

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE QUALIFICATION AND REGISTRATION OF CRICKETERS

1 DEFINITIONS

In these Regulations (which may be amended on written notice by the ECB to all First Class Counties and the Professional Cricketers Association):

- 1.1 “Appeal Panel” means the Appeal Panel, appointed pursuant to Regulation 11.
- 1.2 “Approved Cricket” means a Domestic Cricket Event as defined by the ICC in Regulation 32 of the ICC Regulations.
- 1.3 “Approved Playing Contract” means a player contract between the relevant First Class County and relevant Cricketer in one of the standard forms approved by the ECB.
- 1.4 “Arbitration Panel” means the Arbitration Panel, appointed pursuant to Regulation 8.
- 1.5 “Competition” means each of the Bob Willis Trophy, the Vitality Blast and the Royal London One-Day Cup.
- 1.6 “Competitive County Cricket” means:
 - (a) the Bob Willis Trophy and the National Counties Championship;
 - (b) the Royal London One-Day Cup, Vitality Blast, National Counties Trophy and the National Counties T20; and
 - (c) any other similar competition authorised by and designated as Competitive County Cricket by the ECB which for the avoidance of doubt shall include National County Friendly Matches, matches between First Class Counties and MCC Universities and matches between a First Class County or the Unicorns and a representative side of a Full or Associate Member Country.
- 1.7 “County”, except where the context may otherwise require, means any one of the County Cricket Clubs from time to time playing in the County Championship or the National Counties Championship or the Bob Willis Trophy.
- 1.8 “CDC” means the Cricket Discipline Commission of the ECB.
- 1.9 “Cricketer” means a cricketer who is or seeks to be qualified and/or registered in accordance with these Regulations.
- 1.10 “ECB” means the England and Wales Cricket Board, or a duly appointed committee thereof.
- 1.11 “ECB Regulations” means any ECB rules, regulations, codes or policies as are in force from time to time.
- 1.12 “EEA” means the European Economic Area, namely the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg,



France, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Austria, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia and includes each of its member states as from time to time applicable.

- 1.13 “Finals Stage” means in relation to the Bob Willis Trophy, Vitality Blast and the Royal London One-Day Cup, the period from the day after the last scheduled group match in the relevant Competition to the last scheduled day for the final of that Competition.
- 1.14 “First Class Cricket” means First Class or List A Cricket as recognised by the ICC and, at the discretion of the ECB, other Approved Cricket which is not recognised as First Class or List A Cricket by the ICC, but which is played by teams which also play First Class Cricket and/or List A cricket as recognised by the ICC (and for the purposes of this definition, teams playing First Class Cricket shall include, without limitation and until further notice to the contrary, the teams which participate or have participated in either the BCCI approved IPL or the Cricket Australia approved “Big Bash” tournament or teams which play in any analogous Approved Cricket in any format of the game).
- 1.15 “First Class County” means a county to which the ECB has officially accorded first class status being those counties listed as first class county clubs in the ECB’s Articles of Association from time to time.
- 1.16 “Full Member Country” means a country which is a full member of the ICC and “Associate Member Country” means a country which is an associate member of the ICC.
- 1.17 “Governing Body” means, in relation to an Unqualified Cricketer, the Governing Body or Bodies (if any) for cricket of any ICC Full or Associate Member Country or Countries for which he is qualified to play in a Test Match, One Day International Match or International T20 Match under ICC Regulations.
- 1.18 “Group Stages” means, in relation to the Bob Willis Trophy, Vitality Blast and the Royal London One-Day Cup, the period from the first scheduled group match of the Competition until the last scheduled group match in the Competition.
- 1.19 “Hundred Team” means any of the teams from time to time playing in The Hundred
- 1.20 “ICC” means the International Cricket Council.
- 1.21 “ICC Regulations” means the ICC Regulations as amended from time to time.
- 1.22 “National County” means a county cricket club, formerly known as a “Minor County Cricket Club”, as listed in the ECB Articles of Association (as amended from time to time).
- 1.23 “National County Friendly Match” means any match between a National County and a First Class County which forms part of the series of warm-up friendly one-day matches being played prior to the start of the Royal London One-Day Cup.
- 1.24 “Notice of Appeal” shall have the meaning set out at Regulation 11.3.
- 1.25 “Official Cricket” means cricket which is classified as official cricket under the



ICC Regulations.

- 1.26 “Player Development Compensation Regulations” means the new ECB regulations of that name (as amended from time to time) which supplement these Regulations.
- 1.27 “Professional Cricket” means all competitive cricket played by teams of a professional standard or in which the Cricketer is being paid to participate as a professional player, in each case whether or not recognised as Official Cricket by the ICC and includes First Class Cricket.
- 1.28 “Qualified Cricketer” shall have the meaning set out in Regulation 2.1.
- 1.29 “Residing” and “resident” mean the occupation of a bona fide home (i.e. the only or main home of the Cricketer concerned) and the acquisition of temporary accommodation during the season may not fulfil this requirement.
- 1.30 A “season” means the English cricket season running from the first day of the first match of the first class or one day season to the last day of the last match of the first class or one day season, both dates inclusive, and the “close season” means the period from the day after the last day of the last match of the first class or one day season to the day before the first day of the first match of the first class or one day season in the next year, both dates inclusive.
- 1.31 “Test Match” means any match recognised as such by the ICC and “One Day International Match” means a limited overs international match (or a series of such matches) between Full Member Countries, or between Associate Member Countries with ICC ODI status, or between a Full Member Country and an Associate Member Country with ICC ODI status. “International T20 Match” means a 20 over international match (or a series of such matches) between any ICC Member Countries.
- 1.32 “The Hundred” means the ECB’s new and additional domestic cricket competition in a “100-ball” format, in which new teams will participate with effect from the 2021 season.
- 1.33 “Unqualified Cricketer” means any Cricketer who does not fulfil all of the requirements of Regulation 2.1.

