For matches in Division 11 to 20 inclusive, a new Red Cricket Ball at the start of each innings.
- 6.8. Please see Regulation 19 below for details of Clothing and Sightscreen guidelines.

## 7. ADMINISTRATION

### 7.1. Fixtures

- 7.1.1. Fixtures for all competitions will be made by clubs and ratified by CL, based on competition structures and formats as determined by the OCC.
- 7.1.2. The general principle that will be applied is that one ground (with full availability) can usually accommodate four Open Competitions teams during the course of a season. If a club has more than four teams but only one available ground (or corresponding multiples thereof), once a ground's capacity has been reached, and there are no other dates available for matches to reasonably be scheduled, any subsequent matches will become away matches for the team(s) concerned.
- 7.1.3. CL reserves the right to require clubs to host two T20 matches to a ground on any given day, so as to provide a double-header for the home club.
- 7.1.4. Any changes to the fixture lists agreed between the clubs concerned will be subject to final approval by the OCC.
- 7.1.5. If a team, playing in a semi-final or final of a cup or league cup competition already has a league fixture scheduled for that date, the cup match will take priority. It shall be the responsibility of that team to advise their league opponents and the LCU&SA that they will be unable to fulfil the fixture and to make re-fix arrangements. Failure to do so may result in them forfeiting the league match, subject to the decision of the OCC.

### 7.2. Promotions and Relegations

- 7.2.1. All promotions are subject to accreditation criteria for both grounds and clubs
- 7.2.2. The OCC may decide to promote or relegate team(s) other than those in bottom or top two places and/or may promote or relegate more or less than one team if they feel that such action is merited and/or in the interest of maintaining balanced structures. Similarly, the OCC may promote or relegate a team more than one division respectively should they deem it appropriate.
- 7.2.3. The first two teams in each division will normally be promoted to the division above except when a team from that club is already playing in that division.
- 7.2.4. The last two teams in each division will normally be relegated to the division below except when a team from that club is already playing in that division.
- 7.2.5. At the end of the 2024 season the 8 teams from the Premier League and the four top ranked CL based teams in the Championship will be entered into the 2025 Premier League.
- 7.2.6. At the end of the 2024 season Division 3 will be formulated as a 1<sup>st</sup> XI League with the top 8 teams entered in this competition for 2025, subject to on-field performance, accreditation and governance standards to be assessed by the Cricket Leinster Cricket Committee and the OCC
- 7.2.7. **Second XI Premier League** – This division is reserved for the top eight second teams. Teams from this division cannot be promoted and will generally be relegated to Division 4 in line with criteria set out in 7.2.8.
- 7.2.8. **Promotion from Division 4** - Second XI teams finishing at the top of this division may be eligible to be promoted to the Second XI Premier League. Third teams finishing in the top two positions will not be eligible for promotion.
- 7.2.9. **Promotion from Division 21** – Only the winning team will have the option of being promoted.
- 7.2.10. **DUCC** – In matches involving Dublin University 2<sup>nd</sup> XI the points available to each side will be as shown in the Regulations governing these competitions

### 7.3. Equality of Points

- 7.3.1. In the event of two teams finishing level on points obtained in a final league table, depending on the competition concerned, either of the following procedures shall be used to resolve the matter:
  - 7.3.2. For Premier League to Division 21 inclusive:
    - 7.3.2.1. If two teams are tied, points achieved in matches between the teams (head-to-head),
    - 7.3.2.2. If three or more teams are tied, or if two teams remain tied after applying (a) above, Net Run Rate in matches between the tied teams will determine final positions.
    - 7.3.2.3. If there remains a tie after applying (b) above, teams will be ranked according to the total number of wickets taken in all league matches,
    - 7.3.2.4. If there remains a tie after applying (c) above, teams will be ranked according to the total number of runs scored in all league matches.
  - 7.3.3. For all T20 League Cups:
    - 7.3.3.1. Teams will be ranked according to the number of points achieved in matches between other teams level on points (head-to-head)
    - 7.3.3.2. if there remain two or more teams remain tied, teams will be ranked according to their net run rate (NRR) in the group stage of the competition.
    - 7.3.3.3. Should (a) and (b) not resolve the matter, an open draw between the teams still tied will be held.
  - 7.3.4. For the avoidance of doubt, if a tie involving three or more teams is broken, but there remains a tie between fewer teams, the application of the tie-breaks continues from that point, and does not return to a, followed by b etc.

