

## **WOMEN'S TIER 3 COMPETITION REGULATIONS**



**England and Wales Cricket Board, Lord's Cricket Ground  
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England**

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## **Board Discretion**

The ECB Board retains ultimate discretion over these Women's Tier 3 Competition Regulations ("**Regulations**") and the Playing Conditions for the Tier 3 Competitions and is entitled at any time to amend or vary them on reasonable notice to interested parties as well as in exceptional circumstances when the ECB Board is entitled to immediately do so on notice to the interested parties.

## **Definitions**

For the purposes of these Regulations:

**Away County** means the Tier 3 County a cricketer is loaned to in accordance with Regulation 8;

**Close Season** means 1 October to 31 March, both dates inclusive;

**Compliant Headgear** means:

- (a) Head Protectors for batters and/or fielders; or
- (b) Helmets or face masks for wicket-keepers,

which in each case have been certified as compliant with the most recent BSI Standard specification for men's and junior's sized balls, including any alterations to such headgear which are specifically permitted pursuant to Regulation 10.4;

**County** means a Tier 3 County;

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

**Cricket Regulator** means the body responsible for investigating and prosecuting breaches of ECB Regulations;

**Disapproved Cricket** has the meaning given to it in the ECB's Cricket Event Regulations;

**Disciplinary Panel** means a panel of 3 people (unless otherwise agreed by the parties) appointed from the Recreational Disciplinary Panel Pool to deal with cases arising under these Regulations;

**Disciplinary Panel Chair** means any person who has been appointed as a chair of a Disciplinary Panel;

**ECB** means England and Wales Cricket Board;

**ECB General Conduct Regulations** means the General Conduct Regulations which are applicable to ECB Competitions (as defined in the ECB General Conduct Regulations) as in force and amended from time to time;

**ECB Regulations** means the ECB's rules, regulations, playing conditions and codes as published and in force (and as amended and supplemented) from time to time;

**Effective Date** means [ ];

**Finals Stage** means the period from the day after the last scheduled group match in the relevant Tier 3 Competition to the last scheduled day for the final in that Tier 3 Competition;

**Girls' Academy Programme** means the training and development programme run for young players by Tier 1 Counties and Glamorgan Cricket Club, providing an environment that offers high quality individualised development opportunities and experiences to develop players;

**Head Protector** means the complete assembly of a helmet, faceguard and neck protector. Helmet indicates headwear primarily intended to protect the cricketer's head and neck protector indicates an attachment to the helmet (or an integrated part of the helmet) that covers the part of the head and neck typically below a helmet, behind the ears;

**Helmet** means the complete assembly of a helmet and a faceguard;

**Home County** means the Tier 1 County, Tier 2 County or Tier 3 County to which a Loaned Player is registered (including registration with a Girls' Academy Programme);

**ICC** means the International Cricket Council;

**Loaned Player** means a cricketer loaned to a Tier 3 County in accordance with Regulation 8;

**Professional County Club** means any of the clubs and/or companies listed in Schedule A of the ECB's Articles of Association from time to time and/or any county cricket club from time to time playing in the Tier 1 Competitions and/or the Tier 2 Competitions;

**Recreational Cricket Board** means a body designated as such by the ECB which is responsible for 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;

**Recreational Discipline Panel Pool** means the group of individuals compiled for the purposes of hearing cases referred to the Cricket Regulator under these Regulations;

**Regulated Activity** means each of the activities described in Regulation 10.1;

**Rookie Contract** means an ECB and PCA-approved standard form of contract between a cricketer and a Tier 1 County providing for that cricketer to play in the Tier 1 Competitions and Women's T20 County Cup on behalf of that Tier 1 County;

**Season** means the English cricket season running from 1 April to 30 September, both dates inclusive;

**Girl's County Talent Pathway Programme** has the meaning specified in the Girls' CAG Registration Regulations;

**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 Vitality Blast Women's Competition and the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's Competition;

**Tier 1 County** means a Professional County Club that participates in Tier 1 Competitions;

**Tier 2 Competitions** means any women's domestic cricket competitions designated by the ECB as being a "Tier 2" competition, which, as at the Effective Date, includes the Vitality Blast Women's League 2 and the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 2;

**Tier 2 County** means a Professional County Club that participates in Tier 2 Competitions;

**Tier 3 Competitions** means any women's domestic cricket competitions designated by the ECB as being a "Tier 3" competition, which, as at the Effective Date, includes the Vitality Blast Women's League 3 and the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 3;

**Tier 3 County** means a Recreational Cricket Board which (i) operates in a county without a Professional County Club and (ii) runs a team which participates in the Tier 3 Competitions; and

**Women's T20 County Cup** means the T20 knockout cup competition which the Tier 1 Counties, Tier 2 Counties and Tier 3 Counties participate in, which as at the Effective Date, is known as the Vitality T20 Women's County Cup.

