



# Atlanta Cricket League 2016

## Format

The Atlanta Cricket League will be adopting an improved and modified format from the 2016 season onwards. The primary objectives driving the change are:

- Improvising the existing format based on past 2 years of experience
- To provide a fair and an even competitive platform for the participating teams
- Creating the ability to accommodate additional teams
- To leverage our constrained resources appropriately i.e. grounds and budget

### **ACL fundamental League structure:**

- Grounds: Baseball and multi-purpose fields in and around metro Atlanta area
- Schedule:
  - Day: Sundays, Saturdays included for Playoffs rematch excluding finals
  - Season: from April to October (includes playoffs)
- Match:
  - 15 overs per side played with a hard tennis ball provided by ACL
  - Maximum 9 eligible members per side who must be registered on the team roster on the ACL website
- Umpiring: Neutral umpiring provided by other teams, scheduled by ACL
- Team Roster: No maximum limit, first 15 players are covered under season team registration fees and every additional player will be subject additional charge to be paid by the respective team.

Refer to *ACL Rules* documents on [www.atlantacrickettleague.org](http://www.atlantacrickettleague.org)

### New format structure (effective 2016 season):

- Number of Leagues: 3
- Name of the Leagues: **Division I, Division II and Division III**, respectively.
- Team Allocation: Based “End of 2015 Season” ranking,
  - Division I: 28 Teams (2015 Premier League teams ranked 1-20 and 2015 Star League teams ranked 1-8)
  - Division II: 28 Teams (2015 Premier League teams ranked 21-28, 2015 Star League teams ranked 9 –24 and 4 teams (**Winners** of ranking playoff match between 2015 Star League 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> teams and 4 Semifinalist teams from 2015 Plate League) – **Ranking Playoff Match will be played at the beginning of 2016 season**)
  - Division III: Up to 48 teams (All 2015 Star League teams ranked 29 –52 will be placed in Division III along with the other teams from 2015 Plate League based on available infrastructure).
- Refer to ACL Rankings on [www.atlantacrickingleague.org](http://www.atlantacrickingleague.org).

**Exception:** In the event, 2015 Star League teams ranked 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> or any of the 2015 Plate League Semifinalist teams do not register for 2016 season, the Star League team will retain its place in Star League with no match required to be played by that particular team.

If 24<sup>th</sup> team doesn't register then 25<sup>th</sup> team gets the 24<sup>th</sup> rank and so on. In this scenario 29<sup>th</sup> team will get 28<sup>th</sup> spot and will get an opportunity to play a game with 4<sup>th</sup> ranked semifinalist team from 2015 Plate League for a spot in Division II.

In case of one of the semifinalist 2015 Plate League team doesn't register then the 25<sup>th</sup> team from 2015 Star League will qualify to stay in Division II.

**This exception is applicable only to year 2016 season**

## DIVISION I

- Teams/Pools: 28 teams, based on rankings from the ACL 2015 standings, divided into 2 pools of 14 teams each (e.g. Pool A (A1 to A14) and Pool B (B1 to B14))
  - Snake Pattern will be used in assigning the pools based on the rankings from year 2015 as depicted below

<b>Pool A</b>	<b>Pool B</b>
R1	R2
R4	R3
R5	R6
R8	R7
R9	R10
R12	R11
R13	R14
R16	R15
R17	R18
R20	R19
R21	R22
R24	R23
R25	R26
R28	R27

- Games: Each team will be playing 13 games against other teams in the pool in a round robin format
- Relegation to Division II: Teams ranking 21 to 28 (11, 12, 13 and 14 in each pool) will be relegated to Division II for next season and will be ranked 1 through 8 as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book
- Playoffs: These are single elimination rounds, through to the Finals. Games will be played on Saturdays, if required.
  - Top 2 from each pool (4 teams) automatically qualify for the Quarter Finals
  - e.g. A1, A2, B1, B2
  - Pre-Quarter Finals
    - Teams ranked 3 to 6 in each pool (8 teams) will play Pre-Quarter Finals
    - e.g. A3 vs. A6, A4 vs. A5, B5 vs. B4 and B6 vs. B3
    - The winner of each pre-quarter finals will retain or get the highest rank of the match up
    - e.g. in a match A3 vs. A6, if A6 wins, A6 will be assigned A3 rank and so on

- The losing teams from pre-quarter finals will be ranked as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book
- Quarter Finals
  - Teams ranked A1 to A4 and B1 to B4 will play cross pool Quarter Finals
  - e.g. A1 vs. B4, A2 vs. B3, A3 vs. B2 and A4 vs. B1
  - The winner of each quarter final will retain or get the highest rank of the match up
  - e.g. in a match A1 vs. B4, if B4 wins, B4 will be assigned A1 rank and so on
  - The losing team from quarter finals will be ranked as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book
- Semi Finals
  - Teams ranked A1, A2 and B1, B2 will play Semi Finals e.g. A1 vs. B2, A2 vs. B1
  - The winner of each semifinal will retain or get the highest rank of the match up
  - e.g. in a match A1 vs. B2, if B2 wins, B2 will be assigned A1 rank and so on
  - The losing teams from Semifinals will be ranked as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book
- Finals
  - Teams ranked A1 and B1 will play finals
  - Winner will get #1 ranking for Division I 2016 and Runners Up will get #2 ranking for Division I 2016

