

NORTHERN CRICKET UNION

FIRST DIVISION - SECTION I and II

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1. Definitions

Match 1: This is:

- (a) the original scheduled fixture, or
- (b) the rearrangement of any fixture that has been postponed for reasons other than ground or weather conditions, or
- (c) the first rearrangement of the first scheduled fixture between the teams, where the latter has been postponed because of ground or weather conditions

Match 2: This is the second attempt to play a match that was originally postponed due to ground or weather conditions.

Rearrangements: Matches should be rearranged for the fourth Sunday following the postponement, unless it involves a team that does not play on Sundays, in which case it should be arranged for the third Friday. The teams may agree to play on an earlier date in either case. The Section Secretary may impose an earlier date than that agreed by the clubs where there is an intervening Saturday on which both teams are free and there appears to him to be no good reason why the match should not proceed.

2. General

(a) **Laws of Cricket**

The Laws of Cricket shall apply except as amended in these Regulations.

(b) **Umpires**

If the Captains disagree on the fitness of the ground, the Umpires alone shall decide whether the ground is playable Umpires should liaise vigilantly with the scorers in recording time lost and the number of overs bowled at any time during the match.

(c) **Innings**

Matches shall be one innings, maximum 50 overs each team.

(d) **Covers**

Covers shall be used to cover the pitch before the match whenever weather conditions make it appropriate. Once play has started and is interrupted by rain, covers shall be used. The club staging the game shall ensure that the pitch is covered as quickly as possible when required.

(e) **Points**

Win - 4 points Tie - 2 Points No result - 0 Points

(f) **Competition Winner**

The team with the highest number of points shall be the winner. In the event of a tie on points between two or more teams, the teams may elect to share the trophy. If they do not so elect, play-off match(es) shall be arranged by the Divisional Committee.

PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. Regulations applying to all Matches

1.1 Restriction on the Placement of Fieldsmen

Bye-Laws (h) and (j) shall apply.

1.2 Wide Ball

Bye-Law (m) shall apply.

1.3 Bowling of Fast, Short-pitched Balls

Bye-Law (i) shall apply.

1.4 Result

- (a) Where both teams have the same number of overs available:
 - (i) The team that scores the greater number of runs shall be the winner.
 - (ii) If the scores are equal at the end of a match, the match shall be a tie.
- (b) Where, due to suspension of play after the start of the match, the number of overs in the innings of either team has to be revised:
 - (i) A revised target score shall be set for the number of overs that the team batting second will have the opportunity of facing, using the current Duckworth/Lewis method;
 - (ii) The team batting second shall be the winner if it achieves the target score;
 - (iii) If team batting second fails to reach target by 1 run, the result shall be a tie;
 - (iv) If the team batting second fails to reach the target by more than one run, the team batting first shall be the winner;
 - (v) If play is terminated before the team batting second has had the opportunity to bat for its revised allocation of overs, and provided that the minimum number of overs has been bowled (20), the result shall be determined on the basis of the target score for the number of overs actually faced.
- (c) Where a match ends prematurely due to weather interruptions, the result will be calculated on run rate per over achieved by each side, subject to a minimum of 20 overs having been bowled to each side.

2. Match 1 Regulations (2.1 to 2.5)

2.1 Hours of play

- (a) Play may start at any time agreed by both teams, but not later than 1 pm in April, May or June, 12 noon in July or August or 11.30 am in September.
- (b) At the request of either club, a match rearranged as a Match 1 for a weekday other than a Bank or Public Holiday, may start later than the time designated above. The latest starting time shall be 2.30 pm. Where the match starts later, the overs shall be reduced in accordance with Playing Regulation 2.4.
- (c) Tea in an uninterrupted match shall normally be taken at the close of the first innings. The tea interval shall be 30 minutes. In the event of weather or other interruptions, the tea interval shall be taken so as to allow as many overs as possible to be bowled in the first innings. In an interrupted game, if play is not in progress at 4.40 pm in April, May or June, 3.40pm in July or August or 3.10 pm in September, tea shall be taken.
- (d) By mutual agreement, a match postponed for any reason may be arranged on three consecutive nights before 15th August and may start at any time agreed by both teams but not later than 6.30 pm in April, May or June, or 5.30 pm in July or August.

2.2 Minimum Overs

- (a) For a valid result, each team shall bowl at least 20 overs, unless either or both teams are bowled out in fewer than 20 overs, or unless the team batting second scores enough runs to win in fewer than 20 overs.
- (b) No 20-over match shall start later than 5.50 pm in April, May or June, 4.50 pm in July or August, or 4.20 pm in September, tea having been taken.