**Application**

These Regulations will come into full force and effect from the Effective Date.

**1 AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE**

Each of the Counties agrees to participate, subject to any applicable suspension(s), in the competitions outlined in Regulations 2 and 3.

**2 METRO BANK ONE DAY CUP**

**2.1 Tier 3**

The Tier 3 Competition will be known as the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 3.

**2.1.1 Competition Structure / Entrants**

The 19 Tier 3 Counties will play the group stage of the Competition in 3 groups as outlined below. Each team will play the other teams in the group once on a home or away basis.

The groups are as follows: -

	Division 1
1	Berkshire
2	Buckinghamshire
3	Cambridgeshire
4	Cheshire
5	Devon
6	Shropshire
7	Staffordshire
8	Wiltshire

The top placed team will win the division, please note that there is no promotion to League 2.

The two last-placed teams in Division 1 will be relegated to Division 2 for the 2027 Competition.

(See the Playing Conditions applicable to the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 3 in relation to tiebreakers in the event of teams finishing on equal points).

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	Division 2A		Division 2B
1	Cornwall	1	Bedfordshire & Huntingdonshire
2	Dorset	2	Cumbria
3	Herefordshire	3	Lincolnshire

4	Hertfordshire	4	Norfolk
5	Oxfordshire	5	Northumberland
		6	Suffolk

The teams finishing first in Division 2A and Division 2B will both be promoted to Division 1 for the 2027 Competition.

(See the Playing Conditions applicable to the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 3 in relation to tiebreakers in the event of teams finishing on equal points).

For the avoidance of doubt there are no Finals in the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 3 in 2026.

### 2.1.2 Venues

[TBC]

### 2.1.3 Umpires

Umpires will be appointed by ECB to all matches.

### 2.1.4 Regulations and Playing Conditions

These Regulations and the Playing Conditions applicable to the Metro Bank One Day Cup Women's League 3 will be decided annually by the ECB.

## 3 VITALITY BLAST

### 3.1 Tier 3

The Tier 3 Competition will be known as the Vitality Blast Women's League 3.

#### 3.1.1 Competition Structure / Entrants

The 19 Tier 3 Counties will play the group stage of the competition in 4 groups as outlined below.

Division 1 - each team will play the other teams in their group once on a double header basis either home or away.

	Division 1A		Division 1B
1	Berkshire	1	Buckinghamshire
2	Devon	2	Cheshire
3	Oxfordshire	3	Hertfordshire
4	Wiltshire	4	Staffordshire

The team finishing first in the Division 1A Group will play against the team finishing first in the Division 1B Group in the Division 1 Final, please note that there is no promotion to League 2

The last-placed team across Division 1A and Division 1B will be relegated to Division 2 for the 2027 competition.

(See the Playing Conditions applicable to the Vitality Blast Women's League 3 in relation to tiebreakers in the event of teams finishing on equal points).

Division 2 - each team will play the other teams in their group once on a double header basis either home or away.

Division 2A		Division 2B	
1	Bedfordshire & Huntingdonshire	1	Cumbria
2	Cambridgeshire	2	Herefordshire
3	Cornwall	3	Lincolnshire
4	Dorset	4	Norfolk
5	Suffolk	5	Northumberland
		6	Shropshire

The team finishing first in the Division 2A Group will play against the team finishing first in the Division 2B Group in the Division 2 Final.

(See the Playing Conditions applicable to the Vitality Blast Women's League 3 in relation to tiebreakers in the event of teams finishing on equal points).

The winner of the Division 2 Final will be promoted to Division 1 for the 2027 Competition.

### 3.1.2 Venues

The Finals will be played at [The Wormsley Estate].

### 3.1.3 Umpires

Umpires will be appointed by ECB to all matches.

### 3.1.4 Regulations and Playing Conditions

These Regulations and the Playing Conditions applicable to the Vitality Blast Women's League 3 will be decided annually by the ECB.