2 QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION FOR COMPETITIVE COUNTY CRICKET

- 2.1 Subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB and subject as provided below, a Cricketer will only be qualified to play in a Competitive County Cricket match (a “Qualified Cricketer”) if:
- (a) he is either: (i) a British or Irish citizen; or (ii) an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen with settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme; and
 - (b) he has not, within the 12 months leading up to 1st April immediately before the season in question, or at any time subsequently before applying for and being granted his registration with his county either (i) played cricket for any Full



Member Country except England at U17 level or above, or (ii) played Professional Cricket in any Full Member Country outside England and Wales or Professional Cricket in any other country outside England and Wales which is organised by or on behalf of any Full Member Country, except for First Class Cricket or other Official Cricket or Approved Cricket as an overseas cricketer under local rules promulgated by the relevant governing body of the Full Member Country similar to Regulation 3, or in any other circumstances approved by the ECB or (iii) played Professional Cricket in any country which is not recognised as Official Cricket or Approved Cricket; and

- (c) he does not, during the currency of his contract with his County or his registration with his County either (i) play cricket for any Full Member Country except England at U17 level or above, or (ii) play Professional Cricket in any Full Member Country outside England and Wales or Professional Cricket in any other country outside England and Wales which is organised by or on behalf of any Full Member Country, except for First Class Cricket or other Official Cricket or Approved Cricket as an overseas cricketer under local rules promulgated by the relevant governing body of the Full Member Country similar to Regulation 3, or in any other circumstances approved by the ECB or (iii) play Professional Cricket in any country which is not recognised as Official Cricket or Approved Cricket; and
- (d) he makes, whenever requested by the ECB, a declaration in the form set out in Annex A to these Regulations.

2.2 If at any time the Cricketer becomes disqualified through the provisions of Regulation 2.1(c), he must notify both the ECB and his County. In this circumstance, subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB, the ECB will immediately cancel the Cricketer's registration as a Qualified Cricketer and he may not apply again for registration as a Qualified Cricketer during the term of the contract between the Cricketer and the County for which he was originally registered as a Qualified Cricketer.

2.3 A Cricketer must be qualified for England (in accordance with the "Regulations defining Qualification for England") to be eligible to represent a Minor County in a Competitive County Cricket match.

2.4 Where a Cricketer does not fulfil or at any time ceases to fulfil all of the conditions in Regulation 2.1 the ECB may for the purposes of exercising its overriding discretion pursuant to Regulation 2.1 or 2.2 above require him to attend a hearing at the ECB's offices in London to advance any case that he might have that the discretion should be exercised in his favour, answer any questions the ECB may have and provide any documents or other materials that the ECB considers may be relevant.

3 UNQUALIFIED CRICKETERS

The ECB retains an overriding discretion over the provisions and application of

Regulation 3.

- 3.1 Subject only to Regulation 3.4, each County will be entitled to have registered at any one time only three Unqualified Cricketers in respect of the 2020 season.
- 3.2 In the Competitions in the 2020 season, a First Class County may field the following maximum numbers of Unqualified Cricketers in each match:
- The Bob Willis Trophy: a maximum of one Unqualified Cricketer
- Royal London One-Day Cup: a maximum of one Unqualified Cricketer
- Vitality Blast: a maximum of two Unqualified Cricketers
- 3.3 In any Competitive County Cricket which is not part of a Competition, a County may field a maximum of one Unqualified Cricketer in each match.
- 3.4 Notwithstanding Regulation 3.1, a County may register one or more additional Unqualified Cricketers for a specific match or matches in the Finals Stage of the Vitality Blast and/or the Finals Stage of the Royal London One-Day Cup where such Unqualified Cricketer(s) is/are eligible to play in that match or matches by complying with one or more of the conditions in Regulation 3.5. The maximum number of Unqualified Cricketers who can be fielded in each such match, as set out in Regulation 3.2, shall continue to apply and such additional Unqualified Cricketer shall be deemed to occupy one such place.
- 3.5 In order to be eligible to represent a County in a match in the Finals Stage of the Bob Willis Trophy, the Vitality Blast and/or the Finals Stage of the Royal London One-Day Cup an Unqualified Cricketer must have been:
- (a) registered by that County and played in at least one match for that County in the Group Stages of the relevant Competition; and/or
 - (b) registered by that County and named in that County's squad for an abandoned match in the Group Stages of the relevant Competition; and/or
 - (c) registered by that County for a match in the Group Stages of the relevant Competition and obtained a medical certificate to confirm that he was unfit to play in that match or otherwise confirmed that he was isolating at the time of the match in connection with COVID-19 (and provided evidence of that if requested by the ECB).
- 3.6 A County shall be entitled to change or temporarily substitute any one or more of its Unqualified Cricketers after the commencement of the season subject always to the provisions of these Regulations.
- 3.7 An Unqualified Cricketer must be registered by a County for a minimum period of 21 consecutive days, save only where:
- (a) the County wishes to register the Unqualified Cricketer during the final 21 day period of the season and the ECB has been notified in writing by the relevant County of its proposed registration of that Unqualified Cricketer before the start



of that 21 day period (and for the avoidance of any doubt this Regulation 3.7(a) should not be construed as in any way permitting the cancellation of the registration of another Unqualified Cricketer within 21 days of his registration); and/or

- (b) the County has registered an additional Unqualified Cricketer pursuant to Regulation 3.4, which registration will be deemed to remain in force solely for the duration of the specified match or matches, as listed in the registration application, in which the relevant County participates, after which time the registration of that additional Unqualified Cricketer shall be deemed to have been automatically cancelled.

3.8 Where a County wishes to cancel the registration of one Unqualified Cricketer and on the same day register another Unqualified Cricketer in accordance with these Regulations, that day shall be deemed to constitute the last day of registration for the first Unqualified Cricketer and the first day of registration for the replacement Unqualified Cricketer. Only one of these Unqualified Cricketers may play in any match on that day.

3.9 Where an Unqualified Cricketer has been registered during the close season or during a previous season, the 21 day minimum registration time period shall only be deemed to run from the first day of the following season.

3.10 Each Unqualified Cricketer must be registered before the first Competitive County Cricket match in which he represents the relevant County.

