



Cricket Finland

League Rules

2021

1 Applicability of these rules

1.1 These rules apply to all outdoor cricket competitions with club-based representation organised by Cricket Finland.

1.2 These apply to the Hobby League only insofar as it is practicable to follow them. A separate set of minimum conditions for matches in the Hobby League have been issued.

1.3 Cricket Finland may specifically include or exclude the application of these rules, or a subset thereof, by including a clause to this effect in the Playing Conditions of a competition.

1.4 Requirements imposed in the Finnish Premier League License conditions take precedence and are in addition to these rules.

2 Nominating a team

2.1 Player eligibility

2.1.1 A player eligible to play or be nominated as a substitute in a team has to fulfil the following criteria:

- The player has purchased a Hard Ball League License (for T10 Softball: Soft Ball License or Hard Ball League License) for the season and the license is attached to the club fielding the player
- The player has a profile in the competition management system and the profile complies with instructions provided by Cricket Finland
- If the registration right of the player has been previously attached to another club, the transfer of the playing right to the nominating club has been completed and the player has completed the 21-day waiting period, if not waived.

2.1.2 A player's name in the competition management system and all manual team lists must correspond to the name the player has purchased their license with.

2.1.2.1 If discrepancies are discovered in names submitted, the League Committee will direct the player and the club to resolve them without delay with the threat of continued ineligibility rendering the player ineligible to play. If the player and the club do not remedy the situation before the next match where the player is fielded, the player shall be considered ineligible to play.

2.1.5 New players may be added to a squad at any time during the season, provided nothing in these or other rules restrict the adding of the player to the squad. The new player must have fulfilled the criteria in clause 2.1.1 by the start of the first match in which the player is nominated to the playing XI or as a substitute.

2.1.6 For the avoidance of doubt, the validity of any player license is determined on whether the license management system shows the license as successfully paid before the start of the match.

2.1.7 If a team has selected an ineligible player to play in a match, including the selection of an ineligible player as a substitute, that team will be considered to have forfeited all matches where the ineligible player was selected. The forfeit shall be

marked as all overs played with no runs for the team; the wickets taken by the opposing team shall stand.

2.1.8 If a team has nominated a player or a substitute who does not have a complete profile in the competition management system, the team will be liable to pay a fine of 100 euros as penalty for each such player.

2.3 Captain

2.3.1 For each team, the club must nominate a captain and communicate the name and contact details of the captain to the LC before the start of the season.

2.3.2 At the conclusion of each match, captains of both playing XIs are to meet with the umpires for an immediate feedback session.

2.3.3 The captain of the playing XI must complete the post-match feedback form within 24 hours of the end of the match.

2.3.4 Failure to submit the feedback within 24 hours will result in the following penalties:

- 1st offence: Warning
- 2nd and each subsequent offence: Captain banned for 1 match

3 Priority of leagues and league levels

3.1 All match reservations are published in the league fixtures by the League Committee. Should a match need to be rescheduled, the following order of priority will be used to determine the new match dates and the possible reassignment of grounds:

- National Team representation
- Finnish Premier League
- National League Division 1
- Ten10 Elite
- National League Division 2
- 2nd XI Championship Division 1
- Ten10 Hardball
- Ten10 Softball
- 2nd XI Championship Division 2
- One-Day League
- Other competitions organised by Cricket Finland
- Club tournaments, friendly matches

3.2 If matches need to be cancelled in the round robin phase, they shall be recorded as abandoned.

4 Playing a match

4.1 Home team's responsibility for ground preparation

4.1.1 The home team is responsible for preparing the ground for the match. For specifics, see relevant sections of the Playing Conditions.

4.1.2 If the home team has not prepared the ground on time and according to the ground-specific instructions of Cricket Finland, including the correct positioning of the

creases, and the start of the match is delayed due to this, the following penalties shall apply:

4.1.2.1 1st offence: Warning

4.1.2.2 2nd offence: Final warning

4.1.2.3 3rd and subsequent offences: A fine of 100 euros. The Captain will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee for a Level 1 offence.

4.1.3 If the umpires deem the ground to be unfit for playing the match due to the home team's failure to prepare it, and the home team is not able to remedy the situation, the home team shall be deemed to have forfeited the match.

