



## Junior Welsh Cup Rules 2026

### Introduction

Welcome to the 2026 rules for the Junior Welsh Cup – U13s and U15s competitions.

### Key contact:

Competition Organiser : Mark Dixon

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### Important Links/Information:

Welsh Cup page on website [Click Here](#)

Welsh Cup page on Play Cricket Website [Click here](#)

### Key Dates 2026:

U13 Junior Welsh Cup			U15 Junior Welsh Cup		
Round	Play-by-date		Round	Play-by-date	
Round 1	31 <sup>st</sup> May		Round 1	24 <sup>th</sup> May	
Round 2	14 <sup>th</sup> June		Round 2	7 <sup>th</sup> June	
Round 3	28 <sup>th</sup> June		Round 3	21 <sup>st</sup> June	
Regional Play-off	12 <sup>th</sup> July		Regional Play-off	5 <sup>th</sup> July	
Semi Final	2 <sup>nd</sup> August		Semi Final	2 <sup>nd</sup> August	
Round	Fixture Date	Reserve Date	Round	Fixture Date	Reserve Date
Final	18 <sup>th</sup> August		Final	18 <sup>th</sup> August	



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### Competition Rules and Administration

- 1** Fixtures
  - 1.1 Both clubs to contact each other once the draw is known and agree a date (and a reserve date) to play the match before the round play-by-date. NB: reasons for not playing MUST be limited to CRICKET RELATED issues e.g. clash with another competition as opposed to random non-cricket matters. If a club wishes to concede they must contact the opposing club and the Competition Organiser must also be informed. In the event of clubs failing to agree a date then this matter must be referred back to the Competition Organiser asap for adjudication.
  - 1.2 Saturdays, Sundays, midweek (which may be a reduced over game) may also be used in order to complete the fixture (in the spirit of Get The Game On)
  - 1.3 If bad weather prevents play or a result, the match will be rearranged on a mutually agreed date.
  - 1.4 If bad weather prevents a match of even the minimum number of overs being played by the play-by-date, then clubs will toss up for the right to continue in the Competition, with either a Qualified Umpire or the Competition Organiser present. Zoom or video conferencing can be used to gather all parties together, if more convenient.
  - 1.5 If a rearranged date can't be agreed on, the club who couldn't fulfil the original fixture on the agreed date must concede the match. If both clubs are unable to fulfil the original fixture and can't agree on another date a coin toss will be the final resolution. Any disagreement as to the format, time and location of a reduced over match is to be referred to the Competition Organiser.
- 2** Competition Rules and Administration
  - 2.1 The Competition is open to all member clubs of Cricket Wales who have paid their affiliation fees for the current year.
  - 2.2 All players must be registered members of the club they play junior league cricket for and may not play for more than one club in either of the two competitions. Clubs are not allowed to amalgamate and there are no rules to allow any loan players. If a player transfers from one club to another during the season and has not already played in the Welsh Cup then they may play for their new team. The players, whether boys or girls, must have been under the age of 13 (U13 Cup) and 15 (U15 Cup) at midnight on 31st August prior to the season of the competition.
  - 2.3 Each team must provide an adult (over 18) umpire who is, preferably, a qualified coach (and/or umpire) and not a relative of any of the players, as well as a scorer who fully understands the competition's Rules and Playing conditions and the principles of scoring.
  - 2.4 The Competition Organiser will send out entry invitations to all Cricket Wales affiliated clubs. Once the entry numbers in the both U13's & U15's competitions are ascertained, the



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Competition Organiser will be able to produce geographical zones and work out the number of rounds and fixtures. The Competition Organiser will send out to all club entrants the fixtures along with the "play by dates" per round. The 'play-by dates' are guided by the ECB national competitions.

