

# Neon Cricket Wiltshire County Cricket League

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## League Policy – Promotion and Relegation

This document details the league policy on promotion and relegation. It combines the effect of the league rules on the subject with common practice.

### Ideal Situation.

Ideally, in every division, the top two teams are promoted to the division above, and the bottom two teams are relegated to the division below. However, this often does not happen, due to teams dropping out of the league, unbalanced promotion / relegation between the WCCL and WEPL, etc. Despite this, teams finishing in the top two places should expect to be promoted. Teams finishing in the bottom two places should expect to be relegated, and shall have no grounds to object if this happens due to decisions made by the league committee. Teams finishing above the bottom two positions should not expect to be relegated unless it is unavoidable.

### Unbalanced Promotion and Relegation

The following describes the situation between two divisions:

Situation	Promoted	Relegated
Balanced Promotion/Relegation	2 Teams Promoted	2 Team Relegated
One more team is to be promoted than relegated.	2 Teams Promoted	1 Team Relegated
Two more teams are to be promoted than relegated.	3 Teams Promoted	1 Team Relegated
One more team is to be relegated than promoted,	2 Teams Promoted	3 Teams Relegated
Two more teams are to be relegated than promoted.	2 Teams Promoted	4 Teams Relegated

### Double Promotions and Additions of New Teams

If teams are double-promoted, and/or if teams join the league other than at the bottom of the league structure, then this will change the number of teams which are promoted / relegated. The league will not do this if:

- It causes a team in first or second place in a division to not be promoted.
- It causes a team who are not in the bottom two places in a division to be relegated.

However, it may cause a team in third place to not be promoted, or a team in the bottom two places to be relegated, when otherwise they may not have been. Such teams shall have no grounds to object.

The following exception to the above applies:

- A team may join the league and be placed in any division, regardless of the effect on promotion and relegation, if it is announced that this will happen prior to the start of the season before the season in which the team joins the league (so it may be announced prior to May 2024 that a team will be joining the league in a specific division in 2025).

Teams will only be double-promoted (or more) in exceptional circumstances. Previous exceptional circumstances include:

- A team having previously joined the league have shown they were placed in a division which was too low.
- Following a league restructure, a team have shown they were placed in a division which was too low.
- Following a season not being played (in 2020), a team has strengthened sufficiently over two years that they demonstrated they should now be playing two divisions higher.

## **Double Relegation**

Teams may ask to be double-relegated (or more). The league will do this if they are satisfied that the team would otherwise be playing in a division which is above their ability level.

## **Ultimate Decision**

As per league rule 15(q), the League Management Committee reserves the right to make adjustments to the procedure for promotion and relegation on a case-by-case basis should they feel it is necessary, regardless of what is written above.