4.1.4 All occurrences of delayed or incomplete ground preparation shall be reported to the LC.

4.2 Teams' responsibilities to provide match balls

4.2.1 The home team is responsible for providing two official match balls for the match. For specifics, see relevant section of the Playing Conditions.

4.2.2 If the home team does not provide two official match balls, the following penalties shall apply:

4.2.2.1 1st offence: Warning

4.2.2.2 For each subsequent offence: A fine of 100 euros.

4.2.2.3 The Captain of the home team is reported to the Disciplinary Committee for a Level 1 offence for all instances.

4.2.3 Both teams must have official, new and used, spare balls available during the match.

4.2.4 All occurrences of the home team failing to provide match balls are to be reported to the LC.

4.3 Both teams' responsibility to provide scoring devices

4.3.1 Both teams are responsible for providing devices for scoring the match with the scoring application.

4.3.2 While both teams are responsible for providing a device with the scoring application, the home team has primary responsibility for setting up the match and making their device available for scoring the whole match.

4.3.3 The devices must have an active Internet connection for the duration of the match, and the match must be scored live in the competition management system.

4.3.4 It is recommended that the match is scored from a single device, but the teams are allowed to transfer the match to be scored from a different device, if there are worries for the stability and/or necessary battery charge to finish the match on a single device.

4.3.5 All occurrences of missing scoring devices, devices not functioning properly, or malfunctioning devices affecting the live scoring of the match shall be reported to the LC.

4.3.6 If the home team fails to provide a device for scoring the match, they are liable to pay a fine of 100 euros.

4.4 Both teams' responsibility for complete and accurate scoring information

4.4.1 The teams are jointly responsible for the completeness and accuracy of all match data in the competition management system. This includes, but is not limited to:

4.4.1.1 Nominating scorers

4.4.1.1.1 In the Finnish Premier League, the nomination of scorers shall follow the FPL License Conditions.

4.4.1.1.2 In all other competitions, if not stipulated otherwise, making available a scorer for the duration of the team's batting innings to enter the ball-by-ball scores to the competition management system

4.4.1.2 Selecting all match officials, including dedicated scorers if present, in the system

4.4.1.3 Selecting the playing XI to the team during match setup (substitutes should be nominated but not added to the playing team unless they play)

4.4.1.4 Marking any temporary profiles, the creation of which should generally not be necessary, with "TEMP" after the last name to make identification easier

4.4.1.5 Ascertaining that the scorers know they are required to communicate with the umpires to ascertain that each ball is scored correctly, including briefly delaying the match to correct an error or keep a manual scorecard as a backup while corrections are being made

4.4.1.6 Getting an explicit acknowledgement from the umpires before uploading the scorecard to the competition management system at the end of the match

This shall apply to both teams in the Finnish Premier League, and the team batting second (and hence scoring) in all other competitions.

4.4.2 The following penalties shall apply for breaches of above:

4.4.2.1 First offence: Warning

4.4.2.2 Second offence: Final warning

4.4.2.3 Third and each subsequent offence: A fine of 100 euros and the Captain banned for one (1) match.

4.5 Playing short

The teams have an obligation to field a full playing XI to all matches.

4.5.1 In the Finnish Premier League, a team that does not field a full XI for the duration of the match shall be penalised two league points for each occurrence. For the first occurrence, the team shall additionally be fined 100 euros, and the fine shall increase by 50 euros for each subsequent occurrence. Playing short is also considered a breach

of the Finnish Premier League License conditions, and all occurrences will lead to consultations between the club and Cricket Finland.

4.5.2 In National League Division 1 and Ten10 Elite, a team that does not field a full XI for the duration of the match shall be penalised two league points for each occurrence.

4.5.3 In the other competitions, a team that does not field a full XI shall be penalised one league point for each occurrence.

4.5.4 For the avoidance of doubt, “for the duration of the match” shall mean that the team must field a full XI for its fielding innings and a full XI must be available to bat in its batting innings.

4.5.5 The penalties in 4.5.1–3 shall not apply when a team has been reduced to less than a full XI during the match due to an injury on the field of play.

The penalties in 4.5.1–3 shall not apply when a team has been reduced to less than a full XI due to the application of exclusions in the CF League Safety Protocol.