## 4 DISCIPLINE

4.1 All participants in the Tier 3 Competitions will be subject to the ECB General Conduct Regulations.

4.2 Any allegation that these Regulations have been breached will be referred to the Cricket Regulator who will appoint a Disciplinary Panel Chair and a Disciplinary Panel from the Recreational Discipline Panel Pool. Subject to Regulation 4.3 below, the Disciplinary Panel will consider any such matter in such manner and following such procedures as it considers appropriate and will not be bound by rules governing the admissibility of evidence in judicial or other proceedings.

4.3 If a Tier 3 County wishes to challenge the eligibility of a player under Regulation 5:

4.3.1 The challenge must be made in writing, contain the particulars of the grounds upon which it is made and be received by the ECB within one week of the match to which it relates.

4.3.2 The Cricket Regulator will send a copy of any challenge to the Tier 3 County the player was fielded for, which shall lodge a defence to the challenge with particulars of the defence within 48 hours of receipt of the challenge. The Cricket Regulator will confirm the identity of the Disciplinary Panel members to the relevant Counties. If either County objects to any member of the Disciplinary Panel on the basis of a conflict of interest, the Cricket Regulator will consider whether it is necessary to appoint a new member of the Disciplinary Panel.

- 4.3.3 The Disciplinary Panel will then consider whether the player was eligible to play in the match. If the Disciplinary Panel concludes that the player was not eligible to play, the County will be deemed to have forfeited the match in which the player was fielded, and will lose any points gained in that match, and (where appropriate) the opposing County will advance to the next round of the Tier 3 Competition.

## **5 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

- 5.1 A cricketer can only play in a Tier 3 Competition match if:
- 5.1.1 they are either:
- (a) a British or Irish citizen; or
  - (b) an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen with settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme, and
- 5.1.2 in the twelve months before the current Season and/or date of registration, and during the entire period of their registration, they have not played:
- (a) international cricket (at U17 level or above) for any ICC Full Member Country except England; or
  - (b) Disapproved Cricket, and
- 5.1.3 they are willing to make (and, whenever requested by the ECB, make) a declaration in the form set out in Schedule 1 to these Regulations.
- 5.2 Should a Tier 3 County wish to register a cricketer who does not meet the eligibility criteria set out in Regulation 5.1, the Tier 3 County may apply to the ECB for an exemption, and such exemption shall only be granted in exceptional circumstances and at the ECB's sole discretion.
- 5.3 If a cricketer no longer complies with the conditions in Regulation 5.1, their registration must be cancelled immediately.
- 5.4 A cricketer can only play for a Tier 3 County in a Tier 3 Competition match if they are registered for that Tier 3 County or loaned to that Tier 3 County in accordance with these Regulations.

## **6 PLAYER REGISTRATION**

- 6.1 Tier 3 Counties must maintain, in a form prescribed by the ECB, a list of all cricketers who are registered with or on loan to that Tier 3 County.
- 6.2 Each Tier 3 County must send their list to the ECB and every other Tier 3 County not later than the last working day prior to the first day of the Season and notify the ECB and every other Tier 3 County within 14 days of any new registration or cancellation of a registration.
- 6.3 The ECB may require a Tier 3 County to cancel the registration of a cricketer to give effect to a decision of the Cricket Discipline Panel or any other tribunal or panel appointed under any ECB regulations or ICC regulations or the regulations of another ICC Member Country (as applicable).

## **7 APPROACHES**

- 7.1 A Tier 3 County cannot approach a cricketer who is registered with a Tier 1 County, Tier 2 County, Tier 3 County or Girls' Academy Programme, or any agent or other person on their behalf, with a view to offering them a trial or registering them or employing them in any capacity unless Regulation 7.3 applies.

- 7.2 A cricketer who is registered with a Tier 3 County cannot approach another Tier 3 County with a view to engagement in any capacity unless Regulation 7.3 applies.
- 7.3 Regulations 7.1 and 7.2 will not apply if:
- 7.3.1 the cricketer has been advertised for loan by the county the cricketer is registered with; or
  - 7.3.2 the county the cricketer is registered with has given its prior written consent, which should not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.
- 7.4 A Tier 3 County cannot approach any cricketer who is aged 15 and under (and is not already registered with that Tier 3 County's Girls' County Talent Pathway Programme), or any agent or other person on their behalf, with a view to offering them a trial or registering them or engaging them in any capacity.

