

CRICKET EVENT REGULATIONS



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1. INTRODUCTION

The ECB recognises that organising cricket events can be revenue generating and have a positive impact on stakeholders within cricket and the game more widely. The ECB therefore welcomes, and encourages, the organisation of events by Cricket Organisations. However, in accordance with ICC Sanctioning Regulations, the ECB is required to approve cricket matches played within England and Wales and establish a process and framework for doing so. The process set out in these Regulations must therefore be followed by event organisers in order to ensure the integrity of the game and that the ECB can be satisfied that the event meets appropriate criteria to enable it to take place safely and in the best interests of cricket.

2. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of these Regulations:

Anti-Corruption Regulations means the ICC's Global Anti-Corruption Code.

Application means an application for the sanction of an Applicant Event submitted to the Cricket Approval Committee in accordance with Regulation 5.

Applicant Event means an Event which meets the criteria set out in Regulation 3.3 and is not an ECB Competition or an Automatically Sanctioned Event, for which sanction must be sought by the Cricket Approval Committee in accordance with Regulation 5.

Application Form means the form used to submit an Application to the Cricket Approval Committee substantially in the form as set out in Schedule 1.

Approved Cricket means any:

- a) event which has been sanctioned by the ICC and/or another national cricket federation in accordance with the ICC Sanctioning Regulations and does not also require sanction from the ECB;
- b) ECB Competition;
- c) NCCA Competition;
- d) Automatically Sanctioned Event; and
- e) Applicant Event which has been sanctioned by the Cricket Approval Committee in accordance with these Regulations.

Associate Member means any national cricket federation with associate member status of the ICC.

Automatically Sanctioned Event has the meaning given to it in Regulation 4.1.

Conditions Table means the table used by the Cricket Approval Committee to stipulate conditions of sanction in accordance with Regulation 8.1 substantially in the form as set out in Schedule 3.

Cricket Approval Committee means the committee appointed by the ECB to determine Applications under these Regulations.

Cricket Discipline Panel means the panel of individuals responsible for adjudicating on regulatory cases on behalf of the ECB.

Cricket Organisation has the meaning given to it in the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations.

Disapproved Cricket means:

- (a) an Event which:
 - (i) meets the criteria set out in Regulation 3.3 but is not an ECB Competition or an Automatically Sanctioned Event and has not been sanctioned by the Cricket Approval Committee in accordance with these Regulations; or
 - (ii) has been sanctioned by the Cricket Approval Committee in accordance with these Regulations but the conditions of approval have not been complied with in full; or
- (b) an Overseas Event which:
 - (i) has been determined to be disapproved cricket by the ICC and/or another national cricket federation; or
 - (ii) requires sanction by the ICC and/or another national cricket federation in accordance with the ICC Sanctioning Regulations but has not received the required sanction.

Disciplinary Procedure Regulations means the regulations governing the disciplinary procedure for regulatory cases brought before the Cricket Discipline Panel as in force and amended from time to time.

Domestic Matches has the meaning given to it in the ICC Sanctioning Regulations.

ECB means the England and Wales Cricket Board Limited.

ECB Board means the board of directors of the ECB.

ECB Competition means any cricket match or competition played in the Territory which is:

- (a) classified as Official Cricket by the ECB; or
- (b) otherwise organised by the ECB.

ECB Testimonial Rules means the ECB's Testimonial Rules in force from time to time.

Effective Date means 4 August 2025.

England Contract means an England central contract, development contract, skills contract or secondment agreement (or any equivalent contracts introduced by the ECB from time to time) entered into between the ECB and a male or female cricketer for such cricketer to play cricket for England.

Event means a cricket match or event, or a series of cricket matches or events including a competition or tour, to be played in the Territory.

Event Organiser means the Cricket Organisation or any other individual or entity which is proposing to stage an Applicant Event. Where an Applicant Event involves a Cricket Organisation in any way and/or is proposed at a venue that is either permanently under a Cricket Organisation's control or at a venue for which the Cricket Organisation will assume any control for a specific period, the Cricket Organisation will be deemed to be the Event Organiser and will have sole responsibility for making an Application under these Regulations.

Full Member means any national cricket federation with full member status of the ICC.

Green Guide means the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds published by the SGSA.

The Hundred means the ECB's domestic cricket competition in a "100-ball" format.

Hundred Team means any of the teams playing in The Hundred from time to time.

ICC means the International Cricket Council.

ICC Application Form means the application for an ICC NOC which is published on the ICC's website.

ICC Event has the meaning given to it in the ICC Sanctioning Regulations.

ICC NOC has the meaning given to it in the ICC Sanctioning Regulations.

ICC Sanctioning Regulations means the ICC Regulations on sanctioning of events and player release in force from time to time.

International Cricket has the meaning given to it in the ICC Sanctioning Regulations.

International Cricketer means a player who currently plays (or will have played in the 24 months before the Applicant Event) for a national representative team of a Full Member other than England and Wales.

Minimum Event Staging Standards has the meaning given to it in the ICC Sanctioning Regulations.

National County Club means any National County Cricket Club which plays in the NCCA Competitions.

NCCA means the National Counties Cricket Association.

NCCA Competition means any competition organised by the NCCA.

Notification Form means the form used to notify the ECB of the staging of an Automatically Sanctioned Event substantially in the form as set out in Schedule 2.

Official Cricket has the meaning given to it in the ECB's Classification of Official Cricket in force from time to time.