3.11 A County will not under any circumstances be entitled to register:

- (a) an Unqualified Cricketer who has already represented another First Class County in a Competitive County Cricket match during the relevant season; or
- (b) an Unqualified Cricketer who has within the 12 months leading up to 1st April immediately before the season in question or at any time subsequently before applying for and being granted his registration with his County, played Professional Cricket in any country which is not recognised as Official Cricket or Approved Cricket.

3.12 A County shall not make a legally binding arrangement with any player, whether in the form of a contract of employment or otherwise, to play him as a registered Unqualified Cricketer, for any period which:

- (a) if such legally binding arrangement is made during a season, extends beyond that season and the following season; and
- (b) if such legally binding arrangement is made during a close season, extends beyond the ensuing two seasons.

3.13 A County wishing to register an Unqualified Cricketer must first obtain the written consent of his Governing Body (if any) in accordance with the ICC Regulations.

3.14 If an Unqualified Cricketer, having been registered:



- (a) indicates by whatever means that he is unavailable for or declines selection by his Governing Body for an official tour or other competition, his County may not, except with the prior consent of the ECB, play the Cricketer in any Competitive County Cricket match during the currency of that tour or while his country's team is involved in the tour or competition in question; or
- (b) during the currency of his contract with a County plays Professional Cricket in any country which is not recognised as Official Cricket or Approved Cricket then, subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB, the Cricketer's registration as an Unqualified Cricketer will be cancelled and he shall not be permitted to apply again for registration during the term of the contract between the Cricketer and the County for which he was originally registered as an Unqualified Cricketer.

4 REGISTRATION PROVISIONS

- 4.1 Subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB and the provisions of Regulations 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 5, a County may register any Cricketer subject to any terms and conditions which the ECB may think fit to impose.
- 4.2 The ECB shall have an overriding discretion to refuse to grant a registration in respect of any given Cricketer where:
 - (a) a County is subject to any applicable player registration sanctions under any ECB Regulations; and/or
 - (b) the Cricketer in question is subject to any suspension or period of ineligibility under any ECB or ICC Regulations or the Regulations of another ICC Member Country; or
 - (c) having given the relevant County and Cricketer a reasonable opportunity to make representations the ECB considers, in its absolute discretion, that the grant of such registration adversely affects (or is likely to adversely affect) the best interests, image or reputation of Competitive County Cricket, the ECB or cricket generally, including but not limited to where the Cricketer in question is the subject of any allegations, investigations or charges by the ECB, ICC, another ICC Member Country, police or other law enforcement body relating to any doping, corruption or criminal offence or any other serious misconduct.
- 4.3 Except with the approval of the ECB, each First Class County may have a maximum of 30 Qualified Cricketers registered for it at any one time. However, a First Class County may register:
 - a) an additional Qualified Cricketer above this limit for each of its registered Qualified Cricketers who has an ECB red ball and/or white ball central contract to play for England for all or a substantial part of the current season.
 - b) an additional Qualified Cricketer above this limit, who may be registered to play in the Royal London One-Day Cup and National County Friendly Matches only,



for each of its registered Qualified Cricketers who holds a playing contract for that season with a Hundred Team.

4.4 Subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB, no Cricketer may be registered:

- (a) for more than one County at any one time; or
- (b) for more than two Counties in the same season; or
- (c) for one County when he is contracted in writing by another County unless such contract only relates to a period beyond the end of the current season and if applicable relates to a period beyond the expiry of his existing County contract

IN EACH CASE PROVIDED THAT

- (i) a Qualified Cricketer already registered for a Minor County may be registered for a First Class County, or vice versa, with the consent of the County with whom he is already registered and without cancellation of the registration for that County being required; and
- (ii) a Qualified Cricketer may be loaned to another First Class County in accordance with Regulation 12; and
- (iii) a Qualified Cricketer whose registration with a First Class County has been validly cancelled during the current season may be registered with another First Class County during the current season PROVIDED that either:
 - a) he is registered for one of the First Class Counties in respect of the Royal London One-Day Cup and National County Friendly Matches only; or
 - b) he shall not be eligible to play in the current season for his new County in the Finals Stage of a Competition unless he has, within the current season:
 - (a) played in at least one match for his new County in the Group Stages of that Competition; and/or
 - (b) been named in his new County's squad for an abandoned match in the Group Stages of that Competition; and/or
 - (c) been registered by his new County at the time of a match in the Group Stages of that Competition and obtained a medical certificate to confirm that he was unfit to play in that match or otherwise confirmed that he was isolating at the time of the match in connection with COVID-19 (and provided evidence of that if requested by the ECB).

In the case of a dispute arising from the Cricketer's contract with the first County being terminated, it shall be at the discretion of the ECB to determine whether the registration may be transferred.

4.5 Where the County has registered a Qualified Cricketer pursuant to Regulation 4.3 or 4.4



for the Royal London One-Day Cup and National County Friendly Matches only, this registration will be deemed to remain in force solely for the duration of the Royal London One-Day Cup, after which time the registration of that Cricketer shall be deemed to have been automatically cancelled. Such a player is not eligible to play in any other Competition.

4.6 No Cricketer shall be eligible to play for any County in any Competitive County Cricket during the period in which he has been released by his County to play for a Hundred Team in The Hundred.

5 FURTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO REGISTRATION

5.1 Subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB, no Cricketer may:

- (a) be registered for a First Class County until:
 - (i) he has completed the PCA Online Anti-Corruption Module, the PCA Illicit Drugs On-Line Module and the ECB Cardiac Screening Pre-Registration Requirements set out on the ECB website at the time of registration; and
 - (ii) he holds a signed Approved Playing Contract;
- (b) play for a County in any Competitive County Cricket match unless:
 - (i) he is registered for that County or loaned to that County in accordance with these Regulations.
 - (ii) the County with which he is registered has submitted to the ECB a signed undertaking in the form prescribed by ECB.

