

# ENGLAND AND WALES CRICKET BOARD (ECB)

## QUALIFICATIONS OF CRICKETERS TO PLAY FOR ENGLAND

Subject to 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;

- 1.1 he is either a British citizen or an Irish citizen; and
  - 1.2.1 he was born within England and Wales; or
  - 1.2.2 he has been resident in England and Wales for the immediately preceding four consecutive years; and
  - 1.3 he has not during the immediately preceding four consecutive years either played cricket for any Full Member Country outside the EEA at U17 level or above, or played First Class Cricket in any such Full Member Country except as an overseas cricketer under local rules similar to Regulation 3, or in any other circumstances approved by the ECB; and
  - 1.4 he makes, whenever requested by the ECB, a declaration in the form set out in Annex A to the ECB Regulations.
- 2.1 In the case of a Cricketer seeking to become qualified under 1.2.2 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 1st April).

## REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE QUALIFICATION AND REGISTRATION OF CRICKETERS FOR COMPETITIVE COUNTY CRICKET

Subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB and subject as provided below, a Cricketer will only be qualified to play in Competitive County Cricket match (a Qualified Cricketer) if;

- 1.1 he is an EEA national or a national of a state which is a party to an agreement with the EU and its members states providing that their nationals lawfully employed within the EEA shall have employment rights equal to those of EEA nationals; and
- 1.2 he has not, within the 12 months leading up to 10 April 1st immediately before the season in question, either played cricket for any Full Member Country outside the EEA at U17 level or above, or played First Class Cricket in any such Full Member Country except as an overseas cricketer under local rules similar to ECB Regulation 3 i(Unqualified Cricketers) or in any circumstances approved by the ECB; and
- 1.3 he makes, whenever requested by the ECB, a declaration in the form set out in Annex A to ECB Regulations.

The complete Regulations are published annually by the ECB and are available on request.

## DEFINITIONS

1. **Competitive County Cricket** refers to matches played in the course of:
  - 1.1 The Liverpool Victoria County Championship
  - 1.2 The C & G Trophy, the Pr040 League and the Twenty20 Cup
  - 1.3 The Under 17 County Championship
  - 1.4 Any other similar competition authorised by and designated as Competitive County Cricket by the ECB
2. **Qualification to play for England** refers to matches played in the course of:
  - 2.1 The Minor Counties Championship.
3. **England and Wales** means England, Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.
4. 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, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.
5. **Residing and resident** means a country which is a full member of the International Cricket Council. .

## ECB CODE OF CONDUCT

The ECB is committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. This Code of Conduct incorporates the Spirit of Cricket, as set out below. It applies to all matches played under the auspices of the ECB and may be applied to cricket in general.

The Captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of Cricket as well as within the Laws.

Players and Team Officials must at all times accept the Umpire's decision. Players must not show dissent at the Umpire's decision or react in a provocative or disapproving manner towards an Umpire at any time.

Players and Team Officials shall not intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an Umpire, another Player or a Spectator.

Players and Team Officials shall not use crude and/or abusive language (known as "sledging") nor make offensive gestures or hand signals nor deliberately distract an opponent.

Players and Team Officials shall not make racially abusive comments nor indulge in racially abusive actions against fellow players, officials, members and supporters. Clubs must operate an active open door membership policy whilst respecting player qualification regulations and welcome players/members irrespective of ethnic origin.

Players and Team Officials shall not use or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs.

Clubs must take adequate steps to ensure the good behaviour of their members and supporters towards players and Umpires.

## THE SPIRIT OF CRICKET

*Cricket is a game which owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action which is seen to abuse this spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the captains.*

1. There are two Laws which place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the captain.  
**Responsibility of captains**  
The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.  
**Player's conduct**  
In the event of any player failing to comply with the instructions of an umpire, criticising his decision by word or action, showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game to disrepute, the umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, requesting the latter to take action.
2. **Fair and unfair play**  
According to the Laws the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. The umpires may intervene at any time and it is the responsibility of the captain to take action where required.
3. **The umpires are authorised to intervene in cases of:**
  - Time wasting
  - Damaging the pitch
  - Dangerous or unfair bowling
  - Tampering with the ball
  - Any other action that they consider to be unfair
4. **The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:**
  - Your opponents
  - Your own captain and team
  - The role of the umpires
  - The game's traditional values
5. **It is against the Spirit of the Game:**
  - To dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture
  - To direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire
  - To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance
    - a) appeal knowing the batsman is not out
    - b) advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.
    - c) seek to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side.
6. **Violence**  
There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.
7. **Players**  
Captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.