



WESTERN DISTRICT CRICKET UNION
SATURDAY LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION RULES 2026



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1. MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION

- a. The Saturday League (“the League”) is arranged by and played under the auspices of the Western District Cricket Union (“WDCU”).
- b. The League shall be administered by the Cricket Management Committee (“the CMC”), which is a sub-committee of the WDCU Executive Committee and has such powers delegated to it under the WDCU Constitution.
- c. The CMC shall administer the League in accordance with the WDCU League Administration Rules herein and the WDCU Playing Conditions and Match Rules. The CMC shall be the sole interpreter of the Rules with the power to discipline or sanction any Club or player in breach of the Rules (including the right to deduct points) with the proviso that any decision can be subject to appeal to the Cricket Scotland/WDCU Liaison. Any decision made by the CMC in respect of the rules should be considered final, notwithstanding any appeal. An appeal will only be considered if the appropriate “bond” is paid and the appeal is made in writing following the outlined process.
- d. The CMC may relieve a Club or player from the consequences of a failure to comply with any provision of the Rules where that failure is shown to be due to mistake, oversight or other excusable cause. Where the CMC so relieves a Club or player from the consequences of failure to comply with a provision of these Rules the CMC may impose any condition it thinks fit in order (i) to ensure that an equitable result is achieved, and (ii) to ensure future compliance with the Rules.
- e. Each Club shall be a fully subscribed member of WDCU prior to the start of each WDCU season.
- f. Each Club shall pay an annual subscription, which shall be set by the WDCU Executive Committee. The charge shall be payable on demand prior to the season commencing. Should the charge to any Club remain unpaid it shall be in the option of the WDCU Executive Committee to refuse such Club the right to play in any WDCU competitions including League matches until the charge is paid.

2. CRITERIA

All Clubs entering the League should meet the criteria laid down by the CMC for the respective division that a participating team of a club wishes to participate in. These criteria include:

- Ground and Facilities Criteria
- Club Development Criteria

These are summarised in the relevant Appendices to these rules.

- Youth Playing and Coaching

All League clubs currently playing Premiership One and Two, and all clubs eligible for promotion to Premiership Two must operate a youth coaching and playing programme and satisfy the requirements of the Club Development Criteria. In addition, all clubs eligible for promotion to Premiership One, must have at least one, autonomous junior XI playing within the WDCU Junior Leagues, this does not include “kwik cricket”. (This will be enforced from 2027). Participation within WDCU Junior Leagues will be evidenced using Player HQ, 80% of fixtures must be completed, notwithstanding cancellations due to weather. Any club failing to fulfil this requirement will be demoted from Premier One.

The outcome of each annual review of criteria will determine which division Clubs are eligible to participate in in the following season. In addition, to be eligible to compete in Premiership One and Two, clubs must also field a Saturday 2nd XI in the league structure.

An annual review of Club Development Criteria will be carried out in Autumn 2026. Clubs will be assessed against the Ground and Club Development criteria to ascertain that they meet the criteria for the league they will compete in during season 2026.

All clubs should have an appointed Child Protection and Wellbeing Officer (CPWO) who should meet the Cricket Scotland requirements for a CPWO which includes being a member of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme for their club.

Any Club not meeting the requirements of the division they are participating in will be automatically placed into the highest division whose criteria they now meet for the following season.



3. COMPOSITION OF SATURDAY LEAGUE

A Team shall mean a recognised XI of a full member Club of the WDCU. The CMC shall determine the number of participant Teams in each division and on the eligibility of such Teams as entered using the criteria set out below by the CMC. The structure of the leagues shall be determined solely by the CMC. The CMC may, at their discretion, place a new team in any league within the WDCU League structure and similarly, should there be compelling reason to do so, may at their discretion, place any team in any league within the WDCU League structure irrespective of the final position of that team at the end of the previous season and irrespective of any other criteria defined in rules 3b – 3i below.