## **8 PLAYER MOVEMENT**

- 8.1 The following cricketers can be loaned to a Tier 3 County:
- 8.1.1 Cricketers who are registered with a Tier 1 County on a Rookie Contract;
  - 8.1.2 Cricketers who are registered with a Tier 2 County;
  - 8.1.3 Cricketers who are registered with another Tier 3 County; or
  - 8.1.4 Cricketers who are registered with a Girls' Academy Programme.
- 8.2 The registration of a Loaned Player will remain with the Home County throughout the loan period.
- 8.3 The ECB must be informed in advance of any loan.
- 8.4 Loans may only take place with the written agreement of (i) the Home County; (ii) the Away County; and (iii) the Loaned Player, a copy of which must be lodged with the ECB.
- 8.5 Subject to Regulations 8.6, 8.9, 8.11 and 8.12, the competitions that the Loaned Player can participate in for the Away County must be agreed between the Home County, the Away County and the Loaned Player and the Loaned Player cannot participate in a match which it has not been agreed they can participate in. Unless otherwise agreed between the Away County and the Home County, the Home County has priority should there be a conflict of fixtures for the Loaned Player.
- 8.6 The Home County can recall the Loaned Player:
- 8.6.1 to play in a match or matches in the Finals Stage or the Women's T20 County Cup during the loan period; or
  - 8.6.2 in exceptional circumstances, which may include an injury to a key cricketer, which shall be agreed between the Home County and the Away County. If the Home County and Away County do not agree that the circumstances are exceptional, it will be referred to the ECB Domestic Cricket Operations Department, whose decision is final and binding.
- 8.7 Loans must be for a minimum period of five days, cannot be for more than one Season and cannot commence in the Close Season or after 25<sup>th</sup> August 2026, unless the purpose of the loan is to provide a wicket-keeper and the Tier 3 County has no other reasonable wicket-keeping options available to it in which case the ECB must approve the loan.
- 8.8 A Loaned Player may only be loaned to one Away County at any one time but may be loaned to more than one Away County in any single Season (providing it is not at the same time).

- 8.9 A Loaned Player can only play in the Finals Stage for the Away County if they have, within the current Season:
- 8.9.1 played in at least one match for the Away County in the Group Stages of that Tier 3 Competition;
  - 8.9.2 been named in the Away County's squad for an abandoned match in the Group Stages of that Tier 3 Competition; and/or
  - 8.9.3 been on loan to the Away County at the time of a match in the Group Stages of that Tier 3 Competition and obtained a medical certificate to confirm that they were unfit to play in that match or which confirms that they were isolating at the time of the match in connection with COVID-19 (and provided evidence of that if requested by the ECB).
- 8.10 A maximum of three Loaned Players who have been loaned from Tier 1 Counties or Tier 2 Counties can be fielded by a Tier 3 County in each match.
- 8.11 A Loaned Player who is registered with another Tier 3 County will not be permitted to play for the Home County and the Away County:
- 8.11.1 in the same Tier 3 Competition (i) during the period of the loan or (ii) in the same round of fixtures; or
  - 8.11.2 in the Women's T20 County Cup.
- 8.12 A cricketer cannot participate in Tier 3 Competitions for a Tier 3 County whilst they are registered for a Tier 1 County, Tier 2 County or Girls' Academy Programme unless they are loaned to a Tier 3 County in accordance with this Regulation 5.

## 9 CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- 9.1 All cricketers must wear clothing and equipment which complies with the requirements in Schedule 2.

## 10 HEAD PROTECTION

- 10.1 Unless the ECB Chief Medical Officer (or their nominee) agrees otherwise, which will only be in exceptional circumstances, all cricketers participating in a Tier 3 Competition match must wear Compliant Headgear when undertaking the following activities in any such a match:

- 10.1.1 batting against all types of bowling;
- 10.1.2 wicket-keeping when standing up to the wicket; and
- 10.1.3 fielding in a position closer than 8 yards from the batter's position on the popping crease on a middle stump line, with the exception of any fielding position behind square of the wicket on the offside or the legside that is less than an angle of 45 degrees, such angle being measured from an extended middle stump line behind the wicket to square of the wicket,

each, a "**Regulated Activity**".

