



NORTH WEST OF IRELAND CRICKET UNION GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE RULES 2026

In these rules all words are used generically, therefore the masculine shall include the feminine, and he, him, his may be read as she, her, hers

1. GENERAL

The title of the organisation shall be “The North West of Ireland Cricket Union Limited”, (The Union). The Union is affiliated to Cricket Ireland, the governing body of cricket in Ireland. The objective of the Union is shall be the general promotion of cricket in the North West of Ireland, irrespective of gender, ethnic background, religion or impairment of body or mind. The Union supports the Cricket Ireland Safeguarding Policy and Guidance for Cricket Clubs for children’s sports in Ireland and any player, club or official contravening the code will be liable to disciplinary action as specified in the Cricket Ireland Safeguarding Policy and Guidance for Cricket Clubs, or in the event of no specific disciplinary action being detailed, then in accordance with these rules.

The union subscribes to the Anti-Doping Policy adopted by Cricket Ireland, any player, club or official contravening the provisions of the Anti-Doping Policy shall be liable to disciplinary action in accordance with the provisions of that policy

2. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

2.1 All players must be registered on the online registration system no later than the day before playing a match for their proposed club

2.2 Players aged 17 or under on 1st September of the current season can be registered throughout the season, subject to them being resident within Northern Ireland/Ireland. Players aged 17 and over on 1st September of the current season may be registered until and including 31st July, subject to them being resident in Northern Ireland/Ireland

The onus is on clubs to provide proof of residency where necessary

2.3 A player may normally only play for one club in the Union competitions in any one season. The COC may however, if satisfied with the circumstances approve a transfer to another club, no transfer may be arranged after 31st July

2.3.1 Exception for men’s midweek teams:-

2.3.1.1 Players can register for different club but cannot play for 2 different midweek teams

2.3.2 Exceptions for U15 players:-

2.3.2.1 Boys can have one youth registration at U15 level & below and one adult registration above U15 level (Potentially 2 Club Registrations)

2.3.2.2 Girls can have one youth registration for Girls U15 level & below, one youth registration at Boys U15 & below and one adult registration above U15 level for Men and one adult registration above U15 level for Women. (Potentially 4 Club Registrations)

2.3.2.3 If not playing U15 Youth Cricket anywhere the Youth U18 Registration must match the Adult Club Registration (1 Registration)



2.3.3 Exceptions for U19 Pathway Player: -

U19 Pathway players not playing premier cricket can apply to be loaned to another club as a 1-point player to play premier cricket with the approval of the Pathway Manager. A club can only obtain 1 pathway player.

Loans must be completed 48 hours before playing for the loanee club (no transfer may be arranged after 31st July).

Loaned players can only play for one club in all cup competitions. In Provincial Union competitions it is the responsibility of the club fielding the player to confirm whether the player is cup-tied in relation to the Irish Senior Cup, National Cup, Men's All-Ireland T20 Semi-Final or Final (and Ulster Plate).

Home club has first preference and can bring them back (injuries etc) to play premier cricket but at least 48 hours' notice must be given to loanee, loanee club and NWCU.

Player can be reloaned to the same club, but this can only happen once.

If their home club has an U18 team, the loaned player can only play for that team.

If their home club does not have an U18 team, the loaned player can play for the club they are being loaned to.

2.4 In North West Cup competitions no player may play for more than one club in any one season

2.5 A player who is registered with and playing for a club in a different union, affiliated to Cricket Ireland, shall not be eligible to be registered to a club in the North West of Ireland Cricket Union

2.6 Where a player transfers from a club in another union he must provide a clearance certificate from both his club and union using the online registration system

2.7 No player shall play for another club in the Union until given clearance by the club with which he last played for that he is in good financial standing with that club for the last season he played with that club. In the case of a mid-season transfer he must be in good financial standing for the current season

2.8 In the event a club refuses to give a certificate of clearance the player shall have the right of appeal to the Union

2.9 Players may only play for one team on any one day (i.e. They may not leave a game having played their part in the game to appear for another team)

2.10 Each club will be allowed to play only one overseas player in any league or cup game. The player must be registered by 31st July, subject to 3.7 below

2.11 No player who is eligible to play in U13 competitions shall be eligible to play in Premier, Championship, Senior Cup, Sammy Jeffrey or NWT20 competition.

