



Japan Cup Rules & Regulations

Updated March 25th, 2022

1. General Principles

- a. National tournament.

Teams compete within regional tournaments during the regular season with the aim of qualifying for the Japan Cup Finals at the end of the season. The Japan Cup provides an entry to the player pathway (T20) at senior level. The Japan Cup Finals tournament also provides an opportunity for the best players in the country to compete on the same stage. (Please see Appendix A)
- b. Objectives
 - i. To expand the player base
 - ii. To provide a pathway to the national finals to all
 - iii. To enhance the Spirit of Cricket
 - iv. To enhance a positive image of Cricket in Japan.
- c. Management
 - i. The day to day management of the Japan Cup in each region is the responsibility of the Japan Cup Committee of that region.
 - ii. The Japan Cup Committee (hereby referred to as “the Committee”) is made up of volunteers and club members from the region and is appointed by the regional association with the approval of the Japan Cricket Association.
- d. Short format
 - i. T20 cricket (playing conditions are global standard). Matches to be finished within three hours.
- e. Expand the player base
 - i. The Japan Cup aims to make it easier for teams and players to play cricket by using a format (T20) that only takes three hours and allowing some flexibility in the standard of grounds that can be used, reducing participants’ travel time to matches.
 - ii. Relaxed Criteria are set for joining the Japan Cup to encourage new teams to participate. <http://cricket.or.jp/en/archives/competition/japan-cup>
- f. Positive image of Cricket
 - i. Neutral umpires will be assigned to all matches.
 - ii. Umpire education courses will be provided to increase the quality of umpiring in each region.
 - iii. Matches to be scored live on the Japan Cricket app so that they can be easily followed by fans and supporters. In the event this is not possible, scores to be uploaded online the same day of the match.
 - iv. Players must have Sports insurance which covers injury and third party liability.
 - v. All players must wear suitable coloured cricket clothing which is consistent with the team and approved by the committee.
 - vi. JCA Player, Captain and Umpire Codes of Conduct will be strictly maintained. It is the responsibility of each Captain and Umpire to be familiar with the Code of Conduct. <http://cricket.or.jp/en/archives/competition/japan-cup>
 - vii. Good performances and positive stories are celebrated through JCA social media. Send team photos, MVPs, action shots, etc., to: photos@cricket.or.jp

2. Registration

- a. All clubs competing in the Japan Cup must register as a club member of their regional association.
- b. Regional association registration fees and Japan Cup tournament fees are set by the regional association and must be paid before the season.
- c. New teams can register their interest in playing in the Japan Cup using this form: <https://forms.gle/vW9kLbmNFhjoMD246>
- d. New teams need to be approved by both the regional association and the JCA



- Community Cricket Manager before being accepted into the Japan Cup.
- e. New teams must sign an agreement with the JCA and their regional association stating that they will abide by all rules and regulations set by the JCA and their regional association.
 - f. Players participating in the Japan Cup must register as JCA members at a cost of ¥ 2,000 per year.

3. Fees

- a. Tournament fees will be invoiced to each team by the regional association.
- b. Ground fees for cancelled matches will generally not be refunded and this will only be done at the discretion of the regional association and the Japan Cup committee. Competition fees should be regarded as the cost of participating in the league not as the cost of ground fees for individual matches.

4. Player registration

- a. All players must complete JCA registration AND be added to the JCA online score system. These are separate processes.
- b. Player registration must be completed by the Wednesday before the first match the player plays in. <https://cricket.or.jp/en/register-with-the-jca>
- c. All teams are responsible for the administration of their team on the JCA online score system. Please consult the JCA Community Cricket Manager or your Japan Cup committee if you need assistance with login details. <https://cricclubs.com/cricketorjp>
- d. All new players must be entered into the team on the online score system by the Friday before the player's first match.
- e. Each player is required to have sports insurance which covers not only injury, but also third party liability.
 - i. Recommended: Sports Anzen Insurance <https://www.spokyo.jp/spoannet.html>

5. Communication

- a. Email is the standard means of communication between the Committee and teams. It is the responsibility of team managers to read and respond to emails promptly.
- b. Abusive, disrespectful or obscene language and personal or other verbal attacks will not be tolerated. The Committee may remove or restrict a member's access to the mailing list as well as apply further penalties such as suspension or deduction of competition points etc.
- c. Committee mailing lists
 - i. North Kanto north-kanto-japan-cup-committee@googlegroups.com
 - ii. East Kanto east-kanto-japan-cup-committee@googlegroups.com
 - iii. South Kanto south-kanto-japan-cup-committee@googlegroups.com
 - iv. West Kanto west-kanto-japan-cup-committee@googlegroups.com
 - v. Kansai
 - vi. Tokai tokai-japan-cup-committee@googlegroups.com
 - vii. Tohoku

6. Player Eligibility

- a. A player cannot play for more than **one** Japan Cup team in any given season (calendar year). This includes teams playing in different Japan Cup divisions or regions. For example, a player cannot play in the Japan Cup for Team A in North Kanto and Team B in East Kanto in season 2022. In the case of "clubs" entering more than one "team" in the Japan Cup the same rule applies.
- b. To play in a regional final, a player must (i) be registered to that team before the final round of regular season matches and (ii) must have played at least one game for that team before the final. Note that this rule applies only to regional finals and not semi-finals or play off matches.



