



TOURS | TOURNAMENTS | 1:1 & ONLINE COACHING | ACADEMIES | KIT & CLOTHING

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Re: **Mersey Cup U19 T20 Competition 2024 & Two Masterclasses Power Hitting & Spin Bowling**

Dear Players, Coaches & Parents

I am writing with further details of the Mersey Cup T20 tournament on Monday 30th, Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd July 2025. The tournament comprises of six T20 matches two on each day. An added bonus is that we offer two Masterclasses for the u19 age range. The Masterclasses are not to be missed and will give the players a real insight into two important areas of the game. Each is delivered by an experienced ECB Level 3 coach and former first class cricketer Brad Donelan.

1. Power Hitting - The Power Hitting session is delivered by Brad Donelan (Sussex & Somerset CCC & Head Coach Pro Cricket Academies).
2. Spin Bowling - The spin bowling session is delivered by Brad Donelan the former (Sussex & Somerset CCC off spinner & Head Coach Pro Cricket Academies).

All players will be issued with coloured clothing and we will use pink balls so the players get exposed to them. There will be a cost per player associated with this tournament to cover (ground hire, refreshments, lunch & evening meal, League panel umpires, League panel scorers, balls, trophies and coloured clothing which includes:

- 1 x Training top
- 1 x Training shorts
- 1 x Playing trouser
- 2 x Playing shirts (1 x long and 1 x short sleeve)
- 1 x Cap

We are in the process of securing two major sponsors for the tournament **so shirts must be worn at all times by players and coaches to give our sponsors maximum exposure please.**

Players are required to arrive at:

9am - Monday – Coloured clothing will be issued at 9am to each team.

9am - Tuesday

8am - Wednesday. *Please note we are starting early on the Wednesday as some of the sides have considerable distance to travel.

Teams involved this year are:

- **Pro Cricket Academies – Warriors** – Coached by Brad Donelan former Sussex & Somerset CCC player.
- **Bradford Grammar School – Super kings** – Coached by Simon Kellett the former Yorkshire opening batter.
- **Leeds Grammar School – Outlaws** – Coached by Martin Knowles.
- **TBC – Sunrisers**

Game Format:

Please note this is a T20 tournament and we have allocated a time frame of 1hr 15min to bowl 20 overs. Can Captains and coaches please be mindful of this? The competition will run on a league basis with the team achieving most points will be the winners of the competition. In the event of a tie the tournament will be decided by a six ball super over. One over with no limitations on the number of batsmen that can bat. The winner of the Super Over shall be declared the winners. Each team has three fixtures on the main pitch and three fixtures on the back pitch. 3pts for win, 2 points for a Tie 0 points for lose.

Bonus points can be gained by:

1pt - Bowling out the opposition in the allotted 20 overs. This does include the last ball of the innings (on the last ball of the innings if the batting team were nine wickets down and lost their last wicket to the last ball of the innings this constitutes being bowled out and therefore the bowling team can claim an extra bonus point).

175 – Any team scoring one hundred and seventy five runs or more in the allotted 20 overs gets an additional bonus point.

Provisional arrangements

Monday 1st July:

Game 1 – Front Pitch - 10am start approx. finish 12.45pm **Sunrisers vs Warriors**
Game 2 – Back pitch 10am start approx. finish 12.45pm **Outlaws vs Super Kings**
Lunch 12.45 - 1.20pm for teams & officials only.
1.30 – 2.20pm – **POWER HITTING MATERCLASS for SUNRISERS & SUPER KINGS**
Game 3 – Front Pitch - 1.30pm start approx. finish 4.15pm **Outlaws vs Warriors**
Game 4 – Back pitch 2.30pm start approx. finish 5.15pm **Sunrisers vs Superkings**
4.30 – 5.20pm – **POWER HITTING MATERCLASS for WARRIORS & OUTLAWS**

5.30pm – In the dining area 4 x Man of the match awards handed out before the meal. Coaches of both teams to decide man of the match. A slip will be given to the coaches to record their choices and why. This slip must be handed into the tournament organiser at the end of each game.

5.45pm – BBQ for all teams, managers and officials. A great opportunity for all players & Coaches to mix and get to know each other.

Tuesday 2nd July:

9 – 9.45am **SPIN BOWLING MATERCLASS for WARRIORS, OUTLAWS, SUNRISERS & SUPER KINGS**
Game 5 – Front Pitch - 10am start approx. finish 12.45pm **Sunrisers vs Outlaws**
Game 6 – Back pitch 10am start approx. finish 12.45pm **Warriors vs Superkings**
Lunch 12.45 - 1.20pm - for teams & officials only.
Game 7 – Front Pitch - 1.30pm start approx. finish 4.15pm **Outlaws vs Superkings**
Game 8 – Back pitch 1.30pm start approx. finish 4.15pm **Warriors vs Sunrisers**

4.45 – 5pm - In the dining room 4 x Man of the match awards handed out. Coaches of both teams to decide man of the match. A slip will be given to the coaches to record their choices and why. This slip must be handed into the tournament organiser at the end of each game.

5.15pm – Evening meal served for players, coaches & officials.

Wednesday 3rd July

Game 9 – Front Pitch - 9am start approx. finish 11.45am

Sunrisers vs Superkings

Game 10 – Back pitch 9am start approx. finish 11.45am

Outlaws vs Warriors

Lunch 11.45 - 12.20pm for teams & officials only.

