Cricket Council USA

US Open Premier Cricket League 2024

Rules Summary

CCUSA Tournament, herein referred to as "The Tournament", shall be governed by the 2024 US Open Playing Conditions - Men's T20I (Revised: 1st October 2022) the tournament is hosted by CCUSA.

The US Open Tournament Committee reserves all rights to alter the Tournament format and/or structure as deemed necessary by circumstances beyond the control of the US Open Tournament Committee, including but not limited to grounds, weather, and light conditions.

All players and officials taking part in CCUSA Cricket events agree to the rules & regulations outlined. Any player or team in breach of the rules, spirit of cricket or bringing CCUSA or the Cricket game into disrepute shall be terminated from participating in the US Open T20 Cricket tournament.

- **All participants players, coaches, training staff, management will be required to sign the waiver forms provided by the CCUSA.**

Tournament dates:

- Tournament will start on the Saturday, 14th of December, 2024 and end on Saturday, 21st of December, 2024.
- All teams must arrive on by 16:00 on Friday, 13th of December, 2024 to attend the captains' meeting and Anti-corruption presentation.

Note: All teams are required to attend the opening ceremony on December 14th, 1:00 PM.

Tournament Format

Section 1

Teams: 5 Teams

Pools: 1 Group.

Playing Conditions

2024 US Open Playing Conditions – Men's T20I shall be used.

1. **DLS Professional Edition 5.0 shall be used to determine revised target,** when required.

Competition Format

Teams will play Round Robin matches within the group

1. Each Team Play 4 matches

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Playoff Match-ups chart

SEMI FINALS
Top1 vs. Top 4 Top2 vs. Top4
FINAL
Winner SF1 Vs. Winner SF2

Section 2

Team Composition

1. Team Roster shall be 16 players maximum.
2. Each side shall consist of 13 players, Fielding 11 players, (11 Bat, 11 field), one of the players shall be the captain.
3. The captain shall provide the player **nomination sheet consisting of names of the 13 players, players can be substituted anytime with no restrictions**. in writing to US Open Umpires before the toss.
4. Umpire will submit the list to the CCUSA TOURNAMENT committee (Match Referee/Official).
5. No player (member of the playing eleven) may be changed after the toss without the consent of the opposing captain.
6. Only those nominated as substitute fielders shall be entitled to act as substitute fielders during the match.
7. All those nominated, including those nominated as substitute fielders, and must be eligible to play for that team. By such nominations, the nominees shall warrant that they are eligible to participate in the CCUSA Tournament.
8. In addition, by their nomination, the nominees shall be deemed to have agreed to abide by all the applicable US Open Playing Conditions, and in particular, US Open Clothing and Equipment Regulations, ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel (Hereafter referred to as the ICC Code of Conduct), ICC Anti-Racism Code for Players and Player Support Personnel, and ICC Anti-Doping Code, and ICC Anti-Corruption Code.

Section 3

Team Squad ("Roster")

1. Each team must provide the Tournament Committee with a list of names and photos of 16 players (also known as "Team Squad" or "Roster") from which the playing team will be selected.
2. If any of the nominated 16 players is not available to participate in the tournament, players can be replaced by 13th of December 2024.
3. **The Team's Squad shall be submitted to the Tournament Committee in writing or via email by 13th of December 2024.**
4. Once accepted and approved by the Tournament Committee, the squad will be thereafter known as the "Approved Team Squad."
5. No additional players may be added to participate in the Tournament after the Tournament starts (unless previously agreed to by Tournament Committee in good faith owing to an accident, injury, or some other unpredictable circumstances that the Tournament Committee deems as sufficient reason for the change).
6. Note: Squad members of the fielding team who are not playing in the match and who are not acting as substitute fielders shall be required to wear a team training bib or different color shirt whilst on the playing area (including the area between the boundary and the perimeter fencing).

7. Players declared in the "Team Squad" for one team cannot be transferred to another team and/or play for any other team. If a player or the team is found to be breaking this rule, the player and the accepting team will be disqualified from the tournament.
8. Players, umpires and or officials who are banned or suspended by ICC or their National or Local Governing Body (leagues) are prohibited from participating in CCUSA Tournaments.
9. The player/player support personnel who have been suspended and/or banned in accordance with the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel are not allowed to participate in the tournament in any capacity.

Section 4

Player Injuries & Replacements

1. Should a listed player on the declared team squad become seriously injured or ill during the tournament, he may only be replaced on the squad if the injury or illness is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the tournament any further and team does not have 12 players to nominate for the match. If this status is confirmed by the tournament committee, the injured or ill player may be replaced on the list of 16 players registered for participation in the final tournament pending Tournament committee approval.

2. Once the injured player replacement is approved, the injured player cannot participate in the tournament as a member of his own team or any other team.

3. If the player does participate in the tournament, he will be considered as illegal players and the team he played for will loss the match.

Section 5

SUMMARY OF NEW PLAYING CONDITIONS THAT WILL BE USED IN 2024 US OPEN PREMIER CRICKET LEAGUE

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1. Clause 1.2 Nomination and replacement of players

Playing Conditions to deviate from the Laws on this point. Unserved penalty time, Warnings, and/or suspensions will not be inherited by Covid or Concussion Replacements.

