

2026 Auction Rules

This document outlines the rules governing the Auction for the 2026 edition of The Hundred. These Auction Rules shall apply to the Men's Auction and the Women's Auction (each, an "**Auction**" and together the "**Auctions**").

These Auction Rules form part of The Hundred Player Selection Regulations with which all TeamCos must comply.

Only those Players who are Auction Registered in accordance with Regulation 3 of The Hundred Player Selection Regulations will be eligible to be nominated to participate in either Auction.

Any capitalised terms not defined in these Auction Rules shall have the meaning given to them in The Hundred Player Selection Regulations and/or The Hundred Salary Cap Regulations (as applicable).

1 LOGISTICS

- 1.1 The Auctions will take place at a venue in central London, to be confirmed by the ECB ("**Auction Venue**").
- 1.2 There will be a pre-Auction briefing at approximately 16:00 (GMT) on Tuesday 10 March 2026.
- 1.3 The women's Auction will commence at approximately 10:00 (GMT) on Wednesday 11 March 2026 (the "**Women's Auction**").
- 1.4 The men's Auction will commence at approximately 10:00 (GMT) on Thursday 12 March 2026 (the "**Men's Auction**").
- 1.5 The Auction Venue will be comprised of a main room where the Auctions shall take place ("the **Auction Hall**") and various break-out rooms.
- 1.6 The ECB shall appoint an individual who will be present throughout each Auction to assist with the general running of administrative and logistical matters on the day of the Auction (the "**Auction Official**"), and who shall act as the point of contact for Teams on such matters.

2 Pre-Auction Information

TeamCo Representatives

- 2.1 All TeamCo representatives attending each Auction must be approved and accredited in advance by the ECB.
- 2.2 The ECB will grant accreditation only to:

- 2.2.1 Players who have already signed with a TeamCo for the 2026 edition of the Competition;
 - 2.2.2 TeamCo coaching staff;
 - 2.2.3 TeamCo support staff and employees;
 - 2.2.4 members of TeamCo management teams; and/or
 - 2.2.5 individual representatives of a TeamCo's ownership group.
- 2.3 By 16:00 (GMT) on 13 February 2026, each TeamCo shall submit the following information on a provisional basis (and where known) to the ECB at players@theHundred.com:
- 2.3.1 the names of all TeamCo representatives attending one or both Auctions;
 - 2.3.2 the names of all TeamCo representatives who are authorised to enter into contracts on behalf of the TeamCo (each, an “**Authorised Signatory**”); and
 - 2.3.3 the name of the TeamCo representative (and their designate if the TeamCo representative is unavailable) who is authorised to participate in the relevant Auction and make bids on behalf of the TeamCo (the “**TeamCo Bidder**”).
- 2.4 By 16:00 (GMT) on 27 February 2026, each TeamCo shall confirm to the ECB that the details provided under Rule 2.3 are final, or otherwise provide any further updated information as necessary.
- 2.5 Each TeamCo will be allocated its own table in the Auction Venue. Tables will be allocated to TeamCos by way of a random draw, which will be conducted at the pre-Auction briefing.
- 2.6 Each TeamCo must have no less than four (4) and no more than eight (8) TeamCo representatives at its table during each Auction, including at all times having the TeamCo Bidder and the Authorised Signatory (or Authorised Signatories, where applicable) for the TeamCo at its table (excluding any breaks).

Registration List and Player Information

- 2.7 The ECB will circulate a list of Players registered to participate in each Auction (each, an “**Registration List**”) to all TeamCos on 19 February 2026.
- 2.8 For each Player, the following information will be included on the Registration List:
- 2.8.1 name;
 - 2.8.2 playing role;

- 2.8.3 nationality;
 - 2.8.4 Professional County Club/local domestic team (where applicable);
 - 2.8.5 Reserve Price; and
 - 2.8.6 Player availability (where known).
- 2.9 By 16:00 (GMT) on 26 February 2026, each TeamCo must submit between 75 and 100 Player nominations to the ECB for each Auction via The Hundred Portal (or any other channel as prescribed by the ECB) (the “**Pre-Auction Nominations**”).
- 2.10 The ECB will combine all Pre-Auction Nominations to create a single list of Players eligible to be signed in any phase of each Auction (each, an “**Auction Longlist**”).
- 2.11 A Player will be included on the relevant Auction Longlist if they receive one or more nominations in the Pre-Auction Nominations.
- 2.12 A Player who is not included on the Auction Longlist will not be eligible to be signed during any phase of the relevant Auction.