Game 11 – Front Pitch - 12.30pm start approx. finish 3.15pm

Superkings vs Warriors

Game 12 – Back pitch 12.30pm start approx. finish 3.15pm

Sunrisers vs Outlaws

3.30pm - Awards Ceremony

There will be a short presentation after the last matches on Wednesday to announce the winners of the tournament.

4 x man of the match awards - Tournament organiser to announce.

4 x Batter of the tournament one for each team - Respective coaches to announce.

4 x Bowler of the tournament for each team - Respective coaches to announce.

(Please note the coaches of each team will select the batter and bowler of the tournament for their respective teams).

4pm – Evening meal *Please note as teams are departing and have long journeys we have asked the caterers to make burger and chips served in takeaway containers so they can be eaten on route.

Refreshments:

The club will have a bar open all day. The bar serves hot and cold food and the bar serves teas and coffees or alcoholic drinks. Please notify all your parents.

Tournament venue address:

Warrington Sports Club

THE CLUB HOUSE

Walton Lea Road

Higher Walton

Warrington

Cheshire

WA4 6SJ

Telephone: 01925 263210

Accommodation near Warrington Sports Club

The Park Royal Hotel & Spa (4 Star)

Pentahotel Warrington (4 Star)

Waterside by Greene King Inn

My suggestion would be to stay in the Roman City of Chester as it has a large number of restaurants, bars and activities to do. It's only a 31 minute drive to the Warrington ground from Chester. **Booking.com** has a whole host of options for differing budgets.

If you have any further enquires then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Sport

Brad Donelan

Head Coach

Pro Cricket Academies

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Mersey Cup - U15 & U19 Rules

1. Title

The title of the competition shall be the Pro Cricket Academies Mersey Cup U15 & U19 School / Club / County / international T20 Competition.

2. Management

These rules apply to this T20 competition only and all decisions by Pro Cricket Academies organiser Brad Donelan are final.

3. Entry

Entry into the Mersey Cup tournament shall be open to all schools / clubs / counties / International teams.

4. Pitch length

22yds is the pitch length.

5. Fielding restrictions

The fielding team must have four players plus the wicket keeper and bowler inside the circle at all times. Maximum 5 fielders on the leg side at any one time.

6. No balls

All no balls to constitute a free hit

7. Bouncer

Maximum 1 bouncer per bowler per over.

8. Power Play overs

The first six overs in every innings shall be Power Play overs. The fielding team are only allowed to have two players outside the circle.

9. Eligibility and Age Group Definition

Any school / club /county / international team that fields an ineligible player shall be penalised and the result of the match overturned in the favour of the opposition.

10. Age

U15 - A cricketer shall only be eligible to play in the competition if they are 15 or under at midnight on the 31st August in the year preceding the current season. Although there is no minimum age, it is recommended that where possible, players 13 and over should be selected.

(We allow four U16 to play in a team at any one time. This is to raise the standard of the competition. They need to be 16 or under at midnight on the 31st August in the year preceding the current season. Girls in the U17 age group are also able to play).

U19 - A cricketer shall only be eligible to play in the competition if they are 19 or under at midnight on the 31st August in the year preceding the current season. Although there is no minimum age, it is recommended that where possible, players 15 and over should be selected.

11. Balls

5 1/2oz is the size and weight of ball. It is recommended that the matches should be played with a pink ball. The balls are supplied by the organisers Pro Cricket Academies. A new ball must be used at the start of each innings. If a pink ball is lost during an innings then every effort should be made to play with a similar type of pink ball but red balls may also be used as a spare if needed.

12. Clothing

Coloured kit is supplied by the tournament organiser Pro Cricket Academies. This must be worn at all times as we have secured sponsors and need to give them maximum exposure.

13. Umpires

The Umpires have been appointed by Pro Cricket Academies and are league panel umpires.

14. Scorers and Match Result

Scorers are supplied by Pro Cricket Academies. If possible, scorers should endeavour to score the match electronically. Pro Cricket Academies recommends the use of Play-Cricket Scorer (www.play-cricket.com/updates) as the easiest way to digitally score.

15. Fixtures

Fixtures have been allocated by Pro Cricket Academies as per the schedule.

16. Team Sheets

Each side must provide the umpires and the scorers with a team sheet including players name, age and shirt number before the match.

17. Helmets and/or Faceguards

Any players playing in the competition shall be bound by the ECB Directive (see section 19 of the current Non First Class Regulations and Playing Conditions).

18. Code of Conduct

All players, team officials, club supporters and umpires shall be bound by the MCC Spirit of Cricket and the ECB Code of Conduct.

19. Mersey Cup Points & Bonus points

3pts – Win

2pts – Tie (Each team)

0pts – Lose

20. Bonus points

1pt - Bowling out the opposition in the allotted 20 overs. This does include the last ball of the innings (on the last ball of the innings if the batting team were nine wickets down and lost their last wicket to the last ball of the innings this constitutes being bowled out and therefore the bowling team can claim an extra bonus point. This will include any batters that are injured and unable to bat).

175 – Any team scoring one hundred and seventy five runs or more in the allotted 20 overs gets an additional bonus point.

21. Rain effected match

- 5 overs will constitute a match and the team with the highest score will win the game.

- In the event of a no result each team will get 1 point each.

- If a game is restricted to five overs from the start the first two overs of the five are power play overs. Only two players outside the ring for the first two overs. Four players plus the wicket keeper and bowler inside the ring for the remaining overs.