Overseas Event means a cricket match or event, or a series of cricket matches or events including a competition or tour, to be played outside the Territory.

Participant means an individual or entity subject to the jurisdiction of the ECB as defined in the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations.

PCA means the Professional Cricketers' Association.

Professional Conduct Regulations means the ECB's Professional Conduct Regulations in force and amended from time to time.

Professional County Club means any of the clubs and/or companies listed in schedule A to the ECB's articles of association from time to time and/or any county cricket club playing in the County Championship and/or the Tier 1 Competitions and/or the Tier 2 Competitions.

Recreational Cricket Board means a body designated as such by the ECB which oversees the organisation of recreational cricketing activity and the development of cricket generally within a county and such other areas (if any) as may be agreed by the ECB.

Registered Cricketer has the meaning given to it in the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations.

SGSA means the Sports Ground Safety Authority.

Solidarity Mechanism means a payment mechanism to compensate a national cricket federation for identifying and developing overseas players which has agreed between national cricket federations in accordance with the ICC Sanctioning Regulations.

Special Domestic Event means any Event of any format played over 120 balls or less which involves more than four International Cricketers.

Territory means England and Wales.

Tier 1 County means a Professional County Club that participates in Tier 1 Competitions.

Tier 1 Competitions means any women's domestic cricket competitions designated by the ECB as being a "Tier 1" competition, which, as at the Effective Date, includes the T20 Blast Women's Competition and the One Day Cup Women's Competition.

Tier 1 Registration Regulations means the regulations governing, amongst other things, registration for the Tier 1 Competitions as in force and amended from time to time.

Working Day means a day that is not a Saturday or Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday or any day that is a bank holiday in the Territory.

3. JURISDICTION AND SCOPE

3.1 In accordance with the ICC Sanctioning Regulations, the ECB has sole authority to authorise Domestic Matches played within the Territory. The ICC must also authorise Special Domestic Events.

3.2 The ECB Board has delegated authority to make decisions in accordance with these Regulations to the Cricket Approval Committee.

3.3 These Regulations will apply to the staging of any Event which involves four (cumulatively) or more cricketers who either:

3.3.1 have an England Contract;

3.3.2 are Registered Cricketers;

3.3.3 held an England Contract or were Registered Cricketers in the 12 months prior to the first date on which the Event is scheduled to take place;

3.3.4 are registered with another Full Member of the ICC; or

3.3.5 have participated in International Cricket in the 10 years prior to the first date on which the Event is scheduled to take place;

and which meets at least one of the following criteria:

3.3.6 is staged at a Cricket Organisation's ground, pitch or venue;

3.3.7 is staged at a ground, pitch or venue and for which an entry fee is charged;

3.3.8 is either broadcast or live streamed;

3.3.9 sponsorship rights have been sold or allocated in respect of the Event; and/or

3.3.10 the cricketers involved will be remunerated.

3.4 Notwithstanding that they meet the criteria set out in Regulation 3.3, bilateral internationals

involving teams that are not England will not require approval by the Cricket Approval Committee and will be approved by (or on behalf of) the ECB Board in accordance with a separate process.

- 3.5 Any Event which does not meet the criteria set out in Regulation 3.3 will not require approval by the Cricket Approval Committee.
- 3.6 For the avoidance of doubt, these Regulations do not apply to International Cricket.
- 3.7 Failure to comply with these Regulations will be referred to the Cricket Regulator for investigation in accordance with the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations.

4. AUTOMATICALLY SANCTIONED EVENTS

- 4.1 If an Event meets the criteria set out in Regulation 3.3 but:
 - 4.1.1 falls into one of the categories listed in Regulation 4.2; and
 - 4.1.2 will be attended by no more than 5,000 spectators,it will not require sanction on an individual basis and will be considered an **“Automatically Sanctioned Event”**, provided that the Event Organisers comply with Regulation 4.3.
- 4.2 The relevant categories for the purposes of Regulation 4.1 are as follows:
 - 4.2.1 an Event played entirely for the purpose of charity fundraising and/or promoting a community initiative and with no commercial benefit to the organisers of the Event;
 - 4.2.2 an Event which is governed by the ECB Testimonial Rules;
 - 4.2.3 an age group development Event played behind closed doors;
 - 4.2.4 an Event involving a touring national representative side (including an age group team or “A” side) which is not being broadcast;
 - 4.2.5 a local league final being hosted at a Cricket Organisation’s ground, pitch or venue; or
 - 4.2.6 a friendly or warm-up match played in preparation for an ECB Competition or ICC Competition.
- 4.3 Event Organisers staging Automatically Sanctioned Events must notify the ECB by submitting a fully and accurately completed Notification Form by email to the ECB’s Regulatory Department as soon as reasonably practicable once the Event has been arranged and, in any event, at least four weeks before the scheduled start of the Event.

5. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- 5.1 All Applications submitted in accordance with this Regulation 5 will be considered by the Cricket Approval Committee.
- 5.2 An Event Organiser must submit an Application Form and any accompanying documentation by email to the ECB’s Regulatory Department between 1 October and 28 February (or any other date as notified by the ECB). If an Application Form is not submitted in accordance with this deadline, the Cricket Approval Committee is not obliged to consider the Application. The Application Form must be completed as fully as possible as at the time the Application is made.
- 5.3 The ECB’s Regulatory Department will provide the Application Form and any accompanying documentation/information to the Cricket Approval Committee for determination. The

Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to request any further information from the Event Organiser that it deems necessary, in its sole discretion.

