

## Registration Procedure

Registration of all players will take place in accordance with ECB guidelines at a time designated by the Management Committee.

Every player registered to play in the League explicitly acknowledges, by virtue of his/her registration, the Rules of the League, the Playing Conditions, and, in particular, the powers of the League, in relation to conduct and disciplinary procedures, and undertakes to be bound by them. All players' data will be held electronically and may be disclosed to other appropriate cricket authorities as necessary.

The responsibility for registering a player shall be with the Club. The Administrator of the League will conduct random checks of team sheets and scorecards published on play-cricket.com throughout the season and he will report any infringements to the Disciplinary sub-committee, which has the power to deduct points and/or impose financial penalties and/or relegate teams as it sees fit.

No player may act as a substitute professional for a Club in any other League in the UK. If a player does accept such an engagement, his registration with a WCL Club will be cancelled, with immediate effect, and he will be ineligible to play for any WCL Club for the remainder of the season.

## Playing Members

- (a) Only bona fide and properly registered members of Clubs shall be eligible to play in League and KO matches
- (b) No person shall be eligible to play in League matches for more than one Club per season without the consent of the WCL Management Committee. In addition, no person shall be allowed to play for more than one club in the West Midlands Regional cricket structure or for any WCL club having played for any other Premier League team in any season without prior permission from the WCL Management Committee. Where clubs are aware of, and have informed the League Administrator, that a student member has played or will play for a Premier League team in another part of the country in term-time, dispensation will be given to avoid affecting membership of WCL clubs. This dispensation will also be granted in reverse if necessary, without the consent of the League Management Committee
- (c) Each Member Club shall supply to the League such particulars of its membership and of the persons playing for it in League matches as shall be required by the WCL Management Committee. It is the clubs' responsibility to ensure correct information is provided concerning periods of residence, etc on the Registration Forms and any club found guilty of serious registration breaches may be summarily relegated to the next lower division. Full details and ECB guidelines regarding players' categories for Contracted players, Overseas players and Overseas (Exempt) players are available in a separate section of this handbook or on the WCL website; [www.worcscl.org](http://www.worcscl.org). Clubs must follow these procedures carefully.
- (d) To be eligible to play in the first match of the 2019 season a full list of players needs to be provided (and approved for registration by the WCL League Administrator) via the WCL play-cricket.com platform at least 7 days prior to their first league match.
- (e) In the WCL Premier Division to Division Five subsequent players (new registrations) MUST be registered at least 48 hours before playing. Teams in Division Six to Twelve may, in exceptional circumstances, field unregistered players provided that the League Administrator receives the on-line registration application within 48 hours (two days) of the match in which the unregistered player, played.
- (f) A player formally suspended from another Club or League shall be ineligible to play in any Worcestershire County League organised match for the period of suspension.
- (g) No League Club or any officer, member or supporter of a League Club shall during

the season, approach a player belonging to or playing with another League Club with the object of obtaining his services without first consulting the Secretary of the Club with whom the player is or was last playing. Evidence of such approaches may, at the WCL Management Committee's discretion, result in disciplinary action being taken.

**Clubs must register their players in one of the following categories:**

**Category 1:**

A player qualified to play for England under the current ECB regulations.

**Category 2: Contracted Player**

No Contracted Players are allowed to play in the Worcestershire County League with the exception of a Womens Super 8s player who shall be dealt with on a case by case basis.

**Category 3 (E): Overseas Player (exempt)**

A player not qualified to play for England under current ECB regulations, who is ordinarily resident in this country, and has been resident in this country for a period of 18 consecutive months, prior to the date of request for registration, and has not been out of the country for more than 35 days, consecutively, or 70 days, in total, during the previous 24 months. Any remuneration received from playing cricket must not be the main source of his income.

The definition of "ordinarily resident" shall be in the absolute discretion of the body responsible for registration of the player in the relevant competition.

In relation to the registration of Category 3 (Exempt) Players:-

1. Clubs must satisfy, themselves, by checking evidence of any such player's continuous residence in UK, e.g. utility bills, council tax bills, entry and departure dates on passport.
2. In addition, every Category 3 (Exempt) Player must sign a declaration each year, as follows:

*"I confirm that I have been resident in England and Wales for the past 18 months and, during that period, I have not been outside England and Wales for longer than 35 days, consecutively, or 70 days, in total. I, also, confirm that any payment that I receive for playing cricket is not my main source of income. I understand that the punishment for making a false declaration, in this regard, will be severe and will, most likely, result in a lengthy ban, which will apply to all forms of recreational cricket in England and Wales."* (Note: England and Wales includes the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.)