- 10.2 Regulated Activity is deemed to begin:

- 10.2.1 in relation to Regulation 10.1.1, from the moment a batter crosses the boundary to begin their innings; and

- 10.2.2 in relation to Regulations 10.1.2 and 10.1.3, from the moment the bowler starts their run-up (or if no run-up, commences their delivery swing).
- 10.3 If a cricketer without an exemption from the ECB Chief Medical Officer fails or refuses to wear Compliant Headgear when seeking to undertake a Regulated Activity during a Tier 3 Competition match, they will not be permitted to continue participating in that match unless and until they wear the required Compliant Headgear. Umpires will not be responsible for ensuring that the headgear being worn by participating cricketers is Compliant Headgear.
- 10.4 A Head Protector, Helmet or face mask will not be deemed to be Compliant Headgear if it is altered in any way which is inconsistent with any guidance or instructions provided by the relevant manufacturer or in a way which otherwise reduces the safety protection provided by the relevant Head Protector, Helmet or face mask (for example, the removal of the chin-strap or, in cases of a neck protector, alteration of the neck protector and/or its attachment).
- 10.5 It will be the joint responsibility of each participating cricketer and Tier 3 County for which they play to ensure that the cricketer wears Compliant Headgear at all times when undertaking any Regulated Activity in any Tier 3 Competition match. In the event that a cricketer is alleged to be in breach of these Regulations by participating in Regulated Activity without wearing Compliant Headgear, the relevant cricketer and their Tier 3 County will be referred to the Cricket Regulator, in accordance with Regulation 4.2 above.

## SCHEDULE 1

Declaration referred to in Regulation 5.1.3 of the Women's Tier 3 Competition Regulations

This declaration is made for the purposes of the Women's Tier 3 Competition Regulations (the **Regulations**), as updated by the ECB from time to time, and the terms used in it have the meanings given to them in the Regulations.

To the England and Wales Cricket Board (the **ECB**)

I, [ ]  
of [ ]

### **DO SOLEMNLY AND SINCERELY DECLARE as follows:**

1. It is not my desire or intention to play cricket for any ICC 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 Cricket, or any other match at Under 17 level or above for any such ICC Full Member Country. Nor is it my desire or intention to play Professional Cricket in any ICC Full Member Country outside England and Wales or in any other country outside England and Wales which is organised by or on behalf of any ICC Full Member Country, except for as an overseas cricketer under local rules, 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.
2. I undertake and agree to abide by all ECB Rules and Regulations and further, I undertake to abide by the policies of the ECB and to always act in the best interests of cricket in England and Wales.
3. I acknowledge that this declaration does not prevent me from representing an ICC Associate Member Country unless and until I have represented an ICC Full Member Country at an ICC Event.
4. 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.

## SCHEDULE 2

**Applicable Law** means the law of England and Wales, and includes any regulatory restrictions (statutory or otherwise) on broadcast content in place from time to time;

**Betting Logo** means a Commercial Mark which is either perceived, or likely to be perceived, by spectators and viewers, as being associated or connected in some way with betting or gambling of any kind;

**Commercial Mark** means the trade mark or name of:

(a) a company or commercial organisation (including the mark of a sponsor) other than the trade mark, name or house colours of the manufacturer of the cricket clothing or equipment concerned; or

(b) a manufacturer of the cricket clothing or equipment concerned only where that manufacturer itself is also acting as a sponsor (and is therefore not included in the defined terms for **Manufacturer** or **Manufacturer's Mark**);

**Competition Mark** means the trade mark identifying the competition or the trade mark or name of any Competition Sponsor;

**Competition Sponsor** means any company, entity or individual that is granted the title sponsorship rights to any of the Tier 3 Competitions;

**Manufacturer** means an entity which is carrying on a business engaged in either manufacturing or procuring the manufacture of cricket equipment and/or cricket clothing of the type in question and supplying it to a cricketer or on a commercial basis for sale to members of the public, and not also acting as a sponsor. An entity not otherwise within this definition shall not be a "Manufacturer" for the purposes of this defined term solely by reason of it being associated in business with, or a company in the same group of companies, as the Manufacturer;

**Manufacturer's Mark** means the trade mark, symbol or name used by a Manufacturer to identify to members of the public the article of cricket equipment or cricket clothing in question as an article which has been supplied by that Manufacturer for sale as stated above;

**Mark** means any Commercial Mark, Competition Mark, Team Mark and Manufacturer's Mark when referred to as a collective;

**Restricted Brand Sector** means any of the following brand sectors of categories of goods and/or services:

(a) betting or gambling;

(b) tobacco or vaping (including e-cigarettes);

(c) weapons or the sale of arms;

(d) unregulated financial products or investments;

(e) pornography or indecent/explicit imagery or videos;

(f) illegal or illicit goods/services;

(g) political or religious messaging;

(h) any sector that breaches Applicable Law; and

(i) any other sector notified to Tier 3 Counties by the ECB from time to time provided that any such new restricted sector will only be introduced if it applies to the County Championship, T20 Blast Men's Competition, One-Day Cup Men's Competition, Tier 1 Competitions, Tier 2 Competitions, Tier 3 Competitions and The Hundred; and

**Team Mark** means the trade mark or name used by Tier 3 County as its emblem and/or for marketing purposes.

Any reference to “sweater” in this Schedule 2 will be interpreted as including long sleeve sweaters and sleeveless sweaters.