3 Media

- 3.1 Each Auction will be live streamed by the ECB and/or the ECB’s broadcast partners.
- 3.2 The ECB’s The Hundred media team and the official broadcasters will be present in the Auction Venue, and the ECB may allow further media access to the Auction Venue as it determines in its sole discretion.
- 3.3 There will be a designated flash interview area. All interviews will be coordinated by the ECB’s designated The Hundred Media Manager.
- 3.4 As part of the coverage, the broadcaster and the ECB will request short interviews with TeamCo representatives during breaks in the relevant Auction. Each TeamCo must nominate a minimum of two representatives for this purpose and confirm the names of the relevant representatives to the ECB.
- 3.5 The ECB and broadcast partners will capture and publish short-form social and digital content from each Auction (including behind-the-scenes content, interviews and reaction).
- 3.6 TeamCo accredited social media teams must comply with any Auction social media guidelines as prescribed and circulated by the ECB.

4 Format of the Auction

Overview

- 4.1 Each Auction will be conducted in GBP.

- 4.2 An independent professional auctioneer will be appointed by the ECB (the “**Auctioneer**”).
- 4.3 The Auctioneer will conduct each Auction in accordance with these Auction Rules.
- 4.4 The Auctioneer’s decisions during each Auction will be final and binding on all TeamCos and Players participating in that Auction.

Reserve Prices and Availability

- 4.5 Each Player has their own Reserve Price.
- 4.6 When registering for the Auction, each Player must select one Reserve Price band.
 - 4.6.1 In the Men’s Auction, Men’s Players may select one of the following Reserve Price bands:
 - (a) £100,000
 - (b) £75,000
 - (c) £50,000
 - (d) £31,000
 - 4.6.2 In the Women’s Auction, Women’s Players may select one of the following Reserve Price bands:
 - (a) £50,000
 - (b) £37,500
 - (c) £27,500
 - (d) £15,000

- 4.7 The Reserve Price will be the fee at which bidding for that Player starts.

Bidding, Price and Salary Cap

- 4.8 For each round, only the TeamCo Bidder at the TeamCo table shall be able to bid on behalf of the TeamCo, who will be required to raise a paddle to indicate a bid.
- 4.9 Each bid will represent the fee to be paid by the TeamCo for the Player. Once made, no bid may be withdrawn.
- 4.10 The TeamCo that submits the highest bid for a Player, as accepted by the Auctioneer, shall be the buyer at that price.

- 4.11 TeamCos will be prevented from bidding for a Player where such a bid would take them beyond the Salary Cap or that would cause the Team to breach the squad composition rules as set out in Regulation 6 of The Hundred Player Selection Regulations.

Bidding Increments

- 4.12 The Auctioneer will request bids which increase the current highest bid for that Player (the “**Current Bid**”) by the increments set out below (unless otherwise determined in the Auctioneer’s sole and absolute discretion) for the relevant band of the Current Bid.

- 4.13 In the Men’s Auction:

4.13.1 While the Current Bid is £31,000, bids will increase by an increment of £1,500 up to £32,500.

4.13.2 While the Current Bid is between £32,500 (inclusive) and £50,000 (exclusive), bids will increase in increments of £2,500.

4.13.3 While the Current Bid is between £50,000 (inclusive) and £100,000 (exclusive), bids will increase in increments of £5,000.

4.13.4 While the Current Bid is £100,000 or higher, bids will increase in increments of £10,000.

- 4.14 In the Women’s Auction:

4.14.1 While the Current Bid is between £15,000 (inclusive) and £25,000 (exclusive), bids will increase in increments of £1,000.

4.14.2 While the Current Bid is between £25,000 (inclusive) and £50,000 (exclusive), bids will increase in increments of £2,500.

