



WESTERN CRICKET ZONE COMPETITION RULES

AS AMENDED FOR THE 2026-27 SEASON



COMPETITION RULES

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COMPETITION RULES

1. TWO TEAMS IN AN AGE GROUP

Where an association fields 2 teams in an age group:

- (a) A maximum of 2 players may be permitted to play for the other team. Otherwise, a player shall only be permitted to play in one team.
- (b) Where a player has played for both teams, that player will only be eligible for the finals for the team that the player first played.

Exemptions can be sought on application to the Committee of Management.

2. APPROVED BALLS

The balls approved for use in each competition are as follows:

Competition	Approved ball			
Premier League	Size 1	white	4-piece	Kookaburra Regulation
T20 Cup	Size 1	white	4-piece	Kookaburra Regulation
Zone Cup	Size 1	red ^(note 1)	4-piece	Kookaburra Regulation
Zone Plate	Size 1	red	4-piece	Kookaburra Senator ^(note 2)
Tremain-Copeland Cup (all divisions)	Size 1	white	4-piece	Kookaburra Regulation
Junior Inter-town competitions				
Under 16s	Size 1	red	4-piece	Kookaburra Club Match or Kookaburra Senator
Under 14s	Size 1	red	2-piece	Kookaburra Special Test or Kookaburra Tuf Pitch
Under 13s	Size 2	red	2-piece	Kookaburra Red King
Under 12s	Size 2	red	2-piece	Kookaburra Red King

Notes:

- 1. a white ball may also be used in the Cup competition where both teams are playing in colours
- 2. minimum standard

3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

3.1 General

For a player to be eligible to play in any Western Zone competition they must have a primary registration with a Club in Western Zone, unless otherwise permitted by this clause. The primary registration of a player is where they play their regular weekend club cricket.

Zone of Origin players, as defined in the NSW Country Cricket Playing Conditions, are not permitted in any Western Zone competition other than the Tremain-Copeland Cup.



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3.2 Tremain-Copeland Cup

A Zone of Origin player may only play in the Tremain-Copeland Cup if they have elected to be available for Western Zone selection. A limit of 2 Zone of Origin players can be selected in each team.

A player may elect to represent their 'home' Team in the Tremain-Copeland Cup if their primary registration is for a club within the area of the other Team.

For the purpose of this rule, Team shall mean either Central West or Western Plains.

3.3 Senior inter-town competitions

Note: Senior Inter-town competitions include Premier League, T20 Cup, Zone Cup and Zone Plate.

- (a) A player must clearly be able to be identified to be from that town to be eligible to participate as a Town of Origin player e.g. if they live there and/or grew up there etc.

Note: A player who was born and raised outside of Western Zone can only represent the town of their primary registration, unless otherwise approved by the Committee of Management.

- (b) A player whose primary registration is in either the Whitney Cup or BOIDC competitions may represent that town in Premier League and:
 - (i) their Town of Origin in the Zone Cup and/or Zone Plate competitions.
 - (ii) their Town of Origin in the T20 Cup i.e. Lachlan players can also play for Bathurst, Dubbo or Orange in Premier League.
- (c) Any player whose primary registration is with an Association in Western Zone outside of Bathurst, Dubbo or Orange is eligible to represent one of the teams from their Council area in the T20 Cup competition e.g. Mudgee players are eligible for Bathurst or Orange, Gilgandra players are eligible for Dubbo or Lachlan etc
- (d) For the Zone Cup competition, the following will apply to **any association that also has a team in the Premier League competition.**
 - (i) Any player under 19 years of age will be eligible, regardless of the representative level they achieve that season.
 - (ii) Unless the permission of the Western Cricket Zone has **otherwise** been granted:
 - A. Any player over the age of 18 who has represented Western Zone and/or Central West or Western Plains at Opens level in the current season will be ineligible.
 - B. **Each team will be limited to a maximum of 2 players aged 19 or over** who have played in the Western Zone Premier League competition in the current season in any Western Zone Cup match.



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In order to meet this requirement in matches played prior to the commencement of the Premier League competition, each association may be required to advise the Zone of their Premier League X1 prior to the start of the Cup competition.

- (e) Except where otherwise permitted by these rules, a player may only represent the town of their primary registration in the Zone Plate competition.

3.4 Junior inter-town competitions

- (a) In junior inter-town competitions, a player may represent another town if their town does not have a team in their age group.
- (b) In junior age competitions, there is no automatic dispensation for individual female players to play down an age group when playing in a mixed competition, except as provided for in (c) below.
- (c) For an all-female team, all players must be aged no more than 2 years older than the age group the team is participating in (i.e. for an under 14s competitions, all players must be no older than under 16s), unless otherwise approved by the Committee.

3.5 Age requirements

- (a) Players participating in the Western Zone Colts competition must be under the age of 18 at 31 August prior to the cricket season in question.
- (b) Players participating in Western Zone junior competitions must be:
 - (i) under the age of 16, for under 16 competitions;
 - (ii) under the age of 15, for under 15 competitions;
 - (iii) under the age of 14, for under 14 competitions;
 - (iv) under the age of 13, for under 13 competitions;
 - (v) under the age of 12, for under 12 competitions;at 31 August prior to the cricket season in question, unless otherwise approved by the Committee of Management.