4.6 Dress code for the players and player support personnel

4.6.1 In the Finnish Premier League and Ten10 Elite, all players in a team shall wear identical, fully coloured playing uniforms and identical soft headwear. Detachable sleeves or long-sleeved undergarments, if worn, shall be the of the same colour scheme as the shirt or skin-coloured. All visible parts of the uniform shall be pre-approved by Cricket Finland.

All shirts must have a clearly visible player number in the back. For clarity, “clearly visible” means that the number has to be at least 30cm in height and have a proper contrast with the surrounding colour(s).

The player number shall comprise a maximum of two numbers.

4.6.2 Shirts accepted for use in the previous edition of the Finnish Premier League are deemed acceptable to use even if they do not conform with the requirements in 4.6.1. All new shirts purchased after 1 June 2020 must conform with the requirements in 4.6.1.

4.6.3 In National League Division 1 and 2nd XI Championship Division 1, all players in a team shall wear similar (small differences are allowed), fully coloured playing uniforms.

4.6.4 In National League Division 2 and 2nd XI Championship Division 2, all players in a team shall wear similarly coloured, fully coloured playing uniforms.

4.6.5 In the Finnish Premier League, National League, 2nd XI Championship, and the Ten10 League, all pads worn by players must be coloured, or, if white pads are worn, covered with coloured covers.

4.6.6 In the One-Day League, all players shall wear cricket whites.

4.6.7 Across all formats and levels, helmets, shoes, wicket keeper’s and batters’ gloves, and arm guards are exempt from any uniformity requirements.

4.6.8 Players not conforming to the requirements shall not be allowed to play, and the team shall be considered playing short if there are no nominated substitutes who comply with the dress code and can play in the removed player’s place. The umpires

shall give a non-compliant player the opportunity to amend their kit to conform with these rules before not allowing them to play. This shall not delay the start of the match.

4.6.9 On grounds with separate areas for audience and the players, player support personnel (coaches, managers, club officials, anyone else) staying with the team next to the boundary must be dressed in similar attire as the team. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not apply to family members and well-wishers temporarily visiting the team next to the boundary.

5 Umpires

5.1 Appointment

Cricket Finland will either assign umpires to matches or assign umpiring duties to clubs. Teams cannot contest umpiring assignments made by Cricket Finland.

5.1.1 After assigning umpiring duties to clubs, Cricket Finland may assign one or more umpires to officiate a match. Cricket Finland will endeavour to notify such a change to the club as early as possible. If an umpiring duty assigned to a club is reassigned to an umpire assigned by Cricket Finland, the umpiring duty of the club will lapse for this umpire only.

5.1.2 For the avoidance of doubt, Cricket Finland can rescind any umpiring assignment up to the start of the match.

5.2 Matches assigned to clubs

Should Cricket Finland assign a certain match to a club, requiring it to post two qualified umpires to officiate, the following rules will apply:

5.2.1 Clubs are required to submit to Cricket Finland the names of the umpires they have nominated to officiate a match at least 72 hours before the scheduled start of play. This to ensure that umpires are correctly set up in the competition management system.

5.2.2 Should the club be unable to nominate an umpire before the deadline, they shall contact Cricket Finland and ask for a substitute to be assigned or provide a reason for the late nomination.

5.2.3 Clubs are allowed to search for qualified umpires from other clubs. The time limit in 6.2.1 shall apply unchanged.

5.3 Penalties for umpires nominated by their club to officiate a match failing to do so

An umpire failing to present themselves on the ground before the scheduled or revised start of the match will forfeit their reimbursement from the match, excluding travel costs. Cricket Finland may reinstate the reimbursement if wholly acceptable reasons are given for the umpire's late arrival.

The umpire will be referred to the Umpire Performance Officer for further evaluation.

5.4 Penalties for clubs assigned to provide umpires failing to ensure the completion of duties

5.4.1 If a club-nominated umpire fails to present themselves on the ground before the scheduled or revised start of the match, the club will be liable to pay a fine of

- 1st occurrence: 100 euros.

- 2nd occurrence:150 euros.
- 3rd and subsequent occurrences: 200 euros.