5.2 Every registration shall remain effective until cancelled or suspended in accordance with Regulation 6.

5.3 An application for registration including a copy of the Cricketer's signed Approved Playing Contract with the First Class County, associated Agency Transaction Form and other supporting paperwork as required in each particular case by ECB must be submitted by a County on the ECB's official Application Form signed by the Chief Executive/ Secretary of the County (or another authorised official), the Cricketer and, where the Cricketer is under 18 years old, his parent/guardian.

5.4 Not later than the last working day prior to the first day of the season in each year, each County shall send to the ECB and to every other County, in a form prescribed by the ECB, lists of:

- (a) its registered Cricketers showing (i) the category of Approved Playing Contract in place for each Cricketer for all or part of the relevant season, and (ii) in the case of any Cricketer whose playing contract of employment expires before the start of the following season the date when such contract is due to expire or terminate; and



- (b) any Cricketers on loan to that County, including the competitions to which the loan relates; and
 - (c) the Cricketers whose registrations for that County have been cancelled since the circulation of the previous season's list.
- 5.5 When a County registers a Cricketer, any such registration and the information regarding that Cricketer listed in Regulation 5.4 must be notified to the other Counties within 14 days after such registration is approved by the ECB.
- 5.6 No full time Cricketer may play in any Competitive County Cricket match unless the County has satisfied the ECB, if so required by the ECB, that the contractual position between the County and the Cricketer has been agreed and covers the relevant period, which may be for part of a season only.
- 5.7 If at any time after the season's list is lodged with the ECB, a County agrees with a Cricketer a new date for when his contract of employment will expire or terminate which renders the information given under Regulation 5.4(a)(ii) out-of-date, it will promptly notify both the ECB and all other Counties and provide them with the updated information regarding that Cricketer listed in Regulation 5.4.
- 5.8 A registration will not become effective until the ECB has issued a confirmation of that registration, provided that in a case of emergency the Chief Executive of the ECB or their authorised deputy may grant a temporary registration which shall have the full effects of registration before an Application Form and supporting paperwork completed and satisfactory in all respects have been received and considered by the ECB, subject to such an Application Form being subsequently lodged within such a period as the Chief Executive of ECB shall require.

6 CANCELLATION/SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION

- 6.1 Cancellation of a registration may only take place as follows:
- (a) by written notice to the ECB signed by the County and the Cricketer agreeing to such cancellation; or
 - (b) by written notice by either the County or the Cricketer to the ECB and to the other in any case where the Cricketer has ceased to be employed by the County in question and the ECB is satisfied that no infringement of Regulation 7.1 or 7.2 has occurred; or
 - (c) by way of automatic cancellation in accordance with Regulation 3.7(b); or
 - (d) by the ECB:
 - (i) in the case of a temporary registration which is not followed by an Application Form completed and satisfactory in all respects within such period as may be required pursuant to Regulation 5.8; or
 - (ii) to give effect to a decision of the CDC or any other tribunal or panel



appointed under any ECB or ICC Regulations or the Regulations of another ICC Member Country (as applicable); or

- (iii) if it considers, in its absolute discretion and having given the relevant County and Cricketer a reasonable opportunity to make representations, that such cancellation would be in the best interests of Competitive County Cricket, the ECB or cricket generally including but not limited to where the Cricketer in question is the subject of any allegations, investigations or charges by the ECB, ICC, another ICC Member Country, police or other law enforcement body relating to any doping, corruption or criminal offence or any other serious misconduct;
- (iv) where the Cricketer in question ceases to be eligible to be registered as a Qualified Cricketer pursuant to Regulation 2 or as an Unqualified Cricketer pursuant to Regulation 3 (as the case may be) or otherwise to give effect to the relevant provisions of Regulations 2 or 3 (as applicable); or
- (v) in the case of any registered Cricketer (whether on a list supplied by his County pursuant to Regulation 5.4 or otherwise) such Cricketer does not hold a signed Approved Playing Contract with his County; or
- (vi) if, within a reasonable period after he has been requested to do so by the ECB, the Cricketer has not made and delivered to the ECB a declaration in the form set out in Annex A to these Regulations, including, if so requested, a renewal of such declaration and such other undertaking or declaration as the ECB may from time to time require; or
- (vii) in the case of an Unqualified Cricketer, if the County holding his registration fails to provide the written consent of his Governing Body in respect of the relevant season in accordance with Regulation 3.13.

6.2 Without prejudice to the ECB's rights to cancel a Cricketer's registration pursuant to Regulation 6.1, the ECB may elect to suspend a Cricketer's registration:

- (i) to give effect to a decision of the CDC or any other tribunal or panel appointed under any ECB or ICC Regulations or the Regulations of another ICC Member Country (as applicable); or
- (ii) if it considers, in its absolute discretion and having given the relevant County and Cricketer a reasonable opportunity to make representations, that such suspension would be in the best interests of Competitive County Cricket, the ECB or cricket generally including but not limited to: (i) as a result of any failure by the County or the Cricketer to comply with any terms and conditions imposed by the ECB under Regulation 4.1; and/or (ii) where the Cricketer in question is the subject of any allegations, investigations or charges by the ECB, ICC, another ICC Member Country, police or other law enforcement body relating to any doping, corruption or criminal offence or any other serious misconduct.

6.3 If the registration of a Cricketer is cancelled but his contract with a County remains



effective for any period thereafter the County will so notify the ECB and the Cricketer will remain, until the contract terminates, subject to and bound by the ECB Regulations and in all respects subject to the ECB's jurisdiction as if he had remained a registered Cricketer. If the registration of a Cricketer is suspended, the Cricketer will remain subject to and bound by the ECB Regulations and in all respects subject to the ECB's jurisdiction.

- 6.4 If the registration of a Cricketer is cancelled or suspended at any time (for any reason), the County with whom the Cricketer was previously registered must notify, in the written form prescribed by the ECB at Regulation 5.4, all the other Counties within 14 days of such cancellation or suspension being notified to or by the ECB (as applicable).
- 6.5 Unless otherwise notified in writing by the ECB at the time of the suspension, the suspended Cricketer shall, if a Qualified Cricketer, be counted against the maximum limit set in Regulation 4.3 and, if an Unqualified Cricketer, remain subject to the minimum 21 consecutive day period of registration and be counted against the County's maximum Unqualified Cricketer limits in Regulation 3. Any such suspended Cricketer shall, during any such period of suspension, remain subject to these Regulations but not be eligible to play in any Competitive County Cricket.