- 5.4 The Cricket Approval Committee will provide any other third party they deem necessary (which may include the PCA) with such Application Form and accompanying documentation/information within two Working Days of receipt of the Application. Such third party may, in their absolute discretion, submit written representations to the Cricket Approval Committee in relation to the Application within five Working Days of their receipt of the Application.
- 5.5 The Cricket Approval Committee will also consider any application from the Event Organiser to make oral representations before the Cricket Approval Committee.

6. CRITERIA TO BE APPLIED BY THE CRICKET APPROVAL COMMITTEE

- 6.1 In determining whether to sanction an Application under Regulation 5, the Cricket Approval Committee will act in accordance with the overriding principle that sanctioning decisions should be taken in the best interests of cricket and in the manner best calculated to advance public participation in the sport of cricket (whether in playing, umpiring, coaching, volunteering, spectating or otherwise), ensuring the long-term popularity/health and reputation of both the grassroots/amateur and professional game, domestically and internationally.
- 6.2 Subject always to Regulation 6.1 and in accordance with applicable laws, and without prejudice to the specific information requirements as set out in the Application Form, the following (non-exhaustive and non-prioritised) questions should be considered in deciding whether or not to sanction an Applicant Event:

- 6.2.1 Development of participation in cricket: Does the Applicant Event contribute materially to the development and long-term popularity and health of cricket in the Territory?

Explanatory note: Where an Applicant can evidence that the Applicant Event will contribute positively to the long-term health of cricket in the Territory, this may assist the Cricket Approval Committee in sanctioning an Application. Positive effects could include generating, on a sustainable basis: a wider playing or participation base; additional revenue for the sport (and in particular for reinvestment in the sport); increasing or intensifying audience engagement in cricket; presenting a positive societal message likely to lead to net growth in participation in cricket in the Territory in some form; and/or bringing in a wider audience to the game (for example television viewers or alternative forms of media).

The Cricket Approval Committee and the Event Organiser should consider this factor by reference to the ECB's Strategic Plan which has three key aims: (i) to become the most inclusive team sport, (ii) to grow and unite the game and (iii) to lead the game through global transformation.

- 6.2.2 Integrity and reputational impact: Do any of the entities involved in the staging of the Applicant Event bring with them a significant integrity or reputational risk, thereby risking the integrity and reputation of cricket as a whole, the Participants involved and/or the ECB?

Explanatory note: The Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to take into consideration the reputation, public status and integrity of the Event Organiser and/or any related third parties including promoters, sponsors and/or commercial partners and the effect (whether positive or negative) of those individuals/entities on cricket as a whole.

More generally, the Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to refuse an Application where it considers that there is a material risk that the staging of the Applicant Event (or any part thereof) might bring the ECB or the game of cricket into disrepute. Those involved in the organisation of the Applicant Event, or participating in it, should be fit and proper people. By way of example, there should be no improper links to unregulated or unlicensed gambling.

- 6.2.3 Historic compliance: Has the Event Organiser done or been involved in anything which might, at the relevant time, have constituted a material breach of the ECB's rules and regulations?

Explanatory note: *The Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to consider any actions on behalf of the Event Organiser (or involved third parties) which would (if the individual or entity was under the ECB's jurisdiction) constitute a material breach of ECB rules and regulations.*

Such non-compliance could include a failure to comply with these Regulations (for example by not applying to the Cricket Approval Committee for the staging of an Applicant Event or staging an Applicant Event but failing to comply with certain conditions) or breaches of the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations (for example as a result of discriminatory remarks made by the Event Organiser (or involved third parties) on social media).

- 6.2.4 Financial impact on the ECB: Could the Applicant Event affect the ECB's ability to make payments to the pyramid of cricket, thus impacting their ability to ensure a vibrant domestic game?

Explanatory note: *Cricket in the Territory operates matches/competitions as part of a "pyramid of sport" where funds derived from the international tournaments provide much of the funding required to support the domestic professional game. The ECB provides significant funds to Professional County Clubs and is the de facto funder of professional cricket, thus providing employment for almost all cricketers involved in the professional game in the Territory. As the ECB also provides substantial funds to Professional County Clubs, Recreational Cricket Boards, National County Clubs and organisations within the recreational game, any significant impact on the ECB's financial position would also have a significant impact on the game of cricket as a whole. An Applicant Event may generate financial upside for those organising, participating, or other stakeholders within the game. However, where it is apparent to the Cricket Approval Committee that such profits are at the expense of other parts of the cricket ecosystem and thus may have a net negative effect on the ECB's ability to fund the sport as a whole or poses a material threat to the viability of the sports pyramid, it may take this into account in determining whether or not to sanction the Applicant Event.*

- 6.2.5 ECB's contractual obligations: Does the Applicant Event impact the ECB's ability to comply with its contractual obligations under existing commercial, staging, broadcasting or other agreements?

- 6.2.6 Protection against loss: Can the Event Organiser demonstrate sufficient protections are (or will be) in place to protect against any loss suffered by any involved parties, including themselves, a host, players, participants, spectators and/or the ECB?