- c. To play in the Japan Cup Finals tournament, a player must (i) be registered to that team before the final round of regular season matches and (ii) must have played at least one game for that team before the Japan Cup Finals.
- d. With regard to (ii) in sections b & c above, if a match is a “no-result” due to rain, forfeiture, etc., then a captain may list a player as being in the playing XI for that match by listing that player in the “Captain's Report for no-result or forfeited matches” submitted on or before the Monday after that scheduled match. The captain is not obliged to include the team list in the “Captain's Report for no-result or forfeited matches,” but please note that it will be deemed that a player has not played any match during the season if, in addition to that player not appearing in any scoresheet for a completed match during the season, the player has not been listed in a “Captain's Report for no-result or forfeited matches.”
- e. If a team plays an ineligible player they will be deemed to have forfeited the match and the player will not be eligible to play in the Japan Cup for the remainder of the season.

7. Scores

- a. Each match is to be scored both (i) live on the Japan Cricket app and (ii) on paper scorebook. There will be a minimum of two scorers operating at the same time and the scorers are to communicate with each other regularly.
- b. It is the responsibility of each team to provide scorebooks (paper), a device with sufficient battery power on which to score using the Japan Cricket app and scorers for the match. Both books (paper) should be recorded by two separate people at all times.
- c. Unless otherwise decided by the committee, the winning team has the responsibility of making sure the scores have been uploaded to the JCA online score system on the same day as the match and photos of the original score sheets are sent to the committee by the Monday following the match. Failing to upload scores or send photos will result in penalties.
- d. To use the JCA on-line scoring system, you need a login ID and password, which can be provided by your club manager. Please contact the JCA Community Cricket Manager if you need further assistance.
- e. The Japan Cricket app can be downloaded through the Google Play store or the Apple store.
- f. On-line Scoring System: <https://cricclubs.com/cricketorjp>

8. Umpiring

- a. For each match, the Japan Cup Committee will appoint neutral umpires from another team in the region or umpires that the Japan Cup Committee authorizes to adjudicate Japan Cup matches.
- b. If the Committee designates a Japan Cup team to provide neutral umpires for a match, then that team will provide two umpires for that match, unless otherwise instructed by the Committee. There are penalties for failing to send umpires or only sending one umpire.
- c. Any umpire payments or travel costs payable to umpires will be determined by the Committee.
- d. Neither team may object to an umpire's appointment made by the Japan Cup Committee.
- e. The umpires will be present at the ground at least 40 minutes before the scheduled start of play. Unless otherwise notified by the Committee, the toss shall take place 30 minutes before the scheduled start time.
- f. Umpires must
 - i. adhere to the Umpire's Code of Conduct
 - ii. submit an online Umpire's Report no later than (Monday 24:00) following the match
 - iii. Email photos of both team sheets to the Committee **before the toss**



- g. All teams must provide club members to attend umpire courses if requested to do so by the Committee

9. Codes of Conduct

- a. It is the responsibility of the Captains to ensure that their players respect the umpire's decision and uphold the image of cricket in Japan at all times.
- b. Codes of Conduct: <https://cricket.or.jp/en/archives/competition/japan-cup>
- c. The JCA Disciplinary Policy applies to all Japan Cup matches. Umpires are instructed to report players who break the Captains or Participants Code of Conduct using the online Umpires Report. The JCA Disciplinary Panel will deal with any reports of player misbehaviour and Code of Conduct breaches, both on and off the field.
- d. Decisions made by the JCA Disciplinary Panel are final and will apply to the Japan Cup in all regions

10. Team Sheets

- a. Both teams playing in the match must fill in a team sheet and submit it to the Umpire at the toss.
- b. Players not listed on the team sheet will not be able to play in the match.
- c. The Umpire must submit a photo of the team sheet to the Committee by email **before the toss**. Failing to do so will result in penalties.
- d. Players not listed in the playing XI on a team sheet may be used as a substitute fielder, as long as these players (i) are already registered to the team and (ii) have not played for any other team or acted as a substitute fielder for any other team in the Japan Cup in the current season.
- e. Team sheet: <http://cricket.or.jp/en/archives/competition/japan-cup>

11. Captain Reports

- a. After each match, the captains must complete the on-line Captains Report by the Monday (24:00) immediately following the match. Failing to complete it on time, will result in penalties.
- b. Captains reports can be found on the JCA website by navigating to Japan Cup → your region and clicking on "Links for Captains and Umpires".
<http://cricket.or.jp/en/archives/competition/japan-cup>

12. Umpire Reports

- a. After each match, the umpires must complete the on-line Umpires Report by the Monday (24:00) immediately following the match. Failing to complete it on time, will result in penalties.
- b. Umpires reports can be found on the JCA website by navigating to Japan Cup → your region and clicking on "Links for Captains and Umpires".
<http://cricket.or.jp/en/archives/competition/japan-cup>

