

SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT CRICKET BOARD – Indoor Six-a-Side Playing Regulations

1. Competitions, Nomenclature, Objectives and Sponsorship

The nomenclature of our competitions shall be one of the following to reflect the various levels of competition:

The South Essex District Cricket Board Womens' Indoor Six-a-side Competition
The South Essex District Cricket Board Girls' Indoor Six-a-side Competition
The South Essex District Cricket Board Special Indoor Six-a-side Competition
The South Essex District Cricket Board Youth Indoor Six-a-side Competition
The South Essex District Cricket Board Senior Indoor Six-a-side Competition

The objective of the competitions shall be to promote the interest of cricket during the close season by participation in an inter-club six-a-side tournament played indoors.

Where more than one competition is staged at the same level, differentiation shall be made by appending the title with the competition location as a parenthesis. If a particular level has a County-wide competition pathway, then the South Essex District Cricket Board shall arrange for a play-off competition to be staged between the winners of its competitions at such levels, to determine the overall winning club and the entrant for the County-wide competition. In the event of a club failing to take part in either the play-off competition or the County-wide competition without good cause, the club shall not be permitted to take part in South Essex District Cricket Board's Indoor Six-a-side Competitions for the following Winter season. Each competition may be split into several divisions, offering one-place promotion and relegation between the divisions.

Where sponsorship of a competition is agreed by the Management Committee of the South Essex District Cricket Board, the name of the sponsor shall replace "South Essex District Cricket Board" in the title if so required. In competitions played by young persons, it is acceptable to include the age group in the competition title, such as U12, U14 or U16 as appropriate.

2. Management, Adjudication and Appeals

The administration of each competition shall rest with the respective Hon. Competition Secretary who shall be empowered to proceed as governed by these regulations and to adjudicate on all matters where these regulations may be silent. In the event of any dispute arising, written representation may be made to Hon. Competition Secretary within three days of the event(s) which gave rise to the dispute. The Hon. Competition Secretary shall respond to any such dispute within three days of receipt of such communication. As part of the decision making process, the Hon. Competition Secretary may seek informal guidance from one or more committee members of the South Essex District Cricket Board, hereinafter referred to as the SEDCB, (which may include the relevant Umpires Appointments Officer from the local branch of the Officials Association), or Officers of the Essex County Cricket Board, hereinafter referred to as the ECCB, providing such persons are not connected, either directly or indirectly, by means of club affiliation or otherwise, to the parties involved in the dispute or whose club(s) or affiliates may benefit from any decision thereby made.

If there is further dispute over the response to written representation, a club officer shall have the right of appeal, providing grounds are lodged with the Hon. Competition Secretary within five days of the response submission. Such appeal shall be heard by a minimum of three and a maximum of either five members from either SEDCB Management Committee Officers or its President or Vice-Presidents and/or from ECCB Executives, Directors or Employees, who shall be appointed to the SEDCB appeals panel by the SEDCB Hon. Chairman or Hon. Secretary. The appeal hearing shall take place within 21 days of the receipt of a request for such a hearing. The appeal panel shall have at its disposal all relevant written submissions and may also hear from parties and witnesses in person at its sole judgement should this be necessary. If such persons cannot attend, the hearing shall not be adjourned. No appeal panel member shall be connected to the parties involved with the dispute or appeal, either directly or indirectly. Neither shall any person be called to hear an appeal if he or she had taken part in the previous adjudication, whether formally or informally. The decision of the Appeal Panel shall be final and binding on all parties. All relevant parties shall be notified of the Appeal Panel's decision(s) within five days of the hearing.

If, for any reason, the SEDCB fails to arrange an appeal hearing within the prescribed time as set out above, then the original adjudication shall be final and binding on all parties. In such an event, all relevant parties shall be entitled to an explanation from the SEDCB Hon. Chairman and/or SEDCB Hon. Secretary as to why the Appeal Panel was not convened.