Explanatory note: *An Applicant Event should not be loss-making and Event Organisers must ensure that they have put in place suitable arrangements to mitigate, as far as possible, any reasonable and foreseeable risk of loss. This is intended to protect a number of stakeholders (both financially and reputationally) who might be affected by an issue arising from the Applicant Event.*

In large part this can be achieved by securing appropriate insurance policies (e.g. cancellation

insurance, player injury insurance etc.) and/or providing parties with indemnities but Event Organisers must also consider any specific losses that may arise due to the nature of the Applicant Event.

6.2.7 Charitable or benevolent purpose: Does the Applicant Event promote any charitable or benevolent purpose?

6.2.8 Player welfare: Does the Applicant Event pose any risk to player welfare?

Explanatory note: Event Organisers must consider all elements of player welfare and any Applicant Event sanctioned by the Cricket Approval Committee should protect the physical and mental wellbeing of all participants. In particular, consideration should be given to the requirement for players not to be overworked as a result of an overly congested fixture list. Players must have adequate time to rest and recover, as well as train, between matches and Events. In circumstances where there are concerns that players are being overworked due to a congested fixture list and may therefore be susceptible to health risks and/or injury, the Cricket Approval Committee may determine that, in the interests of those players, the Applicant Event cannot be sanctioned in its current form. In such a scenario, the Cricket Approval Committee may make it a condition of the staging of the Applicant Event that those players are not available to participate or that other rest periods are provided by agreement with their employers where a contractual release is required.

Event Organisers must be able to demonstrate what insurance arrangements are in place which cover, inter alia, player injuries arising from the Applicant Event.

Player welfare considerations should extend beyond physical concerns but provisions, where relevant, must also be in place to protect the mental wellbeing of all participants as well.

6.2.9 Conflicting fixtures: Can the Applicant Event be accommodated within the existing cricket calendar without having a (potential) adverse impact on existing fixtures?

Explanatory note: Cricket has limited fixture opportunities on the basis that it has a finite calendar. It is important to ensure that pre-existing fixtures and commitments (including where parties have entered into commercial agreements) are honoured and so, to the extent the Applicant Event jeopardises those fixtures, the Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to prefer the pre-existing calendar. The Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to reject an Application (or sanction an Application with conditions) where the Applicant Event would affect the ability of any Professional County Club or Hundred Team to play a full-strength team in any existing Event in accordance with their obligations under the Professional Conduct Regulations or where the venue proposed for the Applicant Event is already contracted at the same time to provide services to an ECB Competition. Where Applicant Events can be staged without any problems of concurrency, this should weigh considerably in the Applicant's favour, for example as a result of the Applicant Event:

- (i) being one-off in nature and targeted at a gap in a season;
- (ii) using otherwise unused or underused facilities (e.g. National County Club grounds or other high quality private venues); and/or
- (iii) using players not otherwise committed to an employer in their playing season or out of employment.

6.2.10 International duties: Does the Applicant Event affect contracted players fulfilling their international duties?

Explanatory note: *In accordance with the ICC Sanctioning Regulations, international cricket must be given primacy and protected and promoted above all else, because it remains the main showcase of the sport, the ultimate aspiration for young players joining the sport, and the main driver of the public interest and consequent commercial revenues that are the life-blood of the sport. It is therefore important that competing fixtures do not affect any international cricketer's ability to fulfil their international obligations to their fullest (whether or not an England player). Where there is an ECB contract or its equivalent these issues can be addressed through any power to refuse player release. However, beyond such cases the ECB is entitled to put forward representations from the England coaching and management teams and to hear from other national governing bodies, where, in their view, the Applicant Event may impede a cricketer with an England Contract or a foreign international player fulfilling their international duties effectively and therefore negatively impact the success of the national teams.*

6.2.11 Banned cricketers: Are any proposed participants currently subject to a ban from participation in cricket, have any participants participated in Disapproved Cricket in the preceding six months or do any proposed participants have unpaid fines issued by the Cricket Discipline Panel?

Explanatory note: *The ICC Sanctioning Regulations stipulate that no person who has been banned from participation in cricket for a period that covers the Applicant Event may participate, directly or indirectly in that Applicant Event. Additionally, the ICC Sanctioning Regulations also stipulate that a participant must not have participated in Disapproved Cricket in the six months preceding the Applicant Event. The Cricket Approval Committee will give effect to any restriction, exclusion or ineligibility imposed on a person or entity by any other national cricket federation.*

Where such players are being proposed to participate, the Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to reject the Application altogether or stipulate certain conditions to guarantee their non-participation.

6.2.12 Player releases: Has the Event Organiser complied with regulations governing player releases, including, where applicable, players obtaining No-Objection Certificates?

Explanatory note: *Where the success of an Applicant Event is in some way tied to the participation of certain players who, by their nature, require player releases in order to participate, Event Organisers should be able to demonstrate such releases sufficiently in advance of the Applicant Event. Failure to demonstrate as such may reflect the fact that the Applicant Event is not suitably managed and/or will not meet the standards expected of the Cricket Approval Committee, the ECB, promoters, sponsors, participants and/or spectators. The Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to take such a factor into consideration.*

6.2.13 Pitch standards: Does the staging of the Applicant Event have a negative effect on the proposed venue's pitch, square, outfield and/or practice facilities which might adversely affect an ECB Competition?