This declaration may be obtained from the WCL Administrator and also downloaded from the League website [www.worcsccl.org/forms.htm](http://www.worcsccl.org/forms.htm)

3. In the event of a player making a false declaration, the Club will, also, be liable to disciplinary action if it has failed to carry out all reasonable checks on the player's documentary evidence. Clubs will, therefore, be expected to keep a record of all such checks.
4. As there is a continuing need to verify that the criteria are met, Clubs must re-register all Category 3 (exempt) players, **each season**, providing evidence of their continuous residence in this country, otherwise they will be deemed to be Category 3 players.
5. If a Category 3 (exempt) player has, unavoidably, due to personal reasons, had to leave England and Wales for longer than the permitted period, the Administrator (along with the Cricket & Registrations Sub Committee Chairman) will consider such player's application for continued Category 3 (exempt) status and their decision shall be final
6. A player who has a home in England or Wales and has been granted "exempt" status, who, subsequently, accepts a temporary work assignment, unconnected to cricket, in

another country, may apply to reinstate his "exempt" status immediately on his return. Approval is at the discretion of the WCL Administrator in communication with the Cricket & Registrations Sub Committee Chairman and may not be automatic.

7. A student may be granted Category 3 (exempt) status subject to production of a Tier 4 Visa that provides evidence that he/she is a full time student attending a minimum three year course of study in a bona fide education establishment.

8. There is no restriction on the number of Category 3 (Exempt) players that can be registered by a club but only one such player can play in a team. In the event of there being no Category 3 player in a team, two Category 3 (Exempt) players shall be allowed to play

### **Category 3: Overseas Player**

A player not qualified to play for England under the current ECB regulations. The definition of an overseas player is as per ECB guidelines, a copy of which is held by the Administrator.

In relation to the registration of Category 3 Players:-

1. Clubs must ensure that all relevant regulations are complied with and, if they are not, any such Player will be deemed ineligible for registration.

2. Each club shall be permitted to register and play one Category 3 player, each season. For definition and criteria of Overseas players please refer to the latest ECB guidelines and/or contact Emma Davis/Bidgood (Head of Managed Migration); [emma.davisbidgood@ecb.co.uk](mailto:emma.davisbidgood@ecb.co.uk)

In 2019, clubs are advised that the United Kingdom Border Agency (UKBA) has amended several of the Visa categories that players have previously used to be admitted to UK. As a result of this, new information has been issued from the Home Office and passed on by the League, to enable clubs to understand which players will be allowed to play cricket and whether they are to be classed as Amateur or Professional. Neither the league nor ECB, are qualified or allowed to give advice on Managed Migration matters. Clubs should be very cautious in attempting any registration of overseas players.

### **QUALIFICATION OF CRICKETERS TO PLAY FOR ENGLAND**

Subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB, acting with the consent of the International Cricket Council, a Cricketer will only be qualified to play for England in a Test Match or in a One Day International Match if:-

- he is a British citizen **and:-**

- he was born within England and Wales: **or:-**

- he has been resident in England and Wales for the immediately preceding three consecutive years if his residence commenced prior to his 18th birthday or three years if his residence in England and Wales commenced after his 18th birthday:

**and:** - he has not during the immediately preceding four consecutive years either (i) played cricket for any ICC Full Member Country outside the EEA at Under 17 level or above, or (ii) played First Class Cricket in any such Full Member Country except as an overseas cricketer under local rules.

In the case of a Cricketer seeking to become qualified through residency above he will (until he has become qualified to play for England) only be treated as having been resident within England and Wales for the relevant consecutive period if he has spent a minimum of 210

days in each year within England and Wales (for which purpose year shall mean a year ending 31st March).

## Definitions

**England and Wales** means England, Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

**The EEA** means the European Economic Area and includes each of its member states as from time to time applicable. Currently the EEA comprises the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Austria, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland, Cyprus (Greek part), Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria and Romania and includes each of its member states as from time to time applicable.