3. Health and Safety, Venues

Competitions shall be played in sports halls, gymnasias or other suitable indoor areas arranged by the SEDCB. Member clubs shall be responsible for their own teams in respect of compliance with the requirements of the host venue, for example, but not limited to, health and safety requirements, equipment usage and car parking.

Captains of senior teams which include junior players and team managers of junior teams shall ensure that no young player performs a heavy lift of cricket mats or operates any mat storage system or equipment. Our competition venues are not open to the members of the public for viewing. Non-participating club members and officials, including parents of junior players, may only be admitted in venues where there is a specified area for that purpose and which is outside of the playing hall, such as a viewing gallery. Member clubs are responsible for ensuring that this regulation is enforced.

4. Eligibility and Conditions for Entry

Each competition shall be open to all clubs who are affiliated to the SEDCB. Clubs may apply to enter more than one team for each competition. Where competitions or divisions are over-subscribed, the Hon. Competition Secretary shall have the power to determine which teams are admitted. However, priority shall be given to "first" teams that played in the same competition in the preceding season, followed by "first" teams from clubs who did not enter in the preceding season. If vacancies exist and no new clubs wish to enter the competition, additional teams shall be accepted.

The SEDCB management committee reserves the right to refuse entry of a club or teams to any of its leagues or divisions.

The Hon. Competition Secretary shall announce a closing date for entries from member clubs after which fixtures shall be issued to member clubs and to the Hon. Umpires Appointments Officer. It is recommended that such issue be made not less than fourteen days prior to the start of the competition.

Late entries may be made at the discretion of the Hon. Competition Secretary in order to maintain a sufficient number of teams in a division.

By entering team(s) in the SEDCB Indoor Competition(s), clubs accept that they and their respective teams are bound by these playing conditions and regulations and that they are liable to pay fees for each entered team, which shall be invoiced to each member club by the SEDCB Hon. Treasurer or other deputising officer. The basis for charging shall be shared costs between teams of the hall hire for each game, plus any additional charges in respect of cancelled or abandoned games as per section 7 below. It is the responsibility of each club to ascertain details of costs from the Hon. Competition Secretary.

5. Competition Structure

Each competition shall be run on a league basis with all matches being notified to clubs and umpires in advance. Where more than one team from the same club is involved in the same league, the Hon. Competition Secretary shall endeavour to arrange for the fixtures between teams of the same club during the first week(s) of competition. All matches must be played at the times advertised, or if changes are necessary, as the Hon. Competition Secretary may advise from time to time.

6. Award of Points

Twenty points shall be awarded to a winning team, with no eligibility for bonus points.

Three points shall be awarded to each team for a tied match. A tied match is one where both teams score an identical number runs in a completed game, regardless of the number of wickets lost. In addition, bonus points will be awarded, as set out below.

Losing teams shall be awarded bonus points only, as set out below.

Bonus points are as awarded as follows: Bowling points shall be awarded for each wicket taken, up to a maximum of six points. Batting points shall be awarded at 50, 60, 70, 80, 90 and 100 runs scored, up to a maximum of six points.

7. Non-Attendance of Teams

The Hon. Competition Secretary shall receive a report from the umpires and/or team captains/youth team managers within 48 hours of any occurrence of non-attendance or lateness by a competing team or teams, which causes a fixture to be abandoned or cancelled.

A minimum of four players from each team must be available to start at the stipulated time. If less than four players from a team are so available and where such absence or delay causes the game to be cancelled or abandoned, twenty points for a win shall be recorded to the non-offending team. In addition, the team causing a cancellation or abandonment shall be liable for the entire cost of the facility hire for the abandoned or cancelled game. If both teams are deemed to be at fault or the fixture involves teams from the same club, neither team shall receive any points.

The SEDCB Management Committee shall have the power to expel any team from a competition which fails to fulfil its fixtures on two or more occasions. Any senior team which does so shall not be permitted to enter any SEDCB-managed indoor competition in the following year. No member of the SEDCB Management Committee shall be entitled to vote or take part in any decision making process if he or she has an affiliation with a club likely to be affected by the outcome of any such decision. If an expulsion is decided upon, the club concerned shall be liable for the payment of facility hire, where charged, for all its non-fulfilled fixtures, whether or not arising from the expulsion.