2.12 There shall be no restriction on the number of players with 'First Class' cricket experience, other than only a maximum of one can be an overseas player, all other players registered by a club who have played 'First Class' cricket must be currently qualified and eligible to play for Ireland.



- 2.13 Clubs in Women's Division 1, Men's Premiership 1 and 2 will only be able to register up to a maximum of 2 Irish Qualified players per league who do not meet residency criteria

3. OVERSEAS PLAYER GUIDANCE

- 3.1 An overseas player is someone who is not currently eligible to play for Ireland under current International Cricket Council (ICC) Rules
- 3.2 Clubs will be able to register only one overseas Professional or Amateur (subject to allowances for resident players)
- 3.3 When registering an overseas player clubs must provide to the NWCU the following prior to registration being considered.

Tier 5 Professionals

- a. Copy of UK Visa or similar right of legal entry to UK
- b. A valid UKCC Level 2 coaching qualification or equivalent qualification as per CI/ECB guidelines.
- c. A letter from the police authorities in the players home country that he is free from conviction of criminal offences against young persons
- d. Proof they have attended and completed a Child Protection Course, valid in the UK/Ireland within the last 3 years, if they have not attended one or the one that they have expires prior to the end of the season in which they intend to play then they must attend a course or renew the qualification by 31st May of the current year. The Union reserve the right to suspend/withdraw a player's registration should they fail to meet the terms of this clause.
- e. A First Aid certificate valid in the UK/Ireland dated within 3 years, if they cannot provide one, or the one that they have expires prior to the end of the season in which they intend to play then they must attend and pass or renew the qualification by 31st May of the current year. The Union reserve the right to suspend/withdraw a player's registration should they fail to meet the terms of this clause
- f. Copy of Passport
- g. All applications must conform to the Cricket Ireland Immigration Rules Relating to Overseas Sportspersons
- h. Overseas Professional Application Fees:
 1. Any application received on or prior to 31 March will have a processing fee of £50.
 2. Any application received after 31 March, including a replacement pro application in season, will have a processing fee of £100.
 3. An additional fee of £25 will be charged for every missing or incomplete item as requested in the checklist.
 4. The overseas professional endorsement letter will be not be issued to a club until all application fees are paid in full.



Overseas Amateurs

- a. Copy of UK Visa or similar right of legal entry to the UK (that allows him/her to play cricket as an Amateur)
- b. Copy of Passport

Residency Allowances

Players who are not currently eligible to play for Ireland under current ICC rules may, subject to conditions below, be registered to play as 'local' and not be deemed as the clubs one overseas player.

- a. To be qualified as Resident the player must satisfy the NWCUC that he/she has been resident in Northern Ireland/Ireland for 183 days from May 1st of the previous year to the season he/she is being registered for (except as in e. below)
 - b. Be an EU National resident in Northern Ireland/Ireland
 - c. Be a non-EU National resident in Northern Ireland/Ireland who is entitled to reside and work in Ireland
 - d. Be a non-EU National who is on a full-time study course, or a part-time course involving more than 15 hours class contact per week provided that
 - i) The player does not work for more than 20 hours per week during term-time, except where a placement is a necessary part of the studies that is attended with the agreement of the educational institution attended and;
 - ii) The course is under the auspices of a Northern Ireland University or University in Ireland, or in the case of an Institute of Further and Higher Education, is accredited by an external accrediting body; and
 - iii) The duration of the course is at least one academic year; and
 - iv) The player's attendance started not later than the beginning of the academic year that includes the cricket season for which the registration is sought
 - e. If a player can satisfy the Union that he is resident for reasons unconnected with cricket then the Union may at its discretion accept such registrations despite the player not having been resident for 183 days
Such cases shall include but not be restricted to;
 - i) The player's employer having transferred him to Northern Ireland/Ireland
 - ii) The player having gained employment in Northern Ireland/Ireland prior to his arrival provided that;
 - iii) Appropriate recruitment processes and practices had been applied
 - iv) The post is permanent and full-time (or full-time and for a fixed term of at least 51 weeks)
- 3.4 The onus will be on clubs who are using the services of an overseas player, whether professional, amateur or resident to obtain and submit the necessary documentation referred to in 3.3 to the NWCUC before confirmation of registration can be granted.



