

HYDEPARK SPORTS CLUB CRICKET TOURNAMENT 2026 LEGACY CUP 2026 - Season 7

HARD TENNIS CRICKET TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

Location: North London Athletic Fields

Date: July 11, 12 2026 | 7.00 AM onwards

HSC LEGACY CUP GENERAL GUIDELINES

- HSC Legacy Cup 2026 hard tennis ball tournament is an open tournament.
- A player who has played or registered in one team cannot play in another team.
- Neutral umpires are assigned to all matches. Teams are expected to respect the umpire's decision whose decision will be final.
- The tournament committee reserves the right to reduce the over if any matches delayed due to unforeseen circumstances.

NO ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED IN THE GROUND AND PREMISES WAIVER FORM SHOULD BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO THE MATCH

Cricket Rules

- This tournament would be played with Green hard Tennis balls (Centre Court Balls).
- Each innings would start with a new ball.
- If a ball is being lost or broken before two overs of an innings, a new ball would be issued.
- If lost after two overs of an innings, an old ball [used] would be issued.
- All tournament matches would be of 6 overs on each side.
- Each innings must be completed in 23 minutes, and the innings break is 4 minutes. The total match duration is 50 Minutes.
- Dress Code: All players must wear full-length pants during matches. Shorts, three-quarter pants, and similar attire are strictly prohibited.

TEAM COMPOSITION AND REPORTING TIME

- If any player is not registered within the respective team and not on the list of 15 players will not be allowed to play
- A minimum of 7 players are required from a team to start the Match. Failure to do so would yield a walkover to the opposition team. The remaining players must arrive within four overs. In case of a failure, only the fielded seven would be allowed to bat.
- The on-field umpire's decision would be the final one.
- It is the captain's responsibility to uphold the spirit of the game by his team.
- The team should report 30 minutes before the scheduled match start time.

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BATSMAN RULES:

- Law 25.8 – striker's right to play the ball
- If the ball should land away from the pitch, the new Law 25.8 allows the striker to play the ball as long as some part of their bat or person remains within the pitch. Should they venture beyond that, the umpire will call and signal Dead ball. As recompense to the batter, any ball which would force them to leave the pitch will also be called No ball.
- Plastic bats, Srilankan Bats and damaged or defective bats are not permitted. In case of any dispute regarding a bat's eligibility, the final decision will be made by the Match Referee/Tournament Committee, and their decision shall be final and binding.
- LBW and Leg byes are not applicable for this tournament. The batsman cannot be ruled out in any form for leg byes, and no run would be counted.
- All "no-balls" (As per ICC rules: front foot, side-line, above the waist, Fielding restriction, etc.). result in a free hit in the next delivery, where the field can be changed only if the batsman has crossed over or no ball is due to Field restriction.
- Free hit will be awarded for all no-balls
- Initial XI can only bat during the Match, irrespective of the substitutes we could take in the game.
- All the other ICC cricket rules are applicable as it is.
- Obstructing the field: If either batsman can be given out if he willfully attempts to obstruct or distract the fielding side by word or action. The on-field umpire's decision would be the final
- The batsman could be declared out,
 - a. When a batsman thinks that he will be run out, he blocks the ball with his bat or intentionally changes his line when running between wickets to block the ball.
 - b. The Striker is out should willful obstruction or distraction by either batsman prevent a catch from being made.
- The batsman cannot be called out, if
 - c. When a batsman is running between wickets, he does not deviate from his course, and the ball hits him without the batsman blocking the ball on purpose.

NEW ICC RULES

- Law 18 – Batters returning when Caught
- When a batter is out Caught, the new batter shall come in at the end the striker was at, i.e. to face the next ball (unless it is the end of an over).