4.14.3 While the Current Bid is £50,000 or higher, bids will increase in increments of £5,000.

Auction Format and Strategic Time-Outs

Overview

- 4.15 Each Auction will be conducted in three phases:

4.15.1 Phase I, whereby between 50-60 Players (subject to Rule 4.17) will be up for bidding (the “**Set Auction**”);

4.15.2 Phase II, where a further 50 Players will be up for bidding (the “**Accelerated Nominations Auction**”); and

- 4.15.3 Phase III, where TeamCos will fill their remaining available Squad spaces (the “**Open Nominations Auction**”).
- 4.16 The Auctioneer, in each case, will confirm the opening and closing of relevant phases, and timing windows within each phase.

Phase I – The Set Auction

- 4.17 For each Auction, the ECB will decide and compile a list of between 50 to 60 Players who shall be eligible for TeamCos to place bids on during the Set Auction (the “**Set Auction List**”).
- 4.18 For each Auction, the Set Auction List will be broken down by the ECB into specific and discrete categories, with each category a “**Set**”.
- 4.19 The ECB will decide and compile the Set Auction List and the Sets taking into account the following principles:
- 4.19.1 the highest number of Pre-Auction Nominations received; and
 - 4.19.2 the requirement for the Set Auction List to contain a balanced number of Players in each Set, taking into account the relevant criteria for that particular Set and the relevant Player cohort.
- 4.20 The ECB will circulate the Women’s Auction Longlist and the Women’s Set Auction List to TeamCos as soon as practicable and by 4pm (GMT) on 4 March 2026 at the latest.
- 4.21 The ECB will circulate the Men’s Auction Longlist and the Men’s Set Auction List to TeamCos as soon as practicable and by 4pm (GMT) on 5 March 2026 at the latest.
- 4.22 Within each Set, the order in which the Auctioneer shall present Players for bidding will be determined by a random draw conducted by the ECB prior to the relevant Auction.
- 4.23 The Auctioneer will conduct the bidding for all Players within a Set, before commencing the bidding for the next Set.
- 4.24 The Set Auction will conclude once the Auctioneer has opened and closed bidding for all Sets.

Phase II – Accelerated Nominations Auction

- 4.25 Prior to the commencement of the Accelerated Nominations Auction, the Auctioneer will commence a 30-minute window (the “**Nominations Window**”) for TeamCos to nominate 25 Players for the purpose of bidding in the Accelerated Nominations Auction (“**Accelerated Nominations**”).

- 4.26 TeamCos may nominate any Player who was included on the Auction Longlist but who was not signed during, or was not participating in, the Set Auction.
- 4.27 Following the close of the Nominations Window, the ECB will compile a list of all Accelerated Nominations and rank those Players 1 to 50 in accordance with the number of nominations received in the Acceleration Nominations (the “**Phase II Rankings**”).
- For example, if a Player receives the most Accelerated Nominations, they will be ranked 1.*
- 4.28 If any Players are tied on the number of Accelerated Nominations, their ranking shall be determined on the following criteria:
- 4.28.1 the greater number of international T20 appearances,
- and if still a tie,
- 4.28.2 the greater number of The Hundred appearances.
- 4.29 The ECB will aim to compile the Phase II Rankings within 30 minutes of the Nominations Window closing.
- 4.30 The ECB will circulate the Phase II Rankings to TeamCos as soon as practicable and TeamCos will have 15 minutes to review before the Accelerated Nominations Auction commences.
- 4.31 The Auctioneer will commence the bidding for the Accelerated Nomination Auction, starting with the Player ranked 1 and ending with the Player ranked 50.
- 4.32 The Accelerated Nominations Auction will conclude once the Auctioneer has opened and closed bidding for all 50 Players.

Phase III – Open Nominations Auction

- 4.33 The Open Nominations Auction will be conducted after the conclusion of the Accelerated Nominations Auction for the purpose of any TeamCos still needing to complete their Squad requirements in accordance with Regulation 6 of The Hundred Player Selection Regulations.
- 4.34 A Player is eligible to be signed in the Open Nominations Auction if they are on the relevant Auction Longlist and they were not signed during, or were not participating in, the Set Auction or the Accelerated Nominations Auction.
- 4.35 During the Auction lunch break, the ECB will conduct a random draw to determine the initial order in which TeamCos participating in the Open Nominations Auction will nominate Players (the “**Initial Nomination Order**”).
- 4.36 The first round of nominations will use the Initial Nomination Order. If multiple rounds are required, the next round will use the reverse of the Initial Nomination

Order (the “**Reverse Nomination Order**”) and the rounds will continue alternating between the Initial Nomination Order and Reverse Nomination Order until the conclusion of the Open Nominations Auction.