3.5 The Union are not registered to give advice on immigration, clubs should refer to the Home Office website for up to date information, the onus is on clubs to ensure that any player they bring from overseas is done so legally

3.6 The BOC decision shall be final in all matters relating to the registration of overseas players

3.7 No overseas player shall be replaced after July 31st unless he has been called up for international duty with his country. Any overseas player being replaced must have the prior approval of the NWCU.

3.8 Starring and Registration Committee (SRC)

- a. The SRC shall consist of at least five members
- b. Three shall form a quorum
- c. The SRC shall be a Sub-Committee of the COC and will actively see that each team is as fairly represented as is possible in the different levels of cricket played.
- d. Each club will be required to send in a player registration list on or before 1st April annually to the NWCU.
- e. See Player points & starring regulations for men and women.
- f. These original lists will be verified by the SRC prior to the start of the season, the SRC reserve the right to make changes as they feel necessary, any changes will be notified to the affected clubs
- g. Lists will be reviewed regularly by the SRC, clubs will be notified of any changes
- h. Clubs may request changes to their lists as the season progresses, these requests must be in writing to the NWCU and by the Tuesday preceding the next set of weekend games they will affect. These requests will be considered by the SRC and clubs notified of the outcome by the Thursday

4. NORTH WEST CRICKET UNION DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS (see appendix)

5. PROTESTS & APPEALS (IN RELATION TO GENERAL MATCH DAY ISSUES NOT INCLUDING DISCIPLINARY ISSUES)

5.1 Protests shall be dealt with in the first place by the COC, members whose clubs are involved shall be excluded from that part of the meeting

5.2 A quorum for protests shall be three members of the committee hearing the case

5.3 Any protest must be sent by email to the Director of the COC to arrive within three days after the match to which they apply (excluding Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays)

5.4 A copy of the protest must also be sent via email to the club who the protest is against, ideally to the club Secretary

5.5 The email must contain an outline of the specific grounds for the protest

5.6 Any appeal arising from a decision made by either the COC, BOC or Disciplinary Committee must be sent by registered post to the Union Administration Officer (or someone acting as his deputy) to arrive within seven days of notification of disciplinary action (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays)

5.7 Letters of appeal must contain:-

- a. An outline of the specific grounds for the appeal



- b. A deposit of £50, this may be paid by cheque, cash or bank transfer. If payment has been made by bank transfer notification of this must be included in the letter of appeal
 - c. The £50 lodged as a deposit will only be refunded if the appeal is successful in causing the original decision to be overturned in full
- 5.8 Appeals resulting from action taken by the COC or Disciplinary Committee will be notified to the BOC.
- 5.9 Appeals will be heard by the Independent Appeal Board
- 5.10 Protests in regard to match results should be made to the Director of the COC in writing (email acceptable) and meet the stipulations in 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5
- 5.11 Protests in regard to player eligibility should be made to the Director of the COC in writing (email acceptable) and meet stipulations in 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5

6. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

- 6.1 All matches shall be conducted according to the most up to date Laws of Cricket as published by The Marylebone Cricket Club except in so far as union rules, bye-laws and playing conditions regulate otherwise
- 6.2 The Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the winning club shall be responsible for the safe return of trophies to the NWCU. If trophies are lost, damaged or destroyed while in the possession of the winning club they shall be required to repair or replace them. Trophies will be presented to clubs as per Rule 12.2 but all trophies must be returned to the NWCU either at the North West Annual Awards or prior to the Awards night and no later than the 31st October of the current year. All trophies are insured by the Union (This insurance only covers trophies whilst they are in possession of the Union)
- 6.3 All clubs must have in place a 'Designated Safeguarding Officer', no club will be eligible to play cricket in the Union or affiliated competitions without this position being filled.
- 6.4 All clubs must have in place Public Liability Insurance. A copy of which must be provided to the NWCU each season prior to a club being able to play any home games
- 6.5 Clubs are to ensure that correct contact details in the form of an email address are made available to the North West Umpires Association, for the relevant team captain or club representative, prior to the season starting.