2. Clause 18 Batter returning to original end

Playing Conditions to follow the Laws on this point. Incoming batter will face the next ball (unless it is the end of an over).

3. Clause 20.4 Umpire calling and signalling dead ball

Playing Conditions to follow the Laws on this point. The ball shall be called dead, if either side is disadvantaged by a person, animal, or other object within the field of play. From a pitch invader to a dog running onto the field, sometimes there is outside interference. If this is the case, and it has a material impact on the game, the umpires will call and signal Dead ball.

This Clause is not to be confused with, but works alongside, Clause 19.2.4, which says that if the umpire believes a ball, which contacts a person, animal or object coming onto the field, would have reached the boundary, a boundary is awarded.

4. Clause 21.4 Five-run Penalty for unfair field movement

Playing Conditions to follow the Laws on this point. It has long been the case that a bowler who sees the batter advancing down the wicket, before the bowler has entered his/her delivery stride, could throw the ball to attempt to run out the striker. However, this has fallen out of practice, and is more often a source of confusion.

a) Does the striker have the right to hit that throw?
b) Is the bowler throwing for a run out, or simply bowling with an illegal action?

Given that, MCC has decided to remove the possibility. If a bowler throws the ball before entering his/her delivery stride, it will now be Dead ball. Hence, this method of effecting a Run out will no longer be possible.

5. Clause 22.1 Judging a Wide

Playing Conditions to deviate from the Laws on this point. In the modern game, batters are, more than ever, moving around the crease before the ball is bowled. There are examples of a batter starting three feet outside leg stump, walking across to outside off stump, and back again, all before the bowler has released the ball.

It was felt unfair that a delivery might be called 'Wide' if it passes where the batter had stood as the bowler entered his/her delivery stride. Therefore, 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 his/her run up, and which would also have passed wide of the striker in a normal batting position.

There is not change to the current wording in the Playing Conditions. Hence, there is no change in the interpretation of Wide ball in Playing Conditions.

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6. Clause 25.6 Striker's right to play the ball

Playing Conditions to follow the Laws on this point. We have seen, over the past few years, more and more attempted slower balls which go wrong, and land nowhere near the batter. Under the old Laws, the striker could run after these deliveries to play them, so long as the ball had not come to rest. This could potentially be unsafe, as well as not reflecting how cricket is designed to be played.

The new Law 25.8 allows the striker to play the ball so long as some part of his/her 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.

7. Clause 27.4 Movement by wicket-keeper
8. Clause 28.6 Movement by any fielder other than the wicket-keeper

Playing Conditions to follow the Laws on these points. Neither the wicket-keeper, nor any other fielder, is permitted to significantly alter their position while the bowler is running in to bowl. This has long been the case - the batter has a right to know where the field is placed.

However, until now, any member of the fielding side who moved unfairly, was punished only with a 'Dead ball', potentially cancelling a perfectly good shot by the batter. Given the action is both unfair and deliberate, it will now see the batting side awarded 5 Penalty runs.

9. Clause 29.2 Breaking the wicket fairly

Playing Conditions to deviate from the Laws on this point. Law 29.2 (Breaking the wicket fairly) is amended with the result that the striker's protective helmet, or any part thereof, becoming detached and breaking the wicket will no longer result in the wicket being broken.

The definition of protective helmet (Appendix A - 2.3) has been amended so that it includes grilles and neck guards. However, under the Playing Conditions, the protective helmet will continue to be treated as

any other part of the striker's clothing or equipment. Hence, hit wicket is still possible from fall of a striker's protective helmet.

10. Clause 38.3 Non-striker leaving his ground early

Playing Conditions to follow the Laws on this point. This is one of the most controversial clauses in the Laws of Cricket. In recent editions, MCC have sought to change the emphasis of this Law, so that responsibility is put on the non-striker to stay in his/her ground.

This latest change goes a little further, removing this Law from 'unfair play' and moving it to Run out. After all, this is simply a run out, and there is nothing unfair about it.

11. Clause 40.1 Out Timed out

Playing Conditions to follow the Laws on this point. An incoming batter used to be required to be in a position to take guard within three minutes. They are now required to be ready to receive the ball in this time. This is a small, but significant change which should both simplify this Law and speed up incoming batters.

Position in the Laws relating to being ready to receive the ball to be adopted in the Playing Conditions, with the relevant time thresholds as below.

T20 matches: 1 minute 30 seconds

12. Clause 41.3 The match ball - Changing its condition

Playing Conditions to follow the Laws on this point. The use of saliva to polish the ball has long been a concern for MCC. It is both unhygienic and open to abuse, with players using various types of sweet to alter their saliva.

During COVID-19, Playing Conditions were written in most cricket to state that saliva could no longer be applied to the ball. Data from cricket has shown that this change had very little impact on the amount of swing. Players were using sweat to polish the ball, and this was equally effective. With both of those in mind, the new Laws will not permit the use of saliva on the ball. Using saliva will be treated the same way as any other unfair methods of changing the condition of the ball.