Explanatory note: *For ECB Competitions, the pitch must meet certain standards. Where the Applicant Event may lead to pitch deterioration, meaning that pre-existing fixtures in the calendar may be adversely affected, the Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to take this into account.*

6.2.14 Viability of the Applicant Event: Has the Event Organiser provided sufficient detail on the format and logistics of the Applicant Event to satisfy the Cricket Approval Committee that the Applicant Event is a commercially viable and robust proposal, with

appropriate contingencies in place to protect players and spectators in the face of cancellation or commercial failure?

Explanatory note: *The Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to reject an Application where it considers that there is a material risk that the Applicant Event (or a substantive commitment related to it) is not viable or feasible in the circumstances despite the assertions of the Event Organiser. This could include determining that there is insufficient time to put on an Event of the proposed scale or that the necessary funding, insurance, bank guarantees etc. are not in place. Such rejection will be necessary to protect to the integrity of the game as a whole as well as the participants, spectators and the ECB in circumstances where there are last-minute cancellations or the Applicant Event does not meet expectations.*

6.2.15 Regulatory compliance: Has the Event Organiser demonstrated that they have complied (or will comply) with all applicable laws and regulations which would govern the Applicant Event?

Explanatory note: *Where an Event Organiser cannot demonstrate such compliance this may be indicative that, for example, the Applicant Event may need to be cancelled last minute, or may go ahead without the necessary precautions, licenses, third-party consents etc. in place. This not only may have a negative impact on cricket as a whole and the players involved but also can pose a significant safety risk to participants and spectators. Inter alia, Event Organisers should be able to demonstrate they have considered key event requirements and regulations including in relation to: (i) employment (ii) health and safety, (iii) licensing, (iv) environmental protection, (v) waste management, (vi) public transport and mobility, (vii) energy and water, (viii) food, alcohol and smoking, (ix) ticketing, (x) marketing, (xi) crowd management, (xii) Anti-Corruption and (xiii) player protection.*

6.2.16 Safety, security and stability of the venue: Has the Event Organiser sufficiently demonstrated that the proposed venue is an appropriately safe, secure and stable location to host the Applicant Event taking into account all the circumstances? Have all relevant stakeholders (e.g. local authorities, safety authorities etc) been consulted and provided required consents? Has the Event Organiser sufficiently demonstrated that they will comply with SGSA standards as set out in the Green Guide?

Explanatory note: *Event Organisers should be able to sufficiently demonstrate that they have robust plans in place to ensure that the proposed venue complies with all applicable health and safety regulations and licensing laws. Where the Cricket Approval Committee considers that the proposed venue or competition arrangement poses any risk to participants, spectators or any other individual, it is entitled to refuse an Application or impose conditions on the Event Organiser. Given that individual safety is of paramount importance, the Cricket Approval Committee should ensure that there are no doubts in relation to compliance with this criterion. Event Organisers should be able to demonstrate to the Cricket Approval Committee that the event plans have taken into account the specific nature of the Applicant Event including (but not limited to) the number and demographic (e.g. age) of spectators, the status of the players (e.g. where high-profile individuals are participating, are there sufficient security provisions in place), the format of the Applicant Event, the facilities and transport logistics required.*

6.2.17 Anti-corruption safeguards: Are anti-corruption safeguards in place to ensure that players do not fall foul of pre-existing regulatory requirements?

Explanatory note: *Event Organisers must be able to evidence that such safeguards are in place in order to ensure that the integrity of the sport is not called into question as a result of the Applicant Event. Evidence may be required of the concrete steps taken to protect the integrity of the fixture against match-fixing or other improper gambling activity.*

6.2.18 Will the Applicant Event be a Special Domestic Event and, if so, has the Event Organiser provided sufficient information to satisfy the requirements for an ICC NOC?

Explanatory note: Any Special Domestic Event must meet certain requirements in order to receive an ICC NOC and must also be staged in accordance with the Minimum Event Staging Standards set out in Appendix 2 to the ICC Sanctioning Regulations, including in relation to anti-corruption, team ownership, anti-doping and medical, security and safeguarding.

For the additional process requirements in relation to Special Domestic Events, see Regulation 9 below.

7. DECISION

- 7.1 The Cricket Approval Committee will issue its decision in writing as soon as reasonably practicable, subject to receiving any necessary information from the Event Organiser in a timely manner.
- 7.2 The Cricket Approval Committee has the power to:
- 7.2.1 sanction the Application;
 - 7.2.2 sanction the Application subject to the satisfaction of conditions in accordance with Regulation 8 below;
 - 7.2.3 sanction the Application, with or without conditions, subject to the requirement for an ICC NOC in accordance with Regulation 9 below; or
 - 7.2.4 refuse the Application.
- 7.3 Any written decision of the Cricket Approval Committee will remain confidential unless (in exceptional circumstances only) the Cricket Approval Committee determines that it is appropriate that the decision should be published, in whole or in part.

8. CONDITIONAL APPROVAL

- 8.1 Where sanction is subject to conditions, the Cricket Approval Committee will set out such conditions in the Conditions Table.
- 8.2 The Event Organiser must submit an updated Conditions Table by email to the ECB's Regulatory Department in accordance with the deadlines stipulated in the Conditions Table.
- 8.3 The ECB's Regulatory Department will provide the Conditions Table to the Cricket Approval Committee for determination. The Conditions Table may be provided to the Cricket Approval Committee after any individual deadline(s) stipulated in the Conditions Table or after the final deadline given in the Conditions Table for the Event Organiser, as considered appropriate in the circumstances of the particular Application.
- 8.4 The Cricket Approval Committee has sole discretion to determine if the conditions have been fulfilled and will confirm to the Event Organiser whether the conditions have been satisfied within five Working Days of the final deadline given in the Conditions Table for the Event Organiser. The Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to request any further information from the Event Organiser that it deems necessary, in its sole discretion, to determine whether the conditions have been satisfied.
- 8.5 Where a condition has not been fulfilled, including (but not limited to) by virtue of (i) insufficient evidence having been submitted; and/or (ii) the Event Organiser missing the deadline for provision of such evidence, the Cricket Approval Committee is entitled to reject

the Application.

