



COMPETITION RULES 2026

This text is an English translation of the Dutch text of the Competitiereglement of the KNCB as adopted by the KNCB Board on 13 April 2026.

Should there be any inconsistency or conflict between the Dutch and the English versions, the Dutch version shall prevail.



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DEFINITIONS

In these Rules, the following definitions shall apply:

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| Archive and Library Committee: | the committee set up by the Board to manage the archives and process the annual personal statistics of all cricketers in what is referred to as the Kleefstra Almanac. |
| Appeals Committee [Commissie van Beroep]: | the committee as referred to in Article 15(1) of the Articles of Association. |
| Articles of Association [Statuten]: | the Articles of Association of the KNCB. |
| Board Sanction [Bestuurlijke Sanctie]: | a measure referred to in Section III of the Disciplinary Regulations. |
| Board: | the Board of the KNCB. |
| Captain: | the person in charge of a Team as referred to in Law 1.3. |
| Captain's report: | the digital form on which a Captain gives his assessment of the KNCB Umpire or Umpires appointed to a Match by the KNCB Office. |
| Club Umpire: | the person designated as such under the provisions of Article 33.2(b). |
| Club: | a Club within the meaning of Article 4(1)(a) of the Articles of Association. |
| Competition Manager [Competitieleider]: | the competition manager as referred to in Article 18 of the Internal Regulations. |
| Competition Rules: | the competition rules as referred to in Article 19 of the Internal Regulations. |
| Competition Software: | the computer programme in which Players, Matches, results, standings and player statistics are administered; the current programme is called ResultsVault. |
| Competition: | depending on the context: 1. the Matches between Teams of Clubs as a whole in a competition format (One-Day or T20), organised by the Board during a Season, or 2. the Matches organised within one Division or within one Pool as a whole in a competition format (One-Day or T20), organised by the Board during a Season. |
| Designated Player: | the Player on one or both Club Squad lists who may be substituted in the cases referred to in Article 26. Note: Only one (1) Designated Player per Club is allowed |
| Disciplinary Committee [Tuchtcommissie]: | the Committee as referred to in Article 15(1)(a) of the Articles of Association. |
| Disciplinary Regulations [Tuchtreglement]: | the regulations as referred to in Article 25 of the Articles of Association. |
| Dispensation Committee: | the committee set up by the Board to advise it on dispensation requests submitted in accordance with Articles 9 to 27 inclusive. |
| Division [Klasse]: | the Competition (meaning 1) is subdivided in divisions on the grounds of strength (level) and/or playing day. |
| Double round robin: | a form of Competition in which participating teams all play each other twice, usually in a home and away Match. |
| First Stage [Eerste Fase]: | the Single Round Robin Stage in the men's T20 Competitions in the Lower Divisions. |
| Ground Committee: | a committee set up by the Board to advise it and the Clubs on the conditions to be met by some or all parts of a cricket ground. |
| Ground Regulations [Accommodatiereglement]: | the regulations adopted by the Board setting out the requirements and conditions for a cricket ground. |
| Ineligible Player: | a Player who, under the provisions of one or more articles of these Rules, is not allowed to play for a certain Team in a Match in a certain Competition and who does play in that Match. |
| Internal Regulations [Huishoudelijk Reglement]: | the Internal Regulations of the KNCB. |
| KNCB: | the Royal Dutch Cricket Association. |



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| KNCB Office [<i>Bonds bureau</i>]: | the executive organisation of the KNCB. |
| KNCB Team: | a Team compiled by or on behalf of the Board; |
| KNCB Umpire [<i>Bonds umpire</i>]: | the person designated as such under the provisions of Article 33.2(a). |
| Laws: | the Laws of Cricket as determined and published from time to time by the MCC. |
| Lower Divisions [<i>Lagere Klassen</i>]: | all Divisions in the men's Competitions below <i>Eerste Klasse</i> except the Recreational Divisions. |
| Match: | a cricket match organised by, on behalf of or under the auspices of the KNCB, by an organisation to which the KNCB is affiliated or by a Member. |
| Match Day: | a day on which a Match or Matches are fixed by the KNCB for the purposes of various articles in these and other rules and regulations. |
| Match Officials Committee: | a committee established by the Board to represent the interests of match officials (KNCB Umpires, Match Referees and Scorers) and to support the KNCB in all things related to match officials. |
| Match Point: | point awarded as a result of the outcome of a Match. |
| Match Referee: | a person designated by the Board to apply Article 5 and Section III of the Disciplinary Regulations. |
| Member: | a Club referred to in Article 4(1)(a) of the Articles of Association. |
| One-Day Competition: | any competition in which the standard number of overs per Team exceeds 20. |
| Player: | any person who is or will be part of a Team. |
| Playing Conditions: | rules governing Matches organised by the KNCB, as referred to in Article 19 of the Internal Regulations. [Note: there may be separate Playing Conditions per competition format (One-Day or T20) and/or Division]. |
| Player Points system: | the system under which each Player listed on a Squad list of his Club is allocated a certain number of points ("Player Points"). |
| Points cap: | the maximum total of the Player Points of the playing eleven nominated on the Team sheet. |
| Pool [<i>Poule</i>]: | any subdivision of a Division into two or more groups of more or less equal strength and generally with an equal number of Teams. |
| Public Order Measure [<i>Ordemaatregel</i>]: | a Board Resolution as referred to in Article 19(2) last sentence of the Articles of Association and Article 19(4) of the Internal Regulations. |
| Recreational Divisions [<i>Recreatieve Klassen</i>]: | the Divisions in the men's Competitions in which participation is considered more important than results; accordingly, there is no promotion or relegation. |
| Report of an Offence [<i>Aangifte</i>]: | a report of an offence against the Laws, the Playing Conditions or the Competition Rules as defined in the Disciplinary Regulations. |
| Rules: | these Competition Rules. |
| Scorebook: | handwritten record of the course of a Match. |
| Scorecard: | the digital, administrative summary of a Match containing a number of components defined in these Competition Rules. |
| Scorer: | the person appointed to record all runs scored, all wickets taken and, where applicable, the number of overs bowled. |
| Scoring app: | the app provided by the KNCB to digitally score the Match. |
| Season: | the period of a year in which the Competitions are played. |
| Single Round Robin: | a form of Competition in which participating teams all play each other once. |
| Squad list: | the list of names of Players who may participate in the Men's One-Day THE and Men's T20 Competitions respectively. |
| Stage: | a specific part of a Competition (meaning 2): Double round robin Stage, Single round robin Stage, First Stage, final round(s), final. Not every Division or Competition has all the Stages all the time. |



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| Team: | (usually) an eleven of a Club or the KNCB competing in any Match organised by, on behalf of or under the auspices of the KNCB. |
| Team sheet: | form on which, prior to the start of the Match, some details of the Players are provided, in particular their full names. |
| THE: | abbreviation for Topklasse, Hoofdklasse and Eerste Klasse divisions (for readability often referred to as 'THE Divisions'). |
| Twenty20 Competition (also: T20 Competition): | any competition in which the standard number of overs per Team is 20. |
| Umpire: | a person, not being a KNCB Umpire or Club Umpire, who stands as an umpire in a Match within the meaning of Law 2. |

GENERAL

Article 1 - Introduction

1. These Rules shall apply to all One-Day, T20 and any other Matches organised by, on behalf of or under the auspices of the KNCB to the extent not otherwise provided for in separate regulations.
2. The Board may delegate and/or mandate its powers under these Rules to the Competition Manager and/or one or more other persons.
3.
 - a. If a strict application of these Rules should lead to undesirable results, or if these Rules do not provide for any situation, the Board is authorised to take such measures in addition to or in derogation of the provisions of these Rules as it deems desirable for a proper course of the Competition.
 - b. If these Rules do not provide for any situation, the Board decides. In doing so, the Board will always seek advice from committees and advisers who are particularly involved in the subject matter.
 - c. These Rules will enter into force at the start of the 2026 Season of each Division, and will apply until new Competition Rules enter into force.
4. For the sake of readability persons and functions or roles in these Rules are referred to in the masculine form. Wherever the text reads 'he' or 'his', this shall also mean 'she' and 'her'.

Article 2 - Public Order Measures.

INTRODUCTION:

In Article 19(2) of the Articles of Association and Article 19(4) of the Internal Regulations, these Competition Rules establish Public Order Measures.

The purpose of these Public Order Measures is to ensure the orderly course of the Competition by the Board taking decisions in case of clear and predefined offences whereby the awarding of Match Points (result and possible Match Point deduction), in addition to impacting the parties involved, also has third-party effects on other participants in the relevant Division or Pool. In the past, delays in the disciplinary process could cause lasting uncertainty about the awarding of Match Points and thus the (final) standings in a Division or Pool, which was undesirable for all concerned.

1. Public Order Measures are taken in 'open-and-shut' cases, i.e. unauthorised non-appearance at a Match scheduled by the KNCB, a stopped Match and having fielded an Ineligible Player.
2. The Board may set a fine as part of a Public Order Measure.
3. For details on Public Order Measure referred to in paragraph 1, see Article 11 (*Non-appearance*) for non-appearance, Article 12 (*Stoppage of a match*) for stoppage and Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*) for player ineligibility.



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4. As also mentioned in each of the articles referred to in paragraph 3, a Respondent or Respondents wishing to challenge a Public Order Measure may do so before the Appeals Committee. It shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.
5. The Public Order Measures referred to in this article do not concern individuals. If the Board believes that, in addition to these Public Order Measures, disciplinary offences have been committed by individuals and/or Teams, they may be subject to disciplinary proceedings.
6. The Board may always use its discretion to waive a Public Order Measure in special circumstances.

[EXPLANATION:

In addition to what is stated in paragraph 6: this will generally be possible in the case of a stopped Match for which no KNCB Umpires were appointed. The Board shall then determine the result of the Match by awarding each Team one Match Point (1-1) by Public Order Measure, but may refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee to determine the question of blame for the stoppage. Obviously, the Disciplinary Committee will be able to impose a Match Points deduction as a sanction, just as the Board may do for Matches officiated by KNCB Umpires.]

Article 3 - Duration of the Season

The Season runs from the second full weekend in April of any year up to and including the third full weekend in September of the same year.

Article 4 - Subdivision of the Competitions

1. The men's One-Day Competition organised by the KNCB is divided into the following Divisions, from top to bottom: the One-Day Topklasse, the One-Day Hoofdklasse, the One-Day Eerste Klasse, the One-Day Tweede Klasse, the One-Day Derde Klasse and the One-Day Vierde Klasse.
2. The men's T20 Competition organised by the KNCB is divided into the following Divisions, from top to bottom: the T20 Topklasse, the T20 Hoofdklasse, the T20 Eerste Klasse and the T20 Lower Divisions.
3. The men's One-Day Recreational Division organised by the KNCB is divided into the following Divisions: the One-Day ZAMI Division and the One-Day ZOMI Division. These Divisions are jointly referred to as the Recreational Divisions.
4. The Women's One-Day Competition organised by the KNCB is divided into the following Divisions, from top to bottom: the One-Day Topklasse and the One-Day Hoofdklasse.
5. The women's T20 Competition organised by the KNCB consists of a single Division: the women's T20 Division.
6. The youth competition organised by the KNCB is divided into the following Divisions, from young to old: U9, U11, U13, U15 and U17. The youth competition has its own competition rules and playing conditions.
7. Other Competitions organised by the KNCB shall be subdivided as needed and per Season.



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Article 5 - Participation in the Competitions

1.
 - a. A Club wishing to participate in one or more of the Competitions organised by the KNCB must give the Competition Manager written notice by digital registration form no later than 15 February prior to the Season.
 - b. The number of Teams and the Divisions in which those Teams compete need not be specified. The KNCB always assumes the same number of Teams and the same Divisions in which those Teams played in the previous Season, obviously taking account of any promotions and relegations.
 - c. If a Club wishes to enter one or more additional or fewer Teams, this must be stated at the time of registration as described in paragraph 1.
 - d. A Team that has not played in the men's One-Day Competition in the previous Season will be assigned to the lowest Division. Having played in the men's One-Day Recreational Division in the previous Season does not count as having played in the One-Day Competition for this Member.
 - e. If one Team fewer is entered, only the lowest Team may be omitted.
 - f. A Club that on 31 December of the previous year had any financial payments outstanding to the KNCB from before 1 December of that year shall not be allowed to participate in Competitions.
 - g. A Club with one or more Teams playing in the men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions is obliged to participate with the same number of Teams also in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions.

[POLICY:

The Board's policy with respect to the registration of a new (additional) Team for participation in the Competitions is as follows:

- i. A new Team registered in time shall be entered in the lowest Division.*
- ii. After the fixtures schedule is made, it is not possible to still register new Teams to participate in the One-Day Competitions.]*

[EXPLANATION:

The Board has decided that T20 cricket should be given more prominence in Dutch cricket. To this end, a men's T20 Competition has been created for each Division for the Teams playing in the men's One-Day Competition in the THE Divisions, which will be played on weekends. In order to have fully-fledged T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions, all Teams playing in the One-Day Competitions in these Divisions must also play in the T20 Competitions of these Divisions. For this reason, participation in the men's T20 Competitions has been made mandatory for Teams in the men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions.

The T20 Competition of the men's Lower Divisions is played on weekdays and, for that reason, is not compulsory for Teams from the men's One-Day Tweede Klasse, Derde Klasse and Vierde Klasse Competitions or the Recreational Divisions.]

- h. Clubs with one or more Teams in Tweede Klasse, Derde Klasse, Vierde Klasse as well as the Recreational Divisions of the men's One-Day Competition may enter one or more Teams in the Lower Divisions of the men's T20 Competition.*



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2.

- a. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, the Board shall impose a fine on any Club that withdraws one or more Teams registered for participation in the Competitions after the date referred to in paragraph 1(a), not exceeding € 250 for each withdrawn Team.
This is a Board Resolution. Appeal may be lodged against a Board Resolution with the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee will then only review whether the Board Resolution was reasonable.
- b. A Club cannot withdraw any Team other than the Team entered in the lowest Division. If more than one Team from that Club is playing in that Division, that will be the Team that ranks lower within the Club itself.

[EXPLANATION:

For example, if a Club has 3 Teams, the 3rd Team has a lower rank number than Team 1 and Team 2. Team 2 has a lower rank number than Team 1.

There is also "higher rank number" in these Rules: it works the same way, but in reverse.]

- c. In derogation from the provisions of paragraph 2(a), the Board shall impose a fine of not exceeding € 500 for each Team withdrawn on any Club that has only one or more Teams in the men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and withdraws one or more Teams from the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions.
This is a Board Resolution. Appeal may be lodged against a Board Resolution with the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). It shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

[EXPLANATION:

According to paragraph 1(f), a Club with one or more Teams in the men's One-Day Competition in the THE Divisions is obliged to participate with the same number of Teams also in the T20 Competition.]

3.

- a. There are no restrictions on Clubs registering Teams within the rules mentioned in paragraph 1. It is the responsibility of a Club to be able to host all home matches of its Teams.
- b. A Club may give notice when registering Teams that it has no pitch or pitches available on certain days or weekends and therefore request not to be allocated home matches on those days. The Competition Leader will endeavour to accommodate this, but the regular course of the Competition in all Divisions and Pools shall always prevail.

[EXPLANATION:

The obligation in a. in this paragraph means that, if no pitch is available, the Club must arrange for another pitch itself.]

- c. If a Match will not be played on a pitch of the Club of the home Team (due to any circumstance whatsoever), that Club must immediately notify the Competition Manager and the visiting team's Club. The accommodation where the match will be played must be notified in writing (e-mail) to the Competition Manager and the Club of the other Team no later than 4 days before the Match Day (if possible)..
- d. With the approval of the Competition Manager and both Clubs in question, the period mentioned in c. of this paragraph may be shortened.
- e. If the Club is unable to find another pitch and, as a result, the Match is not played, this shall be considered as the home Team having failed to show up.
See Article 11 (Non-appearance) for the consequences.



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4.
 - a. If, in its opinion, this is desirable or necessary for the proper course of the Competition, the Board may decide to withdraw a Team from the Competition. This decision is a Board Resolution. Appeal may be lodged against this Board Resolution with the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). It shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.
 - b. A Team withdrawn from the Competition after the start of the Competition shall be deemed to have finished in last place in that Division provided that this Team has played at least one Match with a valid result.
5. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.

[POLICY:

With regard to withdrawing Teams from the Competition, the Board shall implement the following policy: The KNCB shall (also) remove a Team from the Competition if this Team failed to play more than two Matches due to not showing up and/or failing to finish a Match.]

Article 6 - Merger of Clubs

1. A Club formed by the merger of two or more Members shall acquire membership of the KNCB subsequent to the merger provided that each of the merging Clubs has fulfilled all its financial obligations to the KNCB.
2. In the Season following the merger date, the merged Club will have the same number of Teams in the Divisions in which the merging Clubs had one or more Teams. This includes any promotion and/or relegation in the previous Season. The provisions of Article 5(1)(c) (*Participation in the Competitions*) do apply.

Article 7 - Combination teams

1. If requested, the Board may allow Clubs to participate in the Competition with a combination team.
2. When two or more Clubs form a combination team, the name under which that Team participates in the Competition shall consist of the name of one or more of the Clubs followed by the addition 'combination'. The Board may allow deviations from this naming scheme.
3. For the purposes of Articles 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 27, the Players of a Combination Team are deemed to be playing for the Clubs of which they are members, or were members prior to the Season start.
4. The Clubs in question are jointly and severally liable for registration fees, fines and all other financial obligations of the combination team.



COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Article 8 - Competition schedule - general

1.
 - a. The Board shall adopt the competition schedule on the recommendation of the Competition Manager.
 - b. These Rules apply to all Matches played as part of the competition schedule.
 - c. The competition schedule is drawn up after the Teams have been allocated to the Pools of the various Divisions.
The guiding principles for this allocation are:
 - no two Teams from the same Club in one Pool or Division (the latter applies to the Men's Topklasse), unless an exception applies (see Article 32 (*Championship, promotion and relegation*));
 - within each Division, Pools are, as far as possible, of equal strength; this is based on the final standings of the previous Season;
 - in each Division, the total number of travel kilometres for all Teams is minimised as far as possible.

When drawing up the competition schedule for the Men's One-Day Competitions in the Vierde Klasse, the Board may deviate from these principles if their application would lead to undesirable consequences for a Team in terms of travel distance.

When allocating the Men's T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions (evening matches), travel time may also be taken into account.

- d. Matches may be fixed throughout the Season as defined in Article 3.
- e. The men's One-Day - and T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions are played on Saturdays from mid-April to and including the first weekend of July. After that date, Matches are played on Sundays.
- f. In the One-Day Competition, Matches can be played on King's Day, 5 May, Ascension Day and Whit Monday.
If applicable, Matches may also be scheduled on the other weekend day.
If applicable, a Team may be scheduled to play 2 Matches in one weekend.
If applicable, in the T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions, more than 1 Match may be scheduled for a Team on a single day.
- g. In the T20 Competition, Matches can also be fixed on Friday evenings.

[EXPLANATION:

The decision to play on Saturdays up to and including the first weekend of July was taken to allow youth matches to be fixed on Sundays.]

- h. Matches in the Lower Divisions of the men's One-Day Competition are played in principle on Sundays. If not enough pitches are available on Sundays, Matches may occasionally be played on Saturdays.