## DIVISION II

- Teams/Pools: 28 teams, based on rankings from the ACL 2015 standings, divided into 2 pools of 14 teams each (e.g. Pool A (A1 to A14) and Pool B (B1 to B14))
  - Snake Pattern will be used in assigning the pools based on the rankings from year 2015 as depicted below

Pool A	Pool B
R29	R30
R32	R31
R33	R34
R36	R35
R37	R38
R40	R39
R41	R42
R44	R43
R45	R46
R48	R47
R49	R50
R52	R51

- Games: Each team will be playing 13 games against other teams in the pool in a round robin format
- Promotion to Division I: Teams ranking 1 to 8 (The 8 Quarter Finalists) will be promoted to Division I for the next season
- Relegation to Division III: Teams ranking 21 to 28 (11, 12, 13 and 14 in each pool) will be relegated to Division III for next season and will be ranked 1 through 8 as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book
- Playoffs: These are single elimination rounds, through to the Finals. Games will be played on Saturdays, if required.
  - Top 2 from each pool (4 teams) automatically qualify for the Quarter Finals
  - e.g. A1, A2, B1, B2
  - Pre-Quarter Finals
    - Teams ranked 3 to 6 in each pool (8 teams) will play Pre-Quarter Finals
    - e.g. A3 vs. A6, A4 vs. A5, B5 vs. B4 and B6 vs. B3
    - The winner of each pre-quarter final will retain or get the highest rank of the match up
    - e.g. in a match A3 vs. A6, if A6 wins, A6 will be assigned A3 rank and so on

- The losing teams from pre-quarter finals will be ranked as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book
- Quarter Finals
  - Teams ranked A1 to A4 and B1 to B4 will play cross pool Quarter Finals
  - e.g. A1 vs. B4, A2 vs. B3, A3 vs. B2 and A4 vs. B1
  - The winner of each quarter final will retain or get the highest rank of the match up
  - e.g. in a match A1 vs. B4, if B4 wins, B4 will be assigned A1 rank and so on
  - The losing team from quarter finals will be ranked as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book
- Semi Finals
  - Teams ranked A1, A2 and B1, B2 will play Semi Finals e.g. A1 vs. B2, A2 vs. B1
  - The winner of each semifinal will retain or get the highest rank of the match up
  - e.g. in a match A1 vs. B2, if B2 wins, B2 will be assigned A1 rank and so on
  - The losing teams from semifinals will be ranked as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book
- Finals
  - Teams ranked A1 and B1 will play finals
  - Winner will get #1 ranking for Division II 2016 and Runners Up will get #2 ranking for Division II 2016

## DIVISION III

Teams/ Pools: 48 teams, based on rankings from the ACL 2015 standings and the Pre-Season Qualifiers, can be divided up to 4 pools using Snake Pattern.

Games: Each team will play 11 games against other teams in the pool in a round robin format

Minimum of 4 teams should qualify for the QF's at the end of round robin stage

Elimination: 8 teams will be eliminated from the league.

Promotion to Division II: Teams ranking 1 to 8 (The 8 Quarter Finalists) will be promoted to Division II for the 2017 season

Entry into Division III: Following is the priority for the 4 available spots

- Existing teams: If a team that played with ACL for minimum of 6 years consecutively including last year (with no gap) then they will get the spot. If we have more than 4 teams then team with highest consecutive number of years with ACL will be given the preference
- Pre-Season Qualifiers : If there are more than 4 teams including the teams that got eliminated from the current year then Qualifier match will decide the remaining 4 spots

Playoffs: These are single elimination rounds, through to the Finals. Games will be played on Saturdays, if required.

This league is a four pool league.

Four Pools:

- Top 3 teams from each pool qualify for the play offs.

Pre-Quarter Finals

- Teams ranked 2 and 3 in each pool (8 teams) will play Pre-Quarter Finals
- e.g. A2 vs. A3, B2 vs. B3, C2 vs. C3 and D2 vs. D3
- The winner of each pre-quarter finals will retain or get the highest rank of the match up
- e.g. in a match A2 vs. A3, if A3 wins, A3 will be assigned A2 rank and so on
- The losing teams from pre-quarter finals will be ranked as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book

Quarter Finals

- The pool toppers (of A to D) will be given ranks #1, #2, #3, #4 as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book.
- The teams in 2nd place of each pool are given ranks #5, #6, #7, #8 as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book.
- Teams ranked 1 to 8 will play Quarter Finals e.g. 1 vs. 8, 2 vs. 7, 3 vs. 6 and 4 vs. 5
- The winner of each quarter finals will retain or get the highest rank of the match up
- e.g. in a match 1 vs. 8, if 8 wins, 8 will be assigned 1 rank and so on
- The losing team from Division III quarter finals will be ranked as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book

#### Semi Finals

- Teams ranked 1 to 4 will play Semi Finals e.g. 1 vs. 4, 2 vs. 3
- The winner of each semifinal will retain the highest rank of the match up
- e.g. in a match 1 vs. 4, if 4 wins the match, they will be assigned 1 rank and so on
- The losing teams from Division III semifinals will be ranked as per section 15 (Points Assignment) in the ACL Master Rules Book

#### Finals

- Teams ranked 1 and 2 will play finals
- Winner will get #1 ranking and Runners-up will get #2 ranking for Division III 2016