- a. No club 2nd XI or lower team may play in WDCU Premiership 1 or Premiership 2. 2nd XI or lower teams may be invited to play in Premiership 3 at the sole discretion of the CMC, should there be a need to retain the integrity and structure of the leagues.
- b. At the end of the season, the bottom 2 teams in Premiership One and Two and the bottom 2 teams in Championship One and Two will be relegated
- c. At the end of the season, the top 2 teams in Premiership Two and Three and the top 2 teams in Championship two and three will be offered promotion to the league above assuming the following:
 - The club has fulfilled all criteria (see Appendix 1 and Appendix 2) for the division above during the current season of play. Promotion will not be offered on a promise of future action if the criteria are not fulfilled (Precautionary Principle).
 - If a 2nd XI or lower team, there is no team from the same club in the division above.
 - The club involved wants their team promoted.
- d. Should any of 3.d not apply, the relevant team will not be promoted and the next highest placed side in the division that fulfils the above will be offered promotion.
- e. No team that finished 3rd or lower in the division will be offered promotion unless offered at the sole discretion of the CMC.
- f. Should only 1 team fulfil promotion criteria, then only the bottom team from the division above will be relegated.
- g. Apart from Championship 3, should a team be relegated into a division that contains a team from the same club, the lower team will also be relegated to the division below that and replaced by the highest club in that division that meets the relevant promotion criteria for the higher division. In this instance, should no club meet the promotion criteria, the CMC will have discretion to promote another team, not relegate a team or make any other arrangement they see fit to retain the structure and integrity of the leagues.
- h. There will be no automatic promotion or relegation between the Premiership and Championship Tiers. The CMC will review the structure annually.

4. DIVISION PLACINGS

- a. Division positions shall be determined by expressing the points awarded as a percentage of the maximum result points available in all completed matches.
- b. If more than one Team have an identical percentage – their positions shall be determined by net run rate in all completed matches (“NRR”).
- c. If this fails to separate the Teams their positions shall be determined by the net run rate in matches between the tying clubs (“NRR”).
- d. If this fails to separate the Teams then the CMC will arrange for the Teams to compete against each other in order that a decision is reached, but only if this is required to establish the winners of the Division and promotion or relegation positions in the Division.
- e. A Team's net run rate (NRR) is calculated by deducting from the average runs per over scored by that Team, the average runs per over scored against that Team.
- f. In the event of a Team being all out in less than its full quota of overs, the calculation of the NRR of both Teams shall be based on the full quota of overs to which the batting Team would have been entitled and not on the number of overs in which the Team was dismissed.

5. PLAYER CATEGORIES

For a player to be registered to play in a WDCU match, he/she must fulfil the requirements of one (or more) of the following categories. ‘WDCU match’ applies to all matches in WDCU competitions. Playing an ineligible player may result in penalties being applied as outlined in Rule 11.



- Scottish Qualified Player
- Resident Player
- Paid Player
- Paid Player Coach
- Overseas Amateur

The above categories are defined as follows:

- a. "Scottish Qualified Player" shall mean a player who
- was born in Scotland or
 - holds a UK passport and has a parent who was born in Scotland or
 - has been resident in Scotland for at least 10 months, on aggregate, for each of the immediately preceding three years, save for exceptional circumstances, as agreed by the CMC. The 'immediately preceding three year' period shall mean the three year period that immediately precedes the date when the change of status is requested.

Each team is required to field a minimum of 7 Scottish Qualified Players when competing in any WDCU League match.

Clubs will be permitted to register Scottish Qualified Players, currently playing outside Scotland, but they may only be registered by the club with which they were last registered and for which they last played. Registration of such players must take place prior to the current season for the player to be granted permission to play.