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- i. Matches in the Recreational Divisions of the men's One-Day Competition are played in the ZOMI Division on Sundays and in the ZAMI Division on Saturdays. If not enough pitches are available, Matches may occasionally be played on the other day of the weekend.
 - j. Matches in the Lower Divisions of the men's T20 Competition are played on Wednesday evenings. If not enough pitches are available on Wednesdays, Matches may occasionally be played on another evening in the same week.
The final rounds will also be played on Wednesday evenings, but the 'Grand Final' will be played on a Saturday.
 - k. Matches in the women's One-Day and T20 Competitions are played on Saturdays.
 - l. The Competition Manager will ensure all Matches of the competition schedule are entered into the Competition Software.
 - m. The Competition Manager can set dates on which certain Matches must be played and/or after which certain Matches may no longer be played. If in his judgment there is reason to do so, he may change these dates.
2.
 - a. In special cases, the Competition Manager may change the date of a Match at his discretion.
 - b. In the Lower Divisions and the Recreational Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions, Clubs may submit a substantiated request to move a Match to a different date. Article 10 (*Rules for rained-off Matches*) lists the conditions that must be met.
 3. A Match is considered fixed if the Competition Manager has notified the Secretaries of both Clubs by telephone or in writing (by email) no later than the fourth day before the date of the match. The Competition Manager will ensure the changed date is entered in the Competition Software.
 4. With the approval of the Competition Manager and both Clubs in question, the period mentioned in paragraph 3 may be shortened.
 5. If a fixture is cancelled due to weather or related ground conditions or does not produce a valid result, Article 9 (*Rules for rained-off Matches*) takes effect.

Article 9 - Rules for rained-off Matches

Summary

- In the 2026 Season, rained-off Matches in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions will not be rescheduled.
- In the men's One-Day Competitions in the Lower Divisions Matches may be rescheduled at the Teams' discretion.
- In the men's One-Day Competition in the Recreational Divisions Matches may be rescheduled at the Teams' discretion.
- In the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions Matches will not be rescheduled.
- In the women's Competitions, Matches may be rescheduled within set periods at the Teams' discretion.
- In some Divisions and/or Competitions, a reserve day can be scheduled for a decision match or a final round - see the relevant Playing Conditions (Article 16.10).



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[EXPLANATION:

Wherever in this article reference is made to 'rained off', it means that the Match is cancelled or does not produce a valid result due to weather or related ground conditions.

In special weather and/or ground conditions, it may happen that a Match is cancelled earlier than on the Match Day.]

I. THE Divisions in the men's T20 Competition

2. In the 2026 Season, there are no days set aside in the competition schedule to reschedule rained-off Matches. No rained-off Matches will be rescheduled.
3. For a rained-off Match, the result will be recorded as 1-1 in the standings.

II. THE Divisions in the men's One-Day Competition

1. In the 2026 Season, there are no days set aside in the competition schedule to reschedule rained-off Matches. No rained-off Matches will be rescheduled.
2. For a rained-off Match, the result will be recorded as 1-1 in the standings.

III. cancelled

IV. Lower Divisions in the men's One-Day Competition

1. In the 2026 Season, no weekends are reserved for rescheduling rained-off Matches. There is no obligation to replay a rained-off Match, but see paragraph 2(b).
2. The following rules apply to rained-off Matches.
 - a. The Match Points are divided equally 1-1.
 - b. If both Teams wish to reschedule the Match, the Clubs of those Teams may agree a date for the replay and the ground on which the match will be played amongst themselves, provided that:
 - i. they inform the Competition Manager of the new date and ground (by email) no later than the third working day after the date of the rained-off Match;
 - ii. the new date is during the Season as described in Article 3.Note: if Matches are rescheduled, Matches in this Division or any other Division may not be moved to another date to make room.
3. If the Competition Manager was not informed within the three days referred to in paragraph 2(a), the rained-off Match cannot be replayed.
4. The Competition Manager shall confirm the change or changes to both Clubs and ensure the new date (and different ground, if applicable) is entered into the Competition Software. Note: only then is the Match formally rescheduled.
5. In the standings, the result of first Match is cancelled.
6. Once the Competition Manager has rescheduled the Match, it must also be played. Not played (other than due to weather or related ground conditions) means: one of the Teams failed to turn up. See Article 11 (*Non-appearance*) for the consequences.
7. If the Match is rescheduled and this second Match is also rained off:
 - the Match Points are divided equally 1-1;
 - the Match is not rescheduled again.



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V. Recreational Divisions in the men's One-Day Competition

1. In the 2026 Season, no weekends are reserved for rescheduling rained-off Matches. There is no obligation to replay a rained-off Match, but see paragraph 2(b).
2. The following rules apply to rained-off Matches.
 - a. The Match Points are divided equally 1-1.
 - b. If both Teams wish to reschedule the Match, the Clubs of those Teams may agree a date for the replay and the ground on which the match will be played amongst themselves, provided that:
 - i. they inform the Competition Manager of the new date and ground (by email) no later than the third working day after the date of the rained-off Match;
 - ii. the new date is during the Season as described in Article 3.Note: if Matches are rescheduled, Matches in this Division or any other Division may not be moved to another date to make room.
3. If the Competition Manager was not informed within the three days referred to in paragraph 2(a), the rained-off Match cannot be replayed.
4. The Competition Manager shall confirm the change or changes to both Clubs and ensure the new date (and different ground, if applicable) is entered into the Competition Software. Note: only then is the Match formally rescheduled.
5. In the standings, the result of first Match is cancelled.
6. Once the Competition Manager has rescheduled the Match, it must also be played. Not played (other than due to weather or related ground conditions) means: one of the Teams failed to turn up. See Article 11 (*Non-appearance*) for the consequences.
7. If the Match is rescheduled and this second Match is also rained off:
 - the Match Points are divided equally 1-1;
 - the Match is not rescheduled again.



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VI. Lower Divisions in-the men's T20 Competition: First Stage

1. In Season 2026, rained-off Matches will not be rescheduled.
2. If any Match is rained off, the Match Points are divided equally 1-1.

VII. Topklasse in the women's One-Day Competition

[POLICY:

In 2026, players from the Netherlands Team will be absent for extended periods during the Season. In order to enable as many Matches as possible to still be played, the rules for both rearranging and rescheduling Matches will be relaxed. This chapter will be amended at a later stage.]

1. In the 2026 Season, no weekends have been reserved for replaying Matches. There is no obligation to replay a rained-off Match, but see paragraph 2(b).
2. The following rules apply to rained-off Matches.
 - a. The Match Points are divided equally 1-1.
 - b. If both Teams wish to reschedule the Match, the Clubs of those Teams may themselves agree a date for the replay and the ground on which the match will be played, provided that:
 - i. they inform the Competition Manager of the new date and ground (by email) no later than the third working day after the date of the rained-off Match;
 - ii. the new date is within 22 days after the date of the rained-off Match, unless
 - iii. the date of the rained-off Match was three weeks before the final round: then the Match can only be rescheduled within 15 days of the date of the rained-off Match, unless
 - iv. the date of the rained-off Match was two weeks before the final round: then then the Match can only be rescheduled within 8 days of the date of the rained-off Match, unless
 - v. the date of the rained-off Match was one week before the final round: then the Match cannot be rescheduled.

Note: if Matches are rescheduled, other Matches in this Division or any other Division may not be moved to another date to make room.
3. If the Competition Manager was not informed within the three days referred to in paragraph 2(a), the rained-off Match cannot be rescheduled.
4. The Competition Manager shall confirm the change or changes to both Clubs and ensure the new date (and different ground, if applicable) is entered into the Competition Software. Note: only then is the Match formally rescheduled.
5. In the standings, the result of first Match is cancelled.
6. Once the Competition Manager has rescheduled the Match, it must also be played. Not played (other than due to weather or related ground conditions) means: one of the Teams failed to turn up. See Article 11 (*Non-appearance*) for the consequences.
7. If the Match is rescheduled and this second Match is also rained off:
 - the Match Points are divided equally 1-1.
 - the Match is not rescheduled again.



COMPETITION RULES 2026

VIII. Hoofdklasse in the women's One-Day Competition

[POLICY:

In 2026, players from the Netherlands Team will be absent for extended periods during the Season. In order to enable as many Matches as possible to still be played, the rules for both rearranging and rescheduling Matches will be relaxed. This chapter will be amended at a later stage.]

1. In the 2026 Season, no weekends have been reserved for replaying Matches. There is no obligation to replay a rained-off Match, but see paragraph 2(b).
2. The following rules apply to rained-off Matches.
 - a. The Match Points are divided equally 1-1.
 - b. If both Teams wish to reschedule the Match, the Clubs of those Teams may themselves agree a date for the replay and the ground on which the match will be played, provided that:
 - i. they inform the Competition Manager of the new date and ground (by email) no later than the third working day after the date of the rained-off Match;
 - ii. the new date is within 22 days after the date of the rained-off Match, unless
 - iii. the date of the rained-off Match was three weeks before the final round: then the Match can only be rescheduled within 15 days of the date of the rained-off Match, unless
 - iv. the date of the rained-off Match was two weeks before the final round: then then the Match can only be rescheduled within 8 days of the date of the rained-off Match, unless
 - v. the date of the rained-off Match was one week before the final round: then the Match cannot be rescheduled.

Note: if Matches are rescheduled, other Matches in this Division or any other Division may not be moved to another date to make room.
3. If the Competition Manager was not informed within the three days referred to in paragraph 2(a), the rained-off Match cannot be rescheduled.
4. The Competition Manager shall confirm the change or changes to both Clubs and ensure the new date (and different ground, if applicable) is entered into the Competition Software. Note: only then is the Match formally rescheduled.
5. In the standings, the result of first Match is cancelled.
6. Once the Competition Manager has rescheduled the Match, it must also be played. Not played (other than due to weather or related ground conditions) means: one of the Teams failed to turn up. See Article 11 (*Non-appearance*) for the consequences.
7. If the Match is rescheduled and this second Match is also rained off:
 - the Match Points are divided equally 1-1.
 - the Match is not rescheduled again.



COMPETITION RULES 2026

IX. Women's T20 Competition

[POLICY:

In 2026, players from the Netherlands Team will be absent for extended periods during the Season. In order to enable as many Matches as possible to still be played, the rules for both rearranging and rescheduling Matches will be relaxed. This chapter will be amended at a later stage.]

1. In the 2024 Season, no weekends have been set aside for replaying Matches. There is no obligation to replay a rained-off Match, but see paragraph 2(b).
2. The following rules apply to rained-off Matches.
 - a. The Match Points are divided equally 1-1.
 - b. If both Teams wish to reschedule the Match, the Clubs of those Teams may agree a date for the replay and the ground on which the Match will be played amongst themselves, provided that:
 - i. they inform the Competition Manager of the new date and ground (by email) no later than the third working day after the date of the rained-off Match;
 - ii. the new date is within 15 days after the date of the rained-off Match, unless
 - iii. the date of the rained-off Match was two weeks before the final round: in that case the Match can only be rescheduled within 8 days after the date of the rained-off Match, unless
 - iv. the date of the rained-off Match was one week before the final round: in that case the Match cannot be rescheduled.
Note: if Matches are rescheduled, other Matches in this Division or any other Division may not be moved to another date to make room.
3. If the Competition Manager was not informed within the three days referred to in paragraph 2(a), the rained-off Match cannot be rescheduled.
4. The Competition Manager shall confirm the change or changes to both Clubs and ensure the new date (and different ground, if applicable) is entered into the Competition Software. Note: only then is the Match formally rescheduled.
5. In the standings, the result of first Match is cancelled.
6. Once the Competition Manager has rescheduled the Match, it must also be played. Not played (other than due to weather or related ground conditions) means: one of the Teams failed to turn up. See Article 11 (*Non-appearance*) for the consequences.
7. If the Match is rescheduled and this second Match is also rained off:
 - the Match Points are divided equally 1-1;
 - the Match is not rescheduled again.

[POLICY:

With regard to the fixing of rescheduled matches, as referred to in this article, the Board shall implement the following policy:

- *In the final fixing of rescheduled matches, the Competition Manager shall prioritise, if necessary and/or required, Matches that may be of importance for the further course of the Competition, qualification for any final, the championship, promotion, relegation or any reorganisation of the Competition.*
- *When rescheduling Matches, Matches in a higher Division take precedence over Matches in a lower Division.*



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- *If necessary, a Match may be rescheduled at a ground designated by the Competition Manager. The assessment of any interest or necessity in this regard is at the Board's sole discretion.]*

Article 10 - Rearranging a fixture

Summary

- For rules when a Match is washed out, see Article 9.
- In the Men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions, no Match may in principle be rescheduled.
- In the Women's One-Day and T20 Competitions, a Match may - under conditions - be rescheduled.
- In the Men's One-Day Competitions in the Lower Divisions and the One-Day Competitions in the Recreational Divisions, a Match may almost always be moved forward in time; a postponement to a later time is subject to time limitations.
- In the Men's T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions, a Match may only be rescheduled within the same week

I. men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in THE Divisions

[POLICY:

In fixing the competition schedule in the men's THE Divisions, account will be taken of Clubs' limited pitch availability on Saturdays in the first weeks or months of the Season.

If a Club clearly indicates when registering Teams for Competitions that the unavailability of a pitch on Saturday is beyond its control, the Competition Manager shall fix the Saturday home match on the Sunday in the same weekend. This is done so as to avoid that a Team of this Club would have to play several home matches at a different ground.

The calendar for the THE Divisions is very full. The Competitions for these Divisions are scheduled first, and it is strictly checked whether they align with the submitted field availability.]

1. In THE Divisions, fixtures cannot be rearranged after the competition schedule has been announced, except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Board.

[POLICY:

The Board has decided that the unavailability on a Match Day of one or more Players and/or Player Support Personnel of a Team because they are involved with one or more KNCB Teams, is not a cause to reschedule a Match on a different date. In this, the Board follows what is common practice in other countries. Whereas in the past an exception was still made if 3 or more Players and/or Player Support Personnel were unavailable at the same time, this is no longer the case as of Season 2026.]

2. An exceptional circumstance as referred to in paragraph 1 may be that only after the competition schedule has been fixed a Club is given notice that a pitch will be unavailable on the relevant Match Day. If this has demonstrably happened entirely beyond its control and this is known at least 4 weeks before the original Matchday, at the written (email to the Competition Manager) request of the Club of the home Team to the Board, to be sent within 24 hours after the Club has had this notice, the Board may allow the Match to be played on the other day of that same weekend. This change must obviously not clash with any youth competition fixture.
3. If a Club is of the opinion that there is an (other) exceptional circumstance not to play a fixed Match and submits a request to that effect (by e-mail to the Competition Manager), the Board will decide on the matter.
In case the Board grants the request, the result will be 1-1.
If the request is not granted and the Match is not played, it means that one of the Teams failed to turn up. See Article 11 for the consequences.



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[POLICY:

The inability of a Player or Coach of a Team to be present at a Youth Match is not considered as 'clashing with any youth competition Match'.]

4. Should, on the other day referred to in paragraph 2, another Match (other than a youth match) in any Competition be scheduled on the pitch, the Club itself must arrange a solution for its other Team (find another suitable ground). That Match may not be postponed. Also, the Match may not be moved to an earlier weekend.
5. If, on the other day referred to in paragraph 2, the Club of the home Team does not have a pitch available, that Club must itself arrange for another (suitable) ground where the Match can be played on the originally scheduled day.
6. Only when the Competition Manager has confirmed the change or changes has the Match/have the Matches been definitively rescheduled. The Competition Manager shall ensure the new date and the different ground/grounds, if applicable, is entered in the Competition Software.
7. Should the Match not be played on the new date (except if the Match is rained off) after the Board's approval of the request to reschedule, the Match shall be considered as 'not having been played'. Both Teams shall be awarded one (1) Match Point.
8. Unless the Board decides to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee, and without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, and except in special cases at the discretion of the Board, the Board shall impose a Public Order Measure for non-appearance (see Article 11) on the Team deemed guilty of not playing the Match and the Club of that Team.
9. The Board may derogate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.
10. A Public Order Measure or other decision of the Board may be appealed with the Appeals Committee by the Club of the Team against which the sanction is directed (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

II. women's One-Day and T20 Competitions

[POLICY:

In 2026, players from the Netherlands Team will be absent for extended periods during the Season. In order to enable as many Matches as possible to still be played, the rules for both rearranging and rescheduling Matches will be relaxed. This chapter will be amended at a later stage.]

1. Fixtures in the women's One-Day and T20 Competitions cannot be rescheduled.
2. However, in derogation from the provisions of paragraph 1, a fixture can be brought forward in time. To this end, the Clubs of both Teams must jointly submit a request (in writing, by email) to the Competition Manager stating the new date and ground. The request must be made at least four working days before the new date. If on the new date the Club of the home Team does not have a pitch available, this Club must itself arrange for another (suitable) ground.
3. The Competition Manager will reject the request if it is submitted too late. He shall also reject the request if he has already scheduled another Match on that pitch.



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4. With the approval of the Competition Manager and both Clubs involved, the period referred to in paragraph 2 may be shortened.
5. Only when the Competition Manager has confirmed the change does it become final. The Competition Manager shall ensure the new date and the different ground, if applicable, are entered in the Competition Software.
6. Should the Match not be played on the new date (except in the case the Match is rained off) after the Competition Manager's approval of the request to reschedule, the Match shall be considered as 'not having been played'. Both Teams shall be awarded one (1) Match Point.
7. Unless the Board decides to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee, and without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, and except in special cases at the discretion of the Board, the Board shall impose a Public Order Measure for non-appearance (see Article 11) on the Team deemed guilty of not playing the Match and the Club of that Team.
8. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.
9. A Public Order Measure or other decision of the Board may be appealed to the Appeals Committee by the Club of the Team against which the sanction is directed (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). It shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

III. men's One-Day Competitions in the Lower Divisions and One-Day Competitions in the Recreational Divisions

1. In the Lower Divisions and in the Recreational Divisions of the men's One-Day Competitions, Clubs may submit a substantiated request to reschedule a Match on a different date. The following conditions apply.
2. A Match can (almost) always be brought forward in time. To this end, the Clubs of both Teams must jointly submit a request to the Competition Manager stating the new date and ground. The request must be submitted at least four working days before the new date. The Competition Manager shall reject the request only if he has already scheduled another Match on that pitch. If on the new date the Club of the home Team does not have a pitch available, this Club must itself arrange for another (suitable) ground.
3. Matches can be rescheduled on a later date only if that date that is earlier in time than the dates listed in the table below:

| <i>originally fixed in the month(s) of:</i> | <i>can be rearranged on a date before:</i> |
|---|--|
| April and May | 1 July |
| June | 3 August |
| July | 1 September (*) |
| August | 1 September (*) |

4. (*) The final three weekends of the Season (i.e. the first three weekends of September) are reserved for the rescheduling of rain-affected Matches (see paragraph 1 of Chapter IV of Article 9 (*Rules for rain-affected Matches*)). Therefore, a rescheduling is only permitted within the specified periods.
In the men's One-Day Competitions in the ZAMI Division, this concerns the final two weekends of the Season.



COMPETITION RULES 2026

[EXPLANATION:

This restriction has been introduced to prevent too many Matches being postponed until the final weekends of the Season. Experience has shown that in such cases many Matches are no longer played, as they are no longer relevant for promotion or relegation.

In 2026, strict enforcement will apply in this respect: if a Match is not played on its original date, is not rescheduled in time to an authorised date, and/or is also not played on that latter date, Article 11 (Failure to appear) will be applied. However, for the Recreational Divisions, see paragraphs 12 through 14.]

