**Rules of the CRICKET WALES CRICKET CUP Competition 2017**

Administration Rules

1. The Welsh Cricket Cup Competition is open to all member clubs of Cricket Wales. The competition is organised in four zones, arranged roughly geographically. Matches will be normally played on Sundays.

2. Entry to the Cup Competition is open to all clubs who have paid their affiliation fees for that year, and affiliation fees must be paid before a club plays its first match in the competition.

3. For the 2017 season Cricket Wales will be make the draw for the Preliminary round and First round and publish via a Video link on the Cricket Wales website as well as informing clubs directly and placing all fixtures on Play Cricket.

4. The draw for the subsequent rounds will be made on the Tuesday after the closing date for the previous round and once again published via a Video link on the Cricket Wales website as well as informing clubs directly and placing all fixtures on Play Cricket.

5. The ‘scheduled’ dates, must be used unless BOTH clubs agree to play under the same match rules before the scheduled Sunday, the Competition Organiser must be informed.

6. If rain prevents a result, the match will be replayed on the following Sunday, or an agreed earlier date. All replays will be held on the ground of the original VISITING side unless otherwise agreed, regardless of whether the match was postponed before or after the start of play.

7. If bad weather prevents play on the Reserve Sunday, then clubs will agree to play a match on the following Sunday IF THERE IS A SUNDAY AVAILABLE BEFORE THE NEXT ROUND. This game must be played on the ground of the team originally drawn at home (unless both clubs agree otherwise). Matches may not be postponed for any reason other than inclement weather, **unless by mutual agreement**,or under the circumstances described below. Should there be no such agreement and there is a clash with another competition (other than an ECB competition), the Welsh Cup match should be played or the match conceded.

8. If bad weather prevents a match of even the minimum number of overs being played, the tie may be decided by the bowl out (details of which may be found in the Match Rules section). Finally, if all these alternatives fail, then clubs will toss up for the right to continue in the Competition, with either a Qualified Umpire or the Competition Organiser present. Skype, facetime or video conferencing can be used to gather all parties together, if more convenient.

9. Difficulties or appeals from clubs should be referred to the Competitions Organiser,

10. For the Welsh Cricket Cup, the Quarter Final, the Semi-Final and Final must be played on the scheduled dates, with the Reserve date the following Sunday.

11. Clubs who withdraw or fail to raise a side or who show unwillingness to continue in the Competition are liable to a fine of £25 and their entry for the following year shall be a matter for the Competitions Organiser to rule upon.

12. The winning team must telephone/e mail the result of the match, including the team scores, to the Competition Organiser, immediately after the match has been played.

13. The winning team is requested to process the score sheets for both innings of the match on their Play Cricket website within 24 hours of close of play. The losing team is requested to check the information entered and make any necessary amendments.

14. Players must be bona fide members of the club.

15. No player may play for more than one club in the Competition in any one season.

16. No player who has played in a total of three or more “First Class,” “List A” or Twenty20 (at international or County Level) matches in the current season, or in the season immediately prior to the current season, either in this country or abroad, shall be eligible to be included in any team in the Competition. (For the purposes of this competition, players whose only “First Class” experience is restricted to matches played for a MCCU team against county opposition may play in the competition).

17 (a). Clubs are responsible for ensuring that all players participating in the Competition are eligible to play. In the event of a Club fielding an ineligible player, they will be removed from the competition and also fined a sum of £100 and entry to the Welsh Cup Competition for the following season will be subject to a decision by the Competition Organiser.

17 (b). Any player who is banned by his or her League is not eligible to play in the Welsh Cricket Cup Competition, providing that the Disciplinary Procedures, including the Right of Appeal as laid down below, have been strictly applied.

18. No player may play in the Welsh Cricket Cup Competition to which the Welsh Cup Rules apply if he is not qualified to play county cricket as an EU qualified cricketer under the provisions set out by the ECB in its Regulations relating to such qualifications unless . . .

 a) ... the player has been resident in England and Wales for a minimum of 18 months before March 31st in the year of the competition and he has not been out of this country for longer than 35 days consecutively or 70 days in total during the previous two years. This information should be evidenced through bank statements and/or utility bills or other appropriate documents and...

b) the player has not played cricket at levels defined in Rule 14 above in the last three years; and . . .

 c) has not played in an official TEST MATCH during the current/or in the three previous calendar years. (For the purpose of this rule ‘TEST MATCH’ is only matches played between Test playing countries over one or more days) and . . .

 d) application has been made in writing to the SCC not later than seven full days before the first scheduled tie for that club in the year to which the application refers and providing all the relevant documentation necessary to validate the application.

19. Cricket Wales is entirely responsible for the organisation and administration of the Competition.

20. In the event of any dispute arising during and affecting the course of the Competition, clubs must contact the Competitions Organiser, by telephone, within 1 day of the dispute, confirming the protest in writing via email within 3 days, and also sending a copy of the protest to any other club involved within 3 days.