5.4.2 The penalty schedule above will apply per umpire. Therefore, if two umpires from the same club fail to present themselves at the ground as described above, they shall be counted as two occurrences.

5.4.3 If the match has to be abandoned due to missing umpires, the club failing to provide umpires will be responsible to reimburse the playing teams for the costs incurred by renting the ground and the teams travelling to the match.

5.4.4 If the match is not abandoned due to missing umpires, the club failing to provide umpires will be responsible to reimburse all additional costs related to the umpires officiating the match.

5.5 Penalties for umpires assigned by Cricket Finland to officiate a match failing to do so

An umpire failing to present himself on the ground before the scheduled or revised start of the match will forfeit their reimbursement from the match, excluding travel costs. Cricket Finland may reinstate the reimbursement if wholly acceptable reasons are given for the umpire's late arrival.

The umpire will be referred to the Umpire Performance Officer for further evaluation.

5.6 Conducting the match

5.6.1 The umpires shall be present at the ground at least 45 minutes before the scheduled start of play.

5.6.2 The umpires shall control the games as required by the Playing Conditions with absolute impartiality. If an umpire feels they are, for any reason, unable to fulfil the requirement of absolute impartiality, they shall notify Cricket Finland of this and ask the duties to be reassigned to another umpire.

5.6.3 When an umpire nominated by a club officiates a match, they are not a representative of the club, but a representative of Cricket Finland, and shall conduct themselves accordingly.

6 Minimum over rates

6.1 The minimum over rate to be achieved is 15 overs per hour.

6.2 Where it is deemed that a team has breached section 7.1, the penalty shall be

1st occurrence: Warning

2nd occurrence: Warning

3rd and each subsequent occurrence: Captain banned for one match.

7 Forfeiting matches

7.1 In the Finnish Premier League, the Finnish Premier League License of the club forfeiting a match is automatically rescinded. All matches scheduled for the team shall be deemed won on forfeit by the opposing side. The club of the forfeiting team is liable to pay a non-compliance fee of 300 euros to Cricket Finland. The team will be liable to pay any costs incurred to the opposing team and officials for the match they forfeit.

7.2 In National League Division 1 and Division 2, the One-Day League, the Ten10 Elite, and the Ten10 Hardball, a team forfeiting a match shall be penalised by a deduction of 4 league points. The team will be liable to pay any costs incurred to the opposing team and officials for the match they forfeit.

7.3 In the 2nd XI Championship and the Ten10 Softball, a team forfeiting a match more than 48 hours in advance shall be liable to pay any costs incurred to the opposing team and officials for the match they forfeit. A team forfeiting a match less than 48 hours in advance shall additionally be penalised by a deduction of 4 league points.

7.4 In all formats and on all tiers except in the Finnish Premier League, where a team is excluded automatically for a forfeit, the LC Chair may exclude a team that has forfeited two matches during the course of the season.

8 League points schedule

8.1 The following league points shall be awarded for matches in the round robin phase:

- Win or Win on Forfeit: 4
- Abandoned, Tie, or No Result: 2
- Loss: 0

8.2 Final standings in the round robin phase shall be decided by the following methods, in order of preference:

- The team with the greatest number of league points, taking into account any deductions.
- If two or more teams have equal league points, then the team with the greatest number of wins.
- If two or more teams are still equal, the team with the highest net run rate, as calculated by the competition management system.

9 Playoffs

9.1 In the Finnish Premier League, the National League, and the 2nd XI Championship Division 1, playoffs shall take place after the round robin phase in the following format:

Playoff 1 (Eliminator): The team placed third in the round robin phase plays against the team placed fourth in the round robin phase.

Playoff 2 (Qualifier 1): The team placed first in the round robin phase plays against the team placed second in the round robin phase.

Playoff 3 (Qualifier 2): The team that has lost Playoff 2 plays against the team that has won Playoff 1.

Playoff 4 (Final): The team that has won Playoff 2 plays against the team that has won Playoff 3.

9.2 In the Ten10 Elite, playoffs shall take place during the Ten10 Elite Finals Weekend in the following format:

The top four teams from the qualifying round robin phase shall play a double round robin without regard to the league points accrued during the qualifying round robin phase. If more than 50% of the matches in the double round robin are abandoned or finish with no result, the standings from the qualifying round robin shall determine participants in the playoffs.