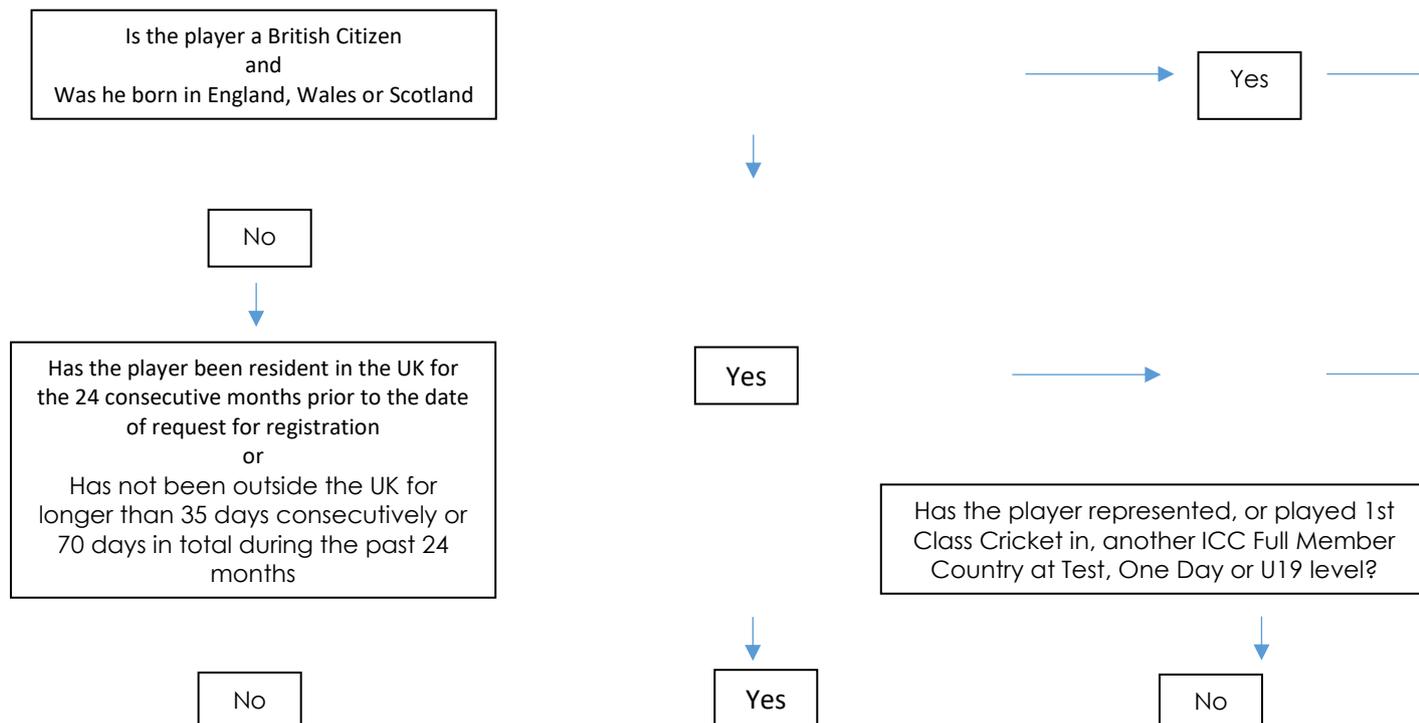
**Residing and Resident** mean the occupation of a bona fide home (i.e. the only or main home of the Cricketer concerned) and the acquisition of temporary accommodation during the season may not fulfil this requirement.

**Full Member Country** means a country which is a full member of the International Cricket Council.

## QUALIFIED CRICKETER OR OVERSEAS PLAYER?

The following is a guide only to what is a Qualified Cricketer (Category 1 Player), according to ECB regulations, or an Overseas Player. The responsibility for checking under which category a player should be registered rests solely with the club. Cases of possible doubt must be cleared with the Administrator before the player appears in a League or Cup match. Fielding an ineligible player makes the club liable to disciplinary action.

**Note; holding a UK passport does not necessarily mean a player is eligible as a Category 1 player;**





## Procedure

Players in all categories - Category 1, Category 3 (Exempt) and Category 3 must be registered on play-cricket.com and approved by the Administrator of the League.