7. CLUB REGISTRATION

- 7.1 Applications and renewals for entry to Union competitions must be made by 31st January for adult teams, and 31st March for youth teams each year
- 7.2 Along with the application for entry clubs are required to pay at least 50% of the Union affiliation fee as set by the Union BOC
- 7.3 The outstanding balance of the Club affiliation fees and team entry fees will be due on or before the first game. Failure to make payment by this date will result in a 20 point deduction a further 20 point deduction will be made for each full month of arrears



thereafter. (Each team of a club will be deducted 20 points as detailed above) unless otherwise agreed with the Union

- 7.4 If the matter is then not dealt with to the satisfaction of the union then the right to punish clubs by expulsion may be considered
- 7.5 Clubs will be charged a levy of £600. Affiliation fees will include umpiring costs for adult Union Cup Finals.
- 7.6 No club, which is a member of the union, will be entitled to enter any competition unless it has signed a declaration accepting that the rules of the Union are binding, said club shall also be in good financial standing with the Union
- 7.7 Each club will be invoiced for a minimum of 6 tickets for the Union Annual Awards Dinner
- 7.8 A levy of £150 to be charged for any youth team that withdraws from league or cups after 31 March. *Please note if less than 50% of fixtures are played this will be deemed as a 'withdrawal'*

8. LEAGUE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

- 8.1 The League competitions shall be confined to clubs of the Union and shall be divided into divisions by the COC, these divisions shall in turn be confirmed by the BOC
- 8.2 The League trophies shall be called The North West of Ireland Cricket Union trophies and shall be perpetual trophies to be held by the winning clubs as per Rule 6.2.
- 8.3 Once winning teams have been declared the NWCU shall arrange for the trophies to be presented to the representatives of the winning club.
- 8.4 League fixtures shall be scheduled to commence not later than the last Saturday in April
- 8.5 The regular league season shall not carry on past the 3rd weekend in September. If any play-off games are outstanding due to having been postponed these may take place after the 3rd weekend in September if necessary
- 8.6 Teams shall play each other twice, usually on a home and away basis
- 8.7 League positions shall be decided by the amount of points obtained. In cases where two or more teams are tied on points then Net Run Rate (NRR) shall be used to decide on final places, NRR shall be to 3 decimal places.
- 8.8 Where NRR cannot decide a position that results in a promotion, relegation or league winner scenario the Union shall arrange for a play-off to take place at a neutral venue.

9. CUP ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

- 9.1 The Cup competitions shall be confined to clubs of the Union
- 9.2 The Cup trophies shall be called the North West of Ireland Cricket Union trophies and shall be perpetual trophies to be held by the winning club as per Rule 6.2.
- 9.3 NW Senior Cup and Sammy Jeffrey Shield will take preference over all other cricket, either scheduled or rescheduled, except for the Irish Senior Cup and National Cup.
- 9.4 Where matches are to be played on a Sunday and the side scheduled to be at home does not play home matches on a Sunday the fixture will be reversed and played at the opposition ground



- 9.5 In a case where neither team plays home matches on a Sunday the match will be scheduled to be played during midweek, with the date set by the NWCU
- 9.6 A player will be qualified to play in cup competitions, except as in Rule 9.3 & 9.4 provided he has been registered to play in the league for that club (see starring regulations for men and women).
- 9.7 Where play has been possible in a final attempt at a cup game, but a bowl out has been necessary to reach a result all players on the team sheet will be considered ineligible for a lower grade cup competition (unless eligible for NW U15 competition); where no play has been possible then only the players who are listed to bowl in the bowl out will be considered as being ineligible other than players who are already starred or ineligible for a lower grade competition
- 9.8 Where it is proposed to use a cricket ground which has not been inspected and/or passed for the level of competition being played then the approval of the visiting team is required
- 9.9 Venues for finals shall be allocated by a Match Allocation Group (MAG). Clubs will be asked if they wish to host a final, while a club may indicate the highest level of match that they wish to host they will have no other input into the final allocated. For example, if a club wishes to host the Senior Cup Final then they will also be considered for all other cup finals.
- 9.10 The Union shall be the sole recipient of all gate receipts and responsible for all expenditure associated with the match unless otherwise agreed. Where a team fails to fulfil a fixture in the Irish Senior Cup, National Cup, NW Senior Cup, Sammy Jeffrey Shield or NW T20 Cup that club's teams may be ineligible to enter any Cup competitions for the following season.

