

## NFJCA League Rules 2022

All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of Cricket except where shown:

### 1. General Rules

- 1.1 Players should be dressed appropriately. Cricket whites or optional coloured kit of choice, suitable trainers or cricket shoes should be worn for matches.
- 1.2 Under 9 Pairs: If a child wishes to wear protective clothing and/or helmet they shall be allowed to do so.
- 1.3 All players under the age of 18 years, when playing hard ball cricket, must wear a helmet when batting and when standing up to the stumps whilst keeping wicket.
- 1.4 Matches should start no later than 6.30pm for Under 9, 13 & U11/12 girls and 10.30am for Under 11 and 15 unless otherwise stated.
- 1.5 The home team shall supply a suitable match ball.
- 1.6 There will be no LBW Rule in the Under 9 competitions. All other age groups will follow LBW rules as defined in the Laws of Cricket.
- 1.7 Non-attendance at the AGM will result in a fine of £25.

### 2. Registration & Eligibility of Players

- 2.1 Any player selected for a team shall be under the age of 9,11,13, or 15 on the 31<sup>st</sup> August prior to the season in which games are played unless the prior consent of the NFJCA Secretary is obtained.
- 2.2 Girls may play two years down from their age as at 31<sup>st</sup> August prior to the season in which games are played e.g. an U13 girl may play in an U11 open match.
- 2.3 Boys who are not included in a representative squad, District or County, may play down one year from their age as at 31<sup>st</sup> August prior to the season in which games are played
- 2.4 All players should be members of an affiliated NFJCA Club. Where a Club has an A & B team no player who is included in a representative squad, District or County, shall be allowed to play in the Club's B team unless given prior permission by the NFJCA Committee. This will only apply to players involved in representative cricket in the older age group of a two-year band. The NFJCA will publish a list of players exempt from B teams prior to the season. For example: an U11 or U12 District/County player is allowed to play for a Club's U13B team, however an U13 District/County player can only play in the A team.
- 2.5 No player may play for more than one club in a season unless the prior consent of the NFJCA Secretary is obtained.
- 2.6 Evidence of the date of birth of any player must be provided if requested by the NFJCA Committee.
- 2.7 It shall not be permitted for any club to retain points won by a team that includes an ineligible player or players. Any club found guilty of this offence will forfeit the match and have 5 points deducted. At the discretion of the Colts Committee points may be awarded to the opposing team.

### 3. Protests and Complaints

- 3.1 All complaints or protests relating to the Rules of the Competitions or League must be made on an official Complaint Form to the League Secretary within **10** days of the occurrence, accompanied by a fee of £20 for the complaint to be considered by the Colts Committee. The return of this fee may be made at the discretion of the Colts Committee after the protest or complaint has been resolved. A Complaint Form is available from the website as a download.

#### **4. Umpires**

- 4.1 Umpires must be provided and stand for the duration of each game, unless the League appoints the umpires.

#### **5. League Divisions**

- 5.1. The NFJCA Committee will run leagues for teams at U11, 13 & 15 age groups.
- 5.2. The NFJCA Committee will provide a friendly fixture list for those clubs wishing to play U9 matches and U11/12 Girls matches.
- 5.3. The U9s and U11s age groups will be divided into North and South Divisions where possible. The Committee however will use their discretion should the entries for the forthcoming season not make this viable, in which case there will be one League for that age group. For those playing 9 aside at U11 and U11/12 Girls, there will be one league regardless of area.
- 5.4. In the U13s and U15s leagues, clubs will be able to specify if they want to enter a team in the 'A' or 'B' league (where the 'A' league is seen as the most competitive in terms of ability).
- 5.5. A club which withdraws a team from any league after 1<sup>st</sup> March prior to the season to be played shall be liable to a fine of £25.00 for each team withdrawn

#### **6. Honouring League Fixtures**

**6.1** League matches may not be re-arranged except if they have had to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. They can then be re-arranged to be played no later than 14 days from the date of the original fixture and only with the mutual agreement of both clubs involved.

**6.2** The NFJCA, at its discretion, will also consider other matches to be re-arranged due to 'exceptional circumstances'. Clubs must contact the League Secretary and the opposing team no later than 14 days prior to the due fixture date to request the re-arrangement and giving the reason why. The NFJCA Committee will be consulted and both teams notified of their decision. Permission will NOT be granted if this rule is not adhered to and Clubs, granted permission, must then give their opposition 2 week's notice and a choice of at least 2 dates for re-arrangement. If a date cannot be agreed the match will be considered void.

**6.3** If a team fails to honour a fixture it will result in a fine of £10 and a deduction of 5 points. A second default will result in a fine of £10 and a deduction of 10 Points. A third default will result in a fine of £15 and the team will be expelled from the League. The playing record of a team expelled from the League will be expunged as will matches played and points won against such teams.