- 2.5 Matches may not be abandoned or postponed for any reason other than inclement weather, unless by mutual agreement. Should there be no such agreement and there is a clash with another competition, the Cricket Wales Cup match should be played or the match conceded. If the home ground is likely to be unavailable for any reason on the due date then the fixture is to be reversed, where possible.
- 2.6 If bad weather prevents a result, the match shall be replayed on or before the play-by-date designated for that round. If there is no play on the agreed day, or if the match is abandoned before being completed, the venue is reversed for each subsequent attempt to play the match unless the Clubs otherwise agree.
- 2.7 If the match has not been played 'on or before' the play-by-date the Competition Organiser shall arrange a 'coin toss' to decide the winner subject to any claims from the clubs to be adjudicated by the Organising Committee (see Rule 12). There will be no exceptions to this except, possibly, in a case of prolonged inclement weather which has had a widespread effect on matches being played.
- 2.8 The Competition Organiser must be informed of any issues that hinder a fixture arrangement, by email as soon as they arise.
- 2.9 The Competition Organiser will notify all winning teams of their opponents within 48 hours of the round scheduled date if not before. It is planned for the draw to be updated regularly on the Junior Competitions Play-Cricket website : <https://welshcricketcup.play-cricket.com/home>
- 2.10 All fixtures will be loaded onto Play-Cricket <https://welshcricketcup.play-cricket.com/home> and emailed to participating clubs in advance of each round.. Clubs can score the game via the Play-Cricket App, but this is not essential. The winning club must enter the result via their club's Play-Cricket site with any key performances (e.g. retirements or taking a minimum or 3 wickets) within 24 hours. They must also email the Competitions Organiser with brief details of the result.
- 2.11 The Finals Days are planned be held on August 18<sup>th</sup> at Sophia Gardens (U13) and (U15). Cricket Wales will provide umpires, new balls and individual medals for these matches but not for the earlier rounds. Teams finishing on equal scores (regardless of wickets lost) will play a Super Over to determine the winner of the game.
- 2.12 Clubs who withdraw from, fail to raise a side, or who show unwillingness to continue in the Competition will be fined a sum of £25 and acceptance of their entry for the following year shall be in the discretion of the Competition Organiser. In the event of a club not being able to attend the Finals Day they must inform the Organiser immediately so that a replacement



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may be selected. If it fails to do so less than seven clear days before the Finals Day then the Club will be subject to a fine of £100.

- 2.13 In the event of any dispute arising affecting the course of the Competition, a club must contact the Competition Organiser immediately by email.
- 2.14 Cricket Wales is entirely responsible for the organisation and administration of the Competition. The decisions of the Competitions Organiser will be final.

### **3 Cricket Wales U13 and U15 Cup Competitions 2026 Playing Conditions**

- 3.1 The Laws of Cricket (2001 Code 3rd Edition – 2022) shall apply with the following exceptions and amendments in all Matches
- 3.2 Matches shall consist of one innings per side and each innings shall be a maximum of 20 overs duration. If this cannot be achieved (e.g. because of weather conditions) a minimum of 10 overs a side will constitute a match. If the number of overs available to each side is not equal when the match is called off then run rate (number of runs scored divided by the number of overs or part overs bowled) will be used to decide the match. If both teams agree prior to the start of play, Duckworth-Lewis-Stern v 6.0 may be used to determine the result of an interrupted match where the team batting second does not have available to it the same number of overs as was available to the team batting first.
- 3.3 ECB pitch length recommendation is 19yds for U13's and 22yds for U15's with a recommendation of maximum 50 yard boundaries for U13 and 55 yard boundaries for U15.
- 3.4 No bowler shall bowl more than four overs in a match. In matches of less than 20 overs per side the number of overs per bowler will be reduced pro rata.
- 3.5 When a batter reaches or passes the personal total of 30 runs (U13 Cup) or 50 runs (U15 Cup) they must 'retire' and will not be allowed to return. A batter can continue their innings beyond these figures if the 'retirement' would end the innings before the agreed number of overs has been bowled.
- 3.6 Restrictions on the placement of Fieldsmen
  - 3.6.1 Two semi-circles shall be drawn on the field of play. The semi-circles shall have as their centre the middle stump at either end of the pitch. The radius of each of the semi-circles shall be 30 yards (27.4 metres). The ends of each semi-circle shall be joined to the other by a straight line drawn on the field on the same side of the pitch. The field restriction area shall be marked by white plastic or rubber discs (not cones). (N.B. The distance may be amended to an appropriate distance dependent on the size of the boundary. There is no need for absolute precision on the measurements as long as they are the same for both sides.)
  - 3.6.2 At the instant of delivery, only five fielders are permitted to be outside the field restriction marking area and there may not be more than five fielders on the leg side.
  - 3.6.3 In the event of an infringement of the above fielding restrictions, the umpire at the striker's end shall call and signal 'No Ball' and a free hit will be awarded to the batting team. Except to correct a fielding infringement or a breach of the Junior Fielding Regulations, the field may not be changed for a free hit delivery unless there is a change of striker. If the free hit delivery