5. For a rescheduling as referred to in paragraph 3, the Clubs of both Teams must jointly submit a request to that effect to the Competition Manager in good time, i.e. at least four working days before the original date of the Match. This request should be made in writing (email) by the Club of the home Team, copying in the Club of the other Team. The request must include the agreed new date and ground.
If on the new date the Club of the home Team does not have a pitch available, this Club must itself arrange for another (suitable) ground
6. The Competition Manager shall reject the request if it is submitted too late. He shall also reject the request if he has already scheduled another Match on that pitch.
7. With the approval of the Competition Manager and both Clubs in question, the period referred to in paragraph 2 may be shortened.
8. Only when the Competition Manager has confirmed the change does it become final. The Competition Manager shall ensure the new date and the different ground, if applicable, are entered in the Competition Software.

[EXPLANATION:

Obviously, neither Team must already have a fixture (whether previously rescheduled or not) scheduled on the proposed new date.

When rescheduling the Match, the Competition Manager may give priority to a Match whose importance is deemed greater than the Match to be rescheduled.]

9. Should the Match not be played on the new date (except in the case the Match is rained off) after the Competition Manager's approval of the request to reschedule, the Match shall be considered as 'not having been played'. Both Teams shall be awarded one (1) Match Point.
10. Unless the Board decides to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee, and without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles, and except in special cases at the discretion of the Board, the Board shall impose a Public Order Measure for no-show (see Article 11) on the Team deemed guilty of not playing the Match and the Club of that Team.
11. In special cases the Board may at its discretion deviate from the provisions of this article.

[POLICY:

The Board permits deviations from paragraph 5 in the Recreational Divisions.

In the Recreational Divisions, Competitions are played without promotion and relegation. However, a championship is still contested. There is therefore a scheme that does justice both to the recreational nature of the competition (playing is more important than the result) and to the orderly conduct of the Competition. This is set out below.]



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The following three paragraphs apply only to the Recreational Divisions.

12. If the Clubs of both Teams jointly and in good time declare that they are unable to play the mutual Match on the scheduled date and are unable to reschedule the Match to a date permitted under the table in paragraph 3, the following shall apply:
 - a. The result recorded in the standings shall be 1–1.
 - b. No sanction shall be imposed on either Club.
 - c. If the Match is still played before the end of the Season, paragraph a shall lapse.

[EXPLANATORY NOTE:

If the Match is played after the end of the Season, it shall not count towards the final standings or player statistics.]

13. Timely notification that a Match will not be played as referred to in paragraph 12 means that at least four working days before the original Match date, a written statement (by email) from each of the two Clubs concerned must be sent to the Competition Manager.
14. If the statement is submitted too late, paragraph 12(a) shall continue to apply, but paragraphs 12(b) and 12(c) shall not. In that case, paragraphs 10 and 11 shall apply instead.

IV. Lower Divisions of men's T20 Competition

1. Because in Season 2024 the competition schedule in the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions is set up so that the T20 Matches are always fixed every other week. it is possible to reschedule Matches. The following conditions apply.
2. Moving a Match within the same week, whether on an earlier or a later date than the Match Day, is always allowed provided the Clubs of both Teams and the Competitions Manager agree. In principle, a request must be submitted to the Competition Manager jointly by the Clubs of both Teams at least four working days before the original Match Day, but in a particular case, this may be deviated from provided the Competition Manager and both Clubs agree.
Note: If on the new date the Club of the home Team does not have a pitch available, this Club must itself arrange for another (suitable) ground.
3. Matches may be rescheduled to a later week only if that date is in the week after the original Match Day. The home Club remains responsible for providing a pitch. The Clubs of both Teams must jointly submit a request for this rescheduling (in writing, by email) to the Competition Manager stating the new date and ground. In principle, a request must be submitted to the Competition Manager at least four working days before the original Match Day, but in a particular case, this can be deviated from provided the Competition Manager and both Clubs agree.
4. With the approval of the Competition Manager and both Clubs involved, the period referred to in paragraph 2 may be shortened.
5. Only when the Competition Manager has confirmed the change does it become final. The Competition Manager shall ensure the new date and the different ground, if applicable, are entered in the Competition Software.
6. Should the Match not be played on the new date (unless the Match is rained off) after the Competition Manager's approval of the request to reschedule, the Match shall be considered as 'not having been played'. Both Teams shall be awarded one (1) Match Point.



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7. Unless the Board decides to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee, and without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, and except in special cases at the discretion of the Board, the Board shall impose a Public Order Measure for non-appearance (see Article 11) on the Team deemed guilty of not playing the Match and the Club of that Team.
8. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.
9. An objection may be lodged to the secretary of the Board to a sanction imposed by the Board by the Club against which the sanction is directed (see Article 22(4) of the Disciplinary Regulations). The case shall then be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
10. A Public Order Measure or other decision of the Board may be appealed to the Appeals Committee by the Club of the Team against which the sanction is directed (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

Article 11 - Non-appearance

1.
 - a. See the KNCB Playing Conditions per competition format (One-Day or T20) and/or Division, Article 1.5 ('The Players - local Dutch Rules'), and for Matches for which a KNCB Umpire has been appointed: see Article 16.2.2 ('the KNCB Match Referee awarding a match').
 - b. A Team is also-considered to have failed to appear if, whether announced or not, it does not appear for a Match scheduled in accordance with Article 9 (*Rules for rained-off Matches*), or fails to start that Match, without the consent of the Competition Manager.

[EXPLANATION:

Article 10 (Rules for rained-off Matches) specifies whether ('which Division, which Competition, what conditions') and how ('Teams must arrange this themselves') a scheduled Match can be rescheduled. If this fails or both Teams cannot agree on a new date, the Match must be played on the original date. Failure to play the match counts as non-appearance. The provisions in a. apply in full to a Match that has been rescheduled (having previously been rained off or rescheduled).]

2. Unless the Board decides to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee, and without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, and except in special cases at the discretion of the Board, the Board shall impose a Public Order Measure for non-appearance on the Team and the Club of that Team.
3. The Match is considered 'not having been played'. Both Teams shall be awarded one (1) Match Point.

[EXPLANATION:

In the event of a Match not being played as referred to in this article, both Teams shall be awarded 1 point. In addition, one of the Teams shall be penalised with a deduction of Match Points. The reason why the "affected" Team is not awarded 2 Match Points is that the other Teams in the Pool or Division must not be disadvantaged.]



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[POLICY: In Season 2026, the Board shall impose the following Public Order Measures for non-appearance of Teams:

- a. *First non-appearance for a scheduled Match:*
 - *a three Match Points deduction for the non-appearing Team;*
 - *a € 250 fine for the Club.*
- b. *Second non-appearance of the same Team in the same Competition:*
 - *a five Match Points deduction for the Team;*
 - *a € 250 fine for the Club.*
- c. *Third non-appearance of the same Team:*
 - *the Team is taken out of the Competition and is deemed to have finished last in its Division or Pool. All the Team's results in this Competition will be cancelled. Personal statistics of the Players of the Team are retained;*
 - *a € 500 fine for the Club.*
- d. *If two Matches are scheduled for the same Team on the same day and the Team fails to show up for both Matches, then not what is stated in b., but what is stated in a. shall apply to the second Match.*
For the provisions in b. and c., the Team is deemed to have only failed to appear for one Match at that point.
- e. *The total amount of sanctions for the non-appearance of one or more Teams will be capped at € 1,000 for a Club for the 2026 Season.]*

4. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.

5. A Public Order Measure or other decision of the Board may be appealed to the Appeals Committee by the Club of the Team in question (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

Article 12 - Stoppage of a match

In addition to what is stated in the Playing Conditions per competition format (One-Day, T20) and/or Division (in Article 16.2), the following shall apply.

1. In the event of a stopped Match for which a KNCB Umpire or KNCB Umpires have been appointed by the Board and are present:
 - a. the Match Referee shall be notified by the KNCB Umpire or KNCB Umpires as soon as possible after the Match is stopped by either Team;
 - b. if possible, the Match Referee shall contact (by telephone) the Captains of both Teams to find out the reason for the stoppage of the Match;
 - c. if after these interviews the Match is not resumed, the Match Referee, on behalf of the Board, shall award the Match as a Public Order Measure ('awarding the match') and deduct Match Points;

[EXPLANATION:

The Team deemed guilty of the stoppage shall be deemed to have lost the Match, i.e. a 0-2 result; also, that Team shall have two Match Points deducted.]

- d. Upon receipt of the Report of the Offence from the KNCB Umpire or Umpires, the Match Referee shall determine on behalf of the Board whether a Board Sanction shall be imposed on the Captain and/or the Team and/or the Club in addition to the Public Order Measures mentioned in c., or whether that part of the case shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.



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2. In the event of a stopped Match for which a KNCB Umpire or Umpires have been appointed by the Board and are present:
 - a. in the week following the stopped Match, the Competition Manager will try to reach both Captains by telephone to find out why the Match was stopped;
 - b. the Competition Manager will then inform the Board of his findings;
 - c. the Board shall determine the result of the Match as soon as possible thereafter as a Public Order Measure and deduct Match Points, unless the Board decides to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee.

[EXPLANATION:

The Team deemed guilty of the stoppage shall be deemed to have lost the Match, i.e. a 0-2 result; also, that Team shall have two Match Points deducted.]

- d. The Board shall simultaneously determine whether a Board Sanction shall be imposed on the Captain and/or the Team and/or the Club, unless the matter is immediately referred to the Disciplinary Committee;
3. An appeal may be lodged with the Appeals Committee against a Board Resolution imposing a Public Order Measure (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.
4. The Respondent may lodge an objection with the secretary of the Board against a sanction imposed by the Board (see Article 22(4) of the Disciplinary Regulations). The case shall then be referred to the Disciplinary Committee

[POLICY:

A Match that was stopped shall be rescheduled only in special circumstances, at the discretion of the Board.]

Article 13 - Conceding a Match

INTRODUCTION:

All Playing Conditions state that a Captain has the option to concede a Match (to concede defeat, to concede the match, Article 16.2.1.1). Conceding a Match is different from abandoning a Match; conceding a Match means giving the victory to the other Team. For stoppage of a Match: see Article 12 (*Stoppage of a match*), for failure to appear for a Match, see Article 11 (*Non appearance*). While the Board assumes that this will happen very rarely, here are some points to consider.

[EXPLANATION:

A Match may only be conceded in a Match that has started (i.e. a Match in which the minimum number of Players referred to in Article 1.2.1 of the Playing Conditions is present for each Team). If this condition is not met, it shall be deemed a failure to appear for a Match.]

1. If a Match is not completed because either Team conceded the Match, the Team that conceded the Match must always notify the Competition Manager by email. Also, the Scorecard must state 'conceded' as the result of the Match.
2. This notice must be received by the Competition Manager no later than 8 a.m. on the Wednesday following the Match Day.
3. The notice must state that the Match was conceded and give a clear explanation.
4. The Competition Manager shall then contact both Captains to enquire about the reasons for the match being conceded.



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5. Should the Board feel there are grounds to do so after the Competition Manager's report, the Board shall make a Report of an Offence the Disciplinary Committee.
6. If a KNCB Umpire or Umpires were appointed for the Match and officiated in the Match, they shall report to the Match Referee. The Match Referee shall then contact one or both Captains if necessary and assess whether a Report of an Offence should be made.

ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY

Summary

The following Articles define what conditions a person must meet in order to be allowed to participate in Matches organised by the KNCB:

- Article 14 sets out the conditions to be met by anyone wishing to play in any Competition in any Division;
- Article 15 provides information on Players with non-EU/EEA passports and also whether they are allowed to give training and/or coach;
- Article 16 explains the conditions for a Player to transfer to another Club;
- Articles 17 and 18 set out further conditions to Players wishing to play in THE Divisions;
- Article 18B shall apply for the first time in the 2026 Season; this article describes the Player Points System and the Player Points Cap and sets out the requirement that the Players of a Team in the THE Divisions must jointly satisfy on a Match Day;
- Article 19 states that there are no additional conditions for Players in the women's leagues yet;
- Article 20 sets out further conditions for playing in the men's Lower Divisions;
- Article 21 contains guidelines (recommendations) for playing in the men's One-Day Recreational Divisions;
- Articles 22, 24 and 24 contain the rules that apply if, during the Season, a Player wishes to play (also) for another Team of his Club;
- Articles 25, 26 and 27 contain rules that apply in some special situations.
- The last two articles (28 and 29) deal with dispensation applications and the consequences of allowing an ineligible Player to play.

Article 14 - Eligibility to play - General

The Board aims for a Competition that provides equal opportunities for all Teams (Clubs). That means the Board wants Players to play the full Competition where possible. This then applies separately to the One-Day Competition and to the T20 Competition: the Board has labelled the two Competitions as being entirely separate. That means different Players can be used for each Competition. This is in line with the Board's wish for the Clubs to be able to recruit specialist T20 players for the T20 Competition, which is common in cricket competitions around the world and may help strengthen T20 Competitions.

The Board realises that this generally only plays a role for THE Divisions, but the rule applies to all Divisions, in both men's Competitions and women's Competitions.

1. Without prejudice to the provisions elsewhere in these Rules, a Player may only participate in a Competition if he is registered with the Board as a member of a Club in the manner described in Article 4 of the Internal Regulations.
2. A Player's name as listed in the KNCB membership records (All-United) must be exactly the same (i.e. complete and identical) as shown on his ID card.
3. If a Player is found to have played under a name that is not entirely correct or even incorrect, he shall be considered an ineligible Player. See Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*) for the consequences of this.



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4. Without prejudice to the provisions elsewhere in the Articles of Association and/or regulations, a Player may only play for one Club per Competition as referred to in Article 3.
5. A Player is permitted to play for Club A in the One-Day Competition and for Club B in the T20 Competition or vice versa, provided the Player is a member of both Clubs. If the Player has not previously played for Club B, a transfer to that Club (for that other Competition only) is also required (see Article 16 (Transfer to another Club)). The rule set out in this paragraph applies to all One-Day Competitions (THE Divisions, Lower Divisions and Recreational Divisions and both T20 Competitions).
6. Except in the men's THE Divisions, it is allowed to select a Player who does not meet the provisions in paragraph 1, provided that this Player:
 - a. has not been a member of another Club during the current Season or in any of the two previous Seasons, and
 - b. within three days of the Match in which this Player (first) played, is registered by the relevant Club with the KNCB as a playing member and entered in the KNCB membership records (All-United).

If the registration with the KNCB of such a Player has not been received by the Competition Manager and has been entered in the KNCB membership records (All-United) within three working days after the Match in which the Player first played in the Team in question or if, after notification, it appears that the Player does not meet the criteria mentioned above in a. and b., the Player shall be considered an ineligible Player. Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*) sets out the consequences.

[EXPLANATION: The reason for paragraph 6(a) is that a transfer is required if a Player has played for another Club in one of the two previous Seasons. If that is/has been the case, dispensation must be obtained before this Player may play (see Article 16).]

7. In derogation from the provisions of paragraph 1, it is permitted in the women's Competitions and the men's Recreational Divisions to field a Player occasionally (maximum 3 Matches in total in a Season) who does not meet the provisions therein, provided that this Player is registered by the relevant Club as a playing member with the KNCB within three days after the Match in which this Player played (for the first time) and entered in the KNCB membership records (All-United). In that case, a transfer of this Player is not required.

If the registration with the KNCB of such a Player has not been received by the Competition Manager and entered in the KNCB membership records (All-United) within three working days after the Match in which the Player played for the first time in the Team concerned, then the Player will be deemed ineligible to play. Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*) sets out the consequences.

[EXPLANATION:

Paragraph 7 refers to a Player who has not been a member of any Club for the past two years, but is not on the membership list of a Club at the time he plays for that Club for the first time. The provisions of paragraph 7 allow for someone from a Club to occasionally play for a second Club. This was devised to increase the possibility of having complete Teams in the two Competitions referred to.]

8. On a Match Day, a Player may only play for 1 Team.

[EXPLANATION:

As a special example: on a day with 2 or more finals, a Player who played the 1st Match of that day in any Team, may therefore (also) not play later that day in a Team with a higher rank number.]



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9. A Player born on or after 1 September 2007 may play on the same day both in a Match in the youth competition and in a Match in a men's Competition. Such a Player may play in two Teams on a day with 2 of more finals..

10. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.

[POLICY: Regarding questions on the effect of this article in special situations, the Board will seek advice from the Dispensation Committee.]

Article 15 - Players with non-EU/EEA passports playing and giving training/coaching:

In this article, the Board wishes to explain what a person holding a non-EU/EEA passport shall be able and allowed to do in Matches organised by the KNCB, and what the risks are of fielding someone who does not comply with the relevant Dutch laws and regulations. It shall also make clear that there are restrictions on a person who holds a non-EU/EEA passport giving training/coaching.

The EEA consists of the 27 EU countries plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, while the Schengen countries comprise the EEA countries minus Bulgaria, Cyprus, Ireland and Romania.

There are two distinctions to be made.

One: between the Topklasse (both men's and women's) and the other Divisions, and two: between some 10 countries outside the EU/EEA area and all other countries outside the EU/EEA.

Topklasse (men's and women's)

The UWV [the Dutch Employee Insurance Agency] assumes that anyone who plays in the highest division of a sports competition is a professional player, i.e. is paid to play. Playing is considered work, and therefore a player is an employee.

In order to be allowed to work, a player must either hold a passport from an EU/EEA country or, if he holds a different passport, a residence permit that allows him to work (these are in fact two separate permits).

For a holder of an EU/EEA passport, the UWV has no rule that says he must be paid, so such a player can play for no pay (as indeed many players holding Dutch passports are not paid to play).

In order to secure a work permit for someone from outside the EU/EEA, at least a market-based, full-time salary must be paid.

When recruiting a trainer/coach, the UWV assumes there is 'priority workforce' within the EU/EEA. This means that a vacancy must first be advertised within the EU/EEA. This applies to every Division, including the Topklasse.

To recruit a paid player, in all Divisions except the Topklasse the vacancy must first be advertised within the EU/EEA.

In principle, clubs can state that a player from outside the EU/EEA is not paid, but wants to 'gain experience' in the Dutch cricket league. Or that he is a friend or relative of someone at the club and would like to play a few matches in the Netherlands.

This will usually be possible on a 90-day visa (short-stay visa), which is valid for all Schengen countries (often referred to as a 'tourist visa').

So this person can come to the Netherlands on a tourist visa and then stay in the Netherlands for 90 days and participate in the Competition (but not in the Topklasse, because UWV assumes that such players are paid and therefore must have a residence permit that allows them to work). After those 90 days, this person has to leave the Schengen area.

Should he wish to stay longer, however, he must have a different purpose of stay and a corresponding permit. So then the question is what purpose of stay he could offer.

In this case, the Working Holiday Programme/Scheme (one-year exchange programme) may be a solution. More information can be found at

<https://www.sportwerkgever.nl/kennisbank/hr-van-a-tot-z/working-holiday/>



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Only young people aged 18 to and including 30 and who are from (only) the following countries are eligible for this visa: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan, Uruguay and South Korea.

A person from these countries can get this visa once in his lifetime.

The regulation has been changed with effect from 2024: such a young person may work during that year, does not need a work permit, but may only work incidentally to financially support his stay in the Netherlands. For example, he may work full-time, but not all year for the same employer. Nor is he allowed to be self-employed. After all, the main purpose of his stay is cultural exchange.

Hoofdklasse and/or Lower Divisions (men's and women's), including men's Recreational Divisions

First read the relevant text above for the Topklasse for an explanation of the terms used below.