4. PLAYER REGISTRATION

- (a) All players, including substitute fielders, must be registered through the PlayHQ online registration system and paid the applicable fees to be eligible to participate in a cricket match organised by the Zone.
- (b) All players must be registered to a club within Western Zone, unless otherwise approved by the Committee of Management.
- (c) All players should also be registered to the organisation to which they are representing in Western Zone competitions, either as a direct registration or through the Season Permit function in PlayHQ.



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5. SUBMISSION OF MATCH RESULTS

Both teams are to ensure that full match results have been entered into PlayHQ by no later than 10pm on the Tuesday following the match.

Full match details are to include the match scores and result as well as the full match scorecard (i.e. all batting, bowling and fielding statistics including batter dismissal and fall of wicket details).

6. COMPETITION FINALS – ROUND ROBIN COMPETITIONS

6.1 Qualifying for the Finals

- (a) At the completion of the preliminary rounds, teams will be ranked based on their position on the points table.

Rankings will be determined by the highest number of competition points. In the event of two or more teams having an equal number of competition points, the team with the highest Net Run Rate shall occupy a higher relative position.

- (b) Each season, the Committee will determine the number of teams to qualify for the finals in each competition and the structure of the finals series.

For a 4 team finals series, the 4 highest ranked teams will contest the semi-finals; First will play Fourth and Second will play Third. The winner from each semi-final match will contest the Final.

Where a competition has a final only, the two highest ranked teams shall contest the Final.

6.2 Tie or No Result in the Finals

- (a) If the result of a finals match is a tie, the highest ranked team shall be declared the winner.
- (b) Where no play is possible on the date scheduled for the Final, the match shall be rescheduled to the nominated reserve date.
- (c) If there is no result in a finals match, the highest ranked team shall be declared the winner.

7. COMPETITION FINALS – POOL BASED COMPETITIONS

7.1 Qualifying for the semi-finals

- (a) The highest ranked teams from each Cricket Council's competition shall qualify for the semi-finals of the Zone Cup Competition.

Prior to the commencement of the season, the Committee will determine how many places each Cricket Council will be allocated and the draw for the semi-finals.



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- (b) The highest ranked eligible team from each Cricket Council's competition shall qualify for the **semi**-finals of the Zone Plate Competition.
- (c) Prior to the commencement of the season, the Committee will determine how many places each Cricket Council will be allocated and the draw for the semi-finals.
- (d) The winners of each semi-final shall contest the final.

7.2 Tie or No Result in the Finals

- (a) In the event of a Tie in a semi-final or final, a Super Over will be played to determine the winner. If scores in the Super Over are tied, an additional Super Overs shall be played, until a winner is able to be determined.
- (b) If there is No Result in a semi-final match or a winner is unable to be determined by the Super Over process, including due to conditions of ground, weather or light, the team that shall progress to the final shall be **the team which finished higher on the points table if both teams were from the same pool, otherwise** the team with the highest net run rate from the preliminary rounds of the competition.

Note: For clarity, as the preliminary round matches are played within Council competitions, the net run rate of each team shall be determined by the Committee.

- (c) If the result of the Final is a tie, joint winners shall be declared.
- (d) Where **a result is not able to be obtained or where** no play is possible on the date scheduled for the Final, the match shall be rescheduled to the nominated reserve date.
- (e) If a winner is still unable to be determined on the reserve date, both teams shall be declared joint winners. For the Zone Plate competition, the team with the highest net run rate across all matches in the competition **including those played in the preliminary rounds shall advance to the Country Plate competition.**

8. NET RUN RATE

A team's net run rate is calculated by deducting from the average runs per over scored by that team throughout the competition, the average runs per over scored against that team throughout the competition. That is:

Net Run Rate = Team run rate per over – opposing team run rate per over

In the event of a team being all out in less than its full quota of overs, the calculation of its team run rate is based on the full quota of overs to which they would have been entitled and not on the number of overs in which they were dismissed.

9. PLAYER OF THE FINAL MEDAL

- (a) **A Player of the Final medal will be awarded in the following competitions:**
 - (i) **Premier LeagueT20 Cup**
 - (ii) **Zone Cup**



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(iii) Zone Plate

(iv) Greg Griffith Shield

10. TREMAIN-COPELAND CUP

- (a) The Tremain-Copeland Cup will be played between Central West and Western Plains in Men's, Colts and Under 16s divisions.
- (b) A winner will be determined in each division. The team with the highest number of points in a division will be declared the winner of that division. If both teams are equal on points, the team with the higher net run rate will be declared the winner.
- (c) The team winning the most divisions will be awarded the Tremain-Copeland Cup. If teams win an equal number of divisions, then the team with the highest net run rate will be declared the winner. If the net run rate of each team is equal, then the series will be tied and the team holding the Cup will retain it.
- (d) The Neil Doherty Medal will be awarded to the player of the series in the Men's division.
- (e) The Dennis Cox Medal will be awarded to the player of the series in the Colts division.
- (f) The Greg Morrissey Medal will be awarded to the player of the series in the Under 16s division.
- (g) For each match, the umpires will award 3 points to the best player, 2 to the second best and 1 point to the third best on the day. These points shall be used to determine the player of the series for each of these divisions.