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is itself illegal, a further free hit will be awarded. Batters may only be dismissed Run Out, Obstructing the Field or Hit the Ball Twice from a free hit delivery.

### 3.7 ECB Fast Bowling Regulations

3.7.1 The Regulations will apply except that provisions requiring an equivalent number of overs from the same end to have elapsed before a subsequent spell can commence shall not apply (e.g. a bowler is allowed to bowl at any time in the innings irrespective of the number of spells bowled).

### 3.8 Junior Fielding Regulations

3.8.1 No player aged 14 or 15 on the day of the match shall be allowed to field closer than 8 yards (7.3 metres) from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the off side, until the batter has played at the ball. A fielder shall be allowed to move into the restricted area to make a catch or field the ball provided the individual was outside the area when the stroke was made. For players aged 13 or under on the day of the match the distance is 11 yards (10 metres). These minimum distances apply even if the player is wearing a helmet. Players must comply with the Protective Equipment Regulations. The team manager shall be responsible for identifying to the umpires the age on the day of the match of every player.

3.8.2 Should a player come within the restricted area in breach of the Safety Regulations the umpire must stop the game immediately and instruct the fielder to move back.

## 4 Interpretation of the Laws

4.1 Law 41.6 (b) Bowling of short pitched deliveries (bouncers), to be amended to read as follows:

“There shall be no more than one delivery per over that after pitching pass or would have passed clearly over shoulder height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease. The umpire shall make it clear to the bowler (and any bowler called upon to complete an over) and the batters at the wicket when a delivery within this limit has been bowled. It is unfair if the limit is exceeded and the umpire shall call and signal No ball on each such occasion and consider it as part of the warning sequence in Laws 41.6.3 and 41.6.4.”

4.2 Law 41.7 – Dangerous and Unfair Non-Pitching Deliveries (beamers) Law 41.7 applies except that the reference to Law 41.6 is the amended Law 41.6 as above.

4.3 Laws 41.6 and 41.7 are matters of player safety and must be strictly applied

4.4 Team Managers and Coaches are also required to be aware of the Disparity Regulations and to apply them when selecting teams. Umpires must apply the Regulations if they judge that Disparity has arisen during the course of the match.

## 5 The Result

5.1 The winner is the team scoring the most runs or as determined in 5.2



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- 5.2 In the event of the scores of each team being equal the winner shall be determined as follows:
  - 5.2.1 The game will be decided by a Super Over.
  - 5.2.2 Super Over Rules :
    - 5.2.2.1 A coin toss determines which team bats first (winner of the coin toss can decide).
    - 5.2.2.2 3 bowlers each bowl 2 legitimate deliveries (extra's bowled again) until the team bowls 6 legitimate balls. There is no limit on the number of batsmen. The team that scores the most runs in the over win the game. If scores are equal, additional Super Ove's will be played until there is a winner.
- 5.3 In the event of a rain curtailed match, where each team has not bowled a minimum of ten overs, the match should be rearranged if both sides can mutually agree a date before the 'scheduled' reserve date for that round. If not it is to be decided by a Super Over (see 5b ) or by the toss of a coin.
  
- 6 The Ball, Wickets, Pitch and Clothing
  - 6.1 These should meet the requirements of Laws 5.1, 5.7 and 8.1 - 8.4.
  - 6.2 The fielding side should provide a ball for it to bowl with which must be of good condition. New balls may be used but only by mutual agreement.
  - 6.3 Coloured clothing is optional but should not clash with the red or pink ball (which is used at F (the text in the published version stops here)