Section 6
Tournament Schedule

1. Tournament will start on the Saturday, 14th of December, 2024 and end on Saturday, 21st of December, 2024.
2. All teams must arrive on by 16:00 on Friday, 13th of December, 2024 to attend the captains' meeting and Anti-corruption presentation.
3. Toss will be done 30 minutes before the match start time.
4. Before the toss Captain will submit the team nomination list to the umpire coordinating the toss.
5. All teams must play their scheduled match on the exact scheduled date & time.
6. No request will be accepted for amendment to the date and/or time.
7. If the team arrives late for the match, overs will be reduced for the specific team only.
8. **Duration of matches**
    a. The matches will consist of one innings per side, and each inning will be limited to 20 (six balls) overs.
    b. Total time to bowl 20 overs per inning is 1 hour and 25 minutes (4.25 minutes/over or 85 minutes total)
    c. A minimum of five (5) overs to be bowled to the team batting second to constitute a match.
    d. Teams cannot declare their innings close.
    e. ALL MATCHES SHALL START ON TIME AND END ON TIME, UNLESS TARGET SCORE IS REACHED.
    f. Allotted overs in each inning must be completed within the specified allotted time.
    g. In case of overs bowled short by the scheduled time of close of innings (in either inning), umpire may close the inning. Umpires will use DLS Professional Edition 5.0 to calculate the target for the 2nd innings.
    h. Second innings overs cannot be more than the maximum allowed overs of 1st innings.
9. The Toss
    a. The captains shall toss for the choice of innings, on the field of play and in the presence of the CCUSA Official Umpire, who shall supervise the toss. If required, the toss may take place in the green room, not on the field and will take place not earlier than 45 minutes, no later than 30 minutes before the scheduled or any re-scheduled time for the match to start. The captain of the side winning the toss must notify the opposing captain as soon as the toss is completed of his decision to bat or to field.

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10. Delayed Start due to late Arrival of the team:
    a. Whether batting first or second, the team is not entitled to the number of overs lost during the delay. This means the team that is not late will receive the full 20 overs for bating (first or second).
    b. For example, If the delay is twenty (20) minutes in a regular match, then the maximum number of overs the defaulting team will face will be reduced to (85 - 20)/4.25 = 16 overs.
    c. The Power Play overs will be adjusted accordingly.
    d. The team that has arrived on time is not penalized; 4 bowlers are allowed bowl maximum of 4 overs.

* **Note**: It is the umpire's discretion to enforce the rule.

Section 7

Rained out situation and unexpected delays.

If the tournament is affected by rain or unexpected delays, following rules may be applied.

1. Sunday will be used as a reserve day for the finals in case of a rainout.
2. If full day is lost due to rain or unexpected delays, all remaining matches in the round robin stage may be played with reduced overs as determined by the US Open Tournament Committee.
3. US Open Tournament Committee will make the final decision on all situations and the committee's decision will be final.

Section 8
Prize Money

All prize Money go to the MCL Management

Teams that qualify to receive prize money must be present at prize distribution ceremony at the conclusion of the tournament with at least 9 of the team's players dressed in team uniform to collect the prizes. Failure to comply with the guideline will result in the team forfeiting the prize money.

The IRS requires us to collect a w9 from each of the prize winners

Rained out situation Prize Distribution: If the tournament is rained out before semi-finals, no refund of entry fee and distribution of prize money. Tournament committee decision will be final.

Tournament committee:

1. **RIZWAN MOHAMMED**
2. **SHUJA KHAN**
3. **AMIN MARKATIA**
4. **ZAHEER KHAN**

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a. Tournament Committee reserves the right to change the schedule as needed.
b. The committee's decision is final and binding on its absolute discretion to impose any penalty by way of warning and/or fine and/or reprimand and/or suspend the participants in respect of the tournament.

Section 6

Eligibility criteria:

1. Every player taking the field in the tournament must be on the team and CCUSA registered list.
2. NO Exceptions will be made to the above rules regarding player participation as a "declared player"
3. The player/player support personnel who have been suspended/banned in accordance with the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel are not allowed to participate in the tournament in any capacity.

NOC:

All national and international players required to have NOC from their National Board and owners to make sure that NOCs are in place for all relevant players before the tournament starts.

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Waiver:

Every Player participating in the 2024 US Open Premier Cricket League 2024 referred to as "US Open" must sign the waiver form. It is team management's responsibility to ensure that all their players meet this requirement.

Signature Captain/Team Manager agreement on Match playing & waiver conditions

TOURNAMENT RULES/PLAYING CONDITION & WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

READ BEFORE SIGNING

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in CRIKCET COUNCIL OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (CCUSA) sports program, related events and activities, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. The risk of injury from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,
2. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS CCUSA their officers, officials, agents, and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event ("RELEASEES"), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

I HAVE READ THE TOURNAMENT RULES, PLAYING CONDITION AND THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY. I AGREE WITH THE RULES/PLAYING CONDITIONS AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

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(Captain/Manager/Owner Signature)

_____

(Date Signed)

Appendix A

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