10. POSTPONEMENTS, REARRANGEMENTS & CONCESSION OF MATCHES

- 10.1 Matches shall not be postponed except in the case of;
- If 3 or more players are unavailable due to CI Youth/Senior IP's or Youth/Senior Irish = the club can request the game to be postponed, the decision will be at the discretion of the NW and will be rescheduled by NW Operations. (Requests only considered if made 2 full working days in advance of fixture)
 - A higher-grade cup match (1st attempt) needing to be played, scheduled dates shall be set throughout the season for each round of respective cup competitions
 - Rearranged Senior Cup and Sammy Jeffrey Shield matches shall take preference over all scheduled or rescheduled fixtures, except Inter-Province competitions such as the Irish Senior Cup etc
 - Premier League games will take preference over all other games except All Ireland Club games such as Irish Senior Cup etc
 - The death of a player or close relative of a player. (Close relative to be defined as Wife, Husband, Father, Mother, Brother, Sister, Son or Daughter)



- f. The death of a prominent member of a club or close relative of a prominent club member. (Prominent member to be defined as President, Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer or Fixtures Secretary, for relatives refer to 10.1.e)
- 10.2 In any of the cases above for 'Premier League' matches the game shall be rearranged by the NWCU
- 10.3 In the event of a dispute as in 10.1a-f then the matter shall be referred to the COC
- 10.4 Where Premier League games are abandoned as a no result on the first attempt, due to weather or as outlined in 10.1.a-f the NWCU shall advise both clubs of the rearrangement date. Where possible, this date shall be within 29 days of the original date and in all cases as soon as is deemed possible by the NWCU, which could mean a midweek date. If two clubs agree a rearrangement date prior to the NWCU having made the rearrangement then this date must be approved by the NWCU. The NWCU has the option to refuse the rearrangement date where it interferes with previously scheduled or rescheduled matches.

All other games either abandoned as 'No Result' (on the first attempt) due to weather or postponed as outlined above shall be rearranged to be played within 29 days of the original date. Should a further postponement be needed for reasons as outlined in 10.1.a-f above clubs should be aware that the game must still be played within the original 29-day time-frame
- 10.5 Any team which fails to fulfil a fixture, without good reason, shall be deducted 10 points. A second failure during the same season shall result in a further 10-point deduction. A third failure in the same season will result in a further deduction of 10 points the same punishment shall be dealt for each subsequent concession. Further to this each time a team fails to fulfil a match the opposition shall be awarded the match and shall claim said match and 25 points through the Union Online Results Submission Service. Should a team fail to fulfil 3 or more fixtures the Union shall reserve the right to expel them from some or all competitions for that season.
- 10.6 Forfeiting games (1st Attempt only) – Sliding scale as detailed below:
 - 10.6.1 Premiership 1/Premiership 2 (M) £200 per game
 - 10.6.2 League 1-League 3 (M), Div 1 (W) £150 per game
 - 10.6.3 League 4-League 6 (M), Div 2 (W) £100 per game
 - 10.6.4 All fines will be 50% less if more than 24 hours' notice given
- 10.7 Where a club has more than one team playing on the same day and is unable to field one or more teams the lowest team(s) must forfeit their match(es) first. The COC will enforce penalties if this rule is not adhered to (E.g. If a 2nd team forfeits but a 3rd team plays then both teams will forfeit (if they had won) the relevant match and will also be deducted 10 points.
- 10.8 There shall be no Premier League cricket scheduled or rescheduled to take place during midweek for on or after 16th August