7 NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN COUNTIES AND CRICKETERS

- 7.1 A County must not approach or be involved in discussions with any Cricketer registered by another County or any agent or other person on his behalf with a view to offering him a trial or registering him or employing him in any capacity unless Regulation 7.3 or 7.4 or 7.5 applies. A County which fails to comply with this Regulation 7.1 shall be liable to a fine of not less than £20,000 and not more than £50,000 (as determined, where necessary, by a Disciplinary Panel pursuant to the CDC Regulations).
- 7.2 Each registered Cricketer shall be deemed to have undertaken that neither he nor any agent or other person on his behalf will approach or be involved in discussions with any other County with a view to employment in any capacity unless Regulation 7.3 or 7.4 or 7.5 applies. A Cricketer who breaches this undertaking shall be liable to suspension and/or an unlimited fine (as determined, where necessary, by a Disciplinary Panel pursuant to the CDC Regulations).
- 7.3 Regulations 7.1 and 7.2 shall not apply to approaches or discussions by a First Class County to or with a Cricketer whose only registration is with a Minor County, if that Minor County consents or at least 14 days' prior written notice has been given to that Minor County. A First Class County that fails to provide such notice or to receive the consent of the Minor County will be liable to a £500 fine (as determined, where necessary, by a Disciplinary Panel pursuant to the CDC Regulations).
- 7.4 Regulations 7.1 and 7.2 shall not apply to approaches or discussions to which the County with whom the Cricketer is registered has given its prior written consent, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed. A County shall be deemed to have given such consent in any case where it has informed the Cricketer in question in writing that



he will not be offered a new contract of employment when his present contract expires, or, if he has no contract, that he will not be offered a contract for the next season. For the purposes of this Regulation 7.4, the ECB shall have an overriding discretion to disapply Regulations 7.1 and 7.2 in circumstances where it believes that a County is acting or has acted unreasonably in withholding or delaying its consent.

7.5 Regulations 7.1 and 7.2 shall not apply to approaches or discussions which:

- (a) are not commenced until written notice of intention to commence them has been given to the County with whom the Cricketer is registered (such notice to be copied to the ECB), and
- (b) either (i) take place to or with a Cricketer whose contract of employment with that County has come to an end or who never had a contract; or (ii) are first initiated after 1st June in any season to or with a Cricketer whose contract of employment expires prior to the start of the season in the following year.

7.6 In order to discourage informal approaches, including approaches through a County's registered Cricketers, if an employee or agent (including another Cricketer) or official or member of the Governing Body of a County approaches or is involved in discussions with a Cricketer or any agent or other person on his behalf, such approach or discussions shall be regarded for the purposes of this Regulation as an approach or discussion on behalf of that County, except in circumstances where the County satisfies the ECB that this was contrary to a written instruction received by the employee or agent or official or member of the Governing Body concerned and that the employee or agent or official or member of the Governing Body concerned had not been authorised to make the approach or to be involved in the discussions. For this purpose a person shall be deemed to be an agent of a County at any time when he is engaged in an activity at the request or with the authority of that County or in respect of which he receives any remuneration or other benefit (including reimbursement of any part of his expenses) from that County or on the basis of past experience could reasonably expect to receive any such remuneration or other benefit as aforesaid.

7.7 The provisions of Regulations 7.1 and 7.2 shall also apply to a Cricketer who is in the process of qualifying as a Qualified Cricketer under Regulation 2 in order to become a registered Cricketer for a County where:

- (a) the County concerned has a bona fide intention to register that Cricketer on qualification;
- (b) the Cricketer is contracted by the County during the season or seasons remaining before qualification, and
- (c) the County has notified the ECB and all other Counties in writing of the position relating to that Cricketer by reference to this Regulation.

8 TRANSFERS OF CRICKETERS BETWEEN COUNTIES

- 8.1 If any payment or other valuable consideration is received by a County in connection with the transfer of a Cricketer from employment by one County to employment by another, all Counties having knowledge thereof shall promptly report full details thereof to the ECB. There is no objection to any such payment if (but only if) Regulation 7.3 or 7.4 or 7.5 has been complied with.
- 8.2 Every County shall have an obligation to notify the ECB promptly of any fact or circumstance coming to its attention which might give rise to a suspicion that a breach of Regulation 7.1 or 7.2 may have occurred, and to supply full details thereof. Upon receipt of any such notification, the ECB shall report the same to each County involved, together with such details as may be relevant to identify the circumstance, and each such County shall promptly supply to the ECB copies of all documents in its possession or under its control, together with all other information available to it, which may be of assistance in establishing whether or not a breach of Regulation 7.1 or 7.2 has occurred and, if so, by whom. If the ECB considers, after examining the documents and other information supplied to it, that a breach of Regulation 7.1 or 7.2 or of this Regulation may have occurred, the matter shall be referred to the CDC and dealt with in accordance with these Regulations and the CDC Regulations.
- 8.3 A Cricketer (with the prior written consent of the Professional Cricketers' Association ("PCA")) who believes that his relationship with his employer has irretrievably broken down (whether or not in consequence of a breach of contract by either party) may apply in writing to ECB for the appointment of a mediator. If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved (whether by mediation or otherwise) within 28 days after such application (or such shorter period as ECB shall determine), the Cricketer may at any time thereafter apply in writing to ECB for the appointment of an Arbitration Panel ("the Arbitration Panel") to determine whether or not it would be in the interests of cricket for the Cricketer's employment to come to an end before the date fixed by his contract and, if so, what payment (if any) should be made to the County (either by the Cricketer or by another County) by way of compensation for the loss of his services during the unexpired term of his contract. Any such application must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit of £1,000 which shall be used to defray the costs of the arbitration.
- 8.4 Upon receipt of any such application, the ECB shall appoint the Arbitration Panel which shall consist of three members, one to be nominated by the PCA, one to be nominated by the Chairman of the ECB and the Chairman of the Arbitration Panel to be nominated by Sport Resolutions (UK).
- 8.5 The Chairman shall fix a date or dates for the hearing, the first of which shall be within 28 days of the lodging of the application. Any such hearing may (if the Chairman thinks fit) be in two parts, the first to determine whether or not it would be in the interests of cricket for the employment to come to an end, the second to determine the level of compensation (if any) to take place only if and when the Arbitration Panel's decision on the first issue has been notified to the parties. In determining either issue the Arbitration Panel may take into consideration all or any of the following:

- (a) all information made available to the ECB;
- (b) the behaviour of the County and the Cricketer respectively;
- (c) the Cricketer's remuneration, the unexpired term of his contract of employment, his level of experience and expertise and his future potential;
- (d) the likely cost to the County of employing an adequate replacement;
- (e) the length of the Cricketer's employment by the County prior to the hearing and the extent and estimated cost of the contribution (if any) which the County has made to his development as a Cricketer;
- (f) such other matters as the Arbitration Panel may in its sole discretion consider relevant.

8.6 Subject only to the provisions of these Regulations, the Arbitration Panel or its Chairman shall determine its own procedure. A decision of the Arbitration Panel shall be by majority vote and where necessary its Chairman shall have a casting vote. Its decision shall be communicated in writing to the parties as soon as practicable after the hearing.

8.7 The Arbitration Panel shall have unlimited power to award costs against either party, taking account of the non-refundable deposit already paid under Regulation 8.3.

8.8 Any decision of the Arbitration Panel shall be final and binding and shall not be subject to appeal.

9 DISPUTES

Any unresolved dispute as to the interpretation or implementation of these Regulations shall be referred to the ECB for a decision. Such decision, subject to the provisions for appeal contained in Regulation 11 below, shall be final and binding on the parties to the dispute.

10 NOTICES

Any notice to be given to a County under these Regulations shall be deemed to be properly given if delivered by hand, email or sent by first class or registered post addressed to the Chief Executive of the County at the address for that County registered with the ECB. Any notice to be given to a Cricketer under these Regulations shall be deemed to be properly given if delivered by hand or sent by first class or registered post to him at his last known address in the United Kingdom with a copy to his County marked for his attention. Any such notice shall be deemed to be served on the second day following that on which it is posted, save in the case of hand delivery or email in which case service will be deemed to have taken place on the date of hand delivery or the sending of the email (as applicable).

11 APPEALS PROCEDURE

- 11.1 Appeals from parties directly affected by decisions of the ECB under these Regulations (excluding any decisions by the Arbitration Panel established pursuant to Regulation 8.3) shall be made to the Appeal Panel (the “Appeal Panel”). Any dispute as to whether a party is directly affected by a relevant decision of the ECB shall also be resolved by the Appeal Panel.
- 11.2 The Appeal Panel will hear appeals on the merits against decisions made by the ECB including against any sanction or penalty imposed as a result, or as part, of that decision. The Appeal Panel shall determine the dispute in accordance with these Regulations and, where appropriate, the laws of England and Wales. However, the Appeal Panel will also pay due regard, to the extent permitted by law, to the fact that certain decisions are made in the exercise of the absolute discretion of the ECB and that the ECB is the guardian of the game of cricket in England and Wales and is in a unique position to assess the best interests of the game.
- 11.3 A written notice of the Appeal complying with Regulation 11.4 below (a “Notice of Appeal”) must be received by the ECB’s Head of Cricket Operations (First Class) within 14 days of receipt of notification by the directly affected party of the relevant decision. Failure so to lodge a written Notice of Appeal complying with the requirements of Regulation 11.4 below will mean that the appeal is out of time and it will not be entertained by the Appeal Panel, unless the Appellant can demonstrate to the Appeal Panel that there were exceptional reasons justifying such failure.
- 11.4 The Notice of Appeal must state (i) the decision or part of the decision or the penalty/sanction against which the Appeal is made (ii), the grounds and basis of the Appeal and, (iii) the nature of the remedy sought. The Notice of Appeal must be accompanied by a deposit of £1,000 which may be used to defray part of any costs awarded against the appellant or returned to him/her in whole or in part after the Appeal Hearing at the discretion of the Appeal Panel.
- 11.5 As soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of the Notice of Appeal, the Chairman of the CDC shall appoint the Appeal Panel comprising three members, one from a list of suitable persons nominated by the PCA, one to be nominated by the Chairman of the ECB and a suitably qualified Chairman of the Appeal Panel to be nominated by Sport Resolutions (UK).
- 11.6 The Chairman of the Appeal Panel shall fix a date for the appeal hearing which shall normally be within 28 days of the lodging of the Notice of Appeal.
- 11.7 The Appeal Panel shall determine its own procedure, provided that this shall include the opportunity for each party to present his/its case. The ECB will normally be represented as a party to any appeal against a decision of the ECB.
- 11.8 Decisions of the Appeal Panel shall be by majority vote and where necessary the Chairman of the Panel shall have a casting vote.
- 11.9 Decisions of the Appeal Panel shall be communicated in writing to the parties as soon as possible after the hearing.



- 11.10 The Appeal Panel shall have unlimited power to award costs against either party. For the avoidance of any doubt, the payment of the £1,000 deposit should in no way be construed as a cap on the costs liability of any party which submits an Appeal.
- 11.11 Any decisions made pursuant to these Regulations shall stand and be enforceable by the ECB pending determination of any appeal pursuant to this Regulation.
- 11.12 The decision of the Appeal Panel shall be final and binding on all parties to the appeal and there shall be no right of appeal of any kind by any party to any body whatsoever on any ground whatsoever, and/or the parties shall be deemed to have waived irrevocably any right to appeal, review or recourse to a court of law, arbitral body or any other body of any nature.