2.3 Bowlers' Limits

- (a) No bowler shall bowl more than 10 overs.
- (b) In a delayed or interrupted match where the overs are reduced for both teams, or for the team bowling second, no bowler may bowl more than one-fifth of the total overs allowed (unless the bowler had already done so before the interruption).
- (c) Where the total number of overs is not divisible by 5, one additional over shall be allowed to the maximum number per bowler as necessary to make up the balance.
- (d) Bye-Law (k) shall apply.

Interrupted matches

2.4 Day matches

(a) First innings

The number of overs available to each side shall normally be reduced by one for each full eight minutes of playing time lost after the starting time designated in Playing Regulation 2.1(a), where the aggregate time lost exceeds 30 minutes. If play starts earlier, the 30-minute allowance shall be increased by the actual time played before the designated starting time.

eg A match in June is agreed to start at 12 noon. The start is delayed for 10 minutes. At 12.35 pm, play is interrupted for 15 minutes. The period of play before 1 pm is 35 minutes. (60-10-15). If there are further interruptions at or after 1 pm, no overs will be reduced until a total of 65 minutes' playing time has been lost (allowance made for 35 minutes before 1 pm plus 30 minutes).

Note that if the number of overs is reduced from 50 to, say, 45 because of rain, the number of available overs shall be 45, even if the side is bowled out in fewer overs.

(b) Second innings

From the end of the first innings, a further deduction of one over shall be made for each full four minutes of playing time lost. No deduction shall be made until the allowance for any early start and the 30-minute allowance have been exhausted. The number of overs shall not be reduced below 20 overs per side. If 20 overs are not bowled in the second innings, and a result is not otherwise obtained, a second match (Match 2) shall be arranged.

2.5 Three-night Matches

(a) First innings

The number of overs available to each side shall normally be reduced by one for each full eight minutes of playing time lost after the starting time designated in Playing Regulation 2.1(c), where the aggregate time lost exceeds 30 minutes. If play starts earlier, the 30-minute allowance shall be increased by the actual time played before the designated starting time.

eg A match in June is agreed to start at 5.30 pm. The start is delayed for 10 minutes. At 5.55 pm play is interrupted for 15 minutes. The period of play before 6.30 pm is 35 minutes. (60-10-15). If there are further interruptions at or after 6.30 pm, no overs will be reduced until a total of 65 minutes' playing time has been lost (allowance made for 35 minutes before 6.30 pm plus 30 minutes).

Note that if the number of overs is reduced from 50 to, say, 45 because of rain, the number of available overs shall be 45, even if the side is bowled out in fewer overs.

(b) Second innings

From the end of the first innings, a further deduction of one over shall be made for each full four minutes of playing time lost. No deduction shall be made until the allowance for any early start and the 30-minute allowance have been exhausted. The number of overs shall not be reduced below 20 overs per side. If 20 overs are not bowled in the second innings, and a result is not otherwise obtained, a second match (Match 2) shall be arranged.

If, as a result of play being suspended on either or both of the first two nights of a three-night match, such that more than 50 overs remain to be bowled on the third night, the maximum available overs for both innings shall be 50, plus the number of overs already bowled, rounded down to an even number.

eg, 17 overs are bowled on the first night. Play is suspended for rain. 6 overs per side are deducted before play is suspended. Match now 44 overs per side. Second night raining at start. After 30 minutes, umpires decide to suspend play for the night. Match is now 41 overs per side. Third night - a total of $24+41 = 65$ overs remain to be bowled. This is greater than 50. The total overs in the match is therefore $50+17=67$ rounded down to 66 (even number). Match is now 33 overs per side. 16 overs to be bowled to complete the first innings. A total of 49 could be bowled on the third night.

3. Match 2 Regulations (3.1 to 3.5)

3.1 Hours of play

- (a) Play shall start at 1 pm in April, May or June, 12 noon in July or August, or 11.30 am in September, or earlier by agreement.
- (b) At the request of either club, the match may start later than the time designated above. The latest start time shall be 2.30 pm. Where the match starts later, the overs shall be reduced in accordance with Playing Regulation 3.4.
- (c) Tea in an uninterrupted match shall normally be taken at the close of the first innings. The tea interval shall be 30 minutes. In the event of weather or other interruptions, the tea interval shall be taken so as to allow as many overs as possible to be bowled in the first innings. In an interrupted game, if play is not in progress at 5.20 pm in April, May or June, 4.20 pm in July or August, or 3.50 pm in September, tea shall be taken.
- (d) By mutual agreement, a match postponed for any reason may be arranged on three consecutive nights before 15th August and may start at any time agreed by both teams but not later than 6.30 pm in April, May or June, or 5.30 pm in July or August.