Category 1 players who were registered with a Club during the previous season, will not be required to re-register unless they change Clubs. Clubs must re-register all Category 3 (Exempt) and Category 3 players, **each season**.

All Category 3 players must be registered with the Administrator of the League, with the relevant documentation, 48 hours before the player is eligible to play in a 1st XI match.

## Players Moving Clubs

A player wishing to move to a Club in the WCL will need to apply for a transfer on-line via the play-cricket.com platform. The deadline for transfers from club to club is 5:00 pm on 30th June annually. The Club that the player wishes to transfer to, is required to submit an on-line transfer request (see how to apply for a transfer). Once the on-line transfer has been submitted by the Club who wish to transfer the player, the League Administrator or the WCL Cricket & Registrations Sub Committee Chairman shall approve the request after 7 days during the season or 14 days out of season (unless the club from which the player is moving from agrees to the transfer sooner).

A club may only refuse sanction of movement where a player may be in debt to that Club or for disciplinary reasons. A player transferred from another ECB Registered Cricket Club after 5pm on 30th June shall be ineligible to play in 1<sup>st</sup> XI League matches for the remainder of that season. After that date a transfer can only be sanctioned by the administrator after reference to the Chairman of the Cricket & Registrations Sub Committee.

## Dual Registration

No player may be registered for more than one club unless approval is given by the Administrator or the WCL Cricket & Registrations Sub Committee Chairman. Dual Registration will be granted when a player is in full time education and the Administrator/WCL Cricket & Registrations Chairman is/are satisfied that it is not practical for the player to return to play for his/her club at weekends. Whilst registered for another club the player may not return and play for a WCL club. However, Clubs may apply to register a scheme of dual registration for any player they would like to register with another club in addition to their first club. These dual registered players are not allowed to play in the second club's 1<sup>st</sup> XI if that side competes. Clubs may have dual registered players with more than one club but a player can only be registered to a maximum of two clubs.

Players who move to a Club, outside of the WCL, after the season has commenced, MUST be de-registered within 48 hours following the approval of transfer. A Club may not hold a Player's registration if he moves to a Club in another league

The Chairman of the WCL Cricket & Registrations Sub Committee reserves the right to refuse dual registration in certain circumstances.

## 2nd XI Players

Unregistered players are permitted to play in 2nd XI matches, up to and including the last

match of the season, as long as the player is registered on play-cricket.com within 48 hours of the completion of the match.

### **De-Registration**

Players who move to a Club, outside of the WCL, **after the season has commenced**, must be de-registered **within 48 hours** of the transfer being approved. A Club may not hold a Player's registration if he moves to a Club in another League.

### **How to Add a New Member onto your Clubs play-cricket.com Members Database**

#### **If the player is not registered to another club (inside or outside WCL):-**

Follow the procedure below:-

- Step 1** - Find your Clubs play-cricket.com Homepage
- Step 2** - Click on the Log in button to the top right hand side of your clubs homepage
- Step 3** - Enter your unique username & password and click the blue log in button
- Step 4** - Click on your name (to the right hand top of your homepage)
- Step 5** - From the drop down list select 'Site Administration'
- Step 6** - Click on 'Members' in the left hand side Menu Bar
- Step 7** - Select 'Members Database' from the drop down list
- Step 8** - Click on the 'Role' drop down arrow and ensure 'Member Of The Website' is selected
- Step 9** - Click on the 'Add New Member with this Role' blue button
- Step 10** - Insert players surname in the 'Players Surname box and click 'add member'
- Step 11** - Complete the Player Profile and click save at the foot of the page

The player is now added as a member of your club database.

### **How to Register a Player as a WCL League Registered Player on play-cricket.com**

The player needs to be a Member of your Clubs database (see above). **If the player** is a member of your club and added as a Member of your clubs Members Database then follow the process to register the player as a WCL League Registered Player;:

#### **Follow Steps 1 – 6 as above**

- Step 7** - Search for the player by typing the surname into the Search for box
- Step 8** - Once found click on the black mortar board adjacent to the players name (under edit roles)
- Step 9** - Click on the blue 'League Registered Players' tab
- Step 10** - Ensure all details on the player profile form are completed including; Gender, Date of Birth, Email; Address (parents if under 18), Address (including Post Code and County), Telephone Numbers and Country of Birth
- Step 11** - Click the green save button at the foot of the page, then click the blue Apply option to the right hand side of the page adjacent to; Worcestershire County League Registered Player
- Step 12** - Search for duplicate records by typing into the 'Keyword' box as required and click search, then click the green next button when cleared
- Step 13** - Enter Player Category (1 to 3 Exempt) as explained by the Player Definition Categories then click the green next button
- Step 14** - If you are NOT applying for a transfer from another club, click the green Next button
- Step 15** - If the player is not already registered as a league player by a club select the No button against 'Is this Player already registered'? then click the green save button

You should then see the word 'Withdraw' appear next to the Worcestershire County League Registered Player title in the Current Registrations section of the Player Profile. At this stage, the player status will be defined as Pending and you await confirmation from the League that the player is registered or rejected. Until the registration is accepted, or rejected, the name of the player will appear in Pending Player Nominations in the menu down the left hand side of the page.

If the application for registration is rejected by the League, you will receive an e-mail from the Worcestershire County League Administrator or the WCL Cricket & Registrations Sub Committee Chairman stating the reason for rejection.

If the application for registration is accepted by the League, you will receive an e-mail stating that the application has been successfully approved.

**If the player is registered and wishes to transfer to your club from another club;**

The player who wishes to transfer to your club from another club should apply for membership of your clubs play-cricket.com website. Follow the procedure below:-

**Step 1** – Log on to play-cricket.com using your unique username and password

**Step 2** – On the play-cricket.com homepage use the 'Cricket Directory' search engines at the foot of the page to find the club you wish to transfer to

**Step 3** – Once on the Clubs play-cricket.com homepage click on your name at the top right hand side of the page

**Step 4** – Select 'join this site' and insert why you wish to join the site (i.e; Player Transfer) and click the green apply button. A Main Administrator of the Club (website) you have applied to MUST then approve your membership by applying to register you with the Worcestershire County League as follows;

**Step 5** – Find your player profile by clicking on the magnifying glass next to Member of the Website in the 'Your Actions' box on the Main Administrators homepage

**Step 6** – Click on the mortar board (under edit roles) adjacent to the players name

**Step 7** – Click on the 'League Registered Players' tab

**Step 8** – Ensure all details on the player profile form are completed including; Gender, Date of Birth, Email; Address (parents if under 18), Address (including Post Code and County), Telephone Numbers and Country of Birth, click the green save button at the foot of the page.

**Step 9** - Click the blue Apply option to the right hand side of the page adjacent to; Worcestershire County League Registered Player

**Step 10** – If the player is or has been registered as an active player with another club the player will be identified in the 'Duplicate Player Records' section. If the player appears click/tick the 'select' box to the right hand side of the players roles button, then click the green next button

**Step 11** – Search for further duplicates (if required) then click the green next button

**Step 12** – Enter Player Category (1 to 3 Exempt) as explained by the Player Definition Categories then click the green next button

**Step 13** – If the player already has a registration to a club within the league you are applying to the Player Transfer boxes should both be checked/ticked. Click the green next button to submit the Transfer Request

At this stage, the player status will be identified as a 'Nomination in Process' and the Worcestershire County League Administrator/Cricket & Registrations Sub Committee Chairman will give the club that the player is transferring from 7 days (during the season) and 14 days (out of season) to confirm/agree to the transfer on-line. (A club may only refuse sanction of movement where a player may be in debt to that Club or for disciplinary reasons Should approval/agreement not arrive and no objection made by the club in the specified

time (as identified above) If after seven days no response has been received from the Club the WCL Administrator/Cricket & Registrations Sub Committee Chairman will approve the transfer.

If the application for Transfer is rejected by the League, you will receive an e-mail stating the reason for rejection.

If the application for registration is accepted by the League, you will receive an e-mail stating that the application has been successfully approved.

**To check if a player is registered by your club as a Worcestershire County League Registered Player;**

Follow Steps 1 to 7 of 'How to add a New Member' above, then;

**Step 8** – Click on the 'Role' drop down arrow and ensure 'League Registered Players' is selected from the drop down list

**Step 9** - Click on Search

A full list of all your Club players registered with the League should be visible. However, if your club competes in more than one league there will be sub-roles which can be searched.

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