9. SPECIAL DOMESTIC EVENTS

- 9.1 If an Applicant Event will be a Special Domestic Event and is sanctioned by the Cricket Approval Committee, an ICC NOC must also be obtained. The ECB must apply to the ICC for an ICC NOC at least 90 days before the Applicant Event is due to take place, and any application submitted after that deadline will only be considered by the ICC in exceptional circumstances. If an ICC NOC is not received in respect of the Applicant Event, it will constitute Disapproved Cricket.
- 9.2 When submitting an Application under Regulation 5.2, the Event Organiser must confirm whether it is proposed that more than four International Cricketers will participate in the Applicant Event.
- 9.3 If it is proposed that more than four International Cricketers will participate in the Applicant Event, if the Cricket Approval Committee sanctions the Applicant Event it will require the Event Organiser to complete the ICC Application Form and submit it to the ECB in accordance with the process set out in Regulation 5. The Event Organiser must provide any further information requested by the ECB before the application is submitted to the ICC for an ICC NOC and sign the ICC Application Form when requested to do so by the ECB.
- 9.4 If it is not proposed that more than four International Cricketers will participate in the Applicant Event, the Application will be considered on that basis and any sanction granted by the Cricket Approval Committee will be conditional on no more than four International Cricketers participating in the Applicant Event. If more than four International Cricketers do then participate in the Applicant Event, without the Event Organisers seeking subsequent approval of this in accordance with the timescales set out in Regulations 5.2 and 9.1, this shall be referred to the Cricket Regulator for investigation as a potential breach of these Regulations in accordance with the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations.

10. OFFICIAL CRICKET

If an Application is sanctioned in accordance with these Regulations, the Applicant Event shall be considered a Domestic Match for the purposes of the Anti-Corruption Regulations.

11. APPEAL

- 11.1 An Event Organiser may challenge a determination by the Cricket Approval Committee under Regulation 7 on the following grounds:
- 11.1.1 the Cricket Approval Committee came to a decision to which no reasonable body could have come;
 - 11.1.2 the Cricket Approval Committee made an error of law in reaching its decision;
 - 11.1.3 there was a significant procedural irregularity;
 - 11.1.4 there is fresh evidence, which was not reasonably available to the Cricket Approval Committee, which is significant to the matter(s) being determined and is now available; and/or
 - 11.1.5 the Cricket Approval Committee imposed a condition which was manifestly excessive.
- 11.2 For an appeal to be validly commenced, the following must be received within seven Working Days of the date of the decision:
- 11.2.1 a written notice of appeal provided to the ECB setting out the basis for the appeal;

and

11.2.2 evidence of funds sent to the ECB in the sum of £500.

11.3 Upon an appeal being validly commenced in accordance with Regulation 11.2, it will be considered by the ECB Board.

11.4 The ECB Board may determine its own procedure and will deal with the appeal in any way it sees fit, including as to whether:

11.4.1 to consider the appeal on the basis of the written submissions or whether any oral evidence is required; and

11.4.2 to appoint a sub-committee of the ECB Board to consider the appeal.

11.5 The Appeal will normally be considered within 14 Working Days from the date on which the appeal was commenced.

11.6 The burden of proof is on the Event Organiser and the standard of proof is on the balance of probabilities.

11.7 The ECB Board will determine whether the grounds of appeal have been made out and will have the same powers afforded to it as the Cricket Approval Committee in Regulation 7.2.

11.8 The ECB Board will confirm its decision in writing as soon as reasonably practicable. The decision of the ECB Board is final and binding on all parties and will remain confidential unless (in exceptional circumstances only) the ECB Board determines that it is appropriate that the decision should be published, in whole or in part.

12. CONFIDENTIALITY

12.1 Subject to Regulations 7.3 and 11.8, all oral or written representations, submissions, evidence and documents created in the course of proceedings are confidential between the ECB, the Cricket Approval Committee and the Event Organiser.

12.2 Confidentiality of any commercially sensitive information will be maintained by the Cricket Approval Committee and the ECB save, for the avoidance of doubt, where any such information needs to be disclosed to professional advisors and other relevant third parties for the purposes of these Regulations or the operation of the Applicant Event or where required to be disclosed by virtue of any mandatory and applicable law or governmental order, rule, regulation or direction.

13. AMENDMENT AND INTERPRETATION

13.1 These Regulations may be amended from time to time by the ECB, with such amendments coming into effect on the date specified by the ECB.

13.2 These Regulations are governed by English law.

13.3 The headings used in these Regulations are for the purpose of guidance only and will not be deemed to be part of the substance of these Regulations, or to inform or affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.

13.4 These Regulations will come into full force and effect on the Effective Date. It will not operate to disturb any decisions previously made under previous versions of these Regulations or other relevant rules of ECB, nor will they apply retrospectively to matters pending before the Effective Date.

