

EARNSHAW CUP

EC1 TITLE & CONSTITUTION

EC1.1 COMPETITION NAME:

The competition shall be called the Earnshaw Cup (the Competition).

EC1.2 COMPETITION RULES:

It shall be subject in every particular to the Rules of the Paddock Shield.

except for:

EC1.2.1 Rule S1.2.1 - Competition title.

EC1.3 QUALIFYING TEAMS:

It shall be a knockout competition of all 2nd teams not qualified to enter the Paddock Shield competition after promotion and relegation have been taken into account.

EC1.4 BYES: *Byes into Round 2 are to be given to the highest qualifying finishing teams from the previous season, to ensure a group of 16 teams in Round 2.*

EC2 DRAWS & TIES

EC2.1 DRAWS:

The draw for Round 1 of the Competition shall be made after the completion of Round 1 of the Paddock Shield, with subsequent draws being made at the discretion of the Executive.

S2.2 TIES:

EC2.2.1 First, Second and Third Round Ties:

Any club whose 1st XI has been drawn at home in the Sykes Cup or Oddfellows Cup competitions, shall be placed in the away bag. From those remaining in the home bag, teams shall be transferred at random to the away bag until the two bags contain an equal number of teams. The draw shall then take place with teams drawn from the home and away bags alternately.

EC2.2.2 Semi-Final & Final ties:

The team drawn first in each pairing shall have home advantage.

EC3 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

EC3.1 Any player, who is Sykes Cup qualified, shall be eligible to play in the Competition should both 1st and 2nd XIs have ties on the same day or in the same corresponding round.

EC3.2 If the 1st XI has previously been eliminated from the Sykes Cup or Oddfellows Cup competitions, no player shall be eligible to play in the Competition from the 1st round onwards if he/she has played more 1st XI games in the League, Sykes Cup or Oddfellows Cup than 2nd XI games in the League, Paddock Shield and Earnshaw Cup.

EC3.3 Special exemption is made exclusively for Round 1 whereby a player must be registered, but is not subject to having played any qualification games. Thus, a Player may register to play in the 1st Round of the Competition subject to Rule L9.2 (on day Registration).

EC4 MATCH PROCEDURE

EC4.1 START TIMES:

All ties will start at 1.00pm, including the Final.

EC4.2 LENGTH OF INNINGS:

Each team shall bowl a maximum of 45 overs.

EC4.3 NUMBER OF OVERS PER BOWLER:

EC4.3.1 Each bowler be allowed to bowl a maximum of nine overs.

EC4.3.2 If the overs are reduced due to a delayed start, an agreed reduction of overs or by interruptions to games, then the maximum overs per bowler shall be reduced by one over for every five overs deducted. Where the total overs are not divisible by 5, one additional over shall be allowed to the maximum number per bowler necessary to make up the balance.

EC4.3 MATCH BALLS:

In all ties each team shall use its own ball. It shall be a new Readers Sovereign Grade 'A' cricket ball, or a ball of acceptable quality approved by the Executive and purchased from the League.

EC5 UMPIRES

EC5.1 EXPENSES:

EC5.1.1 For all ties, standard all-inclusive expenses as detailed in Rule L10.5.1.3 shall be paid by the Home Club to each umpire **(For 2025: £51).**

EC5.2 EXTENDED TIES:

Extended Ties will be as per Rule S5.2.

EC6 TROPHIES

EC6.1 The team winning the Competition will receive the Earnshaw Cup and be entitled to hold the trophy until 1st July of the following season.

EC6.2 Both finalists shall each be presented with 13 individual trophies.