3.2 Minimum Overs

- (a) For a valid result, each team shall bowl at least 20 overs, unless either or both teams are bowled out in fewer than 20 overs or unless the team batting second scores enough runs to win in fewer than 20 overs.
- (b) No 20-over match shall start later than 5.50 pm in April, May or June, 4.50 pm in July or August, or 4.20 pm in September, tea having been taken.
- (c) If the weather or interruptions do not allow a minimum of 20 overs per side, the result shall be determined by a 10-over match, if conditions allow. No 10-over match shall start later than 7.10 pm in April, May or June, 6.10 pm in July or August, or 5.40 pm in September.
- (d) If, owing to ground, weather or light conditions, the umpires consider that a 20-over (or longer) match cannot be completed, a 10-over match can start at any time before 7.10 pm in April, May or June, 6.10 pm in July or August, or 5.40 pm in September.

3.3 Bowlers' Limits

- (a) No bowler shall bowl more than 10 overs.
- (b) In a delayed or interrupted match where the overs are reduced for both teams, or for the team bowling second, no bowler may bowl more than one-fifth of the total overs allowed (unless the bowler had already done so before the interruption).
- (c) Where the total number of overs is not divisible by 5, one additional over shall be allowed to the maximum number per bowler as necessary to make up the balance.
- (d) Bye-Law (k) shall apply.

Interrupted matches

3.4 Day Matches

(a) First innings

The number of overs available to each side shall normally be reduced by one for each full eight minutes of playing time lost after the starting time designated in Playing Regulation 3.1(a), where

the aggregate time lost exceeds 30 minutes. If play starts earlier, the 30-minute allowance shall be increased by the actual time played before the designated starting time.

eg, A match in June is agreed to start at 12 noon. The start is delayed for 10 minutes. At 12.35 pm, play is interrupted for 15 minutes. The period of play before 1 pm is 35 minutes. (60-10-15). If there are further interruptions at or after 1 pm, no overs will be reduced until a total of 65 minutes' playing time has been lost (allowance made for 35 minutes before 1 pm plus 30 minutes).

Note that if the number of overs is reduced from 50 to, say, 45 because of rain, the number of available overs shall be 45, even if the side is bowled out in fewer overs.

(b) **Second innings**

From the end of the first innings, a further deduction of one over shall be made for each full four minutes of playing time lost. No deduction shall be made until the allowance for any early start and the 30-minute allowance have been exhausted. The number of overs shall not be reduced below 20 overs per side.

If 20 overs are not bowled in the second innings, and a result is not otherwise obtained, a ten-over match shall be played if conditions permit.

If a ten-over match is not completed (ie if each side does not have the opportunity to bat for 10 overs), the match shall be recorded as 'No result'.

3.5 Three-night Matches

(a) **First innings**

The number of overs available to each side shall normally be reduced by one for each full eight minutes of playing time lost after the starting time designated in Playing Regulation 3.1(d), where the aggregate time exceeds 30 minutes. If play starts earlier, the 30-minute allowance shall be increased by the actual playing time played before the designated starting time.

Eg A match in June is agreed to start at 5.30 pm. The start is delayed for 10 minutes. At 5.55 pm play is interrupted for 15 minutes. The period of play before 6.30 pm is 35 minutes (60-10-15). If there are further interruptions at or after 6.30 pm, no overs will be reduced until a total of 65 minutes' playing time has been lost (allowance made for 35 minutes before 6.30 pm plus 30 minutes).

Note that if the number of overs is reduced from 50 to, say, 45 because of rain the number of available overs shall be 45, even if the side is bowled out in fewer overs.

(b) **Second innings**

From the end of the first innings, a further deduction of one over shall be made for each full four minutes of playing time lost. No deduction shall be made until the allowance for any early start and the 30-minute allowance have been exhausted. The number of overs shall not be reduced below 20 overs per side.

If, as a result of play being suspended on either or both of the first two nights of a three-night match, such that more than 50 overs remain to be bowled on the third night, the maximum available overs for both innings shall be 50, plus the number of overs already bowled, rounded down to an even number.

eg 17 overs are bowled on the first night. Play is suspended for rain. 6 overs per side are deducted before play is suspended. Match now 44 overs per side. Second night raining at start. After 30 minutes, umpires decide to suspend play for the night.

Match is now 41 overs per side. Third night - a total of $24+41 = 65$ overs remain to be bowled. This is greater than 50. The total overs in the match is therefore $50+17=67$ rounded down to 66 (even number). Match is now 33 overs per side. 16 overs to be bowled to complete the first innings. A total of 49 could be bowled on the third night.

If, on the third night, the umpires consider that a twenty-over (or longer) match can not be completed, a ten-over match shall start at any time after the scheduled starting time.

If a ten-over match is not completed (ie if each side does not have the opportunity to bat for 10 overs), the match shall be recorded as "No result".