Semi-final: The team placed second in the double round robin plays against the team placed third in the double round robin.

Final: The team placed first in the double round robin plays against the winner of the semi-final.

9.3 In the 2nd XI Championship Division 2, the Ten10 Hardball, and the Ten10 Softball, playoffs shall take place after the round robin phase in the following format:

Eliminator 1: The team placed third in the round robin phase plays against the team placed fourth in the round robin phase.

Eliminator 2: The team placed second in the round robin phase plays against the winner of Eliminator 1.

Final: The team placed first in the round robin phase plays against the winner of Eliminator 2.

9.4 No playoffs are played in the One-Day League.

9.5 Should a playoff match be abandoned or finish with no result, the team that finished higher in the round robin phase shall proceed to the next playoff match.

In case the final is abandoned or finishes with no result, the team that finished higher in the round robin phase shall be the winner of the competition.

For the Ten10 Elite Finals Weekend, paragraph 2 refers primarily to the double round robin played during the weekend, and secondarily to the qualifying round robin if the double round robin results are voided according to clause 9.2.

10 Promotion and relegation

10.1 The application of this section is conditional on the structures of the leagues remaining the same for the next summer season. If Cricket Finland decides to reorganise one or more leagues, the rules regarding promotion and relegation will apply to the extent the current structure is retained.

The application of this section is also conditional on the season progressing as intended. If the season is cut short due to the pandemic, Cricket Finland may decide to forego promotion and relegation for one or more competitions.

10.2 Based on the final standings, including playoffs where applicable, the following rules on promotion and relegation between levels of the same format will apply

10.2.1 Finnish Premier League <> National League Division 1 <> National League Division 2 and 2nd XI Championship Division 1 <> 2nd XI Championship Division 2

- The team finishing last in the higher tier after the round robin phase will be relegated to the lower tier for the next season, and the winner of the lower tier will be promoted to the higher tier.
- The team finishing second to last after the round robin phase in the higher tier will play a single relegation playoff match with the team finishing second in the lower tier.
- If the winner of National League Division 1, or the runner-up or substitute of the runner-up of National League Division 1, after having won the relegation playoff, decides not to apply for or is not granted a Finnish Premier League License, the second to last team in the Finnish Premier League will retain its position in the Finnish Premier League for the next season. The deadline for the decision to apply for a Finnish Premier League License shall be communicated at least one month in advance.

- If both the winner of National League Division 1, and the National League Division 1 team having played and won the relegation playoff, decide not to apply for or are not granted a Finnish Premier League License, the FCA Management Group will decide whether the team finishing last in the Finnish Premier League will retain their position or if a team from National League Division 1 is offered the possibility to apply for a Finnish Premier League license.
- If a team in the Finnish Premier League decides not to apply for a Finnish Premier League License for the next season, the FCA Management Group may offer the vacated slot to clubs playing in National League Division 1.

10.2.2 In the One-Day League, the bottom two teams after the round-robin stage will be automatically relegated out of the format if there are eligible clubs that want to play in the competition but have not played in the 2021 edition. Inclusion in the format will be offered to eligible clubs in the order of final standings in the main Twenty20 structure.

12 Finnish Championships

12.1 Finnish Championships are only awarded to FCA member clubs for winning competitions organised by the FCA.

12.2 Finnish Championships are awarded for the following competitions in the following style (Finnish translations in brackets):

12.2.1 Finnish Premier League: the Finnish Twenty20 Championship (Twenty20-kriketin Suomen mestaruus)

12.2.2 One-Day League: the Finnish One-Day Championship (One-Day-kriketin Suomen mestaruus)

12.2.3 Ten10 Elite: the Finnish Ten10 Championship (Ten10-kriketin Suomen mestaruus)

13 Interpretation of these Rules

These rules are interpreted by the League Committee Chair.

14 Dispute Resolution

Disputes between clubs arising from the application of these rules are resolved by the League Committee Chair, which may diverge from the opinions of the clubs in its decision.

Disputes arising from the application of these rules by the League Committee Chair are resolved by the Dispute Resolution Committee according to the FCA Dispute Resolution Guidelines.