Players who play in the Hoofdklasse and/or Lower Divisions are not considered employees by the UWV (unless they are paid, of course). If they do not hold an EU/EEA passport, they must have a residence permit, however. This will usually be a 90-day visa (short-stay visa).

Again, the Working Holiday Programme/Scheme may be an option for someone from outside the EU/EEA to play - subject to restrictions - and be paid.

In Divisions below the Topklasse, players of all levels, so including professional players, are therefore eligible to play in principle (provided - if required - they have a valid entry visa).

Please note that someone from outside the EU/EEA may not perform coaching duties in the Lower Divisions, not even as a volunteer. Unless, of course, he has a work permit.

General

The Board would like to alert Clubs to the risks involved.

If a Club does pay someone staying in the Netherlands on a 'tourist visa', or if the authorities find that there is an employment relationship between a Club and a Player, that Club may be subject to a fine of up to € 11.250 (in 2026).

This fine applies per match and may be imposed retrospectively, e.g. if this is discovered during or after the Season.

If someone residing in the Netherlands on a 'tourist visa' is caught spending more than 90 days in the Schengen area, he will not be granted an EU visa in the future, and thus will not be able to enter any EU country ever again.

There is a risk that the government may find that the ratio between the wages paid to someone with a Working Holiday Programme/Scheme visa and their total length of stay in the Netherlands is inconsistent. This may have major financial implications for the employer.

In addition, there are liability risks should such a Player be injured - not only for medical expenses, but in a serious case also for disability.

The above information and much more can be found in a Powerpoint presentation dated 15 February 2023 entitled 'Foreign workers' by Koen Vermooten (from Werkgevers in de Sport - WOS). Click [here](#) to view the presentation on the KNCB website.

The Board wishes to ensure a level playing field for all Clubs playing in all Divisions.

But the KNCB does not have the ability to check documents to determine whether or not a Player complies with the legal rules.

The Board will always immediately and fully answer a request for information from or on behalf of the Dutch government, e.g. about whether a Club has played someone.

And the Board is considering whether action shall be taken against a Club (in particular relegation of the highest playing Team to a lower Division) if the Board finds out that a Player is or was not entitled to play on government grounds or otherwise. However, this shall not yet apply in Season 2026.

No rights can be derived from the information in this article.

See the websites of the Tax and Customs Administration, the UWV and the IND [Immigration and Naturalisation Service] for the latest official texts, explanations and other announcements.



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Article 16 - Transfer to another Club

1. A Club shall require prior permission from the Board to field a Player who has played for another Club in Competition Matches in the current Season or one of the two previous Seasons.
2. Such permission may only be granted based on a transfer form submitted by the interested Club to the Competition Manager, fully completed and signed, in accordance with the model established by the Board.
3. Without prejudice to the provisions of the following paragraphs, said permission shall be granted by the Board if the transfer form is received by the Competition Manager no later than on 15 February prior to the Season, and the request shall be rejected if the transfer form is not received by the Competition Manager by that date.

[EXPLANATION:

The requirement to allow transfers no later than 15 February is related to the 1 April date by which Squad list for the One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions must be submitted: the Competition Manager needs time to assess a transfer request. As the Competition Manager does not (cannot) check the level at which a Player for whom transfer is requested will play, the 15 February deadline applies to all Competitions and Divisions.]

4. Permission for the transfer shall not be granted until the Player in question has fulfilled his financial obligations regarding membership for the previous Season towards his former Club.

[EXPLANATION:

It is up to the Club to collect membership payment arrears by a Club member in a timely manner. For that reason, paragraph 4 limits the period to the Season in the previous calendar year.]

5. If a Club is of the opinion that there is a special circumstance why a Player as referred to in this Article who does not meet the conditions set out in paragraphs 3 and/or 4 should still be able to play, it may apply for dispensation for that Player, stating reasons. See Article 28 (*Dispensation procedure*).
6. The Board may grant dispensation if a transfer request is received after 15 February prior to the Season, if:
 - a. late receipt of the transfer form is due to a lack of cooperation from the former Club in completing the transfer form in time;
 - b. due to non-cricket-related circumstances, the Player in question cannot reasonably be required to participate in Matches for the former Club;
 - c. the former Club cannot allow the Player in question to participate in that Competition as referred to in Article 3 (*Duration of the Season*) for which the Player has signed up with that Club for reasons beyond the control of the Player in question; all this at the discretion of the Board.
7. If the KNCB has not been informed of a Player's transfer, or the transfer has not been approved by the KNCB, and the Player plays for his new Club, he shall be deemed to be an ineligible Player. For the consequences of this, see Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*).



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8. The Board shall impose a sanction of one year's suspension on a Player if the new Club demonstrates that the Player deliberately misled that Club about his identity and/or his past in a Dutch Competition and therefore played as an ineligible Player.

[EXPLANATION: The Board recommends that Clubs include on their registration form for new members a question on whether the applicant has played in the Netherlands before, and if so when and for which Club or Clubs and under which KNCB player number, and to have this form signed. In addition, the Board also recommends asking for proof of identity and checking it carefully to ensure that the name (including its spelling) on the registration form is correct and complete.]

9. The Player in question may lodge an objection with the secretary of the Board against a sanction imposed by the Board (see Article 22(4) of the Disciplinary Regulations). The case shall then be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
10. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.

[EXAMPLE:

For a Player to transfer from Club A to Club B, both Clubs must sign a transfer form and send it to the Competition Manager by 15 February. If this is not done in time, dispensation may be applied for at a later time, stating reasons. If the 15 February requirement has not been met and no subsequent dispensation is given, the Player is deemed ineligible.]

Article 17 - Eligibility to play in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions: Squad lists

For Players who play in the men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions or the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions, the following applies in addition to the provisions of Article 14 (Eligibility to play - General):

1.
 - a. A Player may only play for his Club in the men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions if he is listed on a Squad list for these Competitions to be entered in the Competition Software by the Club no later than 1 April prior to the Season.
 - b. A Player may only play for his Club in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions if he is listed on a Squad list for these Competitions to be entered in the Competition Software by the Club no later than 11 June.

[EXPLANATION:

There is a Squad list for the men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and a Squad list for the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions.

For a Club with more than one Team in the THE Divisions, the same Squad list per Competition (One-Day and T20) must be entered for each Team. This ensures that Players are immediately assigned to each Team in the Competition software and that Players for the Team can more easily be selected per Match in the scoring app.]

The following paragraphs apply to each of both Squad lists.

2. If a Club has not submitted the Squad list by 1 April prior to the Season (for the One-Day Competitions, respectively 11 June (for the T20 Competitions), the Board shall, as a Board Resolution, impose a € 250 fine on each Team of that Club that competes that Season in one of the three Divisions of the Competition for which the Squad list is submitted.
3. The Club may appeal a Board Resolution to the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.



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4. If a Club has one Team in these Divisions, each Squad list contains a maximum of 30 Players. For two Teams, the Squad list may contain a maximum of 50 Players and for three Teams 60 Players.
5. Except in application of the provisions of Article 26(7) (*Designated Player in the THE Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions*), the Squad lists cannot be amended or supplemented after 1 April prior to the Season, respectively 11 June.

[EXPLANATION: If a player on the Squad list gets injured, is absent for an extended period for any reason, underperforms or cannot be selected for any other reason, replacement is NOT possible. Replacement of a Designated Player in accordance with Article 26 is possible, however.]

6.
 - a. In derogation from the provisions of paragraph 5, a Player who in the two preceding Seasons has played for his current Club in any Competition, and who was born on or after 1 September 2007 may be added to a Squad list during the Season.

[EXPLANATION:

This was decided in order to increase the chances for younger Players of being selected to play in a THE team.

Should a youth player have transferred to another Club and thus fail to meet the requirements in a., dispensation may be applied for.]

6.
 - b. A Player as referred to in a. must be registered by the Club by means of a written request (by email) submitted to the Competition Manager, stating the KNCB Player number from All-United.
 - c. In derogation from the provisions in a. above, such a Player is eligible to play if the written request as referred to in b. above has been received by the Competition Manager no later than on the first working day after the Match in which the Player competes for the first time.
 - d. Before the start of the Match in which such a Player plays for the first time, the Captain of the Team in question shall notify the KNCB Umpire or Umpires and the Captain of the opposing team of that Player's participation.
 - e. If the written request to the KNCB for this Player has not been received by the Competition Manager within five working days after the Match in which the Player first played in the Team in question or if, after notification, it turns out that the Player does not meet the criteria referred to above in a. and, the Player shall be considered ineligible to play. See Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*) for the consequences of this.

*[EXPLANATION: As the eligibility to play of a youth player is not registered with the Competition Manager (and thus added to the Squad list) until after the Match, compliance with this rule lies with the Club; it must check in advance whether the youth player in question meets the criteria set out above in a.. If the trust in the Club to comply with this should turn out to be misplaced, the Player will be ineligible. See Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*) for the consequences of this.]*

7. If the Club believes that there are special circumstances other than those mentioned in paragraphs 5 and 6 for it to be allowed to add names to the Squad list, it may submit a substantiated dispensation application to the Board.



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8. Such an application has no prescribed form (i.e. there is no set form for it on the KNCB website) and shall be referred by the Board to the Dispensation Committee for advice.

[EXAMPLES:

Player X appearing on the Squad list for the One-Day Competition submitted on 1 April suffers a serious and long-term injury prior to the Season, or is unexpectedly posted abroad by his employer. In either case, it is clear that this Player will no longer play that Season. In these cases dispensation may be applied for on the grounds of force majeure and the Squad list may not already contain the maximum number of Players.

A player over forty years old, a member of the Club since his youth and who played in the first Team for many years in the past, is not on the Squad list of the first Team (THE level). Due to circumstances, the Club needs to call on him again. To be eligible to play, dispensation must first be applied for.]

9. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.

Article 18 - Eligibility to play in the THE Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions: other rules

Summary

- The Board has determined that the One-Day and T20 Competitions in the men's THE Classes are two separate Competitions.
- For both Competitions (One-Day and T20), all rules regarding player eligibility are identical.
- In addition to the eligibility rules referred to in Article 14 and Article 17, a number of rules apply in special situations:
 - i. rules concerning the replacement of a Player selected for a Dutch Team – these are set out in Chapter I;
 - ii. additional rules applicable to the play-off match for promotion to the Topklasse between the nrs. 1 of both Pools in the Hoofdklasse - these are set out in Chapter II.

I. Rules regarding eligibility in the men's THE Divisions voor concerning the replacement of a Player selected for a Dutch Team

The rules set out below apply per Competition (One-Day and T20).

1.
 - a. The Board encourages Players of the Dutch Team to participate in a Team in the men's Competitions (One-Day and/or T20) in the THE Divisions, as well as in the women's One-Day Competition in the Topklasse.
 - b. This encouragement extends beyond Players of 'the Dutch Team': Players of all KNCB teams, including Young Lions, Young Lionesses, Netherlands A, the Seafarers, and the Hurricanes, as well as any similar Teams, regional selection Teams, and any other relevant Teams, are included.



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2. Since a Player participating in a Competition may be called up for a KNCB selection during the Season, as described in paragraph 1 (of this chapter), a special arrangement is in place to accommodate the replacement of such a Player.

[EXPLANATION:

In each of Chapters II through IV there are concessions for the Player who is called up.]

- a. A Player from a lower-ranked Team (of the same Club) who replaces a Player selected for a KNCB selection (in the Team where the called-up Player was playing) does not require a dispensation to return to that same lower Team, provided his Club has registered him (via email to the Competition Manager) within 5 days of the selection of the Player mentioned in paragraph 1.
 - b. If the replacement Player has participated in a Match that took place more than 3 days after the release of the Player referred to in paragraph 1 [the release of the Player from the tour, series, or match for which he was called up], then the replacement Player does require a dispensation to return to his original lower Team.
 - c. A Player from an even lower-ranked Team (of the same Club) who replaces the Player mentioned in a. in the Team where the latter was playing before replacing the called-up Player, does not require a dispensation to return to his own even lower Team, provided his Club has registered him (via email to the Competition Manager) within 5 days of the selection of the Player mentioned in paragraph 1.
 - d. If the replacement Player referred to in c. has played in a Match that took place more than 3 days after the release of the Player mentioned in paragraph 1 [the release of the Player from the tour, series, or match for which he was called up], then this replacement Player does require a dispensation to return to his original even lower Team.
 - e. The Player referred to in a. and c. must be listed on the Squad list.
 - f. For a Player referred to in a. and c., Article 24 (Saturday/Sunday ban) applies.
 - g. If a Player plays without the required dispensation as described in b. and d., he will be considered an ineligible Player. See Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*) for the consequences.
3. For completeness, the Board points out that for a Player of a Club with more than one Team participating in the Men's Competitions in the THE Divisions, Article 22 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions*), and Article 23 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions or in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions*) respectively, and Article 24 (Saturday/Sunday restriction) apply if he wishes to play in a different Team within the THE Divisions.



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II. Eligibility to play in the decision match for promotion to the Topklasse between the nrs. 1 of both Pools in the Men's Hoofdklasse

INTRODUCTION:

In both men's Competitions (One-Day and T20) in the Hoofdklasse in 2026, a decision match will be played to determine which of the two nrs. 1 of the two Pools will be promoted to the Topklasse. In addition to the provisions of Article 14 (*Eligibility - General*) and Article 17 (*Eligibility in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the THE Classes: Squad lists*), additional rules apply to the decision match. Paragraph 1 contains an important restriction; the paragraphs below set out possible exceptions to that restriction.

[EXPLANATION:

The Squad list is central to the assessment of eligibility to play: if a Player does not appear on it, no dispensation will be granted.]

The rules set out below apply per Competition (One-Day and T20).

1. A Player may play in this decision match without prior dispensation only if he has played in at least 50% of the Matches of his Team in the Double round robin Stage of the same Competition (abandoned Matches in which no toss took place are also counted). In 2026, this equates 7 Matches. But see also paragraph 3. And see paragraphs 2, 4, 5, 7, and 8 for exceptions.
2. As a deviation from the provision in paragraph 1, a Player who has played for a KNCB selection during the Double round robin Stage of these Competition ('played' also includes 'called up and therefore present at matches but did not actually play') and as a result missed one or more Matches of his Team in the One-Day Competition in the Topklasse or Hoofdklasse, is subject to the criterion: he must have played at least 50% of the total number of Matches in the Double round robin Stage minus the number of Matches he missed on the days he was called up.

[EXAMPLES:

One-Day Competition:

The Double round-robin Stage consists of 14 Matches in 2026. The Player has been selected for a KNCB representative team on 3 Match Days of his Team. He must therefore have participated in at least 50% of 14 minus 3, i.e. 6 Matches, in order to be eligible to play in the decision match.

T20 Competition:

His Team plays 14 Matches on 11 Match days in 2026. The Player has been selected for a KNCB representative team on 3 Match Days on which his Team plays a total of 4 Matches. He must therefore have participated in at least 50% of 14 minus 4, i.e. 5 Matches, in order to be eligible to play in the decision match.]

3. If a Club has both a Team in the Topklasse and in the Hoofdklasse, a Player who has played 50% or more of the Matches in the Double round robin Stage in the 1st Team (in the Topklasse) may not play in this decision match for the 2nd Team without dispensation.

[EXPLANATION:

Experience shows that the Dispensation Committee will advise against granting such a request.]



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[EXAMPLES:

- *Player plays 4 Matches in the 2nd Team in the Hoofdklasse plus 9 Matches in the 1st Team in the Topklasse. Then he may not play in the decision match in the 2nd Team (without dispensation, which is highly unlikely to be granted).*
- *Player plays 8 Matches in the Eerste Klasse and 7 Matches in the Topklasse. Then he may play in the decision match in the 2nd Team. He may also do so if he has already played one or more Matches in the Hoofdklasse.]*

4. A Player who has regularly played for a Team or Teams in any Competition in the men's Eerste Klasse and/or in the men's Lower Divisions and/or in the men's Recreational Divisions is not required to comply with the provisions in paragraph 1 (of this chapter).

[EXPLANATION:

The condition mentioned in paragraph 1 is intended by the Board to prevent a person from being 'flown in' at a late stage solely to play the decision match.

Paragraph 4 provides that a Player who has been playing for the Club for a longer period will, in principle, be eligible to take part in the decision match; this is elaborated below.

NB: If such a Player has played one or more Matches in the Hoofdklasse (but fewer than seven Matches) and/or the Topklasse in 2026, he will always require dispensation.]

5. For the purposes of this article, a Player is considered to have "regularly played for a Team or Teams in any Competition in the Eerste Klasse and/or in the Lower Divisions and/or in the Recreational Divisions" if he:
- a. has played in at least three of the four preceding Seasons or at least two of the three preceding Seasons and in this Season in any men's Competition in the Eerste Klasse and/or in the Lower Divisions and/or in the Recreational Divisions, whereby in at least one of those three Seasons he has played in at least seven Matches in total in one or more of the men's Competitions, including those in the Recreational Divisions,

[EXPLANATION:

In 2026, this means at least 3 Seasons in the years 2022 up to and including 2025 or 3 Seasons in the years 2023 up to and including 2026.

The choice of 7 Matches was made as that generally constitutes 50% or more of a One-Day Competition in the men's Lower Divisions.]

[EXAMPLES:

- *A Player has also played for his Club in 2024 and 2025. In 2026, he plays 8 Matches in the One-Day Competitions in the Eerste Klasse and/or Lower Divisions and/or Recreational Divisions, and 1 Match in the Topklasse. He is therefore not permitted to take part in the One-Day decision match without dispensation, as he has already played in the Topklasse - see the explanatory note to paragraph 4."*
- *A Player has also played for his Club in 2023 and 2025. In 2026, he plays 8 Matches in the T20 Competition in the Eerste Klasse and/or Lower Divisions and plays no Matches in the Hoofdklasse or the Topklasse. He is therefore permitted to take part in the T20 decision match without dispensation.]*

or

- b. has been registered as a playing member of the Club in the KNCB membership administration for at least 10 years, and is or has been listed on the Squad list for any Competition of that Club in this Season and the 4 Seasons immediately preceding it,



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or

- c. was born on or after 1 September 2007, provided that he has not played too often already in the One-Day Competitions in one or more Teams with a higher ranking number (see Article 22 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions*)).
6. In paragraph 5(a), a Match is defined as one in which the toss has taken place.

[EXPLANATION:

If no toss has occurred, the Player's name is not entered on a Scorecard.]

7.
 - a. If a Player listed on the Squad lists of one or both Competitions is injured before or after the start of the Double round robin Stage of one or both Competitions, such that there is a chance he will not be able to play the minimum number of Matches mentioned in paragraph 1, the Club must immediately inform the Board of this in writing (by e-mail to the Competition Leader).
 - b. The Board may, after receiving a written request (by e-mail to the Competition Leader), grant the Player dispensation from the provision in paragraph 1 if the Player is unable to meet the requirement due to injury, and would have been able to meet it if not injured, thereby allowing the Player to play in the relevant decision match.
8. If a Club believes there are special circumstances justifying that a certain Player who does not meet the conditions set out in paragraph 1 and/or paragraph 7 and also does not fall under the exceptions mentioned in paragraph 4 should nonetheless be allowed to play, it may submit a reasoned request for dispensation for that Player. See Article 28 (*Dispensation procedure*).
9. The Board reserves the right to deviate from the provisions in this article in a specific case.

[POLICY:

With regard to dispensations, the Board applies the policy that a Player who does not comply with this article, and has not received dispensation, but still plays, will be regarded as an ineligible Player. See the consequences of this in Article 29 (Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility).]

