

**Berkshire Women’s Soft Ball League Rules 2021**

Playing Rules:

1. Aim

1.1. The enjoyment for, and fair play by, all players.

2. Pitch

2.1 Two sets of wickets, 20 yards apart.

2.2 Boundaries should be a minimum of 35 yards long.

3. Teams

3.1 Each team comprises of 8 players.

3.2 In the event of injury to a player, a substitute will be allowed to field, but not bowl. Should such an injury prevent the player batting, a substitute will be allowed to bat only with the permission of the opposing team’s captain.

4. The Start

4.1 The two teams toss a coin to decide which team has the choice of either batting or fielding first.

5. The Game

5.1 Each game shall consist of one innings per team. Each innings is made up of 12 Overs.

6. Batting & Scoring

6.1 The batting side shall be divided into pairs, each pair batting for 3 overs.

6.2 Each team starts batting with a score of 200 runs.

6.3 Each time a batter is out, 5 runs are deducted, and the other batter of the pair faces the next ball.

6.4 At the end each over the batters must swap ends.

6.5 A batter may be out bowled, caught, run out, stumped, hit wicket.

6.6 There is no LBW law unless the batter deliberately blocks the ball with a leg or foot.

6.7 Runs will be scored in the normal way, as will byes.

6.8 2 runs will be awarded to the batting team for each wide ball and no-ball bowled, but no extra ball will be allocated, except in the final over of each innings when, in addition to the 2 runs, an extra ball will be bowled.

6.9 At the end of the first 3 overs, the first pair of batters retires and is replaced by the second pair until all 4 pairs have batted for 3 overs each.

7. Bowling and Fielding

7.1 Each player on the fielding side must bowl 1 over, except for the wicket keeper who does not have to bowl. No bowler can bowl more than 2 overs per innings. If a team decides to switch wicket keepers in an innings all 8 players must bowl a minimum of 1 over each.

7.2 Bowling will take place from one end only. Change end for each innings.

7.3 Players on the fielding side DO NOT need to rotate fielding positions.

7.4 With the exception of the wicketkeeper no fielder may field within 10 yards of the wicket, measured from the middle stump except behind the wicket on the off-side. A fielder may move into the restricted area to field a ball provided she was outside the area when the stroke was made.

8. The Result

8.1 The team with the higher net score (runs scored less five runs per wicket lost) wins.

9. Equipment

9.1 A women’s ‘incredi-ball’ is to be used in all games. The host club is responsible for providing match balls.

9.2 No protective equipment needs to be worn.

10. Eligibility

10.1 Please note league is open to all Women and Girls, age 14 and above.

10.2 Any player who has played representative County Cricket is not eligible.

Glossary

11. LBW

11.1 In the very simple terms, a batter can be given out if the umpire feels that a ball, which hits the batter’s leg, would have hit the stumps. This law though will not be used unless a batter deliberately blocks or kicks the ball away with the leg or foot.

12. Wide ball

12.1 A ball that is too far from the batter to strike will be called a wide. A ball will not be called a wide, no matter how wide it may be if the batter manages to hit it with bat or body.

13. No ball

13.1 If a ball bounces more than twice before reaching the batter, of if it reaches the batsman above waist height without bouncing, it will be called a no ball.

Results

14. 14.1 It is the responsibility of the home team to collate the results and send them into the league rep. Simply the match result and final score is required.

We would like to encourage all games to be live scored if possible, please. Through the Play Cricket App.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact - verity.johnson@berkshirecricketfoundation.org