11. UMPIRING ARRANGEMENTS & NOTES FOR UMPIRES

- 11.1 The North West Cricket Union (NWCUS) shall issue invoices for umpiring fees to all 'Senior' clubs at least 5 weeks before the commencement of the season. These invoices will cover umpiring match fees and travel expenses throughout the season and clubs will be further invoiced at the end of the season for any additional fees that they have accrued. All invoices must be paid directly to the North West Cricket Umpires & Scorers Association (NWCUSA) via bank transfer or cheque
- 11.2 Any clubs that are due a reimbursement for umpiring fees at the end of the season will be offered a 'credit' for the next season or, if preferred, will be reimbursed by the NWCUSA
- 11.3 Clubs that do not pay the invoices referred to above will not be entitled to umpires at their home matches until payment has been received in full
- 11.4 The NWCUSA shall be responsible for the selection and allocation of umpires to all 'Senior' adult cricket competitions subject to availability
- 11.5 Where additional umpires are available, they shall also be allocated to Qualifying One League and Cup matches
- 11.6 The NWCUSA shall select and allocate umpires for all adult and junior cup finals including play-off matches. The match fees, including travel expenses, associated with these appointments shall be paid directly to the NWCUSA by the NWCUS from club affiliation fees
- 11.7 Umpires shall be paid match fees, including travel expenses, for all matches they umpire. The match fee and mileage rate shall be agreed between the NWCUSA & NWCUS Board of Control in advance of each season
- 11.8 Where clubs do not agree to the postponement of a match due to ground, weather or light conditions before the away team has travelled, the NWCUSA Appointments Secretary shall, if time allows, arrange for a ground inspection to be conducted by a NWCUSA umpire. The decision made by this umpire shall be final and they shall be entitled to claim a ground inspection fee of £15 plus mileage which is chargeable to the club that requested the inspection
- 11.9 Matches where no play is possible – Umpires will be entitled to receive £15 per hour for the first two hours they attend the ground or their full match fee, including travelling expenses, if they must wait over 2 hours before the match is called off
- 11.10 If umpires are made to travel to a match which had no realistic chance of play due to ground, weather or light conditions, they will be entitled to their full match fee including travelling expenses no matter how long they attend the ground
- 11.11 If a match is cancelled or postponed by mutual agreement between clubs and the NWCUSA Fixtures Secretary is not informed at least 2 hours in advance of the scheduled start of the match, umpires who travel to the ground will be entitled to their full match fee and travelling expenses
- 11.12 As soon as one ball is bowled in the match, umpires are entitled to their full match fee including travelling expenses
- 11.13 All 'Senior' clubs must provide at least one umpire to the NWCUSA. Clubs that fail to meet this requirement will pay an umpire development levy for that season which will



be refundable if the criteria set out in the 'Umpire Development Levy' document (see appendix) are met

- 11.14 In conjunction with both Cricket Ireland and the NWCU, **the** NWCUSA shall look to recruit and train umpires and arrange for them to be allocated to games according to their ability, knowledge, experience and any other relevant qualifications
- 11.15 All new umpires must have completed the minimum umpiring training courses (as determined by the NWCUSA in conjunction with Cricket Ireland) and have the appropriate insurance and Access NI / Garda Vetting in place before they are eligible to umpire in any matches under the auspices of the NWCUSA
- 11.16 The NWCUSA will determine which clubs, if any, its members are affiliated to and will ensure umpires are not appointed to their affiliated clubs. For the avoidance of doubt, a member of the NWCUSA may have previously been a member of a club that they no longer have allegiances to so are therefore free to umpire said club
- 11.17 Clubs are not permitted to ask for specific umpires, and umpires are prohibited from entering into any arrangement with a club or clubs to officiate in any particular match. Umpires must be prepared to officiate where sent, unless they have a legitimate reason otherwise
- 11.18 If a disciplinary report has been submitted by umpires for any level 3 or 4 offences committed, they will not be appointed to matches involving the club of the reported player, where avoidable, until after disciplinary matters have been concluded
- 11.19 If an umpire is not satisfied that a player is injured, or that there is not a valid reason for the allowance of a substitute, then the umpire shall refuse any such requests (e.g. A player coming late from or leaving early for work would not be allowed a substitute)
- 11.20 A safe run-off area of 2.74m (3 yards) is recommended beyond the boundary of the playing area at all grounds. This run-off area should be level and clear of any hard or injurious fixed objects / structures (e.g. seating, sight screens, advertising boards, walls, fences, barriers, trees, holes or uneven ground). Clubs that are unable to meet the above recommendation must demonstrate, through a ground & venue risk assessment, how potential risks to player injury have been mitigated. Any mitigation measures employed by clubs must be inspected by the NWCU grounds committee in advance of the season commencing.