#### **7. Reporting of Match Results**

- 7.1 With the exception of U9s and U11/12s Girls leagues, the home team shall be responsible to ensure that all results are uploaded into Play Cricket by midnight on the Tuesday following each respective match. Failure to upload results will mean that the League tables are not a fair representation of the results and will force the Committee to introduce fines in the 2023 season.
- 7.2 If a match is abandoned after a minimum of 10 overs being bowled in the second innings, the result shall be on the score after 10 overs of each team innings.

#### **8. Determining league positions**

- 8.1 The number of points gained by a team shall be divided by the number of completed matches to give an average number of points per game
- 8.2 The team with the highest average will be the League Champions provided they have completed 4 matches – or more.

- 8.3 In the event of an identical average the winning team shall be the one with the highest average number of runs per innings
- 8.4 Where there are North and South Leagues, the teams with the highest averages will compete in the play-offs to find the eventual winner of that League
- 8.5 Arrangements for the League play-offs will be made by the NFJCA Committee

## **9. Presentation of Trophies**

- 9.1 All cups won by the League and Cup winners remain the property of the NFJCA Committee.
- 9.2 Presentation to League and Cup winners will be made on the day of the League Play offs (for **all** League trophies) or on the day of the Cup Matches at the location for the said matches.
- 9.3 Cups or trophies will be competed for annually and will never become the outright property of any member club
- 9.4 Clubs shall be held responsible for the loss or damage to Trophies whilst in their custody and shall be responsible for insurance as necessary to cover this liability
- 9.5 Whilst a Club holds a Cup they shall have it engraved with their name and year of winning at their own expense
- 9.6 The Colts Section shall provide 10 individual awards for the winners and runners-up, for each for the Under 11, Under 13 and Under 15 Cup competitions and 9 each for the Under 9 Cup competition.
- 9.7 The Colts Section shall provide 10 individual awards for the winners and runners-up for the U11 (9 aside), U13 & 15 league competitions, and 9 for the U11's 8 aside pairs League Competition.
- 9.8 Clubs must return League and Cup trophies to the League Secretary by the end of June of the following season. Failure to a return a trophy shall result in a fine of £20.00

## **10. Format of League Competitions**

### **10.1 Under 9's & Under 11/12s Girls Friendly League matches**

- 10.1.1** The pitch shall be 15 yds. in length and the boundary a maximum of 30 metres.
- 10.1.2** The Home Club must provide a soft ball (ie incrediball or All Stars ball) of suitable condition.
- 10.1.3** A team shall consist of a minimum of 6 players.
- 10.1.4** Each match shall consist of one innings per team.
- 10.1.5** The batting team shall be divided into pairs. Each pair shall bat for 4 overs
- 10.1.6** Each batter shall have unlimited lives, but each 'life' will result in 5 runs being deducted from the batting side's total. The 'out' batter shall not face the next delivery, except when a wicket falls on the last ball of an over.
- 10.1.7** If possible, try to ensure that no player on the fielding team bowls more than 3 overs and encourage all players to bowl, including the wicket keeper.
- 10.1.8** Each team shall commence its innings with 200 runs.
- 10.1.9** The winning team shall be the one with the highest number of runs after deductions for dismissals
- 10.1.10** No fielder, except the wicket keeper, shall be allowed to field within 11 yds. measured from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the offside
- 10.1.11** Substitutes are allowed at any stage of play.
- 10.1.12** The bowling of Wides and no balls. Wides and no balls as defined in the Laws of Cricket will be penalised by awarding two runs to the batting team. An extra ball will not be bowled. However in the final over of each innings two runs will be awarded to the batting team and an extra ball will be bowled. Additional runs can be scored. **Clarification:** in the case of the ball bouncing more than twice or rolling along the ground, the Umpire shall call and signal No Ball if a ball which he considers to have been

delivery without touching the bat or person of the striker either (1) bounces more than twice or (2) rolls along the ground before it reaches the popping crease.

Bowler breaking wicket in delivering the Ball; either Umpire shall call and signal No Ball if, other than in an attempt to run out the non-striker under Law 42.15 the Bowler breaks the wicket at any time after the ball come into play and before he completes the stride after the delivery stride (i.e. when his back foot lands for the second time).

**10.1.13** There shall be no LBW Rule

**10.1.14** The NFJCA Committee shall provide a fixture list but NO RESULTS will be published and NO LEAGUE TABLES will be kept

## **10.2 Under 11 League Matches (Pairs Cricket)**

**10.2.1** The pitch shall be 17 yds. in length and the boundary a maximum of 35 metres.

**10.2.2** The Home Club must provide a 4.75 oz. hard ball of suitable condition

**10.2.3** A team shall consist of a minimum of 8 players

**10.2.4** Each match shall consist of one innings per team

**10.2.5** The batting team shall be divided into pairs. Each pair shall bat for 4 overs

**10.2.6** Each batter shall have unlimited lives, but each 'life' will result in 5 runs being deducted from the batting side's total. The 'out' batter shall not face the next delivery, except when a wicket falls on the last ball of an over.