21. Following any response from the other club, the matter will be determined by a special committee under the chairmanship of the Competitions Organiser, Cricket Wales expects participating Clubs to give priority to matches in this Competition over matches in other Cup Competitions.

**Match Rules**

1. All matches shall commence at 1.30 p.m. with a tea interval of 20 minutes between innings. Matches may start earlier by mutual agreement. The time and duration of the tea interval can be varied in the case of an interrupted match. The National Semi-Finals and Finals are to commence at 1.00 p.m.

2. Each team shall bat for a maximum of **40 overs.** Teams are expected to bowl their overs at the rate of 18 overs per hour, and Umpires are asked to report offending clubs.

3. In matches where the start is delayed or play is suspended, the object shall always be to rearrange the number of overs so that both teams have the opportunity of batting for the same number of overs with a minimum of 10 overs each. The calculation of the number of overs to be bowled shall be based on an average of 18 overs per hour (or 1 over per three and a half minutes or part thereof) in the time remaining before the agreed close of play. This shall be taken to be 8 p.m. unless both captains agree on a later time of finishing.

4. A result can be achieved only if both teams have batted for at least 10 overs, unless one team is all out in less than 10 overs, or unless the team batting second passes the total number of runs scored by the team batting first, in less than 10 overs. In the event of a bowler breaking down and being unable to complete an over, the remaining balls will be bowled by another bowler. If a team batting second are prevented by the weather from completing their overs, then the average runs per over for the whole innings shall decide the result. If 10 overs has not been bowled, then Rule 9 shall apply.

5. For all Section matches independent umpires will be arranged by ACO (Wales). Before (and not including) the quarter-finals, clubs will share the cost of umpires (a flat fee of £35 each). In the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final, Cricket Wales will bear the cost of umpiring. From the Quarter-Finals, the umpires will each be paid a flat fee of £40 (reflecting potential increases in travelling costs).

6. The umpires are the sole judges of the fitness of the ground, weather, and light for play.

7. The home team must provide the umpires with two cricket balls in good condition, but not necessarily new ones, before the match starts except for the Semi-Finals and Finals when two new balls will be provided by Cricket Wales. 8. The visiting captain may choose the ball that his team will use, leaving the other ball with which the home team will bowl.

9. In the event of a tie, the team losing the least number of wickets shall be the winners. Should these be equal, the team with the least number of extras in their innings shall be the winners. Should these be equal, then the team with the highest run rate in runs per over shall be the winners.

10.(a) No bowler shall bowl more than 8 overs. In a match curtailed by the weather no bowler shall bowl more than one-fifth of the total number of overs agreed at the start of the match, except that the total is not dividable by 5, an additional over shall be allowed to the minimum number of bowlers necessary to make up the balance.

11.(b) Negative bowling – If a ball is delivered in such a manner that the striker is denied the opportunity of playing, or attempting to play a normal cricket stroke from where he his standing, or from his normal guard position, the umpire at the bowler’s end will call and signal ‘wide ball’.

Umpires must apply a strict and consistent judgement in this matter.

12. The following restrictions relating to the placement of fielders shall apply to all matches in the Welsh Cricket Cup Competition.

13. At the instant of delivery, a minimum of four fieldsmen (plus the wicket keeper) must be within an area bounded by two semi-circles centred on each middle stump, each with a radius of 30 yards, and joined by a parallel line on each side of the pitch. In the event of an infringement, the umpire at the striker’s end shall call and signal ‘No Ball’.

14. In the event of no result being obtained by other methods a bowl out (outdoors or indoors) will take place to achieve a result

 *Bowling*: Each Captain to nominate **five** bowlers and place the order with the Umpires. The captains toss for choice of who bowls first. Each bowler has **two** deliveries overarm in their normal style from the same end and from their normal run up, at the wickets pitched at 22 yards with popping and bowling crease marked and with no batsman in front of them. A wicket keeper, stood back, may be in place. For every legal ball which first pitches and then hits the wickets, two points shall be scored, but only one point if the stumps are hit by a full toss.

A legal ball is as defined in the game, no ball rules apply – front foot, more than 1 bounce before it reaches the popping crease.

 *Umpires*: The umpires appointed for the match shall supervise the running of the competition standing in their normal positions.

 *Tie :* In the event of the scores finishing level, a further **five** bowlers are nominated to continue the competition as above*.*

 *Sudden death –* If after the 2 rounds the scores are still level a sudden death situation occurs, with the first **five** bowlers nominated, in the same order, bowl off. If Bowler 1 from team 1 misses bowler 2 from Team must hit to win the game and vice versa until a result is achieved.

**Competitions Organiser**

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