- b. "Resident Player" is a player who is resident and has been resident in the United Kingdom (UK) for at least 90 days out of the 120 days before any match.
- Consideration may be given by the CMC to waive some or all the requirements for a Resident Player in suitable cases where the player has moved to Scotland through work or study or marriage or other acceptable reason.
- No player may play as a Resident Player or Overseas Amateur if he/she has been a Paid Player at any time in the 36 months preceding any match. However, in the spirit of encouraging participation and where it is clear that the player is no longer a Paid Player and has moved to Scotland as above, this provision may be waived if the permission of the CMC is obtained prior to such a player taking part in any match.

- c. "Paid Player" is a professional player who receives any of the following as a fee for playing, or as an inducement to play, or to facilitate their playing cricket:
- payment in cash or in kind;
 - accommodation whether free, subsidised, or otherwise assisted;
 - employment, whether full-time or part-time;
 - payment in whole or in part, of fares to the United Kingdom from that player's place of abode.

For the purposes of these Rules, the payment of reasonable travelling expenses is permitted without any player being deemed a Paid Player.

A Scots Qualified cricket coach is not deemed to be a Paid Player for a member Club unless he/she is paid directly or indirectly for playing cricket for that member Club.

Any payment made to a player by Cricket Scotland, or to a player contracted by Cricket Scotland for playing in a match organised by Cricket Scotland, will not render that player as a Paid Player.

Any payment made to a Scottish Qualified player when playing in a trial or an occasional match for an English County will not render that player as a Paid Player.

Each Club may register and play only one Paid Player. Where a Paid Player is unable to play for whatever reason, e.g. injury, national call-up or termination of contract, the registration of a substitute Paid Player will require to be approved by the CMC, via 'paid player form (Appendix 6).

A Paid Player must possess a UK Level 2 coaching certificate (or an acceptable overseas equivalent). There shall be no residency requirements for the one permitted Paid Player, but if sourced from out with the UK, then UK Border Agency regulations must be satisfied. The responsibility for compliance with this rests wholly with Clubs. Clubs must also confirm in writing to the WDCU that these regulations have been satisfied.

Where a player arrives without a Certificate in Coaching Young People and Adults (formerly UKCC 2) or an acceptable overseas equivalent, the CMC must be advised & consequently, the player may not



play in WDCU matches. The player may attend a suitable course to gain certification & on successfully passing the course, subject to CMC approval, would be permitted to play. An individual signed on an International Sports Person – Coach Only Visa cannot play cricket for any member club.

d. "Paid Coach" is a professional coach who receives any of the following as a fee for coaching.

- payment in cash or in kind.
- accommodation whether free, subsidised, or otherwise assisted.
- employment, whether full-time or part-time.
- payment in whole or in part, of fares to the United Kingdom from that player's place of abode. A Scots Qualified cricket coach is not deemed to be a Paid Coach for a member Club.

A Paid Coach must possess a UK Level 2 coaching certificate (or an acceptable overseas equivalent). There shall be no residency requirements for a Paid Coach but if sourced from out with the UK, then UK Border Agency regulations must be satisfied. The responsibility for compliance with this rests wholly with Clubs. Clubs must also confirm in writing to the WDCU that these regulations have been satisfied, via 'paid coach' form (Appendix 6)

A Paid Coach is not permitted to play cricket administered by WDCU as per the UK Border Agency guidelines.

e. "Overseas Amateur" is a player who is seeking to come to Scotland but does not qualify as a Scottish Qualified Player, Resident Player or Paid Player as defined above.

Clubs need to have read the Home Office Immigration Rules and determined whether their proposed Overseas Amateur is actually treated as a "Professional Sportsperson" as defined by the Home Office.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-introduction> -

scroll down to find the broad definition of a Professional Sportsperson. If a player meets any of the criteria listed, many types of visa, such as a Standard Visitor Visa, will not permit such a player to play cricket at all in the UK.

Liability for any breach of Home Office legislation lies solely with the player's club.

All players with a UK passport or an Ancestry Visa can play cricket and work in the UK. However, a second Overseas Amateur may be registered if a Club has no registered Paid Player.