8 Notification of Results

A representative from both teams, normally the captain or youth team manager, having first agreed the final scores with each other and the umpires, shall be responsible for notifying the result and match scores to the Hon. Competition Secretary, whose contact details shall be notified to all participant teams. The SEDCB permits this information to be transmitted by email, text message or via telephone.

Notification shall be made within 24 hours of the conclusion of the game but in the case of fixtures played on a Sunday, by 9pm the same evening.

The information required is as follows: (a) The name of the person making the call and the club concerned; (b) The total runs scored and wickets lost by each side; (c) Highlights of the game to include names of players scoring twenty runs or over and those taking two or more wickets. If a game is not played or completed for any reason, both teams shall report the occurrence and the reason for the cancellation or abandonment within the period specified in the foregoing paragraph.

Teams failing to notify correct match details by the specified time as above, for any reason whatsoever, shall have five points deducted for each occurrence.

9. League Position

League positions shall be determined by the total points gained. In the event of teams being equal on points, the team having won most matches shall be placed highest. Should teams have the same number of points and matches won, the team having taken most wickets throughout the competition shall be placed highest. If two teams are still equal after all three criteria have been taken into account, the team that won the match between the two teams shall be placed highest. If the result between two teams was a tie, then the team which lost the fewer wickets would be placed highest.

10. Provision for Unplayed Matches

If a match is cancelled on the instruction of the Hon. Competition Secretary, or due to external reasons beyond the control of both teams, every effort will be made to re-schedule the match. If no re-scheduling is possible by the Hon. Competitions Secretary, each team shall be awarded ten points.

If a team cannot meet its obligations to fulfil a fixture, whether scheduled or re-scheduled, such a team will be deemed to have lost the fixture and be awarded nil points. The opposing team, if from a different club, shall be deemed to have won the fixture and shall be awarded twenty points.

11. Cricket Balls

Cricket balls shall be used which are suitable for the relative safety of the players and match officials and due consideration needs to be undertaken to ensure that the cricket ball used is suitable for the venue, taking into account the size of the playing area, lighting and its appurtenances, including colour.

For Senior (adult) Competitions played at the Chase Leisure Centre, a Readers Indoor ball (red) shall be used. For Senior Competitions played at the Gateway Academy, a lightweight seam ball, coloured other than yellow, shall be used. These two specified balls are considered to be "hard" for purposes of the mandatory regulations in respect of players under the age of eighteen years of age.

For the U12 and U14 events, Incrediballs or similar shall be used. For the U16 age group a Readers Playground ball shall be used. An adequate amount of cricket balls shall be delivered to each club in the competition prior to the start of the season by the board or shall be allocated to umpires, depending on availability and cost. The U12 age group shall use junior size balls, where available.

For all further competitions and venues, the type of cricket ball used shall be decided by the Management Committee of the SEDCB having due regard to any risk assessments that have been carried out and/or recommendations from senior cricket coaches and/or guidelines from the ECCB and/or England and Wales Cricket Board.

12. Insurance

Each club shall ensure that adequate insurance cover is arranged for Third Party Liability and accidental damage to property and the SEDCB reserves the right to ask any member club to produce its relevant and current insurance certificate or cover note or copy thereof, in which case such club or clubs shall be required to produce the required evidence within seven days of the request to any officer of the SEDCB.

13. Limitation of Liability, Rights and Proceeds

Neither officers of the SEDCB, nor its agents or owners of venues hired by the SEDCB, nor match officials, shall be liable for any loss or damage, howsoever caused. By taking part in SEDCB's indoor cricket competition, clubs agree to be bound by the Laws of Cricket and the playing regulations of the England and Wales Cricket Board and the SEDCB, as may be amended from time to time.