- 13.5 If any provision of these Regulations is ruled to be invalid, unenforceable or illegal for any reason, they will be deemed deleted, and the Regulations will remain otherwise in full force and effect.

SCHEDULE 1 – APPLICATION FORM

Any defined terms used in this Application Form have the meaning set out in the Cricket Event Regulations.

1.	Event Organiser Name of the Cricket Organisation involved in the staging of the Applicant Event (where applicable).	
2.	Name of third parties involved in organising/promoting the Applicant Event (if applicable) Include details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the core business of the third parties and details of the ownership structure and individuals involved in the company; and• any other third parties materially involved in the staging of the match/event, including but not limited to sponsors, promoters, franchise owners and/or investors. See Appendix 1 for essential information that should be provided. Confirm that for each entity listed above, thorough due diligence has been conducted involving, as a bare minimum, obtaining all the information as set out in Appendix 1.	
3.	Proposed Event and Format Name of Applicant Event and proposed format, i.e. 50 overs, T20, T10 etc. and details of the event format itself, i.e. number of matches, round robin, finals etc.	

4.	Proposed Date(s) and Time(s) of Match/ Applicant Event Include an outline schedule of the Applicant Event, including details of venues, practice days and set-up/rig days.	
5.	Explain how the Applicant Event will fit in with the calendar of international and domestic cricket events.	
6.	Proposed Venue(s) Details to be provided with supporting documentation on the suitability of the facilities available, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written confirmation of the venue owner's sanction and appropriate certification that all applicable security and health and safety requirements will be met; and • provision of copies of any relevant local authority and other applicable third-party consents and licenses. 	
7.	Participating Teams Provide the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • team names; • names of the franchise owners and/or team sponsors including any beneficial owners; and • confirmation that no participants (including players) are currently subject to a ban from cricket in any form. 	
8.	Participating players Provide the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number of overseas players invited to play in the Applicant Event; 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • names of the proposed overseas players and their country; • number of overseas players per team; • number of domestic players per team; • number of players participating who are under the age of 18 and, if there are any, what safeguarding provisions are being put in place; • written releases from applicable governing bodies and/or Professional County Clubs; • confirmation that the necessary documentation has been (or will be) obtained for all overseas players; • confirmation that no participating players are subject to a ban issued by the ICC and/or the ECB; and • confirmation that no participating players have participated in Disapproved Cricket in the six months immediately preceding the scheduled start of the Applicant Event. <p>To the extent that players are not known at the date of the Application, provide details of when this information will be confirmed.</p> <p>At a minimum, confirmation must be provided (to the satisfaction of the Cricket Approval Committee) 3 months before the start of the Applicant Event that a sufficient number of players will participate in the Applicant Event such that it is a viable cricket competition.</p>	
9.	<p>International level players</p> <p>Confirm whether it is proposed that more than four players who currently play (or will have played in the 24 months before the Applicant Event) for a national representative team of a Full Member other than England and</p>	

	<p>Wales will participate in the Applicant Event.</p> <p>If so, please also complete Appendix 2.</p>	
10.	<p>Explain how the proposed Applicant Event will assist financially and/or otherwise to the development of cricket in the Territory (including grass roots cricket).</p>	
11.	<p>Provide details of the measures that are/will be put in place to ensure that the payment of any and all amounts due to players and match officials for their participation in the Applicant Event, including any prize money is paid.</p>	
12.	<p>Provide details of any broadcasting arrangements.</p> <p>Confirm whether the Applicant Event will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • televised live; • televised for delayed coverage; • streamed on the internet; and/or • broadcasted on any other medium (e.g. radio). <p>If so, confirm who the broadcaster/streaming provider is and in which territories the match/ Applicant Event will be broadcast and/or streamed.</p> <p>To the extent that broadcasting arrangements are not known at the date of the Application, provide details of this information by, at the latest, 3 months before the start of the Applicant Event.</p>	
13.	<p>Confirm how the Event Organiser will benefit from staging the Applicant Event, financially or otherwise.</p> <p>Full details must be provided to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the projected income of the Cricket Organisation; and/or 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any other benefits to the Cricket Organisation for staging the match/event e.g. coaching sessions, player activities, player promotions. 	
14.	In circumstances where the Applicant Event is not a success, confirm the financial exposure for the Event Organiser.	
15.	Confirm if any other third party will benefit financially from the Applicant Event.	
16.	<p>What anti-corruption measures and protections are/will be put in place to ensure the integrity of the match/event.</p> <p>As a minimum, the following information must be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the name of the company and details of the relevant personnel who will be responsible for providing anti-corruption cover for the Applicant Event; and a summary of the anti-corruption activities intended to be carried out at the Applicant Event including participant reporting mechanisms, education, intelligence and investigation capability, and response plans. 	
17.	<p>What arrangements are in place and who is responsible for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the payment of players. This must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the amount being paid to local players for their participation in the match/ Applicant event; the method of payment (e.g. will players be paid via bank transfer); the amount being paid to overseas players for their participation 	

	<p>in the match/ Applicant Event; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ details of any other benefits to be given to all the players for their participation in the match/ Applicant Event; • safety and security, including away from the venue (e.g. at hotels); and • the appointment and payment of match officials. This must include details of who is appointing them and where they are from, and who is paying them. 	
18.	What insurance arrangements are in place, including what type of insurance and what is covered (e.g. public liability, ticket refund/cancellation, income protection etc).	
19.	How is the health, safety and welfare of all participants involved and all spectators going to be maintained and promoted.	
20.	Provide details on how the Event Organiser is mitigating against any specific or known risks.	
21.	Provide confirmation that there are no known improper links to bookmakers or the gambling industry for any individual or entity involved in the staging of the Applicant Event.	
22.	Provide confirmation that no gambling operator which is not licensed by the Gambling Commission will be permitted to sponsor the Applicant Event, including by displaying their logos, branding and/or products at the venue(s) and that the Applicant Event will comply, to the extent applicable, with gambling advertising laws.	
23.	Provide confirmation as to whether the Event Organiser would be willing to take part in a post-Event evaluation exercise.	