### 7.4. Refixing of postponed games – for reasons other than weather

- 7.4.1. T20 League Cups only - there are no re-fixtures in these competitions.
- 7.4.2. All League matches, Leinster Senior Cup and Senior 2 Cup matches called off for reasons other than weather must be refixed. No fixtures made and appearing on the CL website may be altered for any reason without the prior permission of the OCC or, in case of emergency, a sub-committee of the OCC in accordance with the CL Management Regulations.
- 7.4.3. Premier League & Championship Only
  - 7.4.3.1. Premier League & Championship matches can be refixed with the consent of the OCC as 50 over matches if a convenient venue and date can be agreed within 72 hours.
  - 7.4.3.2. Any matches involving Cork County, which do not achieve a result at the first attempt will result in points being shared unless otherwise agreed by the OCC.
- 7.4.4. Applies to all other League matches
  - 7.4.4.1. 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.
  - 7.4.4.2. 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.
  - 7.4.4.3. If both clubs agree the match may be refixed as a 20 over midweek match.
  - 7.4.4.4. Penalties for non-compliance with re-fixing regulations in matches postponed for reasons other than weather
    - 7.4.4.4.1. 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.



- 7.4.4.4.2. 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.
- 7.4.4.4.3. The OCC reserves the right, on appeal, to suspend a points penalty against either or both teams.
- 7.4.4.4.4. Where the Committee is satisfied that reasonable attempts have been made without success to find a new date, it may declare the fixture void and/or allocate points to either team as they see fit.

## **8. REFIXING OF NO RESULTS (i.e. those which, for reasons of weather, failed to produce a positive result)**

- 8.1. Apart from the exceptions in 8.1.1 below, all league matches for which no result is possible due to weather (in the first match) will not be refixed and points will be shared. If the second match between the two teams also fails to achieve a result due to weather, then the second match will be refixed.
  - 8.1.1. Any matches involving Cork County or Cork Harlequins that do not achieve a result at the first attempt will result in points being shared, unless otherwise agreed by the OCC.
- 8.2. Refixing of Matches
  - 8.2.1. Within seven days of the date of the second washed-out match, the home club of the second match should provide to the OCC and to the away club three re-fix dates, all of which must fall prior to the 22<sup>nd</sup> September. No dates can be offered after that date. Either club may make a submission to the OCC to deviate from the 7-day rule.
  - 8.2.2. 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.
  - 8.2.3. Matches may be refixed as a full-length match however if both clubs agree a 20-over match may be arranged. No other cricket under the auspices of Cricket Leinster must be affected unless specifically sanctioned by the OCC and the Youth/Women's committee as appropriate.
  - 8.2.4. If the clubs are unable to arrange a date within a period of 7 days of the original match, the match will be declared as a no result and league tables will be updated to reflect zero points per team
  - 8.2.5. The OCC and the LCU&SA should be informed of the refixed date immediately agreement is reached or of failure to do so at the deadline specified 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.
  - 8.2.6. Should the LCU&SA not receive at least 3 days' notice of the refixture date they cannot guarantee the appointment of umpires to that match
  - 8.2.7. Where, in the opinion of the OCC, genuine attempts have been made to play a refixed match but any result is ultimately hindered by weather, it will be deemed a No result and each team will receive 12.5 points.
  - 8.2.8. Should it not be possible for weather reasons to achieve a result in the refixed match, the game shall not be further refixed. The fixture will be recorded as a no result and 12.5 points awarded to each side.

## **9. POSTPONEMENTS**

- 9.1. Postponements – The procedure for seeking a postponement shall be as follows:
  - 9.1.1. A club seeking a postponement shall contact the Secretary of the OCC stating its reasons for same. If the Secretary consents to the postponement, the club shall contact the opposing club to advise of the position. The Secretary of the OCC may, however, leave the matter of consent to the opposing club.