12. PROMOTION/RELEGATION CONDITIONS

- 12.1 The team finishing 8th in the Premier League Section 1 shall be automatically relegated to the Premier League Section 2 for the following season and be replaced by the side which won the Premier League Section 2 subject to the side winning the Premier League Section 2 having passed a grounds inspection (see Cricket Ground Checklist).
- 12.2 The team finishing 7th in the Premier League Section 1 shall play-off against the team finishing 2nd in the Premier League Section 2, the winner shall play in the Premier League Section 1 the following season, subject where necessary to the winning team having passed a grounds inspection



- 12.3 Subject where necessary to the team(s) having passed a grounds inspection: If a 1st XI team wins League 1 they are automatically promoted to Prem 2, replacing team bottom of Prem 2.,. If highest place 1st XI team places second in League 1 then should qualify for play off with bottom placed team in Prem 2. If a 1st XI finished first and another 1st XI finishes second, team who finished second will also be awarded a play-off with the team finished second from bottom of Prem 2. If no 1st XI team finishes in the top 2 of League 1 then no promotion or play off and league structure will remain the same.
- 12.4 Clubs may only have one team in League One, should – due to relegation of a 1st XI – it be the case a club would have two teams in League One then the 2nd XI would be relegated automatically to League Two.
- 12.5 For Leagues 2 to League 5 promotion and relegation will be on a 2 up, 2 down basis for leagues of 8 teams or more and 1 up/1 for leagues with less than 8 teams (including relegation from League 1 and promotion from League 6)
- 12.6 If a 1st XI team finish top of Women's Division 2 they will be promoted to Division 1 and the team that finishes bottom of Division 1 will be relegated to Division 2
- 12.7 If a 1st XI team finish second in Women's Division 2 (and being the highest placed 1st XI team) they shall enter a play-off against the team that finishes bottom of Division 1. The winning team will be awarded a place in Division 1 and losing team a place in Division 2. The play-off shall be played on a neutral ground with a replay date. The play-off shall follow the playing rules & regulations of Division 1
- 12.8 Each season the COC shall review and make recommendations in relation to the make-up and size of the Qualifying Leagues, these recommendations shall be subject to the number of teams entered annually by the clubs. These recommendations shall be ratified by the BOC



BONUS POINT ALLOCATION

Matches 41-50 overs

Margin of Victory		Bonus Points	
Runs	Wickets	Winner	Loser
100+	9/10	5	0
80-99	7/8	4	1
60-79	5/6	3	2
40-59	3/4	2	3
20-39	2	1	4
<20	1	0	5

Matches 31-40 overs

Margin of Victory		Bonus Points	
Runs	Wickets	Winner	Loser
80+	9/10	5	0
64-79	7/8	4	1
48-63	5/6	3	2
32-47	3/4	2	3
16-31	2	1	4
<16	1	0	5

Matches 21-30 overs

Margin of Victory		Bonus Points	
Runs	Wickets	Winner	Loser
60+	9/10	5	0
48-59	7/8	4	1
36-47	5/6	3	2
24-35	3/4	2	3
12-23	2	1	4
<12	1	0	5

Matches 11-20 overs

Margin of Victory		Bonus Points	
Runs	Wickets	Winner	Loser
40+	9/10	5	0
32-39	7/8	4	1
24-31	5/6	3	2
16-23	3/4	2	3
8-15	2	1	4
<8	1	0	5



Matches 5-10 overs

Margin of Victory		Bonus Points	
Runs	Wickets	Winner	Loser
20+	9/10	5	0
16-19	7/8	4	1
12-15	5/6	3	2
8-11	3/4	2	3
4-7	2	1	4
<4	1	0	5

Where interruptions result in the final allocated length of the two innings being different lengths, the lower of the two figures will determine the bonus point scheme that will apply



APPENDIXES

Cricket Ground Checklist

Umpire Development Levy

Concussion Management Guidelines

Disciplinary

NW-Disciplinary-Regulations-2026

NW Disciplinary Report Form - Clubs 2026

NW Disciplinary Report Form - Umpires 2026

Playing Regulations

Premier-Leagues-Playing-Regs 2026

Senior-Cup-SJ-Cup-Playing-Regs 2026

T20-Cup-Prem-1-Playing-Regs 2026

T20-Cup-Prem-2-Playing-Regs 2026

Leagues 1&2 40-Over-Comps-2026

Ulster Plate 2026 – Regulations

Leagues 3 to 6 30-Over-Comps-2026

Division 1 30 over Cup 2026

Division 1 T20 League 2026

Division 2 T20 Comps 2026

Youth-Regulation-Overview-NWCU-2026

Suspect Bowling Action Protocol

Points & Starring

2026-Player-Point-system

Men's Starring-Regulations-2026

Womens-Starring-Regulations 2026