

Vitality Club T20

Competition Rules



This competition will use the Generic 20 overs per side Playing Conditions.

1 **Title**

The title of the competition shall be the Vitality Club T20.

2 This version of the rules is effective in all matches in the Competition from 1st August 2025 to 30th September 2025. Except as varied hereunder the Laws of Cricket (2017, 3rd Edition - 2022) shall apply.

3 **Management**

3.1 All decisions relating to the interpretation of these rules or to matches played in the Competition shall be made by the ECB and will be final and binding on all concerned. The ECB may delegate any of their powers and duties, including (where appropriate) to the Cricket Regulator.

3.2 All potential breaches of these Rules, or disputes arising from the application of interpretation of these Rules, shall be referred to a panel of three members of the ECB Recreational Discipline Panel (the "Panel"), whose decision shall be final and binding. The Panel shall consider any such matter in such manner and following such procedures as it considers appropriate and shall not be bound by rules governing the admissibility of evidence in judicial or other proceedings.

The Cricket Regulator shall confirm the identity of the Panel members to the relevant parties. If any party objects to any member of the Panel on the basis of a conflict of interest, the Cricket Regulator shall consider whether it is necessary to appoint a new member of the Panel.

4 **Entry**

4.1 **Cup**

Open to all clubs which qualify from ECB Premier League T20 competitions or otherwise invited by ECB Competitions Team.

4.2 **Plate**

Open to all clubs which qualify from leagues that apply to be part of the Plate competition.

5 **Competition Structure**

Each League will hold its own competition open only to clubs affiliated to it, the winner shall progress on to a National Knockout (both Cup and Plate), the draw for which the ECB will be responsible.

6 **Eligibility**

Please refer to Generic Rule 3.6.

Any club that fields an ineligible player shall be disqualified.

- 6.1 If a cricketer has played for a team in their own local competition, except for a County Cricket Academy, that cricketer will be ineligible to play for another team in that season.
- 6.2 For the Plate competition, teams below a 1st XI may be eligible to qualify from a league T20 competition. In this situation any player representing the team in the national stages of the competition must have played at least half of their matches (both T20 and one-day league matches) for that team or a lower team within the club during the current season.

7 Balls

For each match in the national stages of both the Cup and Plate competition, ECB will supply pink Tiflex Oxbridge Magna balls to the host club.

8 Clothing

Players in all matches in the Competition will wear clothing and equipment in accordance with ECB guidelines. Clothing in all rounds can be either white or coloured, however there is a preference for coloured clothing where possible.

9 Umpires

Until the national stages of both the Cup and Plate competition, umpires are to be arranged locally by the host club. From national stages onwards appointments will be made by the local ECB Regional Appointments Coordinator. Appointed umpires will be full members of ECB Association of Cricket Officials and have current DBS clearance. ECB shall be responsible for payment for all matches from the Area Finals/First Round onwards.

All clubs must submit a report on the umpires for each match they play in the Competition. This must be entered online via the 'Who's the Umpire' appointments system.

10 Scorers

Each team shall provide their own competent, non-playing scorer in all matches. If a team fails to provide a scorer a player has to be nominated from the team to take up the duty for the entire duration of the match.

The use of live electronic scoring is strongly encouraged for all matches.

11 Fixtures

All matches are to take place on or before the dates prescribed in the table below:

Stage	Date	Reserve Date
League qualifier	By 27 July	
Area Final (Cup)/First Round (Plate)	3 August	10 August
Regional Final (Cup & Plate)	24 August	31 August
National Final (Cup & Plate)	14 September	No reserve

Matches can only be played on an alternative date if changed by mutual agreement of the clubs and the ECB, and must be within the time-scale for the Regional Rounds. Any rearrangement must be with the agreement of the ECB Competitions Team beforehand. Matches where no result can be achieved on the scheduled date can be rearranged to be played by the closing date for that Round.

In the event of no decision being reached in the match because of inclement weather, inability to rearrange a fixture before the deadline date, or for another reason, then in the last resort, the decision shall be made by the toss of a coin between the two captains when both captains are present.

In the event of the captains not being able to be present, the tossing of the coin shall be referred to the ECB Competitions Team. It is suggested that rather than the tossing of a coin, Clubs should play a match for even a small number of overs, wherever possible, according to the time still available.

12 Team Sheets

Each side must provide the umpires with a team sheet before the start of the match identifying any player who has not reached the age of 18 on the date of the match and showing the specific age group of any player who is in the Under 19 age group or younger.

13 Results

It is the responsibility of the WINNING side to enter the result and full scorecard details onto the appropriate site on Play-Cricket within 24 hours of the match being completed and preferably on the same day of the match being completed. The losing side should confirm that the summary result has been correctly entered. Both sides must ensure that their squad details have been entered into Play-Cricket prior to each match they play. Any matches postponed or rearranged should be updated on Play-Cricket as soon as possible.

14 Helmets and/or Faceguards

Any player under the age of 18 playing in any ECB Competition shall be bound by the ECB Regulations.

15 Code of Conduct

All players, coaches or match officials shall be bound by the MCC Spirit of Cricket and ECB General Conduct Regulations.