12 LOAN SYSTEM

Subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB (which discretion, by way of example only, is likely to be exercised against a County which is subject to registration sanctions or other sanctions under any ECB Regulations), only loans of Qualified Cricketers between Counties are permitted as set out in this Regulation 12:

- 12.1 The loan of a registered Cricketer from one County (the “Home County”) to another County (the “Away County”) will be permitted as long as the ECB are informed in writing of the loan prior to the commencement of the loan period.
- 12.2 Loans may only take place with the written agreement of the Home County, the Away County and the Cricketer. A County wishing to take on loan a Cricketer who has not been advertised for loan must first direct its approach to the Chief Executive of the County employing that Cricketer and in no circumstances should any approach be made to the Cricketer by any representative of the County wishing to take him on loan until approval has been given by the Home County. A Cricketer interested in being offered out on loan must address this with his County Chief Executive and in no circumstances approach another County with a view to a loan until his availability has been agreed with his County.
- 12.3 A Cricketer may be (a) loaned to play in all competitions for the Away County or (b) loaned for a specific Competition(s) and/or second XI competition(s) without affecting the Cricketer’s availability for the Home County in other Competition(s). The Home County shall have priority should there be a conflict of fixtures for the Cricketer, save that in the event of a fixture clash between an Away County first XI fixture and a Home County second XI fixture, the Away County shall have priority. A Cricketer may only be loaned to one Away County at any one time.
- 12.4 Save only as set out in Regulation 12.5 loans (or an extension of a current loan to include additional Competition(s)) must be for a minimum period of 7 days in the first instance. Subsequent extensions are permitted by agreement between the Home and Away Counties and the Cricketer.

A loan may not be for more than one season and a loan (or an extension of a current

loan to include additional Competition(s)) may not be commenced in a close season or later than 7 days before the end of the relevant season.

- 12.5 Subject to the prior written approval of the ECB, the loan of a Cricketer will not be subject to the restrictions in Regulation 12.4 if such loan's core purpose is to provide a wicket-keeper for a County and then only for such time period as the ECB is satisfied that no other reasonable wicket-keeping options are available to that County.
- 12.6 A Cricketer may, subject to the relevant restrictions set out in this Regulation 12, be loaned to more than one Away County in any single season.
- 12.7 The agreement between the Home County and the Away County regarding the loan of the Cricketer (including the terms of any restrictions on the Cricketer's ability to play for the Away County) will be recorded in the ECB's standard form loan agreement which must be signed by the Home County, the Away County and the Cricketer and a fully signed copy lodged with the ECB.
- 12.8 A Cricketer shall not be eligible to play in the Finals Stage of a Competition for the Away County unless he has, within the current season:
- (a) played in at least one match for the Away County in the Group Stages of that Competition; and/or
 - (b) been named in the Away County's squad for an abandoned match in the Group Stages of the that Competition; and/or
 - (c) been on loan to the Away County at the time of a match in the Group Stages of that Competition and obtained a medical certificate to confirm that he was unfit to play in that match or otherwise confirmed that he was isolating at the time of the match in connection with COVID-19 (and provided evidence of that if requested by the ECB).

However no such restriction shall apply to the player's ability to play for the Home County in any Competition.

- 12.9 The Cricketer may not return to play for the Home County except (i) in a match in a Competition or second XI competition which is not expressly covered by the terms of the loan agreement, or (ii) in the circumstances set out in Regulation 12.13 or (iii) as a result of the termination or expiry of the loan agreement; or (iv) in exceptional circumstances and with the prior written approval of the ECB Head of Cricket Operations (First Class). Exceptional circumstances may include unexpected international call up or an injury to a key Cricketer of the Home County for whom the Cricketer would be a direct and reasonable replacement.
- 12.10 Unless otherwise agreed by each of the Home County, the Away County and the Cricketer in writing in the loan agreement, the Away County will pay to the Home County the basic salary, National Insurance and other contractual payments (except pensions) due to the Cricketer during the course of the loan period (and as set out in the Cricketer's contract with the Home County) plus VAT if applicable. In addition, during the loan period, the Cricketer will receive from the Away County any appearance



monies, win bonuses or other similar bonus payments to which other members of the Away County's team would be entitled during the loan period. The Cricketer's pension contributions will continue to be paid by the Home County.

- 12.11 The registration (and the contract of employment) of the Cricketer will remain with the Home County throughout the loan period.
- 12.12 At the end of the loan period (including any extensions) the Cricketer will return to the Home County and will be entitled to the normal benefits of his contract (until its expiry).
- 12.13 Unless expressly stipulated otherwise in the loan agreement, the Home County may recall the Cricketer to play in a match or matches in the Finals Stage of the Royal London One-Day Cup or Vitality Blast during the loan period, and notwithstanding any such recall the term of the loan agreement shall continue uninterrupted in accordance with its terms.

ANNEX A



Declaration referred to in Regulation 2.1(d) of the Regulations Governing the Qualification and Registration of Cricketers.

To the England and Wales Cricket Board (the “ECB”)

I, []

of []

DO SOLEMNLY AND SINCERELY DECLARE as follows:

- 1 This declaration is made for the purposes of the 2020 ECB Regulations Governing the Qualification and Registration of Cricketers (“the Regulations”) and the terms used in it have the meanings given to them in the Regulations.
- 2 That it is not my desire or intention to play cricket for any Full Member Country except England at any time in the future and accordingly from the date of this declaration I will not play, and I am not seeking to and will not seek to qualify to play, in a Test Match, a One Day International Match, an International T20 Match, any other First Class Match, or any other Match at Under 17 level or above for any such Full Member Country. Nor is it my desire or intention to play Professional Cricket in any Full Member Country outside England and Wales or Professional Cricket in any other country outside England and Wales which is organised by or on behalf of any Full Member Country, except for First Class Cricket, Official Cricket or Approved Cricket as an overseas cricketer under local rules similar to Regulation 3 of the Regulations, or in any other circumstances approved by the ECB and accordingly from the date of this declaration I will not so play and I am not seeking to and will not seek to so play.
- 3 I undertake and agree to abide by all ECB Rules and Regulations, Codes and Directives and further, I undertake to abide by the policies of the ECB always acting in the best interests of cricket in England and Wales.
- 4 I acknowledge that this declaration shall not prevent me from representing an ICC Associate Member Country unless and until I have represented an ICC Full Member Country at Under 19 level or above.
- 5 I have sought and been given legal advice as to the consequences of giving a false statement in this statutory declaration.