**10.2.7** Each player on the fielding team must bowl, with the exception of the wicket keeper. If the wicket keeper is changed during the innings they must bowl at least one over but no player shall bowl more than 3 overs.

**10.2.8** Each team shall commence its innings with 200 runs.

**10.2.9** The winning team shall be the team scoring the highest number of runs after the deduction for the fall of wickets and shall receive 10 points. One bonus point shall be awarded for every 10 runs by which the adjusted score exceeds 200 to a maximum of 5 points

**10.2.10** No fielder, except the wicket keeper, shall be allowed to field within 11 yds. measured from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the offside

**10.2.11** In accordance with the Laws of Cricket a substitute shall be allowed to take the field of an injured player. Such substitute shall only act as a fielder whilst his team is fielding. Any over(s) that would have been bowled by an injured player shall be shared between the remaining players without exceeding their allocation.

**10.2.12** The bowling of Wides and no balls. Wides and no balls as defined in the Laws of Cricket will be penalised by awarding two runs to the batting team. An extra ball will not be bowled. However in the final over of each innings two runs will be awarded to the batting team and an extra ball will be bowled. Additional runs can be scored. **Clarification:** in the case of the ball bouncing more than twice or rolling along the ground, the Umpire shall call and signal No Ball if a ball which he considers to have been delivery without touching the bat or person of the striker either (1) bounces more than twice or (2) rolls along the ground before it reaches the popping crease.

Bowler breaking wicket in delivering the Ball; either Umpire shall call and signal No Ball if, other than in an attempt to run out the non-striker under Law 42.15 the Bowler breaks the wicket at any time after the ball come into play and before he completes the stride after the delivery stride (i.e. when his back foot lands for the second time).

### 10.3 - U11 9 a-side U13 & U15 League matches

#### 10.3.1

U11s - The pitch shall be 17 yds. in length and the boundary a maximum of 40 metres.

U13s - The pitch shall be 19 yds. in length and the boundary a maximum of 50 metres.

U15s - The pitch shall be 22 yds. in length and the boundary a maximum of 55 metres.

**10.3.2** The Home Club must provide a 4.75 oz. hard ball of suitable condition (for U11s/U13s) and 5.5oz for the U15s

**10.3.3** A team shall consist of 9 players

**10.3.4** Each match shall consist of one innings per team

**10.3.5** Each innings shall be of 16 overs duration. The first 8 overs shall be bowled from one end, followed by 8 overs from the other end. **In U11 and U13 matches ONLY** the bowling of Wides and No Balls as defined in the Laws of Cricket will be penalised by awarding two runs to the batting team. Additional runs can be scored but NO extra ball will be bowled, EXCEPT in the final (16<sup>th</sup>) over.

**10.3.6** No player shall bowl more than 3 overs

**10.3.7** In the event of the 8<sup>th</sup> wicket falling, the remaining batsman will continue to bat as **'the last man standing'**, facing all subsequent balls.

The batsman dismissed as the 8<sup>th</sup> wicket will continue as a runner. In the event of either batsman being dismissed, the innings will be finished.

**Retiring.** A batsman must retire when they reach 25 (U11), 30 runs (U13) and 35 runs (U15). They can return to the crease in the event of their side being dismissed within the set overs. Retired batsmen must return in the order of their retirement

**10.3.8** In accordance with the Laws of Cricket a substitute shall be allowed to take the field of an injured player. Such substitute shall only act as a fielder whilst his team is fielding. Any over(s) that would have been bowled by an injured player shall be shared between the remaining players without exceeding their allocation.

**10.3.9** The LBW rule, as defined in the Rules of Cricket, will be enforced.

**10.3.10** The winning side shall be the side scoring the most runs. Where the scores are level the points will be shared, wickets lost will not be taken into consideration. 10 points will be awarded for a win. Bonus points will be awarded as following :-

#### Under 11 (9 a-side), U13 & U15 Batting and Bowling points

##### · Batting points

<b>Under 11</b>	40 to 49	1 point
	50 to 59	2 points
	60 to 69	3 points
	70 to 79	4 points
	80 plus	5 points
<b>Under 13</b>	55 to 64	1 point
	65 to 74	2 points
	75 to 84	3 points
	85 to 94	4 points
	95 plus	5 points
<b>Under 15</b>	55 to 74	1 point
	75 to 94	2 points
	95 to 114	3 points
	115 to 134	4 points
	135 plus	5 points

For the team batting second and winning in addition to the batting points gained 1 point is awarded for each 2 wickets in hand at the close of the match up to a maximum of 5 batting points.

**Bowling Points**

1 or 2 wickets taken	1 point
3 or 4 wickets taken	2 points
5 or 6 wickets taken	3 points
7 or 8 wickets taken	4 points
All out	5 points

In the event of batting side consisting of less than 9 players and being all out then maximum bowling points may be claimed