Artikel 18B Player Points System and Points cap

As of the 2026 Season, a system will be introduced under which each Player included on the Squad list (there being a separate Squad list per Competition) is assigned a number of so-called Player Points. Per Match (in the THE Divisions), a maximum applies to the combined total of Player Points of the (11) Players of a Team: the Points Cap.

In the 2026 Season, this maximum is 28 (twenty-eight).

For a detailed explanation of the Player Points System, reference is made to the Player Points System Manual. This Manual shall be deemed an integral part of these Regulations. It also sets out the conditions and obligations with which Clubs must comply. Furthermore, it refers to sanctions for the Team and the Club in the event of non-compliance.

Article 19 - Eligibility to play in women's Competitions

As in 2026 there is no Club with more than one Team in the Women's One-Day Competition and because the Women's T20 Competition is not divided into Divisions, apart from the general rules set out in Article 14 (*Eligibility to play - General*), there are no further rules with which Players must comply.



COMPETITION RULES 2026

Article 20 - Eligibility to play in the Lower Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions

This article is meaningful only for Players of Clubs that field one or more Teams in the THE Divisions.

INTRODUCTION:

The Board has determined that the One-Day and T20 Competitions in the men's THE Divisions are two separate Competitions. That means different Players can be selected for each Competition.

This creates the possibility of a (too) strong Player playing in the Lower Divisions: a good cricketer who comes to the Netherlands for a shorter period of time than for the entire Season and (partly) for that reason is not put on both Squad lists (i.e. for each of the two Competitions) by his Club.

The Board considers this undesirable. If no restrictions were placed on this, it could give rise to a form of competition distortion in the Lower Divisions or at least affect the enjoyment of the game of Players of the opposing Teams.

Note: Players who normally only play or played in the Lower Divisions and occasionally play in a THE Division will generally not need dispensation in order to play or keep playing in the Lower Divisions.

In addition to the provisions of Article 14 (Eligibility to play - General), the following rules apply for Players who also play/have played in THE Divisions to be allowed to play in the Lower Divisions:

1. Dispensation must be applied for for a Player who is on a Squad list of his Club in order to play in the Lower Divisions in the same Competition (but see paragraph 2).

[EXPLANATION:

If a Player is on the Squad list for the One-Day Competition and not on that for the T20 Competition then he does not need dispensation to play in the T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions. 'One-day' and 'T20' can also be reversed in the previous sentence, then the same applies.]

2. A Player who has regularly played for a Team or Teams in any kind of Competition in the Lower Divisions and/or in the Recreational Divisions does not have to comply with the provisions of paragraph 1, so he does not require dispensation, but see also paragraph 4.
3. For the purposes of this article, 'having regularly played for a Team or Teams in any kind of Competition in the Lower Divisions and/or in the Recreational Divisions' means a Player who:
 - a. has played in three of the four preceding Seasons in any men's Competition, having competed in at least one of those three Seasons in at least 7 Matches in total in one or more Teams in the men's Competitions including those in the Recreational Divisions, or

[EXPLANATION:

The choice of 7 Matches was made because that is usually 50% or more of a One-Day Competition in the men's Lower Divisions.]

or

- b. has been listed as a playing member of the Club in the KNCB membership records for at least 10 years,

or

- c. was born on or after 1 September 2007, provided he has not already played in one or more Teams together too often in the current Season (see Article 22 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions*)) or Article 23 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions or in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions*) respectively, or in another Team in the same Division.



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4. As long as a Player who regularly plays in the Lower Divisions (see paragraph 3) does not play too often (see Article 22 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions*)) or Article 23 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions or in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions*) respectively, in one or more Teams in the THE Divisions, he may also continue to play in the Lower Divisions.. However, the provisions of Article 24 (*Saturday/Sunday ban*) may apply.
5. In addition to the provisions of paragraph 4, the Player from a Team in the Lower Divisions who replaces a Player in a THE Division who has been called up for a KNCB Team may return to his own lower Team, regardless of the number of Matches he has played in that Team in a Competition in a THE Division as a replacement. This is subject to the condition that he has not continued to play in another Team in the THE Divisions in the same Competition when the Player he replaced is available again - for an explanation of the latter, see Chapter I, paragraph 2 of Article 18 (*Eligibility to play in the THE Divisions of the men's T20 and One-Day Competitions: other rules*).
6. In special cases, the Board may deviate from the provisions of this article at its discretion.
7. If the Club believes that there is a special circumstance other than those mentioned in paragraph 3 or paragraph 5 for a Player to be allowed to play in the Lower Divisions, it may submit a dispensation application to the Board, stating reasons.

[EXPLANATION:

This should be done if a player who has played in THE Divisions in two or more of the years 2022 up to and including 2026 wants to play for a Team in the Lower Divisions in the 2026 Season.]

[POLICY:

With regard to dispensations, the Board's policy is that a Player who does not comply with the provisions of this article and has not obtained dispensation and does play is considered an ineligible Player. For the consequences of this, see Article 29 (Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility).]

[EXAMPLE:

It might happen that a 'super' South African on a tourist visa arrived in the Netherlands on 15 April to play the full competition schedule in the THE Divisions of the men's T20 Competition. His Club then wants him to make up the numbers in one or more Teams in the One-Day Competition in the Lower Divisions. This is not allowed under paragraph 1 of this article; this also applies to other Players playing regularly in T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions.]

Article 21 - Eligibility to play in the Recreational Divisions of the men's One-Day Competitions

1. Anyone who meets the requirements of Article 14 (*Eligibility to play - General*) may play in the Recreational Divisions of the men's One-Day Competitions.
2. If a Player starts playing in a men's One-Day Recreational Division during the course of the Season, Article 22 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions*) does not apply. Article 24 (*Saturday/Sunday ban*) also does not apply. No dispensation is therefore required for such a Player.
3. However, there are guidelines (recommendations) for playing as a replacement in a Team in a Recreational Division.
What is set out below under the header 'Policy' therefore does not apply to regular Players of a Team in a Recreational Division, even if they also played at the same time in the THE Divisions of the men's One-Day and/or T20 Competitions.



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[POLICY:

If a Player also plays in the THE Divisions of the men's One-Day and/or T20 Competitions, he should not have such a dominant impact on the course of a Match in the Recreational Divisions that it could affect the pleasure in the game of other Players (of the opposition in particular).

The Board considers this not to be within the Spirit of Cricket.

Therefore, the Board issues the following guidelines (recommendations):

- *this Player should not bat higher than at 7 and/or retire at 50 runs;*
- *this Player should not bowl more than four overs and/or be taken off at the end of the over in which he takes his third wicket (whichever comes first).*

Note: These are recommendations. Captains in the men's Recreational Divisions are asked to discuss this before the Match and possibly make other arrangements.]

DISPENSATION

Introduction

Articles 22, 23, and 24 set out the rules that apply when, during the Season, a Player wishes to play (also) for another Team of his Club in the same Competition; in particular, they indicate in which situations a Player requires dispensation. A distinction is made between the One-Day (Article 23) and T20 Competitions (Article 22).

The content of Articles 22 and 23 is very similar, but it has been decided to include text that applies to both Competitions separately in each article.

In Article 24 (*Saturday/Sunday ban*), the rules for both Competitions are set out in the same article but in different sections.

Article 22 - Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and in the Lower Divisions

INTRODUCTION:

This article sets out the conditions a Player must fulfil **after playing in any Team in the same Season** in order to be able to play in a lower Team without dispensation. Note: Article 20 (*Eligibility to play in the Lower Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions*) may also apply, specifically the section concerning the One-Day Competition.

In the specific case where a Club has two or more Teams in a Division, different conditions apply if a Player wishes to play in another Team within the same Division, regardless of whether that Team has a higher or lower ranking number.

This article does not cover playing in the One-Day Competitions in the Recreational Division after a Player has already played in any Team in the One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and/or in the One-Day Competitions in the Lower Divisions - see Article 21 (*Eligibility to play in the Recreational Divisions of the men's One-Day Competitions*) for that.

For eligibility for the decision match for promotion to the Topklasse between the nrs. 1 of both Pools of the Hoofdklasse, additional rules apply – see Chapter II of Article 18 (*Eligibility in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the THE Classes: other rules*).



COMPETITION RULES 2026

[POLICY:

The Board considers the One-Day Competition as separate from the T20 Competition. This means that a Player will require dispensation if he has played too many Matches in the One-Day Competition in any Division or multiple Divisions combined to be eligible to play in a Team with a lower ranking number in the One-Day Competition, but he does not require dispensation to play in the T20 Competition for a Team in a lower Division.

To prevent both 'player management' and disruption of level playing fields (thus affecting playing enjoyment), the Board's principle is that a Player who has played 50% or more of the total number of Matches allocated to a Team in a One-Day Competition before the Season, in one or more Teams combined, may not play in a Team with a (further) lower ranking number in a One-Day Competition in the THE Divisions or the Lower Divisions without dispensation.

However, this 50% rule does not apply when a Club has more than one Team in the same Division. A Club could otherwise distribute a strong Player across Teams in the same Division in a way that maximises the benefit of that Player for multiple Teams. The Board does not consider this desirable as it encourages competition distortion. Therefore, additional restrictions apply, which are elaborated upon later in this article.]

[EXPLANATION:

Paragraph 1 of Article 20 (Eligibility to play in the Lower Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions) states: "For a Player who is listed on a Squad List of a Club, dispensation must be requested to play in the Lower Divisions in the same Competition, but see Paragraph 2 [of that article". Paragraph then lists the exceptions. These exceptions ensure that the 50% rule stated above is not in contradiction with this.]

- 1. Subject to prior dispensation, a Player may, having played in the men's One-Day Competitions in one or in several Teams added together for a total of 50% or more of the number of fixtures scheduled for that Team or those Teams prior to the Season start, not play in any other Team playing in the One-Day Competition in an (even) lower Division than the lowest Division in which he played earlier in that Season.*
- 2. Should a Player (also) have played in one or more Teams in the Lower Divisions and not all the Teams in which he has played had the same number of fixtures scheduled prior to the Season start, then for the determination of the number of Matches in paragraph 1, the Division in which the number of fixed scheduled prior to the Season start is the lowest applies.*

[EXAMPLES:

- If eight Teams are allocated to a Division or Pool, each Team plays 14 Matches - '50% or more' of which is seven.*
- If seven Teams are allocated to a Division or Pool, each Team plays 12 Matches - '50% or more' of which is six.*
- A Player has played 2 Matches in the Tweede Klasse and 4 in the Derde Klasse. He may then (almost always, but see Paragraph 2) play in the Vierde Klasse without dispensation. NB: In this example, no two Teams from the Club compete in the same Division.*
- A Player has played 6 Matches in the Derde Klasse and 1 in the Eerste Klasse. He now wants to play in the Vierde Klasse. This is not permitted, as $6 + 1 = 7$, which is 50% of the (usually – see also Paragraph 2) 14 Matches in each Division. Note: in this example, no two Teams from the Club compete in the same Division.]*



COMPETITION RULES 2026

3. To determine the number of Matches played by a Player, only Matches where the toss has taken place shall count.

[EXPLANATION:

If there has been no toss, Players have not been entered in the Competition software. For that reason, such a Match is disregarded.

A Match in which a Player has only fielded as a substitute does not count.]

4. If a Club has two or more Teams competing in the same Division, the "50% or more" rule in Paragraph 1 does not apply. Instead, a Player will require dispensation if he has played:
- 4 or more Matches in a single Team, if the Club has 2 Teams in the same Division,
 - 3 or more Matches in a single Team, if the Club has 3 or more Teams in the same Division,
- to subsequently play in another Team in the same Division.

This rule applies to both the THE Divisions (however, in 2026 there are no two Teams within a single Division) and the Lower Divisions.

[EXAMPLES:

- *When a Player in the Derde Klasse where eight Teams are allocated to each Pool, after three or fewer Matches in the same Team, wishes to play in another Team of the same Club in this Division, dispensation is not required.*

But:

- *After four or more Matches in the same Team, dispensation must be obtained. Experience shows that the Dispensation Committee will advise negatively on such an application.*
- *When a Player in the Vierde Klasse where in some Pools nine Teams are allocated, after six or more Matches for two different Teams in this Division in total (i.e. three Matches or more for each of the two Teams) wants to play in a third Team of this Club in the same Division, experience shows that the Dispensation Committee will advise negatively on such an application.*
- *Club X has three Teams in different Pools in the Derde Klasse. As the Competition progresses, it becomes clear that one of these Teams may be promoted and another Team may be relegated. The Club now decides to strengthen both Teams in important Matches to help achieve promotion and/or avoid relegation. This is not allowed without dispensation. Article 22 is in force. A dispensation application must be state very good reasons, as such an application will (usually) be denied.*
- *If a Player, after 3 Matches in the 3rd Team in the Eerste Klasse plus 5 Matches in the 1st Team in the Topklasse, wishes to start playing in the 2nd Team in the Hoofdklasse, this shall be permitted]*

5. If a Club is of the opinion that there is a special circumstance why a Player who does not meet the conditions set out in this article should be allowed to play, it may apply for dispensation for that Player, stating reasons. See Article 28 (*Dispensation procedure*).

Note: Dispensation may only be applied for for playing in one Team, not for multiple Teams (in any Pool or Division).

6. The provisions of Article 24 (*Saturday/Sunday ban*) may also apply. When applying for dispensation, the Club itself must take this into account.

[POLICY:

With regard to dispensations, the Board implements the policy that a Player who does not comply with the provisions of this article and has not obtained a dispensation and does play is considered an ineligible Player. Article 29 (Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility) sets out the consequences.]



[EXPLANATION:

The Board considers the T20 Competition as separate from the One-Day Competition. This means that a Player who, because he has already played too many Matches in the One-Day Competition to be allowed to play for a lower Team in the One-Day Competition without dispensation, may however play for a lower Team in the T20 Competition without dispensation provided he meets the conditions set out in Article 23. In the second sentence, the order of One-Day and T20 can also be reversed each time: the same applies by analogy.]

Article 23 - Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions or in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions

Summary and Introduction

- This Article sets out the conditions that a Player, **having played in any Team in a T20 Competition**, must satisfy in order to be permitted, without dispensation, to play in a lower Team (i.e. a Team with a lower ranking number) in a T20 Competition **in the same Season**.

[POLICY:

To prevent both 'player management' and disruption of level playing fields and therefore enjoyment of the game, the Board's principle is that a Player who has played 50% or more of the total number of Matches pre-determined before the Season for one or more Teams together in a T20 Competition may not, in the same Season and without dispensation, play in a Team with a (further) lower ranking number in a T20 Competition.

This "50% or more" rule in the THE Divisions is adjusted if a Player from a T20 Competition in the THE Division wishes to play in the T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions. In the T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions, more Matches are played than in the same Competition in the Lower Divisions.]

- In the special case where a Club has two or more Teams in the same Division, different conditions shall apply if a Player wishes to play for another Team competing in that same Divisions - regardless of whether it is a Team with a higher or lower ranking number.

[POLICY:

If a Club has more than one Team in the same Division, 'player management' could occur: strategically distributing a strong Player across Teams to maximise the advantage for 2 (or more) Teams. The Board considers this undesirable as it leads to competition distortion. Therefore, additional bans apply beyond the '50% or more' rule mentioned above.]

- NB: The other Articles relating to eligibility shall always apply, in particular Article 20 and Article 24. In addition, for the decision match between the nrs. 1 of both Pools of the Hoofdklasse for promotion to the Topklasse, the rules set out in Article 18 shall apply.

This article consists of two chapters:

- Chapter I sets out the requirements for a Player who has (also) played in the T20 Competition in the THE Divisions and wishes to play in another, lower Team in a T20 Competition;
- Chapter II sets out the requirements for a Player who has played only in the Lower Divisions-T20 and wishes to play in a lower Team.

[POLICY:

The Board considers the T20 Competition separate from the One-Day Competition. This means that a Player requires dispensation if he has played too many Matches in the T20 Competition in any Division or in multiple Divisions combined to be allowed to play for a Team with a lower ranking number in a T20 Competition, but does not require dispensation to play in the One-Day Competition for a Team in a lower Division.]



COMPETITION RULES 2026

I. Dispensation for a Player after playing in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions to play in another Team in the THE Divisions or in the Lower Divisions

1. Subject to prior dispensation, a Player who has played 50% or more of the Matches (in 2026, this means 7 Matches) in a men's T20 Competition in the THE Divisions for one Team may not play in a Team with a lower ranking number in a T20 Competition in the THE Divisions. See also paragraph 3.
2. To determine the number of Matches a Player has played, only Matches where the toss has taken place count.

[EXPLANATION:

If no toss has occurred, no Players are recorded in the Competition software; therefore, such a Match does not count.

A Match in which a Player has only fielded as a substitute does not count.]

3. If a Club has two or more Teams playing in one (1) THE Division, the threshold of 7 Matches in paragraph 1 does not apply; instead, a Player requires dispensation after playing 3 Matches in one of those Teams to continue playing in another Team in the same THE Division. This situation will not occur in 2026.

[POLICY:

The same restriction applies to the THE Divisions as to the Lower Divisions. For the THE Divisions, these restrictions constitute a stricter criterion (as there are more Matches in those Divisions than in the Lower Divisions), but the Board considers this appropriate given that it concerns higher-level cricket.]

4. In addition to paragraph 3, if a Club has two or more Teams in one (1) THE Division, those Teams are considered equal in ranking number when determining whether a Player may play in one of those Teams. This situation will not occur in 2026.

[EXAMPLES:

- *7 or more Matches in Topklasse-T20, then playing in Eerste Klasse-T20 is not allowed (without dispensation);*
 - *6 Matches in Topklasse-T20, then 1 Match in Eerste Klasse-T20, then returning to Topklasse - 20 is allowed. However, playing again in Eerste Klasse-T20 afterwards is not allowed (without dispensation);*
 - *1 Match in Topklasse-T20 and 1 Match in a Team in the Eerste Klasse-T20: the Player may play in another Team in the Eerste Klasse-T20 without dispensation.*
 - *5 Matches in 1st Team (e.g. Topklasse) plus 1 Match in 2nd Team (e.g. Eerste Klasse): less than 50% of Matches, so the Player may also play in the 3rd Team in Eerste Klasse.]*
5. Unless prior dispensation has been granted, a Player who has played 2 Matches in one or more Teams in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions (where only Matches in which the toss has taken place are counted) may not play in a Team competing in the T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions.

[EXPLANATION:

This is done because the number of Matches in the T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions is much smaller and because the T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions is already at an advanced stage by the time the competition in the THE Divisions begins.

In the Lower Divisions, during the First stage (i.e. 6 or 5 Teams in a Pool and a Single round-robin Competition), 5 or 4 Matches are played. '50% or more' therefore amounts to 2 Matches. The Board applies this requirement equally to a Player who has played in the T20 in the THE Divisions and, in the same Season, wishes to play in a Team in the T20 Lower Divisions.]



COMPETITION RULES 2026

[EXAMPLE:

After playing 1 Match in the Topklasse-T20 and 2 Matches in the Eerste Klasse-T20 a Player may play in the T20 Lower Divisions without requiring dispensation.]

[EXPLANATION:

Paragraph 1 of Article 20 [Eligibility in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the Lower Divisions] states: "For a Player included on a Club's Squad list, dispensation must be requested in order to play in the Lower Divisions within the same Competition, but see paragraph 2 [of that Article]." That paragraph 2 sets out the exceptions. As long as a Player falling under those exceptions has not played too many Matches in the T20 Competition in the THE Divisions, he does not require dispensation to play (again) in the T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions.