AND I MAKE this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

DECLARED by the said)

)

)

at

)



this day of

Before me,

Justice of the Peace or Notary Public or
other officer authorised by law to administer
an oath

REGULATIONS DEFINING QUALIFICATION FOR ENGLAND



In these Regulations, words and expressions defined in the Regulations Governing the Qualification and Registration of Cricketers (“the Qualification and Registration Regulations”) have the same meanings.

- 1 Subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB (which shall only be exercised in what the ECB adjudges to be exceptional circumstances) acting with the consent of the ICC, a Cricketer will only become qualified to play for England in a Test Match, One Day International Match or International T20 Match if:
 - (a) they are a British citizen; and either:
 - (i) they were born within England and Wales; or
 - (ii) they have been resident in England and Wales for the immediately preceding three years (within the meaning set out in Regulation 2 below); and
 - (b) they make, whenever requested by the ECB, a declaration in the form set out in Annex B to this Regulation; and
 - (c) they have not during the immediately preceding three consecutive years either
 - (i) played cricket for any ICC Full Member Country except England at under 17 level or above;
 - or (ii) played domestic First Class Cricket (or Competitive Women’s Cricket, as defined by the ECB) in any Full Member Country outside England and Wales, except as an overseas cricketer under local rules similar to Regulation 3 of the Qualification and Registration Regulations or in any other circumstances approved by the ECB; and
 - (d) they also continue to be qualified for England pursuant to the provisions laid down from time to time by ICC governing qualification for Test Matches, One Day International Matches and International T20 Matches.
- 2 In the case of a Cricketer seeking to become qualified under Regulation 1(a)(ii) above they will (until they have become qualified to play for England) only be treated as having been resident within England and Wales for the relevant consecutive period if they have spent a minimum of 210 days in each year within England and Wales (for which purpose “year” shall mean a year ending 31st March but may include the current year).
- 3 For the purpose of Regulation 1(c)(i) above, a Cricketer qualified for an ICC Associate Member Country can continue to represent that Country without adversely affecting their eligibility or interrupting their qualification period unless and until the Cricketer has played at Under 19 level or above under the auspices of the ICC for a Full Member Country.

If the player represents an ICC Associate Member Country after having represented



England at U19 level or above, he will not be eligible for selection for a period of 3 years after his last appearance for the ICC Associate Member Country unless ICC Regulations specify to the contrary.

- 4 The ECB may from time to time in its absolute discretion decide that a Cricketer qualified to play for England under these Regulations shall be ineligible for selection for England for a specified period or generally and may vary or cancel that decision at any time.

This discretion may be exercised when a cricketer has acted in a manner which is fundamentally inconsistent with the ECB's requirements, including, without limitation, by representing a country other than England or Wales in any other sporting event, by playing for an England representative side which is not approved by the ECB or otherwise acting in wilful default of any of the ECB's Regulations or decisions.

ANNEX B



Declaration referred to in paragraphs 1(b) of the Regulations defining Qualification for England

To the England and Wales Cricket Board

I declare that it is my desire and intention to play for England if selected and accordingly I will not play, and I am not seeking and will not seek to qualify to play, in a Test Match, a One Day International Match, an International T20 Match, any other First Class Match, or any other Match at Under 17 level or above for any other country.

I acknowledge that this declaration shall not prevent me from representing an ICC Associate Member Country unless and until I have represented an ICC Full Member Country, including England, at Under 19 level or above and provided that if at any time I should be selected to play on the same day for both England and such ICC Associate Country, I declare that it is my desired intention to play for England.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO ACADEMY PLAYER REGISTRATION



The following provisions shall apply to registration of young players:

In these Regulations words and expressions defined in the Regulations Governing the Qualification and Registration of Cricketers have the same meanings and “County Board” means a body defined as a County Cricket Board in the ECB Articles of Association.

1 ACADEMY REGISTRATIONS (BOYS AND GIRLS):

- 1.1 Each First Class County may register up to 12 players as registered academy players (“Academy Players”) who shall be aged 15 to 19 (inclusive) at midnight on 31 August in the year prior to the relevant season.
- 1.2 Players will be registered through submission of a completed pro-forma spreadsheet provided by the ECB. First Class Counties shall circulate to all other First Class Counties and County Boards a list of their registered Academy Players on the ECB pro-forma spreadsheet by 1st April and inform all County Boards and First Class Counties of any amendments to this list.
- 1.3 A First Class County or County Board must not approach or be involved in discussions with any Academy Player registered by another First Class County or any agent or other person on the Academy Player’s behalf with a view to offering the Academy Player a trial or registering or employing them in any capacity unless such discussion or approaches are not commenced until at least 28 days after prior written notice of intention to commence them has been given to the First Class County with whom the Academy Player is registered (such notice to be copied to the ECB). An organisation which fails to comply with this Regulation shall be liable to disciplinary action.
- 1.4 Cancellation of a registration may take place by written notice by either the First Class County or the Academy Player to the ECB and to the other. The registration of an Academy Player will automatically cease at the end of the season in which they are last eligible under Regulation 1.1 above or on 1st April in any season if his name does not appear on the First Class County’s list of registered Academy Players for that season.
- 1.5 A registered Academy Player shall not be eligible to play for any other county first XI, second XI or Age Group team in any ECB competition, without the permission of the First Class County with whom they are registered.
- 1.6 A registered Academy Player may not be registered with a second First Class County, either as an Academy Player or a Registered Cricketer, until the Academy Player’s registration with the first First Class County has been cancelled.
- 1.7 For the avoidance of doubt, registration as an Academy Player does not qualify an Academy Player to play Competitive County Cricket.
- 1.8 First Class Counties must ensure they inform all players and their parent/guardian that they have been placed on the list of Academy Players and gained their consent to be

placed on this list and for this information to be shared with the ECB and other First Class Counties and County Boards.