## **CLOTHING**

1. Playing shirts, sweaters and trousers must be a predominantly dark colour. Any additional colour and/or design is subject to the following additional restrictions:
  - a. Light colours (white, ivory or any light colour which is likely to make the sighting of a white ball difficult) may be used for piping, trim or contrast panels but must not represent more than 10% of the design.
  - b. The colours and design of the playing shirts, sweaters and trousers must be uniform across all cricketers within a team with the exception that shirt sleeves may be cut to any length longer than 15 inches/38.10 cm (measured from collar to end of sleeve on a large size shirt), as long as both sleeves are evenly trimmed and the edges are sewn and hemmed.
  - c. Trousers must be manufactured predominantly in one colour which constitutes more than 75% of the trousers. Secondary features such as piping, trim on the pocket insides and waistband are permitted.
  - d. Shirt designs must not affect, in any way, the delivery of the event sponsor branding.
  - e. A collar is optional for shirts.
  - f. Shirt and sweater designs must be similar enough to ensure a consistency of presentation between those cricketers wearing sweaters and those not.
  - g. Tonal design elements of a strictly non-commercial nature will be permitted. For clarity, this may include the Team Mark (or elements of the Team Mark) but not the Commercial Mark or Manufacturer’s Mark.
  - h. The depiction of Tier 3 County and/or team names in bold letters across the front or back of shirts and sweaters is not permitted.
  - i. It is the intention of the ECB to preserve the colourway of the umpires’ shirts and jackets to ensure they stand-out on the field of play. The colourway for 2026 will be the same as 2025 and Tier 3 Counties must avoid similar colours and/or designs.
  - j. Any advertising and/or other insignia on playing shirts or sweaters must abide by the following requirements:
    - i. Team Mark:
      1. Must not exceed 10 square inches (64.52 square centimetres).
      2. Must only be positioned on the left chest.
      3. Only one Team Mark may be used on each playing shirt.

A Tier 3 County is permitted an additional area of no more than 2 square inches (12.9 square centimetres) for a strictly non-commercial design element (such as a flag, element of the Team Mark, traditional country emblem, or similar). This must be positioned in a way that does not interfere with any other Mark.

- ii. Manufacturer’s Mark:
  1. Must not exceed 6 square inches (38.71 square centimetres).
  2. Must only be positioned on either the right chest or the non-leading arm of the main body of the playing shirt.
  3. May also be featured on the piping or tape on the inside of the collar.
- iii. Commercial Mark:

1. If a Tier 3 County chooses not to have a Commercial Mark on the back and/or collar and/or non-leading arm of the playing shirt, the position(s) in which the Tier 3 County chooses not to have a Commercial Mark may be used for a Team Mark. Otherwise, the following restrictions apply to Commercial Marks on a playing shirt in each respective position:
    - a. On the front of the playing shirt, must not exceed 32 square inches (206.45 square centimetres).
    - b. On the back of the playing shirt, must be either centred above the cricketer's name and number and in that position must not exceed 20 square inches (129.03 square centimetres), or must be centred below the cricketer's number and in that position must not exceed 32 square inches (206.45 square centimetres), provided that whichever position is chosen it is applied consistently across every Tier 3 County's cricketers' playing shirts.
    - c. On the non-leading arm of the playing shirt, must not exceed 10 square inches (64.52 square centimetres).
    - d. On the collar of the playing shirt, both left and right sides of the collar may be used but each mark must not exceed 3 square inches (19.35 square centimetres). Commercial Marks may be replicated on the underside of the collar, but these must be identical in size, design and positioning to the Commercial Marks on the topside of the collar. On playing shirts without a fold-over collar, Commercial Marks must be placed in a reasonably equivalent position near the neck.
    - e. On the leading arm of the playing shirt, only ECB designated Competition Marks are permitted, and these must not exceed 10 square inches (64.52 square centimetres).
  - k. Any advertising and/or other insignia and Team Marks on sweaters must be to the exact specifications and locations as specified for playing shirts (see paragraph 1.j above).
  - l. Any advertising and/or other insignia on trousers must abide by the following requirements:
    - i. One Team Mark is permitted, which must be positioned between the waist and the knee and must not exceed 10 square inches (64.52 square centimetres) in area.
    - ii. Only one Manufacturer's Mark is permitted, which must be positioned between the waist and the knee and must not exceed 2 square inches (12.9 square centimetres) in area. This must be positioned on the opposite leg to the Team Mark.
    - iii. One Commercial Mark is permitted which must only be positioned between the waist and the knee and must not exceed 10 square inches (64.52 square centimetres) in area.
    - iv. Where a Commercial Mark is used, it must be placed on one leg with the Manufacturer's Mark and the Team Mark placed together on the other leg.
2. T-shirts and base layer garments are subject to no colour restrictions where the undergarment is not visible. Where a long sleeve undergarment is worn under a short sleeve playing shirt, it must be such a colour as to match back to the relevant playing kit. This colour must be nominated by Tier 3 Counties in advance of the Season and must be uniform across all cricketers within a team. Light colours (white, ivory or any light colour which is likely to make the sighting of a white ball difficult) are not permitted.
  3. No visible Manufacturer's Marks or other distinctive branding or design elements are permitted on playing t-shirts and base layers.
  4. There shall be no restriction or requirement in relation to colour for shoes/boots.

5. Any advertising and/or other insignia on shoes/boots must abide by the following requirements:
  - a. Any number and size of Manufacturer's Marks are permitted anywhere on the upper shoe/boot but the Manufacturer's Mark(s) taken together must not exceed 30% of the total surface area of the upper side of the shoe/boot.
  - b. One Manufacturer's Mark of any size may be displayed on the sole of the shoe/boot.
  - c. Any written name, initials or word used as a Manufacturer's Mark must not exceed 2 square inches (12.9 square centimetres).
6. Socks must be white, light grey or match the principal colour of the Tier 3 County's clothing.
7. One Manufacturer's Mark may appear on each sock and must be a maximum size of two square inches (6.45 square centimetres).
8. Caps and sunhats have no colour restriction but must be consistent across all cricketers within a team.
9. Any advertising and/or other insignia on playing caps, sunhats, turbans and bandanas must abide by the following requirements:
  - a. One Team Mark or emblem is permitted on the front of a cap and/or sunhat but must not exceed 6 square inches (38.71 square centimetres) in area.
  - b. One Manufacturer's Mark is permitted on the side or rear of a cap and/or sunhat but must not exceed 3 square inches (19.35 square centimetres) in area.
  - c. One Commercial Mark is permitted on the side or rear of a cap and/or sunhat but must not exceed 3 square inches (19.35 square centimetres) in area.
  - d. Numbers indicating a cricketer's order of selection for their Tier 3 County's team or milestone appearances may be included on a cap and/or sunhat in a suitable position. Such numbers must not be more than 1.5cm in height.
10. Turbans, hijabs and bandanas must be plain white, plain black or match the principal colour of the Tier 3 County's clothing.
11. Bats may include some colour, but all colours on the face of the bat must be restricted to the top 9 inches (22.9 centimetres). There are no restrictions to the use of house colours on the back or edge of bats.
12. Any advertising and/or other insignia on bats must abide by the following requirements:
  - a. The Manufacturer's Mark is permitted on a bat, providing the bat Manufacturer is approved by the ECB. The Manufacturer's Mark must be restricted to the top 9 inches (22.9 centimetres) on the face of the blade of the bat. There are no restrictions to the use of logos on the back or edge of bats.
  - b. A single Commercial Mark no greater than 10 square inches (64.52 square centimetres) may appear on the back of the bat.
  - c. Two sets of the cricketer's initials are permitted. One set is permitted anywhere on the back of the bat. One set is permitted anywhere within the top 10 inches of the face of the bat. Such initials must not be more than 2cm (0.78 inches) in height.
  - d. Betting Logos are not permitted on bats. In addition, Commercial Marks, advertising or any other insignia from and/or representing the following organisations are also not permitted on bats:

- i. any company or entity which conflicts with any ECB domestic Competition Sponsor(s) (either current sponsors or successor sponsors);
  - ii. broadcasters; and/or
  - iii. any organisation within a Restricted Brand Sector.
13. Pads (batting and wicket-keeping) must be a single, plain colour (other than white or any light colour which is likely to make the sighting of the white ball difficult) save for the straps which may be in the house colours of the Manufacturer. The colour of the pads must be consistent across all cricketers in the same team of a Tier 3 County. The colour of the pads must be properly maintained. Discoloured or faded pads are not permitted.
14. Any advertising and/or other insignia on batting pads must abide by the following requirements. Three Manufacturer's Marks may be displayed on each pad as follows:
  - a. One Manufacturer's Mark, which must not exceed 4 square inches (25.81 square centimetres), may be placed on the front of the pad either on:
    - i. the instep or the knee roll (outside of the leg, not central); or
    - ii. above the knee roll (outside of the leg, not central).
  - b. One Manufacturer's Mark of any size may be placed on the inside top of the pad.
  - c. One Manufacturer's Mark, which must not exceed 4 square inches (25.81 square centimetres), may be placed on one of the pad straps.
  - d. Clads (a coloured cover that goes over a white pad) are permitted and, when used, the clad logo may replace the existing Manufacturer's Mark on the front of the pad. In such cases, the existing Manufacturer's Mark on the inside top of the pad and the pad straps are still permitted to be displayed.
15. Any advertising and/or other insignia on wicket-keeping pads must abide by the same requirements as specified for batting pads in paragraph 14 above, except that the single Manufacturer's Mark permitted on the front of each pad (per paragraph 14 above) must be placed at the top, centre of the wicket-keeping pad, above the knee roll.
16. Batting gloves must have more than 50% of the protective area as white or the same colour as the base colour of the playing shirt.
17. Any advertising and/or other insignia on batting gloves must abide by the following requirements:
  - a. Three Manufacturer's Marks, each of which must not exceed 2 square inches (12.9 square centimetres), may be displayed on each batting glove as follows:
    - i. Two Manufacturer's Marks are permitted on the back of each glove.
    - ii. One Manufacturer's Mark is permitted on the inside of the wristband of each glove.
18. Any advertising and/or other insignia on wicket-keeping gloves must abide by the following requirements:
  - a. Two Manufacturer's Marks, which must not exceed 6 square inches (38.72 square centimetres) and 2 square inches (12.9 square centimetres) respectively, may be displayed on the back of each glove.
  - b. Any visible stitching, ventilation, stencil effect, or other design aspect of the glove which is in the shape or form of the Manufacturer's Mark shall be considered as one of the permitted Manufacturer's Marks.

19. Headbands and wristlets must be plain coloured (other than white or any light colour which is likely to make the sighting of the white ball difficult) and no advertising and/or other insignia (including any Marks) are permitted.
20. Arm guards must be plain coloured (other than white or any light colour which is likely to make the sighting of the white ball difficult) save that the straps may be in the house colours of the Manufacturer. No advertising and/or other insignia (including any Marks) are permitted.
21. Any advertising and/or other insignia on helmets must abide by the following requirements:
  - a. Three Manufacturer's Marks in total: a maximum of one Manufacturer's Mark may be displayed on the back or one side of the helmet and must not exceed 2 square inches (12.9 square centimetres); an additional one Manufacturer's Mark may also be displayed on the top of each earpiece or the top of both sides of the grid of the helmet and must not exceed 2 square inches (12.9 square centimetres).
  - b. One Team Mark or emblem is permitted on the front and must not exceed 6 square inches (38.71 square centimetres) in area.
22. Thigh pads, shin pads and other equipment must only be worn under playing clothing and must not be visible. As such there are no restrictions on the colour of these items but no advertising and/or other insignia (including any Marks) on thigh pads, shin pads and/or any other protective body equipment are permitted to be visible, whether by showing through clothing or otherwise.
23. Bandages, strapping, taping, supports (and similar) must be a plain colour (other than white or any light colour which is likely to make the sighting of the white ball difficult).
24. Sunglasses may be any colour, but the strap/band of the sunglasses must be a single colour.
25. Two Manufacturer's Marks are permitted in total on sunglasses, made up of a total of one on either side of the frame, each not exceeding 0.5 square inches (3.22 squared centimetres).
26. Stumps must not include any Commercial Mark or Manufacturer's Mark other than any Commercial Mark provided by the ECB. If a Commercial Mark is provided by the ECB, it must be applied in accordance with any instructions given by the ECB.