24.	Provide confirmation that the ECB will be indemnified by individual(s) domiciled in and/or entities registered in England and Wales in relation to any and all costs that the ECB incurs in respect of the Applicant Event	
25.	Any other comments to support the Application.	
Appendix 1 - Information on franchise owners, sponsors, promoters, investors and any other third parties substantially involved in the staging of the Applicant Event		
26.	Provide details on the main business/source of income.	
27.	Provide details on the company background including (i) company certificate of incorporation; (ii) corporate structure of the legal entities that comprise the company; (iii) list of officers and directors of the company and (iv) ultimate beneficial ownership of the company. If not a company, provide details on the identity of the individual.	
28.	Explanation as to the motivation for involvement in the match/ Applicant Event.	
29.	Details of any prior experience in cricket/sports events.	
30.	Provide details on the entity's ability to pay the required fees, including player payments, operational costs and any other payments related to the Applicant Event.	
31.	Details on the source of funds that will be utilised to finance the franchise license fee and operations.	
32.	Are any other individuals or entities involved. If so, provide full details.	
33.	Does the entity have any betting links.	
34.	Does the entity or any of its' directors' immediate family member(s), or any	

	other potential sponsor/entity/related party involved, bet on cricket.	
35.	Does the entity or any of its' directors' immediate family member(s) have any have any other cricket interests, financial or otherwise? If so, provide full details.	
36.	Does the entity have any outstanding cricket financial commitments? If so, provide full details.	
37.	Has the entity or any of its directors' immediate family member(s)/support staff had any current or prior involvement in any anti-corruption unit investigation, anywhere.	
38.	Has the entity or any of its directors' immediate family member(s)/support staff had any pending or threatened proceedings or investigations before any court or any regulatory authority, anywhere.	
39.	Have any officers or directors of the company ever been convicted of any criminal offence by any court.	
Appendix 2 – Additional information required in respect of a Special Domestic Event		
40.	Confirm that the Applicant Event will be staged at venues which have previously hosted county or international cricket (see Article 2.2.2 of the ICC Sanctioning Regulations).	
41.	Confirm that any conditions imposed by the ECB to ensure that the Applicant Event is staged in accordance with the Minimum Event Staging Standards, including in relation to anti-corruption, team ownership, anti-doping and medical, security and safeguarding, (see Article 2.2.2 and Appendix 2 of the ICC Sanctioning Regulations) will be complied with.	
42.	Confirm whether a minimum of seven players who are either affiliated to the ECB or an Associate Member will participate in the Applicant Event. If a minimum of seven players will not participate in the Applicant Event, please confirm your position on why the Applicant Event should nevertheless	

	be sanctioned (see Article 2.2.3.1 of the ICC Sanctioning Regulations).	
43.	Confirm that the Event Organisers will comply with any Solidarity Mechanism in place in respect of any overseas players, details of which will be notified to the Event Organisers by the ECB as appropriate (see Article 2.2.3.2 of the ICC Sanctioning Regulations).	
44.	Provide evidence that the Event Organisers have a track record of delivering successful sporting events within the immediately preceding 5 years (see Article 2.2.6 of the ICC Sanctioning Regulations).	
45.	Provide evidence of the risk assessment which has been carried out in respect of the health and safety of players and others participating in the event (including spectators) and any plan to address those risks (see Article 4.1 of Appendix 2 of the ICC Sanctioning Regulations).	
46.	Provide evidence of the risk assessment which has been carried out in respect of the security and safeguarding risk to players and others participating in the event (including spectators) and any plan to address those risks (see Article 4.2 of Appendix 2 of the ICC Sanctioning Regulations).	

Each of the undersigned (if applicable) hereby confirms, on behalf of their relevant organisation, that the information submitted in this application is true and correct.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF:

Event Organiser

Cricket Organisation (where relevant)

.....

Signed

.....

Signed

.....

Name

.....

Name

SCHEDULE 2 – NOTIFICATION FORM

Information required	Response
Event Organiser (name and organisation, where applicable)	
Any third parties involved in organising/promoting the Event (if applicable) (name and organisation, where applicable)	
Date of Event	
Time of Event	
Participating teams	
Participating players	
Proposed venue	
Will the Event be broadcasted, either in whole or part? If so, in what form (e.g. televised, on the radio, streamed on the internet)?	
Will an entry charge be applied?	
Details of projected income of any Cricket Organisation	
Confirmation that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No-Objection Certificates have been obtained for all relevant players; and • None of the participating players have participated in Disapproved Cricket in the six months preceding the Event. 	

SCHEDULE 3 – CONDITIONS TABLE

	Condition	Evidence required	Deadline	Compliance Assessment
1.				