

WOMEN'S 20 - OVER LEAGUE (2009)

- 1 The Women's Branch shall determine the structure of the League(s) each year and their ruling on all matters shall be final.
- 2 All clubs affiliated to the Union shall be entitled to enter the League(s). The winning team(s) shall hold the League Perpetual Trophy for the year.
- 3 Teams shall make two fixtures, home and away, against each other team in its league, with the exception of Dublin University who shall make one fixture against each other team, and said fixture must be completed in accordance with rule 4. All Clubs must endeavour to play all matches in all Divisions.
- 4 If rain interrupts and prevents further play before the completion of the first innings, the match shall be refixed by agreement between the two clubs, and in default of agreement by the Women's Committee. Matches which are interrupted after completion of the first innings shall be continued on the same ground on the next available date. The date for any refixed matches must be agreed within three days of the original fixture being abandoned and notified to the Hon. Match Secretary.
- 5 Each club shall before the league commences star seven members of the eleven of each team registered in the League. The seven starred players shall not be eligible to play for any lower team(s) in the club. Of the four unstarred players only three shall be permitted to play in any one match for a lower team if this team is in the Division below. However, should a club's next team be two divisions lower, only two such players shall be eligible to play on the lower team on each occasion and should a club's next team be three divisions lower, only one such player shall be eligible to play on the lower team on each occasion.
- 6 During the playing season clubs MUST submit revised registration lists by the 20th of the month, to become effective from the 1st day of the proceeding month, in writing to the Hon. Match Secretary. This list is then subject to ratification by the Womens Committee at its monthly meeting.
- 7 Matches shall begin on time. Any team failing to take the field 15 minutes after the agreed starting time shall forfeit the points of that match. Matches shall be scheduled to commence no later than 6.30pm. Evening fixtures arranged later than the second last weekend in August should be played over two nights, close of play 8.00pm each night.
- 8 Each innings shall consist of a maximum of 20 overs, the team making the most runs shall win the match. In the event of runs scored being equal the side losing fewer wickets shall win the match. If both runs and wickets lost are equal the game is tied. The team batting second shall not be allowed to use up unused overs belonging to the team batting first. No bowler shall bowl more than 5 overs in divisions 1 and 2 and 7 overs in lower divisions.
- 9 A No-Ball shall be followed by a "free hit", i.e. a ball off which the batsman cannot be out in the same way as if such ball itself was a No-Ball. The free hit ball shall count as a delivery in the over. The fielding side may not amend the field for the free hit, subject to the rules regarding field placing applicable to this Competition. Fielders may interchange positions and any fielder closer than 15 yards shall be allowed to retreat to 15 yards. If the delivery for the free hit is not a legitimate delivery (i.e. any kind of No Ball or a wide ball) then the next delivery will become a free hit and shall be subject to the conditions of this clause.

- 10 At the instant of delivery a minimum of four fielders (plus the bowler and 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 2 parallel lines on each side of the pitch. This area shall be known as the fielding circle. In the event of an infringement, the Striker's End umpire shall call No Ball.

The fielding circle should be marked by painted white dots at five-yard intervals. Each dot must be covered by a white plastic or rubber disc seven inches in diameter.
- 11 For the first 6 overs of a match, a maximum of two fielders may at the instant of delivery be outside the "fielding circle" and no more than 5 on the leg side. In addition, at least two fielders (not including the wicketkeeper) must at the instant of delivery be stationary and in a close catching position. A close catching position is one which is within 15 yards of the centre of the striker's popping crease, although fielders in an orthodox Slip or Leg Slip position may stand deeper than 15 yards from the popping crease. It will not be necessary for circles indicating this 15 yard area to be marked but to assist the Umpires dots should be placed 15 yards from the line of middle stump on the popping creases either side of the stumps, and 11.5 yards from and at right angles to the line of middle stump either side of the middle of the pitch. In the event of an infringement the striker's end Umpire shall call and signal no ball.
- 12 Inability to field a side due to lack of players is not sufficient reason for cancellation of a fixed match. Any team cancelling a match for this reason shall forfeit the points of said match subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee.
- 13 Fixtures cannot be rearranged without the consent of the Women's Committee. All matches not played on the fixed date MUST be referred to the Women's Committee who shall decide on the outcome. The proposed date of any rearranged match must be confirmed to the Hon. Match Secretary within 3 days of the decision of the Women's Committee or the agreement of the two teams (whichever is the case).
- 14 The host team should notify the opposing Team Secretary 2 hours before scheduled commencement of play if it is known that a match is to be cancelled due to bad weather.
- 15 Official score cards MUST be returned to the Honorary Match Secretary within 7 days of the match or a deduction of 5 points will be made from the teams total.
- 16 Where possible experienced umpires and scorers shall officiate at matches. Complaints about umpiring should be brought to the attention of the Women's Committee who shall take appropriate action.
- 17 One day wides will be applicable to the competition for Division 1 only.
- 18 Points shall be awarded as follows: 20 points for a win and 10 points for a tie. 1 Bonus point shall be awarded for every wicket taken and 1 bonus point for every 10 runs scored over 40 up to a maximum of 10 bonus points (i.e. 140 runs). If the side batting second wins chasing a total of less than 140, their batting points shall be one for every 10 runs over 40, or one for every wicket remaining, whichever is greater.
- 19 In Divisions 1 and 2 the both teams must bowl their 20 overs in less than 1 hour and 15 minutes. If a team fails to do so they shall be penalised by subtracting the number of overs shortbowed in 1 hour and 15 minutes from the actual number bowled to determine the number of overs available to them while batting.
- 17 Uniform for all matches shall consist of a white skirt or trousers, a white shirt with reverses, club or plain white v-neck sweater, white knee length socks and white footwear.