- 9.1.2. If the Secretary of the OCC and the opponent agree to a postponement, the match shall be rearranged in accordance with Regulation 8.2.2 above, and the responsibility for making the re-fixtures shall rest with the club who sought the postponement.
- 9.1.3. If the opponent refuses to agree to the postponement, it will contact the Secretary of the OCC, giving its reasons for opposing the postponement, which might or might not be accepted.
- 9.2. If a game is cancelled or conceded by a club for reasons that do not satisfy the OCC, or if no explanation is forthcoming, the following shall apply:
  - 9.2.1. The OCC shall regard the match as a game played, and shall award walkover points as follows, depending on the relevant competition:
    - 9.2.2. For matches in the Premier League to Division 21 inclusive:
      - 9.2.2.1. The team that received the walkover will be awarded 25 points,
      - 9.2.2.2. The team that conceded the walkover will be penalised 15 points.
    - 9.2.3. For matches in T20 League Cups:
      - 9.2.3.1. The team that received the walkover will be awarded 4 points,
      - 9.2.3.2. The team that conceded the walkover will be penalised 2 points.
- 9.3. Late postponements – If a club fails to fulfil a fixture and has not given its opponents at least three days' notice (e.g Wednesday for Saturday, Thursday for Sunday) then, in addition to any points conceded, the defaulting club may, at the discretion of the OCC, be subject to a minimum fine of €10 payable to CL. The OCC may impose a higher fine if it is felt that the circumstances warrant it and/or may order the defaulting club to make good on any expenses incurred by the inconvenienced club. Where a club is giving notice of 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 play fixtures until payment is received.
- 9.4. 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) that must be cancelled first. Only in exceptional circumstances, and with the prior permission of the OCC, will a team be able to fulfil a fixture and earn points if a higher team fixture has been cancelled through an inability to field a side. This will also apply with regards the making of re-fixtures.
- 9.5. Persistent failure to fulfil fixtures – Where a team (or a club) is adjudged by the OCC to be persistent offenders in cancelling games without adequate reason or notice, the OCC has the authority to impose a points deduction penalty, equal to and in addition to any walkover points penalty applied. The COC may also reverse the venue of any forthcoming corresponding league fixture. (This provision will apply in particular to the cancellation of fixtures that involve travel to or from venues outside the main Dublin area.

## **10. SUBMISSION OF MATCH INFORMATION (including protests and claims)**

- 10.1. Match information result submission. (All matches) – For weekend matches the result of the match should be recorded on the CL website by the home team by midnight of the first Tuesday after the finish of the match. For midweek games (excluding bank holidays) the result of the match should be recorded on the CL website by the home team by midnight of the third clear day after the finish of the match (e.g. Thursday for Monday etc). The match scorecard should also be submitted by the home team in respect of all competition games with the same deadlines. All match information must be submitted in a manner approved by the OCC. Note that where a match commences but ends without a result being reached, a result card should still be submitted for starring purposes.
- 10.2. Grading of Umpires – It is essential that umpires are graded on every occasion that they are allocated to matches. Where the LCU&SA has appointed umpires, both teams should access the online grading report forms by going to <https://www.whostheumpire.com/> logging, completing and submitting the form within 72 hours of the end of the match. Any failure by clubs to report correctly will result in a penalty – see 10.3 below.

- 10.3. Penalty - Where any of the above information is not received by the deadlines specified after the finish of the match, up to 5 points may be deducted from the league record of the defaulting side or such other penalty as the OCC may decide to impose.
- 10.4. Protests/Claims - All protests and claims for points should be sent in writing to reach the Secretary of the OCC, 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.

## **11. END OF SEASON**

- 11.1. Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 by the OCC.

## **12. PLAYER AWARDS**

- 12.1. Player Awards will be made as per the structure outlined on the CL website.

## **13. THE PITCH**

- 13.1. Between the innings of any game the pitch shall be swept and rolled for not more than seven minutes, if so desired by the side batting second.
- 13.2. 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. 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.

## **14. NON-TURF PITCHES**

- 14.1. League matches in all grades may be played on non turf pitches. Players are recommended to be prepared to play on either surface.
- 14.2. For matches in Premier League, Championship, Leinster Senior Cup and Alan Murray Cup the following shall apply:
  - 14.2.1. Clubs should notify opposing teams before June 1<sup>st</sup> 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.
  - 14.2.2. 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.
- 14.3. For matches in Senior 2 Cup, Second XI Premier League – Division 21, and all T20 League Cups below Senior, the following shall apply:
  - 14.3.1. 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.
  - 14.3.2. 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.

## **15. SAFETY OF YOUNG PLAYERS**

- 15.1. Young Cricketer guidelines apply in all competitions and are available under separate cover.

## **16. CHILD SAFEGUARDING**

- 16.1. The provisions set out in the Child Safeguarding section of the CL website apply in all Open Competition activities.