The SEDCB has sole rights to any proceeds arising from transmission of all or part of our competition activity whether by television or radio broadcast, internet streaming or other media. Member clubs and their respective members shall have no claim to payment against the SEDCB for use of their image or naming rights.

14. Umpires and Scorers

The local branch of the ECB Officials Association will be requested to appoint umpires for each match. However, where this is not possible, the SEDCB may appoint umpires. If this is not possible, or, if an umpire is unable to fulfil an appointment, the team captains or managers shall agree on a substitute. It is the responsibility of the umpires to ensure that the playing regulations are properly implemented. Each team shall provide a scorer. One of the scorers shall call out the score at the end of each over.

15. Dress

Players dress shall be white and as normally worn. Batsmen and wicketkeepers in the U16 competition and all senior (adult) competitions shall wear pads, gloves, and an abdominal guard. Only rubber-soled non-marking footwear shall be permitted. Special arrangements may be made by the competitions secretary or the SEDCB in respect of womens' and girls' competitions.

16. Behaviour

All players and officials are expected to behave in a proper manner at all times. Any incidents of misconduct shall be the subject of a written report from the umpire or umpires to be submitted to the Competition Secretary within seven days of the fixture in question. The SEDCB's discipline procedures and guidelines shall apply.

17. Qualification of Players

No player may play in the Competition unless he is a fully paid up bona-fide member of the club for which he plays. No player may play for more than one team in the same competition during a season. No player shall play for more than one club in any of the SEDCB indoor competitions in any one season. No player shall be eligible to play in the Competition if he has played in first class cricket during the preceding summer cricket season.

Youth age groups are based as at midnight on 31st August prior to the start of the competition.

18. Awards

For adult competitions, divisional trophies, where they exist, shall be presented to each winning team. The trophy will remain the property of the SEDCB and be held by the winning team for a period of one year. The holding club of each trophy shall agree to reimburse the full cost of repair or replacement in the event of damage or loss howsoever caused. It is the responsibility of the holder of a trophy to have their club's name properly engraved thereon.

For youth competitions, Individual keepsakes will be provided for league winners, and delivered to the winning club for internal presentation, subject to available funding.

19. Playing Regulations

Matches will be played in accordance with the Laws of Cricket and England and Wales Cricket Board's Playing Regulations for Indoor six-a-side cricket. An extract of these playing conditions can be found in the appendix below. However, these will be augmented, and in some cases amended, by local playing regulations detailed within this section. Where any conflict arises between a local regulation and an ECB regulation, the local regulation shall take precedence.

Matches shall normally consist of twelve six-ball overs per side, but the umpires shall have discretion to reduce the match overs and may apply time limits to matches. Advance notification shall be given to team captains/managers where this is deemed necessary.

Bowling shall be from one end only, with the batsmen changing ends at the end of each over. No bowler shall bowl more than three overs in an innings. For youth cricket, in cases where the maximum number of overs for an innings has been reached, every member of the fielding side, with the exception of the wicketkeeper, shall have bowled at least one over, but if, for any reason, the wicketkeeper has been changed during a game, then all members of the fielding side shall bowl at least one over.

Law 12.4 shall not apply insofar as umpires are not required to witness the toss.

For all senior and U16 competitions, that is excluding womens' or girls' competitions and those for any age group below U16 level, the bowler's end umpire shall call and signal "Wide Ball" to any delivery passing outside the batsman's pads (normal stance) on the leg side of the wicket.

For junior and womens' and girls' competitions, a "Wide Ball" or "No Ball" shall result in two "Wide Ball" or "No Ball" extras being added to the batting side's score in addition to any further score as described in the Laws of Cricket or the ECB playing regulations below. No additional delivery shall be allowed in either case except in the final over of each team's innings.

If any delivery pitches short of the mat at the striker's end, the umpire at the bowler's end shall call and signal "No Ball".

A delivery which does not pitch and reaches the striker above waist height, assessed by his or her normal stance, shall result in the umpire at the bowler's end shall calling and signalling "No Ball".