Dispensation may only be requested for playing in 1 Team, not for multiple Teams (regardless of the Pool or Division).]

6. An exception to paragraphs 1, 3, and 4 applies to a Player from a Team with a lower ranking in the THE Divisions or the Lower Divisions who has replaced a Player in a higher-ranking Team in a THE Division who has been selected for a KNCB selection. When determining the number of Matches that such a replacement Player has played in the higher Team, the Matches played as a replacement do not count. However, a Match played in the higher Team once the replaced Player is available again does count - see Chapter I of Article 18 (*Eligibility to play in the THE Divisions of the men's T20 and One-Day Competitions: other rules*), particularly paragraph 2 of that article, for clarification.
7. If a Club believes that there are exceptional circumstances warranting that a Player who does not meet the conditions set out in this chapter should nonetheless be allowed to play, it may submit a reasoned request for dispensation for that Player. See Article 28 (*Dispensation procedure*).
8. Article 24 (*Saturday/Sunday ban*) may also apply. The Club itself must take this into account when applying for dispensation.
9. In exceptional cases, the Board may, at its discretion, deviate from the provisions set out in this chapter.

[POLICY:

*Regarding dispensations, the Board applies the policy that a Player who does not meet the provisions of this article and has not been granted dispensation but still plays will be regarded as an ineligible Player. See Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*) for the consequences.]*



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II. Dispensation for a Player after playing in the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions to play in another Team in the Lower Divisions

1. Unless prior dispensation has been granted, a Player who has played 2 or more Matches in a single Team during the First Stage of the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions may not play in any other Team competing in the T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions.

[EXPLANATION:

If a Player has also played in the THE in the T20 Competition, Chapter I of this Article shall apply.

If such a Player has been granted dispensation to play in the Lower Divisions in the T20 Competition, that dispensation shall apply to one Team only, and he shall not also be allowed to play for another Team in the Lower Divisions in the T20 Competition.]

2. When determining the number of Matches played by a Player, only Matches in which the toss has taken place are counted.

[EXPLANATION:

If no toss has taken place, no Players have been entered into the Competition software, and therefore, such a Match does not count.

A Match in which a Player has only fielded as a substitute does not count.

Most Pools in this Competition consist of 6 Teams, and the First Stage is played as a Single Round Robin Competition, with each Team playing 5 Matches. The Board has chosen not to apply a '50% or more Matches' rule but instead to impose a stricter limit. Dispensation is required after playing 2 Matches in the same Team.

The wording in paragraph 1 states 'in any other Team', meaning that it does not matter whether the ranking of the other Team is higher or lower.

Note: Dispensation may only be requested for playing in 1 Team, not for multiple Teams (in any Division).]

3. An exception to paragraph 1 applies to a Player from a lower-ranking Team who has replaced a Player in a higher-ranking Team who has been selected for a KNCB selection. When determining the number of Matches that such a replacement Player has played in the higher Team, the Matches played as a replacement do not count. However, a Match played in the higher Team once the replaced Player is available again does count—see Chapter I of Article 18 (*Eligibility to play in the THE Divisions of the men's T20 and One-Day Competitions: other rules*), particularly paragraph 2 of that article, for clarification.
4. If a Club believes that there are exceptional circumstances warranting that a Player who does not meet the conditions set out in this chapter should nonetheless be allowed to play, it may submit a reasoned request for dispensation for that Player. See Article 28 (*Dispensation procedure*).
5. Article 24 (*Saturday/Sunday ban*) may also apply. The Club itself must take this into account when applying for dispensation.
6. In exceptional cases, the Board may, at its discretion, deviate from the provisions set out in this chapter.



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[POLICY:

Regarding dispensations, the Board applies the policy that a Player who does not meet the provisions of this article and has not been granted dispensation but still plays will be regarded as an ineligible Player. See Article 29 (Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility) for the consequences.]

Article 24 - Saturday/Sunday ban

Summary:

This Article consists of:

- an introduction;
- a section (Chapter I) for Players in the THE Divisions in the One-Day and T20 Competitions: the same rules regarding the Saturday/Sunday ban apply to both Competitions;
- a section (Chapter II) for Players in the Lower Divisions in the One-Day Competitions;
- a section (Chapter III) for Players in the Lower Divisions in the T20 Competition.

In each section, examples have been included to clarify the rules.

INTRODUCTION:

Article 22 (Dispensation for playing in a Team with a lower ranking number in the men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions) and Article 23 (Dispensation for playing in another Team in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions respectively in a Team with a lower ranking number in the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions) describe when a Player requires dispensation to play for a Team in a lower Division. Since the introduction of playing on Saturdays in the men's Competitions in the THE Divisions, it has become more frequent that a Player may play in the same weekend in both a Team in a THE Division and a Team with a lower ranking number in the THE Divisions or the Lower Divisions. If this occurs in the same Competition, the Board considers it undesirable, as it contradicts the Board's objective of maintaining, as much as possible, a level playing field for all Teams and Competitions. Therefore, a Saturday/Sunday ban exists.

The title of this article is "Saturday/Sunday Ban," but it applies to any period of 7 consecutive days following the Match Day of a Team in any Division (a match in a Recreational Division may always be played within such a 7-day period). This also covers playing on King's Day, 5 May, Ascension Day, and Whit Monday, as well as T20 matches in the Lower Divisions or THE Divisions on weekday evenings.

[EXAMPLES:

A couple of examples beforehand:

A Player plays on Saturday in the 2nd Team and on Sunday of that weekend in the 1st Team in the same Competition (so One-Day or T20). Then, he may not play in the 2nd Team the following week, neither on that Saturday nor on that Sunday, unless he meets an exception as further elaborated in this article or dispensation has been granted.

A Player plays on Saturday in the 1st Team and wishes to play in the 2nd Team on Sunday in the same Competition (so One-Day or T20): this is not allowed. He may also not play in the 2nd Team the following Saturday, unless he meets an exception or dispensation has been granted.]

Chapters I and II contain several exceptions, which constitute the main substance of this article. Dispensation may also be applied for; this article likewise addresses that matter.



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I. Saturday/Sunday Ban for Players in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions

1. The provisions in Article 18 (*Eligibility to play in the THE Divisions of the men's T20 and One-Day Competitions: other rules*) Article 20 (*Eligibility to play in the Lower Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions*), Article 22 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions*) and Article 23 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions or in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions*) in the men's T20 Competition Lower Divisions) remain fully applicable. Additionally, the following applies.
2. Throughout the entire Season, a Player who has played in any Team in the men's One-Day and/or T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions is not allowed, unless prior dispensation has been obtained, to play on one of the 7 calendar days following the Match Day in the same Competition for a Team in a lower Division (which can be a THE Division or a Lower Division), except for the Recreational Divisions, unless the respective Player falls under one of the exceptions listed in paragraph 4. However, see also paragraph 3.
3. Throughout the entire Season, a Player who has played in a Team in the men's One-Day and/or T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions in a Division where another Team of his Club also competes is not allowed, unless prior dispensation has been obtained, to play on one of the 7 calendar days following the Match Day in the same Competition for the other Team of his Club in that Division, unless the respective Player falls under one of the exceptions listed in paragraph 4.

[EXPLANATION:

Because preventing competition distortion is the primary reason for this rule, dispensation will almost never be granted in such cases. Incidentally, the situation described in this paragraph does not occur in 2026.]

4. A Player who meets one of the following conditions is not subject to the ban mentioned in paragraph 2 or paragraph 3:
 - a. if he was born on or after 1 September 2007 and also played regularly (i.e. at least 7 Matches in total in one or more Teams in one or more Competitions) in the previous Season, and also did not play more than half of all Matches he played that Season in one or more Teams with a higher ranking number than the Team he now wishes to play in.

[EXPLANATION:

This wording has been chosen to enable younger Players to play more Matches while preventing 'imported' Players who meet the age criterion from impacting the level playing field in lower Divisions.

The choice of 7 Matches was made because this usually represents 50% or more of a One-Day Competition in the men's Lower Divisions.]

or



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- b. if he is a regular Player of the lower Team in the same Competition in which he wishes to play, meaning that for the application of this provision, the respective Player must have played three-quarters ($\frac{3}{4}$) or more of the total Matches he has played in the current and previous Season in one or more Teams in Divisions lower than the one he has now played in, which the respective Club must demonstrate at the first request of the Board. Matches in the Recreational Divisions also count as having been played in a lower Division. If a Player was, in the previous Season, a Player of a Team that was then promoted to the Division in which the Player has now appeared, then the Matches he played in that Team in the previous Season shall not be counted for the purpose of determining the number of Matches in a lower Team. This also applies where, in the previous Season, he played for another Club in the Team that was promoted; those Matches shall likewise not be counted.

[EXPLANATION:

A Player played regularly in the previous Season, i.e. more than half of his Matches, in a Team competing in the men's THE Divisions. This Season he intends to play in a Team competing in the men's Lower Divisions, but on a Saturday before he has played a single (1) Match in a Team in the men's Lower Divisions, he plays (as a substitute) in a Team in a men's THE Division. In that case, without dispensation, he may not play for the lower Team on any of the seven calendar days following the Match day.]

[EXAMPLES:

- A Player plays on Saturday in the Hoofdklasse. He may not play on Sunday or the following Saturday in the same Competition in the Eerste Klasse or the Lower Divisions (without dispensation).*
 - A Player plays on Sunday in the 2nd Team in the Eerste Klasse, he may not play on the following Saturday or Sunday in the 3rd Team in the Eerste Klasse (without dispensation). He may also not play in the Lower Divisions (without dispensation).*
 - A Player plays on Sunday in the 3rd Team in the Eerste Klasse, he may not play on the following Saturday or Sunday in the 2nd Team in the Eerste Klasse (without dispensation). He may also not play in the Lower Divisions (without dispensation).*
 - A Player plays on Saturday in the Hoofdklasse. He may play on Sunday and the following Saturday in the same Competition in the Topklasse.*
 - A Player plays on Saturday in a Team in the THE Divisions in the T20 Competition. He may then on Sunday play in a Team in the Lower Divisions in the One-Day Competition - unless he has already played too many Matches in the One-Day Competition in the THE Divisions.]*
5. If a Club believes that there are exceptional circumstances that justify a Player who does not meet the conditions in paragraph 4(a) or (b) being allowed to play, it may apply for dispensation for that Player with reasoning. See Article 28 (*Dispensation procedure*).
6. The Board may, at its discretion, deviate from the provisions of this article in exceptional cases.

[POLICY:

*Regarding dispensations, the Board follows the policy that a Player who does not meet the provisions of this article and has not obtained dispensation but still plays is considered an ineligible Player. See Article 29 (*Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility*) for the consequences.]*



II. Saturday/Sunday Ban for Players in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the Lower Divisions

1. The provisions of Article 20 (*Eligibility to play in the Lower Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions*) and Article 22 (*Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions*) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions) remain fully applicable. In addition, the following applies.
2. If in a Division or Pool in the Men's One-Day Competition in the Lower Divisions a Team predominantly plays on a Saturday - predominantly meaning: at least 50% of that Team's Matches are scheduled on a Saturday before the start of the Season - then, unless prior dispensation has been obtained, throughout the entire Season a Player who has played for such a Team may not play for any other Team in the Men's One-Day Competition in the Lower Divisions on one of the 7 calendar days following the Match Day, unless the respective Player falls under one of the exceptions listed in paragraph 4. But see also paragraph 3.

[EXPLANATION:

Paragraph 2 concerns a ban on playing in the Lower Divisions - the ban does not apply to the Recreational Divisions, where a Player may play on one of the 7 calendar days following the Match Day, without dispensation.]

3. Throughout the entire Season, a Player who has played in a Team in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the Lower Divisions in a Division where one or more other Teams of his Club also play is not allowed, unless prior dispensation has been obtained, to play on one of the 7 calendar days following the Match Day, in the same Competition for another Team of his Club in that same Division, unless the respective Player falls under one of the exceptions listed in paragraph 4.

Note-1 Article 22 (Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions) may also be applicable.

Note-2 For the application of this paragraph 3, it does not matter whether one of these Teams predominantly plays on a Saturday.

[EXPLANATION:

Since preventing competition distortion is the main reason for this rule, dispensation will almost never be granted in such cases.]

4. A Player who meets one of the following conditions is not subject to the ban as mentioned in paragraph 2 and paragraph 3:
 - a. was born on or after 1 September 2007 and also regularly played in the previous Season (meaning at least 7 Matches in total in one or more Teams in one or more Competitions), and also did not play more than half of all Matches he played that Season in one or more Teams with a higher ranking number than the Team he now wants to play in,

[EXPLANATION:

This formulation is chosen to enable younger Players to play more Matches while preventing 'brought-in' Players who meet the age criterion from affecting the level playing field in even lower Divisions. The choice of 7 Matches is made because this usually constitutes 50% or more of a One-Day Competition in the Men's Lower Divisions.]

or



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- b. is a regular Player of the lower Team in the Competition he wishes to play in, which for the purposes of this provision is the case if the respective Player has played three-quarters ($\frac{3}{4}$) or more of the total Matches he has played in one or more Teams during the current and previous Season in Divisions lower than the one he has now played in, which the respective Club must prove upon first request of the Board.

If a Player was, in the previous Season, a Player of a Team that was then promoted to the Division in which the Player has now appeared, the Matches he played in that Team in the previous Season shall not be counted for the purpose of determining the number of Matches played in a lower Team. This also applies where, in the previous Season, he played for another Club in the Team that was promoted; in such cases, those Matches shall likewise not be counted.

[EXPLANATION:

A Player played regularly in the previous Season, i.e. more than half of his Matches, in a Team competing in the men's One-Day Competitions in the Lower Divisions. This Season he intends to play in a lower Team (meaning a Team competing in an even lower Division). However, on a Saturday before he has played a single (1) Match for that lower Team, he plays (as a substitute) in a higher Team in the Lower Divisions. In that case, without dispensation, he may not play for the lower Team on any of the seven calendar days following the Match day.

For a Player who did not play in a Dutch Competition in the previous Season and has now played a Match in the higher Team in the Lower Divisions, dispensation must be requested if he wishes to play in a lower Team in the Lower Divisions - he does not meet the requirements of paragraph 4 under b.]

[EXAMPLES:

- A Player plays on Saturday in the One-Day Competition in the Tweede Klasse. He may not play in that Competition in the Third or Vierde Klasse on Sunday and the following Saturday (without dispensation or unless he meets the conditions in paragraph 4).*
- A Player plays on Sunday in the 2nd Team in the Derde Klasse. He may not play in the 3rd Team in the Derde Klasse or the Vierde Klasse on the following Saturday and Sunday (without dispensation). He may possibly not play in the Vierde Klasse without dispensation because he may have already played too many Matches in the Derde Klasse and higher (see Article 22 (Dispensation for playing in another Team (usually with a lower ranking number) in the Men's One-Day Competitions in the THE Divisions and the Lower Divisions)).*
- A Player plays on Sunday in the 4th Team in the Vierde Klasse. He may then play in the 3rd Team in the Vierde Klasse on the following Saturday and Sunday.*
- A Player plays on Saturday in the Derde Klasse. He may then play in the Tweede Klasse on Sunday and the following Saturday.]*

5. If a Club believes that there is a special circumstance whereby a Player who does not meet the conditions set out in paragraph 4 under a or b should still be allowed to play, it may submit a motivated dispensation request for that Player. See Article 28 (*Dispensation procedure*).

6. The Board may, in special cases at its discretion, deviate from the provisions of this article.

[POLICY:

With regard to dispensations, the Board applies the policy that a Player who does not comply with the provisions of this article and has not obtained dispensation but still plays, is considered a non-eligible Player. See Article 29 (Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility) for the consequences thereof.]

III. Saturday/Sunday ban for Players in the men's T20 Competition in the Lower Divisions



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1. A Player may not, without prior dispensation, play in two different T20 Teams on one of the 7 calendar days following the Match Day.
2. If a Club believes that there is a special circumstance that justifies allowing a Player who does not meet the condition set in paragraph 1 to play, the Club may submit a reasoned request for dispensation for that Player. See Article 28 (*Dispensation procedure*) for this.
3. The Board may, in exceptional cases and at its own discretion, deviate from what is stipulated in this article.

[POLICY:

With regard to dispensations, the Board applies the policy that a Player who does not comply with the provisions of this article and has not obtained dispensation but still plays, is considered a non-eligible Player. See Article 29 (Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility) for the consequences thereof.]

Article 25 - Participation in foreign competitions and tournaments by Players in the men's and women's Competitions

This Article applies to both Competitions (One-Day and T20) and to all Divisions, for both men and women.

[POLICY:

The Board seeks to prevent a Club from “flying in” Players to the Netherlands in order to obtain an unfair advantage during the ongoing Season. At the same time, Players who are given the opportunity to play Matches during the Season in a foreign competition that may be considered of a higher standard (for example, the English professional competition) should be able to take that opportunity without losing their eligibility to play for their Club. Such opportunities enrich Dutch cricket. The Board, advised in this by the Dispensations Committee, will decide on a case-by-case basis whether permission can be granted and, if necessary, under what conditions such permission will be granted.]

[EXPLANATION:

It has been decided to include all men's and women's One-Day - and T20 Divisions in this restrictive measure, in order to prevent any Team in any Division from gaining an unfair advantage if such practices were otherwise freely permitted in that Division.]

1. Without prejudice to the provisions elsewhere in these Rules, a Player who has played for a foreign Club in a foreign league match or tournament during the Season, as described in Article 2, may not/no longer participate in Matches in the men's One-Day and/or T20 Competitions in the same Season without prior dispensation from the Board.
2. Supplementary to paragraph 1 and for the sake of clarification, if a Player has played for a foreign Club in a foreign competition or tournament prior to his Team's first Match but after the start of the Season as described in Article 2, dispensation must be applied for.

[EXPLANATION:

The Board advises the Player's Club to apply for dispensation before his participation in a foreign competition or tournament match - of course only if the Player intends (to return) to play in the Dutch Competition afterwards.

Dispensation of course need not be applied for if the last foreign match in which a Player participated took place before the Season starts (Article 2). Dispensation is equally not required if the first foreign match is played after the Player has played his last Match of the Season in the Dutch Competition.]



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3. Such dispensation shall only be granted after a written (by email) request submitted by the interested Club to the Competition Manager (see Article 28 (*Dispensation procedure*)).
4. If dispensation is granted, Article 18 (*Eligibility to play in the THE Divisions of the men's T20 and One-Day Competitions: other rules*) applies in full.
5. In special cases the Board may at its discretion deviate from the provisions of this article.

