

the Cricketer *Village Cup*

Rules and Conditions - Eligibility Criteria - 2018

1 The competition shall be called 'The Cricketer Village Cup'.

2 The competition shall be organised by The Cricketer.

3 The object of the competition shall be to promote village cricket and to give an opportunity to village cricketers to compete in a national event.

Eligibility criteria

4 A village shall be deemed to be a rural community consisting of not more than 10,000 inhabitants. Exceptions can be made. Please contact The Cricketer for clarification.

Note: county council figures cannot in all cases be said to represent the population, since often other villages and hamlets are put together for council purposes. When in doubt, the organisers should be consulted, including decisions about mergers. Market towns are not eligible, regardless of the population figure.

5 Clubs entering will be required to take an annual subscription to The Cricketer, thereby ensuring a continuous means of communication between the organisers and competitors. The subscription must be in the name of the club entering. You may transfer an existing subscription by calling 0203 1981 360. An entry form must be filled in by ALL clubs and proof of subscription provided. Failure to do so may result in your club not being entered.

6 All clubs in the competition are expected to uphold the Spirit of Cricket, as defined in the preamble to MCC's Laws of Cricket. Any failure to comply with the spirit of the game, as reported by the umpires and clubs, may result in the club being disqualified at any stage of the competition. See www.lords.org for details.

7 Any club playing in the top division of any of the leagues shown in Schedule 1 is eligible to play in The Cricketer Village Cup, providing all other rules are satisfied, but cannot field any players who have been registered for any such leagues in the previous or current season (2017 and 2018).

8 Clubs who only have artificial pitches are welcome to enter The Cricketer Village Cup but will be required to play all their matches away from home or on a neutral ground that has a grass pitch.

9 (a)

(i) A player WILL be eligible to play in The Cricketer Village Cup if he is a paid-up member of the club, and has played at least four non-Cricketer Village Cup matches for that club in the previous season (2017). Indoor matches and intra-club matches (for example President's XI v Club XI) do not qualify. Evening fixtures can contribute towards requirements IF a player has represented the club in weekend league fixtures. Exceptions can be made for injured players and those aged 17 and under on September 1 in the current season (2018) if they are bona-fide members of the club. If in any doubt over anything in these rules, please contact The Cricketer for clarification ahead of the date of the relevant fixture.

(ii) Under a new initiative, those 17 and under on September 1 in the current season (2017) who attend a school within a two-mile radius of a club can represent that club in the competition. Such a player does not need to be a bona-fide member of the club but should not be registered to any other cricket club and must comply with all other conditions set out in these rules. The age exception referred to in rule 9ai does not apply for this rule. Contact The Cricketer for any clarification.

(b) A player will NOT be eligible for this competition if he:

(i) Is registered to play in the top division of any of the leagues shown in Schedule 1 in the current season (2018) – unless he is 17 or under on September 1 in the current season (2018).

(ii) Has played in at least one match for any first-class team or in any List A game, including matches played for or against any UCCE, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, in the last 25 years. Contact The Cricketer for clarification. The organisers' decision is final.

(iii) Has played, within the previous or current season (2017 and 2018), in any match in any form of Minor Counties cricket, or first-class counties' Second XI cricket – unless he is 17 or under on September 1 in the current season (2017).

(iv) Received a fee from any source for playing cricket in the current (2018) or immediately previous season (2017) whether in the UK or abroad.

Eligibility criteria continued

- (v) Received expenses in connection with playing cricket from any source in excess of his necessary out-of-pocket disbursements for reasonable costs of travel.
- (vi) Received payment by the club (or a third party) for air-fare or accommodation costs. This will be considered reward for playing cricket.
- (vii) Is under contract to play for a first-class county, regardless of whether he is being paid to play or not.
- (viii) Is serving a ban from playing cricket for any cricket club or league.
- (ix) Has played for another club in The Cricketer Village Cup in the current season (2018).

(c) Players from overseas are:

- (i) NOT ELIGIBLE to play if they are in the UK on a short-term visa that is approved by the UK border agency, which allows the player to play cricket during his stay.
- (ii) ELIGIBLE if they are not qualified to play for England but have been a permanent resident in the UK in accordance with
- (iii) ECB requirements for at least two years, are a bona-fide member of the club and have played at least four non-Cricketer Village Cup matches in the previous season (2017). Indoor matches, intra-club matches (for example President's XI v Club XI) do not qualify. Evening fixtures can contribute towards fixture requirements IF a player has also represented the club in weekend league fixtures. Please contact The Cricketer for any clarification.

- (d)** Notwithstanding anything in these rules, the organisers' decision is final. The organisers reserve the right to decide the eligibility of any player or refuse entry to or disqualify at any time any club which they have reason to believe has not complied strictly with the letter and spirit of the rules.

- (e)** All references to the male gender in these rules shall apply equally to the female gender.

Schedule 1. Exclusion list of leagues

- Airedale & Wharfedale League
- Bradford Cricket League
- Birmingham and District Premier Cricket League
- Central Lancashire League
- Cheshire County Cricket League
- Cornwall Cricket League
- Derbyshire Premier League
- Devon Cricket League
- East Anglian Premier League
- Essex Cricket League
- Home Counties Premier League
- Huddersfield Cricket League
- Kent Cricket League
- Lancashire League
- Leicestershire Premier Cricket League
- Lincolnshire Cricket Board Premier League
- Liverpool & District Cricket Competition
- Middlesex County Cricket League
- Northamptonshire Cricket League
- North East Premier Cricket League
- Northern Cricket League
- North Staffs & South Cheshire League
- North Wales Premier League
- North Yorkshire & South Durham League
- Nottinghamshire Cricket Board Premier League
- Southern Premier Cricket League
- South Wales Premier Cricket League
- Surrey Championship
- Sussex Cricket League
- West of England Premier League
- Yorkshire League North
- Yorkshire League South