Runs awarded when the ball strikes a wall or the ceiling as a result of an overthrow shall only be allowed if the ball is not dead and either: a) In the opinion of the umpires, the throw was intended as a deliberate attempt to run out a batsman; or b) A return throw to the wicketkeeper or bowler (or other fielder) is missed and the batsmen attempt a run or complete a further run or more.

Appendix I – Relevant ECB Indoor Playing Regulations

Teams and General Format

Teams shall consist of six players each.

Each match shall consist of one innings per team.

Each innings shall consist of a maximum of 12 six ball overs.

No more than 3 overs shall be bowled by any individual.

In the event of a team losing five wickets, if 12 overs of that innings have not been completed, the remaining “not out” batsman shall continue batting with the fifth man out remaining at the wicket as a non-striker.

Two batsmen shall be at the wicket at all times during an innings.

When a batsman reaches or passes a personal total of 25 he shall retire, but may return to the crease.

Retired batsmen must return in order of their retirement and take the place of the retiring or dismissed batsman.

Two ‘live’ batsmen shall be at the wicket until such time as the fifth wicket has fallen.

The batsman shall retire again when he scores an additional 25 runs on his return to the crease unless he is the last remaining batsman, in which case he can complete his innings.

Scoring

A ball struck to hit the boundary wall behind the bowler without touching the floor or any other wall or ceiling shall count as a boundary [6 runs]. If, however, the ball touches the floor but does not touch any of the other walls or the ceiling and hits the boundary wall, then it shall count as boundary 4 runs.

A ball struck to hit the ceiling or one or more of the side or back walls shall count 1 run, even if the ball subsequently hits the boundary wall in which case it remains in play. 2 additional runs shall be scored if the batsmen complete a run (if the ball is struck to hit the ceiling or side or back wall and a batsman is then run out 1 run shall be scored).

Two runs shall be scored if the striker plays the ball and it does not hit a wall and the batsmen complete a run.

A bye shall count as one extra if the ball hits a wall (including the boundary wall); a leg-bye shall count as one extra if the ball hits a wall (including the boundary wall). In each case if the batsmen complete a run two additional extras shall be scored.

Two byes or two leg-byes shall be scored if the batsmen complete a run without the ball hitting a wall, providing the criteria for byes or leg-byes are met.

An overthrow hitting any wall or walls shall count as only one run to the batsman or to the total of extras as appropriate. Additional overthrows can only ensue from each additional throw which goes on to hit a wall or walls (the batsmen shall not change ends but may continue to run if the ball is still deemed to be ‘live’).

If in the opinion of the umpire the ball becomes lodged in netting or in any obstacle then the umpire shall call and signal ‘dead ball’ and award one run. The batsmen shall return to their original ends.

From a No Ball struck by the batsman, runs scored as in scoring regulations above shall be accredited to the striker. If the batsmen do not run and the ball does not touch any wall or ceiling, then just the penalty shall be scored.

From a No Ball not struck by the batsman, or from one striking his person when he is trying to avoid being hit by the ball, runs shall be scored as in Scoring Regulations above; these shall be credited as No Ball extras.

Methods of Dismissal

Apart from the normal methods of dismissal contained in the Laws of Cricket, the following variations shall apply:

The batsman shall be caught out by a fieldsman after the ball has hit the ceiling, the netting (unless lodged therein) or any wall except directly from the boundary wall, provided the ball has not touched the floor;

The last not out batsman shall be given out if the non-striker running with him is given out.

The batsman or the non-striker shall be given not out if the ball rebounds from a wall or ceiling and hits a wicket without being touched by a member of the fielding side.

Appendix II – Relevant ECB Generic Regulations

In the event of a bowler breaking down and being unable to complete an over, another bowler will bowl the remaining balls (of that over). Such part of an over will count as a full over only in so far as each bowler's limit is concerned.

*Approved by the Management Committee of the South Essex District Cricket Board
8th September 2011*

*Playing regulations 7 and 9 updated by the Management Committee of the South Essex District Cricket Board
21st November 2011*