[*EXPLANATION: It has been decided to apply this restrictive measure to all men's One-Day and T20 Divisions because it prevents the possibility that an unreasonable advantage could be gained by a Team in any Division if in that Division it were to be allowed outright.]*

[*POLICY:*

- *The Board wishes to prevent Clubs from 'flying in' foreign Players to gain an unreasonable advantage in the current Season. On the other hand, Players who are offered an opportunity to play Matches during the Season in a foreign competition that can be qualified as being of a higher level (e.g. the English professional league) should be able to seize that opportunity without losing eligibility to play for their Club in the Netherlands. Such opportunities enrich Dutch cricket. The Board shall decide on an individual basis, on the recommendation of the Dispensation Committee, whether permission can be granted and, if necessary, under what conditions such permission shall be granted.*
- *With regard to dispensations, the Board applies the policy that a Player who has not obtained a dispensation to play in the Competition and does play shall be considered an ineligible Player (see also Article 29 (Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility)).]*

[*EXAMPLES:*

*A player playing for Dutch Club X plays for a European national team in the ECN T10 competition in 2026 **during** the (Dutch) Season. Under this article, applying for and being granted **dispensation** prior to the 2026 Season for his (Dutch) Club X is **not required**.*

*A player playing for a Dutch Club X in 2026 plays **prior to** the (Dutch) Season for a non-Dutch Club Y in the ECL T10 or other foreign club competition or foreign tournament. Under this article, he may play in the (Dutch) Competition for his Club X without dispensation being applied for and granted prior to the 2026 Season. **Dispensation is therefore not required**.*

*A Player playing for Club X in 2026 plays **during** the (Dutch) Season for a non-Dutch Club Y in the ECS T10 club competition or other foreign club competition or foreign tournament. Under this article, he may **NOT** play for his Club X in the (Dutch) Competition without dispensation being applied for and granted prior to the (Dutch) Season 2026. **Without dispensation, he is ineligible to play.**]*



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Article 26 - Designated Player in the THE Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions

A Club may request dispensation from the Board to allow a maximum of one of its members to participate in Matches of its first Team as a Designated Player.

Dispensation for this must be applied for in writing (by email to the Competition Manager) at the time of submitting the Squad lists for the One-Day Competitions (no later than 1 April).

1. The Board shall grant this dispensation only if the three following conditions are met:
 - a. to prove his suitability as Designated Player, the member in question must hold an ICC coaching diploma of at least Level 2 or an equivalent diploma, at the discretion of the Board.

*[POLICY:
An exception to this deadline is made if it can be shown that the inability to deliver one or more pieces is not due to the Club or the Player concerned. The Club must then periodically (in principle every week) let the Competition Manager know what the situation is and what the Club has done and is doing about it.]*
 - b. The Club shall produce a valid work permit issued to it for the work to be performed by the Designated Player, if such permit is required to employ the Designated Player in the Netherlands;
 - c. the Player in question must have been recruited as a Designated Player for the duration of the Season (so for both Competitions) and start work no later than the first Match Day of the Season.
2.
 - a. The request for dispensation must be in the possession of the Board no later than 1 April prior to the Season and must be accompanied by documentary evidence showing that the conditions mentioned in paragraph 1 have been met.
 - b. If, due to circumstances beyond its control, the Club was unable to submit the dispensation application before 1 April prior to the Season, the Board shall also consider a dispensation application submitted after 1 April, at the discretion of the Board.
3. Pending the decision on dispensation, a Club may not allow the Player in question to participate in Competition Matches. He shall then be considered an ineligible Player. See Article 29 for the consequences of playing an ineligible Player.
4. Dispensation granted may be revoked by the Board at any time if it is found that the conditions set have not been met.
5. Dispensation and revocation of dispensation granted as referred to in this article shall be notified to the relevant Club and published on the KNCB website.



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6.
 - a. A Club shall be permitted to replace the Designated Player associated with that Club if he
 - i. is injured to such an extent that he can no longer perform his duties at the relevant Club, or
 - ii. has been called upon by the cricket authority of his country or state/province to represent that country or state/province in a representative team.
 - b.
 - i. A substitute Designated Player must comply with the provisions of paragraph 1(a) and (b). Paragraph 1(c) in this case should be read as the remainder of the Season.
 - ii. The replacement Designated Player must commence his work in the Netherlands within 14 days of the dispensation being obtained by the Club.
 - c. A replaced Designated Player cannot return to the Club as a Player in the same Season or play for another Club in any capacity. The replaced Designated Player cannot be replaced.
7.
 - a. If a Designated Player associated with a Club is selected for a Dutch selection, the Club concerned is allowed to appoint a replacement Designated Player for the time that the selected Designated Player cannot play for the Club due to his selection.
 - b. The replacement Designated Player will then replace the selected Designated Player on the Squad list referred to in Article 17 (*Eligibility to play in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions: Squad lists*). Such replacement Designated Player shall be granted dispensation from the obligations of paragraph 2.
 - c. As soon as the selected Designated Player can play for his Club again, the eligibility to play of the replacement Designated Player lapses.
8. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.

[EXPLANATION: The rationale behind the Designated Player is to improve the standard of play in the Netherlands by bringing in qualified and experienced coaches. If such a coach should subsequently drop out during the Season, this improvement could stall. That is why such a Player may be replaced, while when any other Player on the Squad list drops out, he may not be replaced. This is also why there is a coaching diploma requirement for a Designated Player.]

Article 27 - Participation in Matches by Players of the opposite sex

1. Women are allowed to participate in Matches in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions and the men's One-Day Recreational Divisions.
2. Men are not allowed to participate in Matches in the Women's One-Day and T20 Competitions.

[EXPLANATION: The influence of men on the match progression and results of Matches in the women's One-Day and T20 Competitions is reckoned to be too great.]



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Article 28 - Dispensation procedure

This article is about a Club applying for dispensation for a Player and applies to Articles 17 up to and including 26 of these Rules.

1. When applying for dispensation for any of the conditions mentioned in Articles 17 up to and including 26, the following rules must be strictly observed:

- Dispensation is applied for for one (1) Competition at a time (i.e. either for the One-Day Competition or for the T20). Any dispensation for the other Competition should be applied for separately.
- Dispensation may only be applied for for one (1) Team (i.e. not for several Teams, not even if they play in the same Division).
- A dispensation application can only be made by a board member of a Club and must be made using a form set by the Board ([Click here for the form](#)). This form should be submitted in writing (by email) to the Competition Manager.
- On each form, dispensation may be applied for for one (1) Player only.
- A dispensation application shall not be processed until the abovementioned form is fully completed and all necessary and/or requested supporting documents and records have been received.
- A dispensation application should be submitted no later than three working days before the day on which the dispensation should take effect. These three days are needed for careful assessment of the application.
- The three-day period for taking a decision shall be suspended (in each case) from the day the Competition Manager has asked the applicant for further information, until the day the Competition Manager has received such further information or the set deadline has expired unused.
- If an application is made within a shorter period than the deadline set for this purpose, there is a risk that the application cannot be processed in time, which carries the risk for the Club and/or the Player that dispensation is not granted.
- The Board is the only party that may grant or reject dispensation applications.

2. The processing of the dispensation application involves the following:

- The Board shall designate the Competition Manager or, where appropriate, another employee of the KNCB Office to process an application for dispensation on its behalf.
- The Board shall take advice from the Dispensation Committee when assessing a dispensation application.
- The Dispensation Committee has the discretionary power, if there are special circumstances under which the dispensation is requested, to deviate from the provisions of these Rules and/or attach specific conditions to the dispensation.
- The Board may deviate from the recommendations of the Dispensation Committee with substantiation.
- The decision by which the Board grants the dispensation shall state for which Competition, for which Team and as of which date the dispensation applies. If one or more special conditions apply, these will also be set out.
- Dispensation granted to allow a Player to play in another (usually lower) Team shall lapse with immediate effect if that Player plays again for the Team or one of the Teams in which he was playing when the dispensation was applied for. The dispensation also lapses with immediate effect if the Player plays for any other Team in the same Competition, with the exception of playing for a Team in the Recreational Divisions.
- In such a case, experience shows that the Dispensation Committee will almost always advise against granting a second dispensation application for the same Team.
- Dispensation and revocation of dispensation granted earlier shall be notified to the relevant Club and published on the KNCB website.



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[POLICY:

A Player who plays in a Team without dispensation having been granted when dispensation is required, is considered an ineligible Player. For the consequences of this, see Article 29 (Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility).]

Article 29 - Public Order Measure in case of ineligibility

INTRODUCTION:

Several articles in these Rules specify conditions that a Player must meet in order to be allowed to participate in Matches in a certain Team and/or in a certain Competition. If a Player does not meet the conditions for playing and does play, he shall be an ineligible Player.

Unless otherwise specified elsewhere in these Rules, an ineligible Player playing in a Match is an Offence.

1. As soon as the Board becomes aware of a breach regarding eligibility to play of one or more of the Articles 16 up to and including 27 of these Rules, the following Public Order Measures shall be imposed.
2. As a Public Order Measure, the Board shall determine the result of the Match as follows:
if the Team in which one or more ineligible Players played
 - won the Match: result shall be 1-1;
 - lost the Match: result remains 0-2;
 - if the Match was tied: result remains 1-1.
 - If the Match is rained off and is not replayed: result remains 1-1;
 - if the Match is rained off and is replayed: no result.
3. The Board shall, as a Public Order Measure, deduct Match Points from the Team in which one or more ineligible Players played, as follows:
if that Team
 - won: 3 Match points deducted;
 - lost: 2 Match points deducted;
 - played a tie: 3 Match points deducted.
 - If the Match is rained off and is not replayed: 3 Match points deducted.
 - If the Match is rained off, is replayed and yields a result: 2 Match points deducted.
 - If the Match is rained off and is replayed but without a result (e.g. rained off again): 3 Match points deducted.

[EXPLANATION:

The effect of the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 is that in all cases the net sanction is 2 Match Points.]

4. In Matches in the various types of finals, the Team in which one or more ineligible Players played shall have lost the Match. Paragraphs 2 and 3 then do not apply; this too is a Public Order Measure.
5. In addition to what is set out in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 respectively, the Board shall, as part of the Public Order Measure, impose a fine on the Club of the Team in which one or more ineligible Players played, of € 100 per ineligible Player.
6. The Public Order Measures mentioned in paragraphs 2, 3 and 5 apply for every Match in which an ineligible Player played.
7. In special cases the Board may at its discretion deviate from the provisions of this article.
8. An appeal may be lodged with the Appeals Committee against a Board Resolution imposing a Public Order Measure (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.



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9. The Board shall ensure that Public Order Measures as referred to in this article are published correctly on the KNCB website.

[EXAMPLE:

A Player plays at THE One-Day level on Saturdays and regularly plays in a Vierde Klasse Team on Sundays. Dispensation was never applied for and other Clubs are seeking an explanation from the KNCB. A Public Order Measure will be imposed. For the sake of clarity, dispensation would never have been granted.]

MATCH POINTS, FINAL STANDINGS, PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

Article 30 - Match points

See Article 16.11 of the KNCB Playing Conditions as they apply per competition format (One-Day or T20) and/or Division.

Article 31 - Final standings

1. Final Standings: See Article 16.11 of the Playing Conditions as applicable per competition format (One-Day or T20) and/or Division.
2. A Team which is withdrawn from the Competition after the start of the Season, whether it is withdrawn from the Competition on the basis of a decision of the Disciplinary Committee or otherwise, or whether it is relegated to a lower Division on the basis of a decision of the Disciplinary Committee with effect from the following Season or otherwise, shall be deemed to have obtained the lowest number of Match Points.
3. If a Team is taken out of the Competition or withdrawn after the start of the Season, all results of that Team shall be deleted from the points table.
4. Personal performances in the Matches described in paragraph 3 shall be included in the annual statistics.

Article 32 - Championship, promotion and relegation

I. Championship

For 'Championship' see Article 16.16 of the Playing Conditions as they apply per competition format (One-Day or T20) and/or Division

II. Promotion and relegation

[POLICY:

The Board considers it undesirable for a situation to arise in which, as a result of promotion and/or relegation, two Teams from the same Club would end up in the same Pool or Division (with "same Division" applying only to the Top Division). The provisions governing what happens if such a situation occurs are set out in this Article.]



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1. Promotion:

A champion in the Hoofdklasse, Eerste Klasse, Tweede Klasse and Derde Klasse may not be promoted if:

- a. there is already a Team from that Club playing in the Division to which promotion would take place, or that will enter that Division through relegation from the next higher Division;
- b. there is already a Team from that Club in each of the Pools of that Division, or that will enter those Pools through relegation from the next higher Division.

In such cases, the Team finishing second in the final standings of the Pool shall be promoted, unless the same restriction applies to that Team, in which case the number three will be promoted, and so on.

In the special case where the winner of the decision match for promotion to the Topklasse between the champions of both Pools of the Hoofdklasse would become a second Team from the same Club in the Topklasse, the loser of the decision match shall be promoted.

In the special case where the loser of the decision match would also become a second Team from the same Club in the Topklasse, the best number two from both Pools of the Hoofdklasse shall be promoted.

2. Relegation:

If, as a result of relegation from the Topklasse, Hoofdklasse, Eerste Klasse and Tweede Klasse, two Teams from the same Club end up in the same Pool, then at least one Team from that Club must leave the Division of that Pool after the following Season:

- either through promotion
- or through relegation because a Team from that Club finishes at the bottom that Season;
- or through **forced relegation** of the Team from that Club with the lowest ranking position, instead of the Team from another Club that finished at the bottom of the same Pool.

Note: forced relegation from the Fourth Division is not possible.

Note: It is therefore possible that, due to relegation in a given year, two Teams from one Club may play in the same Pool. This will only be corrected in the following year, if necessary.

UMPIRES AND SCORERS

Article 33 - KNCB Umpires and Club Umpires

1. Periodically, the Board organises KNCB Umpire and Club Umpire courses and KNCB Umpire and Club Umpire examinations.
2.
 - a. KNCB Umpires are those who have passed the KNCB Umpire examination referred to in paragraph 1 and have correctly officiated in five Matches in the opinion of the Match Officials Committee, as well as those who have been recognised as such by the Board, on the advice of the Match Officials Committee, on the basis of their cricket knowledge and experience in officiating in Matches.

[EXPLANATION: The Board may invite an experienced umpire from another country to act as KNCB Umpire in order to raise the level of Dutch KNCB Umpires. Such an umpire is referred to in the second part of a.]

- b. Club Umpires are those who have taken the Club Umpire course referred to in paragraph 1, as well as those who have been recognised as such by the Board, on the advice of the Match Officials Committee, on the basis of their cricket knowledge and experience in officiating in Matches.



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3.
 - a. The costs of the KNCB Umpires appointed by the Board under the relevant Playing Conditions shall be apportioned among the Clubs according to the extent to which such KNCB Umpires officiated in the Matches played by each Club.
 - b. However, the Board may determine with regard to one or more Competitions that the costs of such KNCB Umpires shall be borne equally by all Clubs playing in such Competition or Competitions.

4.
 - a. The Captain of each Team whose Match is overseen by one or more KNCB Umpires appointed by the Board is obliged to provide a timely - i.e. no later than 8:00 a.m. on the Wednesday following the Match Day - and complete assessment of this KNCB Umpire or Umpires by completing the Captain's report. Besides the Captain, that Captain's Club is also held responsible for this report being completed and submitted.

*[EXPLANATION:
This assessment must also be completed in the event of a Match that did not start (e.g. due to the weather or related ground conditions). This should be done even if the toss has not taken place - after all, the Captains will have been in contact with the KNCB Umpire or Umpires to discuss it.

This obligation applies to all Matches in all Competitions and all Divisions, both men's and women's, provided a KNCB Umpire was appointed for that Match.]*
 - b. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, the Board shall impose a sanction on the Captain who breaches the provisions under a. and on the Club of that Captain.
 - (i) For the first offence, this is a warning to the Captain and no sanction for the Club.
 - (ii) At the second offence, the Captain shall receive another warning and a € 50 fine shall be imposed on the Club. The latter is a Board Resolution.
 - (iii) At the third offence and subsequent offences, one (1) Match suspension each time for the Captain in the Match in question and a € 50 fine for the Club. The latter is a Board Resolution.
 - c. Receiving a warning or sanction does not release the Captain from the obligation of completing the Captain's report in full. He shall be given three days to do so, starting from the day after he or his Club is informed of the warning or sanction.
 - d. Should the Captain also fail to fulfil the obligation imposed in c. by the deadline mentioned in c., one (additional) Match suspension shall be imposed on him and a further € 50 fine shall be imposed on the Club (the latter is again a Board Resolution).

5. Appeal may be lodged against a Board Resolution with the Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

6. The Captain in question may lodge an objection with the secretary of the Board against a sanction imposed by the Board (see Article 22(4) of the Disciplinary Regulations). The case shall then be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.

7. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.



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Article 34 - Umpiring capacity in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions

1. Without prejudice to the provisions elsewhere in these Rules or the relevant Playing Conditions, a Club that competes with one or more Teams in the men's THE Divisions must provide at least one KNCB Umpire for each Team competing in those Divisions.
2. A committee selected by the Board shall appoint KNCB Umpires every week for the Matches in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the THE Divisions. This committee shall consist of the Competition Manager, the Match Referee and the High Performance Manager.
3. The minimum umpiring obligation is 28 (twenty eight) Matches per Team designated by the Board in that Season. If a Club provides several KNCB Umpires, they may fulfil the umpiring duty jointly, with a minimum of 6 Matches per umpire.

[EXPLANATION:

The number of 28 Matches is based on the number of Matches a Team in a THE Division will play in a Season (i.e. 14 Matches in the One-Day - and 14 Matches in the T20 Competition).

A KNCB Umpire only counts towards those 28 Matches for a Team if he officiates in at least 6 Matches on behalf of/for the Club of that Team.]

4. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, the Board shall impose as a Board Resolution a € 250 fine on a Club that does not comply with the obligation laid down in the first paragraph, for each time that the Club does not provide a KNCB Umpire for one of the number of Matches stated in paragraph 3.
5. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.
6. The Club may appeal a Board Resolution to the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

[POLICY:

The penalty for not providing KNCB Umpires shall not be enforced in 2026.

The Board intends to begin enforcement in 2027 and will announce at the general membership meeting in autumn 2026 what sanctions will be imposed if Clubs do not provide KNCB umpires or not enough.]

[EXPLANATION:

The Board notes that, in general, it is not until well after the end of the season that it is determined whether a club has provided a sufficient number of KNCB Umpires.]

Article 35 - Umpiring capacity in the Topklasse of the women's One-Day Competition

1. Without prejudice to the provisions elsewhere in these Rules or the relevant Playing Conditions, a Club whose Team plays in the Topklasse of the Women's One-Day Competition is obliged to provide at least one KNCB Umpire.

The minimum umpire provision obligation per Team is six Matches designated by the Board in that Season. If a Club provides several KNCB Umpires, they may fulfil the umpiring obligation jointly, with a minimum of 2 Matches per umpire.

[EXPLANATION: The Board's principle is that each Club shall provide a KNCB Umpire for the same number of Matches as the number of fixtures of a Team of that Club.]



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2. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, the Board shall impose as a Board Resolution a € 250 fine on a Club that does not comply with the obligation laid down in the first paragraph, for each time that the Club does not provide a KNCB Umpire for one of the six Matches mentioned in paragraph 1.
3. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.
4. The Club may appeal a Board Resolution to the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

[POLICY: The Board is committed to having every Match of the Women's One-Day Competition in the Topklasse officiated by female umpires in the years ahead. To this end, female umpires will be recruited and trained.

The penalty for not providing KNCB Umpires shall not be enforced in 2026.

The Board intends to begin enforcement in 2027 and will announce at the general membership meeting in autumn 2026 what sanctions will be imposed if Clubs do not provide KNCB umpires or not enough.]

[EXPLANATION:

The Board notes that, in general, it is not until well after the end of the season that it is determined whether a club has provided a sufficient number of KNCB Umpires.]