- 4.37 In the Open Nominations Auction, the following process will apply:
- 4.37.1 In turn, each TeamCo in the Initial Nomination Order or Reverse Nomination Order, as applicable, will have 100 seconds to nominate one eligible Player to the Auctioneer.
 - 4.37.2 The nomination will count as the opening bid for that Player at the Player’s Reserve Price.
 - 4.37.3 The Auctioneer will then invite further bids for that Player.
 - 4.37.4 Once the Player is sold, the Auctioneer will call the next TeamCo in the Initial Nomination Order or Reverse Nomination Order, as applicable, and the next 100-second nomination window will begin.
- 4.38 A nomination round is completed once each participating TeamCo has had the opportunity to nominate in accordance with Rule 4.37. The process will continue through successive nomination rounds until all TeamCos have completed their Squad requirements in accordance with Regulation 6 of The Hundred Player Selection Regulations.
- 4.39 A TeamCo will drop out of the Initial Nomination Order or Reverse Nomination Order, as applicable, once it has completed its squad requirements in accordance with Regulation 6 of The Hundred Player Selection Regulations and/or declared that their Squad is complete.
- 4.40 If a TeamCo does not nominate a Player within its 100-second nomination window, it will forfeit its nomination for that nomination round.

Screens and Information in the Auction Hall

- 4.41 There will be screens in the Auction Venue which will be continuously updated displaying:
- 4.41.1 details of the Player who is currently up for bidding.
 - 4.41.2 for each TeamCo:
 - (a) the remaining balance of each TeamCo’s Salary Cap Spend available to be used for Players in that Auction;
 - (b) the total number of Players already contracted to that TeamCo; and
 - (c) the number of Overseas Player slots which remain available.

Breaks

- 4.42 The Auctioneer and Auction Official each may, at their sole and absolute discretion, schedule breaks during each Auction.
- 4.43 A warning bell will ring one minute before the resumption of the Auction after each break.
- 4.44 Each Auction will aim to be concluded by 18:00 (GMT) on each day.

Conclusion of the Auction

- 4.45 Each Auction will conclude when all TeamCos have confirmed that they do not wish to sign any further Players in that Auction, and have signed no less than 14 and no more than 16 Players in their Squad.

Player Contracts

- 4.46 As each Player is sold, the Authorised Signatory (or Authorised Signatories, where applicable) of the relevant TeamCo will be required to sign a form confirming the terms of the bid and acknowledging that the TeamCo is legally bound to contract the Player in accordance with its winning bid.
- 4.47 When a Player has been sold in the relevant Auction to a TeamCo, the Player and the TeamCo must comply with Regulation 8 (*Eligibility to Play*) of The Hundred Player Selection Regulations.

Disputes

- 4.48 In the event of any dispute arising during an Auction, the matter shall be referred to the Auctioneer immediately (and prior to the end of the relevant Auction) to determine.
- 4.49 The Auctioneer shall be entitled to consult the ECB on any disputes arising in relation to either Auction as they deem appropriate in their sole and absolute discretion.
- 4.50 The Auctioneer’s determination on any disputes arising in relation to each Auction shall be final and binding.

5 General Conditions

- 5.1 Prior to the relevant Auction, the ECB will notify each TeamCo of its remaining Salary Cap Spend and available Player slots in the format set out below.

	Salary Cap Spend for Auction	Number of Open Player Slots	Number of Open Overseas Slots
Birmingham Phoenix			

London Spirit			
Manchester Super Giants			
Sunrisers Leeds			
MI London			
Southern Brave			
Trent Rockets			
Welsh Fire			

- 5.2 By participating in the relevant Auction, each TeamCo agrees to abide by these Auction Rules.
- 5.3 TeamCos shall be responsible for the conduct of all individuals who are attending the Auctions on their behalf, and for all their costs in relation to each Auction.