



With effect from the end of the Brexit transition period, which is currently set at 31 December 2020, the legal rights of certain player groups will fundamentally change.

Accordingly, the ECB Board has decided that the ECB's registration regulations for First Class County Cricket, the Women's Elite Domestic Structure and the Men's and Women's Hundred should be amended as follows:

'Kolpak' players

Regulation 2 regarding "Qualified Cricketers" will be amended to remove the right of so-called 'Kolpak' players to be registered as a 'Qualified Cricketer'. 'Kolpak' players are those players who, to date, have been eligible to register as a 'Qualified Cricketer', solely by virtue of being a national of a country (including South Africa, Zimbabwe and certain West Indian countries) which is party to the Cotonou Agreement.

In recognition of the fact that the ECB will no longer be bound by the Cotonou Agreement with effect from 1 January 2021, the following changes will be implemented by the

ECB:

:: All "Kolpak" players currently registered as a Regulation 2 player will have their registration cancelled by the ECB with effect from 1 January 2021.

:: No further applications by any "Kolpak" player for registration as a Regulation 2 player will be accepted (unless such a player meets the eligibility criteria detailed in the amended Regulation 2).

:: The above will apply regardless of whether such player currently holds, or is able to obtain, an ancestral or family visa giving them the right to work in the UK.

EU Nationals Regulation 2 regarding Qualified Cricketers will continue to allow EU nationals and their family members who have obtained or in due course do obtain Settled status or Pre-Settled status under the UK Government's Settlement Scheme to be registered as a 'Qualified Cricketer'.

EU nationals who have not obtained the above Settled status or Pre-Settled Status will not be eligible to be registered under Regulation 2 after 31 December 2020, unless the terms of any new EU/UK or other UK trade deal grants them the right to do so.

Accordingly:

:: All EU national players currently registered as a Regulation 2 player will have their registration cancelled with effect from 1 January 2021 unless they can evidence having Settled status or Pre-Settled status by that date.

:: No further EU national applications for registration as a Regulation 2 player will be accepted with effect from 1 January 2021 unless the player can evidence having Settled status or Pre-Settled status.

:: The above will apply regardless of whether such player currently holds, or is able to obtain, an ancestral or family visa giving them the right to work in the UK.

Qualifying under Regulation 3

Under the current Regulation 2, any player who is registered under Regulation 2 may not play for another ICC Full Member Country or play domestic professional cricket in another ICC Full Member Country as a local player. Any player who does so, or announces their intention to do so, is in breach of Regulation 2 and will be liable to have their 'Qualified Cricketer' registration cancelled.

However, the ECB can confirm that, as of the date of this letter, any player who, as a result of the above changes, loses their right to be registered and play as a "Qualified Cricketer" under Regulation 2 will be eligible to be registered under Regulation 3 as an 'Unqualified Cricketer', even if he/she plays for another ICC Full Member Country or plays domestic professional cricket in another ICC Full Member Country as a local player (provided they meet all the other eligibility requirements).

Should the 31 December 2020 end date of the transition period change, the above changes will be subject to further review by the ECB.