## **17. UNFAIR PLAY**

- 17.1. Provisions relating to unfair play are contained within the various competition playing regulations

## 18. SUSPECT BOWLING ACTIONS

18.1. LCU&SA 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.)

- a) 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.
- b) Upon a second occurrence (recorded as above) the umpire concerned should first establish if his colleague has similar concerns / recordings.
- c) 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.
- d) 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
- e) 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
- f) Inform the Captain, who will inform the bowler, that each subsequent delivery, suspected to be illegal, WILL be called "No Ball."
- g) 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.
- h) 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.
- i) 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.
- j) 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 )
- k) This report is considered by the Cricket Leinster Director of Coaching (DOC)
- l) If that report clears the bowlers action and the report is accepted by the DOC, the player is free to bowl in all competitions.
- m) 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
- n) 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,
- o) Remedial action is undertaken by the bowler.
- p) A further independent review is carried out . Revert to (xi) etc..

18.2. Cricket Leinster Criteria for Evaluating Suspect Bowling Actions

- a) 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.
- b) 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 15o of straightening of the arm during the action:
- c) Outcome of review

- i. The review clears the bowlers action – see 20.1.(xii) above.
  - ii. 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.
- d) 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 15o limit for straightening of the arm).

**18.3. Cricket Leinster Guidelines for Video Recording of Bowlers Reported for Suspect Actions**

- a) 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:
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) 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.
- f) 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.
- g) A voice over on the recording should identify each of the deliveries as it is about to be bowled.
- h) 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.

**19. CLOTHING & SIGHTSCREENS.**

19.1. The clothing and sightscreen requirements for each of the competitions are detailed in the table below.

Competition	Ball	Clothing	Sightscreen
Premier Division to Division 4 inclusive	White	Full Coloured clothing	Black
Division 5 – 10 inclusive, Division 21	Pink	Full Coloured clothing	White or Dark but must be the same at both ends of the ground
Division 11 – 20 inclusive	Red	White	White
Leinster Senior Cup, Senior 2 Cup, Alan Murray Cup, Tillain Cup	White	Full Coloured clothing	Black or Dark
All other T20 Competitions	Pink	Full Coloured clothing	White or Dark but must be the same at both ends of the ground.

**19.2. Non-Compliance with CL Clothing Guidelines for Coloured Clothing Competitions**

- 19.2.1. A team which does not comply with the above clothing guidelines, may be subject to sanction by the OCC (see section 5 above). In the event of non-compliance, the standing umpires, or the captain of the opposing side, should submit photographic evidence of the non-compliance (i.e. whilst the team's batsmen are batting or the team is fielding), to the Secretary of the OCC for further consideration. In resolving this matter, the team who is non-compliant will be asked to submit any mitigation, if there is any, for due consideration.
- 19.2.2. Please note that non-compliance should not, on the day, prevent a match from being played but, for the avoidance of doubt, the result of the match might be overturned by the OCC or other sanctions applied and that, additionally, non-compliance refers to a team wearing white shirts, as opposed to slight variances in sweater or shirt design.

## **20. PLAYING REGULATIONS THAT APPLY IN ALL COMPETITIONS**

20.1. The following apply in all Cricket Leinster competitions.

20.1.1. Law 5 – The Bat. From 2021, this Law now applies in its entirety in all CL competitions.

20.1.2. Law 19 – The Boundary

20.1.2.1. The boundary, as detailed in Law 19, must be fully marked on all grounds at which CL competition matches are played. Clubs can denote their boundary in either of the following two ways –

20.1.2.1.1. with a boundary rope, that wholly surrounds the playing area.

20.1.2.1.2. with a painted white line, with flags located at regular intervals around the boundary.

20.1.3. This is to avoid any possible confusion over where the boundary is located, particularly in matches without appointed umpires.

20.1.4. A team that does not comply with the above may be subject to sanction by the OCC (see section 5 above). In the event of non-compliance, the standing umpires, or a duly appointed officer (or captain) of the away side, should submit photographic evidence of the non-compliance to the Secretary of the OCC for further consideration. In considering this matter, the team that is non-compliant will be asked to submit any mitigation, if there is any, for due consideration. Please note that such non-compliance should not, on the day, prevent a match from being played.

20.1.5. Additionally, please note that the boundary, as marked above, must allow, where possible, a run-off area to minimise any risk of a fielder colliding with a solid or fixed object located beyond the boundary. In their pre-match inspections, the umpires are empowered to ask for a boundary to be shortened in any places where they feel such a run-off area has not been sufficiently provided for.