Article 36 - Umpiring capacity in the other Divisions and Competitions (excluding women's One-Day Competition Hoofdklasse, women's T20 Competition and men's One-Day Competition Recreational Divisions)

1. Without prejudice to the provisions elsewhere in these Rules or the relevant Playing Conditions, a Club that has one or more Teams playing in the the Lower Divisions of the men's One-Day - and/or T20 Competitions is obliged to provide at least one Club Umpire for the Matches of that Team in the Divisions and Competitions mentioned in this paragraph.
2. When a Team does not provide a Club Umpire for a Match, the opposing team is allowed to provide two Club Umpires for the Match. This shall NOT require permission from the opposing Team Captain.
3. If neither Team provides a Club Umpire for a Match, the Captains are jointly and individually responsible for the orderly conduct of the Match, compliance with these Rules, the Playing Conditions as applicable to the competition format (One-Day or T20) and/or Division in which the Match is played and that the Match is played 'within the spirit of cricket'.
4. Notwithstanding the provisions elsewhere in these Regulations or the relevant Playing Conditions, a Club of which one or more Teams play in the women's One-Day Competition Hoofdklasse, women's T20 Competition and men's One-Day Competition Recreational Divisions, is not obliged to supply one Club Umpire for the Matches of that Team in the Divisions and Competitions mentioned in this paragraph. The provisions of paragraph 2 shall then not apply.



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[POLICY:

- The implementation of this obligation will be monitored in the 2026 Season to develop future regulation and enforcement in this regard.*
- The Board insists that Captains of Teams have at least done the 'umpires foundation course' (an online course that takes only one evening's time). Participation in this will be monitored in 2026.*
- If, before the start of the 2026 Season, the Board suspects that a Club does not have (enough) Club Umpires to meet its obligations, it will encourage and give that Club the opportunity to have one or more of its members to take the 'umpires foundation course'.]*

Article 37 - Scorers - General

Periodically, the Board organises scoring courses and exams for the ECB ACO Scorer Level 1.

1. A qualified Scorer is one who holds at least an ECB ACO Level 1 qualification.
2. A recognised Scorer is a Scorer who does not meet the requirement set out in paragraph 1, but who has been recognised as such by the Board by virtue of his cricket knowledge and experience in scoring at Matches.

Article 38 - Scorers in the THE Divisions of the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions, and the women's Topklasse One-Day Competition

1. Without prejudice to the provisions elsewhere in these Rules or the relevant Playing Conditions, the Club of a Team playing in the THE Divisions of the men's One-Day and/or or T20 Competitions or the women's Topklasse One-Day Competition shall be obliged to have the scoring for that Team carried out by a qualified or recognised Scorer.
2. If a Team does not have a qualified or recognised Scorer at a Match referred to in paragraph 1, that Team is obliged to have one other person (without that qualification or recognition) score the entire Match.
3. If a Team also does not have another person as referred to in the previous paragraph to score, the Scorer who is present and the Captains must notify the KNCB Umpires before the toss. The Captain of the Team that does not have a Scorer then has a maximum of 20 minutes to come up with a solution. If there is no Scorer then the Captain of the Team that does not have a Scorer must appoint a Player from his Team to score. This Player must score for the entire Match unless during the Match a Scorer (this must be at least a recognised Scorer and may not be another Player listed on the Team sheet) is found to score for the remainder of the Match. In that case, the Player is given a 'penalty time' according to the Playing Conditions of the respective Competition (see Articles 24 and 25). Only then can he start participating in the Match.

[EXPLANATION:

The Playing Conditions state that the 'penalty time' is a maximum of 2 hours.

For completeness: while a Player is scoring, his Team cannot have a substitute fielding for him.]



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4. Scorers' names must be listed on both Scorecards.

[EXPLANATION:

If no name is listed, this means that there was no Scorer.

If a name is listed but it does not appear on the list of qualified or recognised Scorers used by the Board, this means: the Scorer is not qualified or recognised.

If a Player initially acts as Scorer (see paragraph 3) and is later replaced by another person, the name of that latter person must be entered; the report prepared by the KNCB Umpire(s) for the Match will state that Player [name] scored for the initial period.]

5. If the Scorer is not a member of the Club of the Team he is scoring for, 'custom player' must be given as his name. His name must be reported in a separate email to the Competition Manager before the deadline specified in Article 40(3) (Scorecard) for the entering of the Scorecards.
6. If a Team does not have a qualified or recognised Scorer present from the start of the Match and/or if his name is not recorded in the Scorecards, the Board shall, as a Board Resolution, impose a sanction of € 50 on that Team's Club.
7. This shall be done for every Match in which no one of the Club of the Team has scored the entire Match and/or his name is not listed on the Scorecards.
8. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.
9. The Club may appeal a Board Resolution to the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

SCORING, SCORECARD, TEAM SHEET, DLS

Article 39 - Scoring

INTRODUCTION:

The Board has long been of the opinion that the Scorecards need to be completed much better by the Clubs. Correct, complete and timely submitted Scorecards ease the Competition Manager's work considerably: the Scorebook can help to correct errors discovered later, ambiguities or even irregularities in the completed Scorecards.

It will also help to improve the quality of the work of the Archive Committee, which produces the annual Kleefstra Almanac, which will also benefit the historiography of cricket in the Netherlands.

As the completion of Scorecards continues to be below par, the Board will introduce additional rules and sanctions with effect from Season 2024, and the current sanctions that may be imposed for breaching the obligations regarding the completion of Scorecards (see Article 40 (Scorecard)) will be raised.

1. Every Match in any Competition must be scored in at least one (1) Scorebook, regardless of whether scoring is also done in the Scoring app.

[EXPLANATION:

The app may suddenly not work during the Match, or the internet connection may fail.

The best scoring method is to score in both the Scorebook and the app. For example, the Scorer of the home Team scores in the Scoring app and the Scorer of the away Team scores in the Scorebook. These roles may be swapped by mutual agreement.

In Matches where no Scorers are present, the batting Team scores its batting innings in both the Scoring app and the Scorebook.

If there is only one single Scorer, scoring must be done in the Scorebook in any case.]



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2. If a KNCB Umpire or Umpires has/have been appointed for the Match and the toss has taken place, one of them shall sign as seen the pages used for the Match in the Scorebook after the Match, and sign the stated Match result for approval. If there is/are no KNCB Umpire or Umpires present, both Captains must sign for approval all pages used to indicate their agreement, also of the stated Match result.

[EXPLANATION:

The Board recommends that after the Match the other Team take a photograph of the page or pages of the Scorebook used. This is especially important for the home Team: this Team is responsible for ensuring that the Scorecards of both innings are entered fully and correctly in the Competition Software (see Article 40(1) (Scorecard)). This means that all data referred to in Article 40(3) is correctly recorded and that the batting innings totals (runs batters + all extras) match the totals of the bowling innings (runs scored against bowlers + fielding extras). Also, the names of 'custom players' must be changed in the Competition Software to the names of the Players as they appear in the Competition Software - whether or not after entering a Player in this software programme.

PLEASE NOTE:

- *In case of ambiguities, the Scorebook prevails.*
- *The Competition Manager may request a copy of the pages of the Scorebook used for a Match if he deems this necessary.]*

3.
 - a. At every Match as mentioned in paragraph 1, the Clubs of both Teams shall be held responsible for the presence and use of at least one Scorebook. In addition to the Clubs, the Captains shall also be held responsible.
 - b. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, the Board shall, as a Board Resolution, impose a sanction on the Club that acts in violation of section a. and on both Captains.
 - (i) For the first offence, this shall be a sanction of €50 for both Clubs and a warning to both Captains of that Match. The first is a Board Resolution.
 - (ii) For the second and subsequent offences, each time a sanction of € 50 for the Clubs and a suspension of one (1) Match day for the Captains of the relevant Match. The first is a a Board Resolution.

[POLICY:

The Board recognises that breaches of this requirement violations of this obligation in Matches where no KNCB Umpire(s) have been appointed are not easily detected. In such Matches, a violation will likely only be established if a copy of the Scorebook pages is requested for a valid reason.]

4. The Club may appeal a Board Resolution to the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.
5. The Captain in question may lodge an objection with the secretary of the Board against a sanction imposed by the Board (see Article 22(4) of the Disciplinary Regulations). The case shall then be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
6. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.



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Article 40 - Scorecard

1. For the Matches in all Competitions, both men's and women's, both One-Day and T20, including the Recreational Competition, the result of the Match and - if at least the toss has taken place - both Scorecards have to be entered completely, correctly and timely in the Competition Software.
Both the Club of the home Team and the home Team itself are held responsible for this.
2. Timely entering of results and Scorecards shall mean:
 - a. for the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in THE Divisions: on the Match Day:
 - b. for all other men's and women's Divisions (both Competitions): no later than 8.00 a.m. on the Wednesday after the Match Day.

[EXPLANATION: A fixed day was chosen rather than a 48-hour period after a Match. This means that after playing on Whit Monday, there will be one fewer day to fulfil this obligation.]

3. Complete entering of results and Scorecards means:
 - Toss won by
 - Team batting first
 - Match result
 - Wickets and runs of each Team
 - End of innings (all out, compulsory close or end of match)
 - Overs bowled and maximum number of overs available per Team
 - Extras
 - The names (initials and surname) of all Players, even if they did not bat (DNB);
 - How out
 - Fall Of Wickets
 - Bowler and fielder for each fallen wicket
 - Number of runs scored by each batter
 - Number of overs bowled by each bowler
 - Number of maiden overs bowled by each bowler
 - Number of wickets taken by each bowler
 - Number of runs scored off each bowler
 - Number of catches taken by each fielder
 - Who was the wicketkeeper
 - Who was Captain
 - Number of catches and stumpings by wicketkeeper

[EXPLANATION:

For all Matches in the men's THE Competitions and the women's One-Day Competition in the Topklasse, the names of substitutes who have actually fielded must also be recorded on the Scorecard.

A substitute must be a member of the Club of the Team for which he is acting as a substitute.

For a substitute, the Match does not count as a played Match when determining how many times he has played for a Team in a higher Division or for another Team of his Club that plays in the same Division as the one in which he acted as a substitute.

Furthermore, the Match does not count towards determining whether a player violates the Saturday/Sunday ban (see Article 24 (Saturday/Sunday ban)).]

4. If a fixture has not commenced (i.e.: toss has not taken place), this must be recorded by the Club of the home Team in the Competition Software within the period specified in paragraph 2.



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5. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, the Board shall, as a Board Resolution, impose a € 50 fine on the Club that breaches the provisions of paragraph 1.
6. Having a sanction imposed on it does not release the Club from the obligation of entering the result and the Scorecards. It shall be given seven days to do so, starting from the day the Club is informed of the sanction.
7. Paragraphs 5 and 6 shall apply again if the Club has also failed to fulfil the obligation set out in paragraph 1 within the period specified in paragraph 6. This shall repeat up to a maximum of ten (10) weeks.
8. The sanctions listed in paragraphs 5 and 6 apply per Match that the offence referred to in paragraph 1 was committed.
9. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.
10. The Club may appeal a Board Resolution to the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.

[EXPLANATION:

- *Paragraph 1 states that both the home Team and the Club of that Team are responsible for the complete, correct and timely entry of the result and the Scorecards. It is the duty of (the Captain of) the home Team to obtain all necessary details from the opponent (on Match Day).*
- *If a fixture is played at the ground of a third Club, the obligation set out in paragraph 1 applies to the Club of the Team listed first in the fixtures schedule as entered in the Competition Software. If a Match is played on the ground of a Club of the Team that would be the away team, the Club of the Team listed first in the fixtures schedule remains responsible for this obligation.
Note: This obligation obviously also applies to a Match that has been rescheduled on a different date.*
- *In normal circumstances, on the Wednesday after the Match Day, the Competition Manager shall block the possibility of entering or changing data for that Match in the Competition Software. If the provisions of paragraphs 6 or 8 apply, the Competition Manager shall make the data concerning that Match accessible again during the period stated in those paragraphs.*
- *The Club of the away Team is not obliged, but is allowed to check the details of the Players of its Team. If it then transpires that an error has been made and corrections can no longer be made, the Club may ask the Competition Manager to allow it to correct the data.]*



Article 41 - Team sheet

1. Before the start of the Match, the Captains shall complete, sign and hand over a Team sheet using the model established by the Board, to the KNCB Umpire or Umpires appointed by the Board (if present), and the Captain of the opposition. This obligation applies to all Divisions and Competitions, both men's and women's.

[EXPLANATION:

The Team sheet serves to ease the work of the KNCB Umpires and Scorers, especially those of the opposing team. Since both KNCB Umpires must be given a copy of this form, it should be drawn up in triplicate.

The Team sheet template is available on the KNCB website (click [here](#) for the Team Sheet). It is important that the Player's name is exactly the same (i.e. complete and identically spelled) as entered in the KNCB membership records (All-United) and that the KNCB player number (in ResultsVault this is called 'KNCB ID nr') is included. The Board recommends printing (several copies of) a slightly longer list the day before the Match from which names can then be crossed out (and possibly added) prior to the Match.]

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, the Board shall, as a Board Resolution, impose a sanction on the Captain that acts in violation of paragraph 1 and on the Club of the Captain.
 - (i) For the first offence, this shall be a warning to the Captain and no sanction for the Club.
 - (ii) For the second offence, this shall be another warning to the Captain and a sanction of € 50 for the Club. The latter is a Board Resolution.
 - (iii) For the third and subsequent offences, each time this shall be a suspension of one (1) Match for the Captain of the relevant Match and a sanction of € 50 for the Club. The latter is a Board Resolution.
3. The Club may appeal a Board Resolution to the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.
4. The Captain in question may lodge an objection with the secretary of the Board against a sanction imposed by the Board (see Article 22(4) of the Disciplinary Regulations). The case shall then be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
5. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.

[EXPLANATION:

If a Match is not officiated by a KNCB Umpire (which is the case for most Matches in the men's One-Day and T20 Competitions in the Lower Divisions, as well as in the women's One-Day Competition Hoofdklasse and the women's T20 Competition), enforcement of the requirement for signed Team sheets is not easily feasible.

However, in the event of any irregularity or question regarding the proper conduct of a Match, the Board will request the signed Team sheets. If these are not available, sanctions will still be imposed. Additionally, having the Team sheets may be beneficial to the involved party (the Club, the Captain) if there is a Report of an Offence. It is therefore advisable to retain the Team sheets for several weeks after the end of the Competition, as the Board may make a Report of an Offence to the the Disciplinary Committee up to one month after becoming aware of an Offence.]



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Article 41B - DLS

1. At every Match in both the One-Day and the T20 Competition in the men's THE Divisions and in the women's One-Day Competition in the Topklasse, a functioning computer with DLS software and a printer with sufficient paper and toner or ink must be present in order to be used in case the DLS rules need to be applied.

[EXPLANATION:

In general, a printout shall be made in quadruplicate: one for the umpires collectively, one each for the Captains, and one for the Scorers collectively.]

2. With effect from the 2026 Season, DLS will also be applied in both Men's Competitions in the Lower Divisions, in the Men's One-Day Competition in the Recreational Divisions, and in the Women's One-Day Competition in the Topklasse and the Women's T20 Competition.

[POLICY:

For every Team, at every level, DLS is easily accessible on smartphones. When determining the result of a Match that has to be shortened due to rain or related ground conditions, DLS is the best and most neutral solution. The standings in each Competition in every Division are determined by NRR - this is calculated automatically and correctly when DLS is applied to shortened Matches. The Board has therefore made the use of DLS mandatory in all Divisions and Competitions.]

3.
 - a. For all Matches mentioned in paragraph 1, the Club of the home Team is responsible for the functioning computer and printer. In addition to the Club, the Captain of the Home Team is also held responsible.
 - b. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, the Board shall, as a Board Resolution, impose a sanction on the Club that acts in violation of section a. and on the Captain.
 - (i) For the first offence, this shall be a warning to the Club and no sanction for the Captain in the Match.
 - (ii) For the second offence, this shall be a sanction of € 50 for the Club and a warning to the Captain of that Match. The first is a Board Resolution.
 - (iii) For the third and subsequent offences, each time a sanction of € 50 for the Club and a suspension of one (1) Match day for the Captain of the relevant Match. The first is a Board Resolution.

[EXPLANATION:

For Matches where KNCB Umpire(s) have been appointed, they shall check before the start of the Match whether the required items are present and functional.]

7. The Club may appeal a Board Resolution to the Appeals Committee (see Internal Regulations Article 13.8). The Appeals Committee shall then only review whether the Board's decision was reasonable.
8. The Captain in question may lodge an objection with the secretary of the Board against a sanction imposed by the Board (see Article 22(4) of the Disciplinary Regulations). The case shall then be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
9. The Board may deviate from the provisions of this article in special cases at its discretion.



COMPETITION RULES 2026

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

Article 42 - Sponsorship

1. Logos on match clothing and/or sports equipment of those directly involved in the Match shall comply with the Dutch Advertising Code (see: www.reclamecode.nl), may not dominate and must be uniform.
2. A sponsor's name may never replace or be part of the name under which the Club is registered and participates in the Competitions.

Article 43 - Coloured clothing

1. In all Competitions, Clubs must have the Players of their Teams play in coloured clothing. Prior approval from the Board must be obtained for the clothing to be worn by the Players of these Clubs.
2. Such permission shall only be granted if, in the opinion of the Board, the proposed clothing is not likely to have a disruptive influence on the conduct of the match.
3.
 - a. Visible (under-)clothing not belonging to the official club strip that differs in colour from the official club strip must sufficiently contrast with the match ball or not hinder the visibility of the match ball.
 - b. Pads, or the clads (covers) over them, which are not identical in colour to the official club strip, must be sufficiently in contrast with the match ball or not hinder the visibility of the match ball.
 - c. As long as a Player's clothing does not comply with the provisions in a. and b. above, he is not allowed to participate in the Match. The assessment as to whether a Player's clothing meets the aforementioned requirements shall be vested solely in the KNCB Umpires appointed by the Board for that Match.
4. All Players of a Team must play in the same coloured clothing. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 19 of the Articles of Association, the Board may impose a sanction on the Club if this requirement is not complied with.
5. The provisions of paragraphs 1 to 4 may be derogated from in the Recreational Divisions. In that case, the requirement applies that, when playing in white clothing, no white ball may be used by either Team.



GROUNDS

Article 44 - Playing on artificial grass

Playing Matches on artificial grass outfields is allowed in all Competitions without dispensation by the Board being required, provided it has a pitch as described in the Grounds Regulations.

[POLICY: The Board aims for all Competition Matches to be played on natural grass outfields. However, playing on an artificial grass outfield is allowed.]

Article 45 - Ground requirements

1. During the Season as defined in Article 2, the Clubs must have access to a ground that meets the requirements set out in the Ground Regulations.
2. Upon multiple reports of deficiencies to a ground and a resulting review by the Grounds Committee, the Board may declare a ground unfit until further notice.

[EXPLANATION:

- *Not having a ground that meets the requirements set out in the Grounds Regulations must also be understood to mean:*
 - *Not (or no longer) having a playable pitch available for a Match, by not having covered the pitch and/or the playing field in time and/or adequately, both before that Match and during breaks in and/or interruptions of that Match.*
 - *Not having the most basic tools and equipment available to make and/or keep the pitch and/or playing field dry and/or playable before and/or during a Match, or not (sufficiently) deploying the tools and equipment that are present.*
- *The Board may grant dispensation to a Club if the Club gives notice when registering a Team or Teams for the Competitions that its ground may not meet all the requirements for reasons wholly or partly beyond its control. The application for dispensation must be in writing (by email to the Competition Manager), clear, complete and, if necessary, verifiable.]*

[POLICY:

If the requested dispensation is not granted, the relevant Club must itself arrange for a ground that does meet the requirements.]