13. Local Ground Rules & Regulations

- a. Instructions for using grounds as well as any local rules & regulations for grounds differ depending on the ground and the region. Regional Associations will inform all teams of any special rules & regulations for using Japan Cup grounds in the regions .
- b. Some grounds may have additional local ground rules, which overrule Japan Cup Playing Conditions.
- c. Committees will inform teams of the following:
 - i. Instructions for using and storing ground equipment at each ground (stumps, boundary ropes, etc.). Regardless of the ground/region, ground equipment must be returned neatly and in a respectful manner. Penalties will apply to teams that do not treat ground equipment and storage sheds with respect.
 - ii. Any rules & regulations concerning the use of the ground. For example, open and closing time of the ground, parking and the use of changing facilities, bringing



- iii. food, beverages, BBQ equipment to the ground.
- iii. Rules concerning bad weather and the cancellation of rain affected matches or matches that cannot be played due to ground condition.
- iv. Any local adjustments to Japan Cup Playing Conditions. For example, the rule for hitting the ball over protective nets at the YC&AC ground.

14. Ground Preparation and Clean up

- a. It is the responsibility for both teams to prepare the ground, such as setting up the wicket, drawing the 30 yard circle as Appendix B (the 15 yard marks are not required), placing the boundary rope, setting up the score board, tents, tables and chairs. Do not let the other team do all the work. If the ground is already set up when you arrive, you should volunteer to do the clean up on your own.
- b. No garbage should be left at the ground. After the match all teams/players should look around and pick up any garbage regardless of who's it was or when it was disposed.

15. Important Documents

- a. All important Documents are listed on the JCA website on the Japan Cup page for your region: <http://cricket.or.jp/en/archives/competition/japan-cup>

16. Penalties

- a. Japan Cup teams will be subject to the following penalties, which are to be regarded as standard for all Japan Cup matches, unless otherwise announced by the Committee. Penalties are to be applied by the Committee as soon as possible after the incident takes place and the team will be informed of the penalty.
- b. Deduction of two competition points:
 - i. failure to field a team (the team forfeits the match). In addition, the forfeiting team must (a) pay the other team's share of the ground booking for that match and (b) pay the other team's share of the umpire costs (if any have been incurred; this includes the cost of any pre-booked car or train tickets, etc.). If a team fails to field a team multiple times, the Committee may impose more severe penalties.
 - ii. Naming an ineligible player on the team sheet. In this case the team will also be deemed to have forfeited the match.
 - iii. Failure to provide any umpires for a match in which a team is scheduled to provide two umpires.
- c. Deduction of one competition point:
 - i. Providing only one umpire for a match in which a team is scheduled to provide two umpires.
 - ii. Match start time is delayed due to one team arriving to the ground late.
 - iii. failure to upload scores to the JCA online score system on the day of the match after having received at least one warning (winning team).
 - iv. failure to wear approved cricketing attire after having received at least one warning
- d. Deduction of 0.2 NRR points
 - i. failure to upload a scores to the JCA online score system on the day of the match (winning team).
 - ii. failure to submit a photo of the score sheets to the committee by the Monday following the match (winning team).
 - iii. failure to submit a Captain's Report by the Monday following a completed match (both teams).
 - iv. failure to submit photos of team sheets to the Committee before the match (umpires).
 - v. umpire provided by the team failing to wear approved umpiring attire (see Umpire's Code of Conduct).
 - vi. failure to submit an Umpire's Reports for a completed match at which it provides



umpires by the Monday following the match (both umpires are required to submit reports).

- vii. failure to wear approved cricketing attire.
- e. Penalties for actions including, but not limited to, those set out in this document will be imposed at the discretion of the Committee in consultation with the JCA and may be based, among other factors, upon Captain's Reports and Umpire's Reports submitted after matches.

17. Qualification for Japan Cup Finals tournament

- a. The qualification system for the Japan Cup Finals tournament will be announced each year by the JCA Community Cricket Manager.
- b. In principle, the champion team (Division 1) in each region will automatically qualify for the Japan Cup Finals.
- c. In principle, in regions which have two divisions the division 1 runner up team and Division 2 champion team will have the opportunity to qualify for the Japan Cup Finals through "qualifying matches" prior to the tournament.
- d. In the event that a region has been unable to complete its regional Japan Cup qualifying tournament (e.g., unforeseen suspensions to the season or ground closures), the team currently ranked the highest in the region may be chosen to qualify for the Japan Cup Finals tournament.

18. JCA Contacts

- a. Community cricket and Japan Cup administration: Dhugal Bedingfield d-bedingfield@cricket.or.jp
- b. Sano grounds: Yoshi Uehara y-uehara@cricket.or.jp
- c. JCA Disciplinary Panel: Alan Curr a-curr@cricket.or.jp
- d. Club and player registration: Makoto Kubota: m-kubota@cricket.or.jp
- e. Send your match photos! photos@cricket.or.jp