WIDE RULE

- Law 22.1 has been amended so that a Wide will apply to where the batter is standing, where the striker has stood at any point since the bowler began their run up, and which would also have passed wide of the striker in a normal batting position

BOWLING RULES

- Five bowlers must be used in all 6 Over matches.
- No underarm bowling is allowed

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- If the first bouncer is above head height and the batsman gets out, or scores run, it's considered the first bouncer and is regarded as a legal delivery. Also, the batsman would be declared out, or scored runs would be counted respectively.
- Foot no-ball can be called on the following conditions:
 - 1) If the bowler bowls without some part of the front foot either grounded [first grounding point] or in the air behind the popping crease
 - 2) If the bowler's back foot touches or crosses the return crease.
- No-ball could also be called,
- If the bowler bowls more than one bouncer per over
- Any delivery, which passes or would have passed on the full above waist height of the Striker standing upright at the crease
- In case a bowler chucks during his action of bowling.
- If field restriction rules are not followed as per the guideline.
- A team should use at least five bowlers in each Match
- 6 Overs Match -> 2 - 1- 1- 1- 1 (Max overs by a bowler)
- 5 Overs Match -> 1- 1- 1- 1- 1 (Max overs by a bowler)
- One bouncer is allowed per over, provided the ball passes between the shoulder and the head; however, the ball passing over the head will be declared wide.
- Chucking is strictly not allowed, and if batsman at strikers or non-strikers end appeals against the action, it's left to the umpires on-field and organizing committee to analyze the action. If they find a problem, they could warn the bowler. If the bowler continues with the same action, umpires could call a no-ball.
- All the other ICC cricket rules are applicable as it is.
- The wicketkeeper, if he wants to bowl, he could bowl. Before that, it's his/captain's responsibility to inform the umpire about the change of wicketkeeper. This needs to be ensured by the fielding captain & in case missed out umpire could call the delivery a no-ball.

JUDGING A WIDE AND FIELD RESTRICTIONS:

- First bouncer cannot be a no-ball. It can only be wide.
- A ball can be declared 'no ball' for height only after the bowler has bowled one bouncer previously in the same over.
- If a batsman contacts a ball above his head, it cannot be a 'wide.' And as a bowler has not been warned for one bouncer per over (i.e., it is the first ball of the over which is over the shoulder height), it can't be declared as 'no ball' for height. So, it would be legal delivery.
- If a bowler has already bowled one bouncer for the over, then the second ball above the batsmen's shoulder will be considered a no-ball irrespective of whether the batsmen have made any contact with the ball or not.
- If the Striker touches the Batting Guard before the ball is delivered and the ball is within reach, identified wide line considering both the sides of wicket as Offside.

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- o A maximum of 5 fielders are allowed on the leg side (excluding the bowler) at any given time during the match.
- o Minimum of 4 fielders, excluding bowler and wicketkeeper, should be inside the 30-yard circle at any game stage.

NEW RULES:

- If the batsman leaves the popping crease during the course of backing up before the ball is delivered, he could be run out by the bowler.
- While bowling, fielders can move only forward but not sideways. Umpire can call it No ball if this rule is violated, causing distraction.
- During bowling action, fielders, including wicketkeepers, are not allowed to make any noise that distracts the batsman. Umpire can call it No ball if the fielders are making such noise.
- If the player is absent from the field for longer than one over, the player shall not be permitted to bowl in those innings after his return until he has been on the field for at least the number of overs he was absent.
- If the player is absent from the field for longer than two overs, the player shall not be permitted to bat unless or until, in the aggregate, he has returned to the field and/or his side's innings have been in progress for at least that number of overs for which he has been absent.
- Umpires shall have the discretion to allow, for wholly acceptable reasons, a substitute fielder to act for a nominated player during the Match as opposed to an internal injury such as a pulled muscle) while participating earlier in the Match and consequently being forced to leave the field. The same shall apply if the player has been absent for very exceptional and wholly acceptable reasons (other than injury or illness)
- On-field umpires and the organizing committee will decide on this exception.
- The umpires shall have the discretion to allow, for wholly acceptable reasons, a substitute fielder to act for a nominated player during that game.