Where the original Overseas Amateur is unable to play for exceptional reasons acceptable to the CMC, the registration of a substitute Overseas Amateur may be approved by the CMC.

An Overseas Amateur must be registered and available to play by 30 June. Assistance by Clubs: -

- Clubs must not provide financial assistance towards air fares.
- Clubs may help an Overseas Amateur by providing accommodation with a member. The Club may also help in identifying suitable rented accommodation. The Club shall not contribute financially to either of the above.
- Clubs may help in obtaining part or full-time employment for an Overseas Amateur. Work directly relating to the cricket Club or paid by the cricket Club shall not be permitted.

Clubs must, within the approved registration form (Appendix 5), disclose full details relating to arrangements and payment for accommodation, airfares and employment. The CMC may request further information before considering the registration for approval.

It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that all the information is accurate and that any Paid Player, Paid Player Coach and Overseas Amateur engaged fully meets the criteria set out in the Home Office Immigration rules for cricket.

6. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- a. All players must be bona fide members of the Club for whom they play in the League. Except as outlined in d. below
- b. No Club may play more than one Paid Player and one Overseas Amateur or, if no Paid Player, then no Club may play more than two Overseas Amateurs.
- c. All players other than the Scottish Qualified Players, the Paid Player, and the Overseas Amateur must



- be Resident Players.
- d. A player may not play for a WDCU club, even if they are currently registered with that club, if they have already played for any other club in a competitive match during the same season, unless this has been approved by the CMC in advance. Requests to play for the WDCU club which retains their registration that same season will be considered on individual circumstances and merit.
- There are several agreed exceptions to this including but not limited to:
- Local evening/weekend league matches provided that the player does not play for a different WDCU member club.
 - University/college cricket where the player returns to play for their 'home' WDCU club
 - Women's and girls' cricket
 - Junior cricket (subject to any WDJCU restrictions)
 - Representative cricket (e.g. Scottish Police, Scottish Universities)
 - Players in rule 7e.
- e. In any weekend, a player who has been selected to play in a higher Saturday League XI cannot play in a lower Saturday XI, where the fixtures are on the same day, for example due to a match cancellation, or on a different day, for example a Sunday due to fixture scheduling.

7. PLAYER REGISTRATION

- a. In order that the CMC may administer the rules relating to player eligibility, all players must be registered before playing in any WDCU League match registered on the appropriate system
- System for Season 2026 shall be Play HQ.
 - No player may play in any such match without approval of their registration by the CMC.
 - All clubs must submit a list of all 1st XI squad players, detailing in which category each player is being registered, one week before the first league match of the season. Each additional player thereafter must be registered as detailed in 7c.
- b. No club will be allowed to play their Paid Player or Overseas Amateur until it has received confirmation from the CMC that all required documentation has been received and meets the requirements for registration.
- c. Details of players to be registered must be entered on the approved Player Registration system no later than 12.00 noon on Thursday ('48 hour' rule) prior to that player playing in his first match, and advised to WDCU Administrator. While every effort will be made to deal expeditiously with such registrations, approval may be delayed if additional information pertaining to the player's background is sought. The player in question may not play in a match until approval is granted by the CMC to the club. In exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the CMC, a club may request the registration of a player up to 24 hours prior to his first match.
- d. No player may play in a WDCU match, without the prior approval of the CMC, if he/she has played for any other club in any league or cup competition on a WDCU League scheduled match day in the same season. The previous paragraph does not apply to students returning to their 'home club' nor to Scottish Qualified Players, who are currently playing outside Scotland and who have been registered by the club with which they were last registered and for which they last played. Registration of such players must take place prior to the current season for the returning player to play without prior approval.
- e. Players wishing to transfer during the season to a WDCU club from another club must provide the CMC with a written statement from the club for whom he/she wishes to play detailing the player's change of circumstances, together with a written statement from their previous club confirming that they have no objection to the change of club. Such transfer requests after 31 July are unlikely to be approved.
- f. The CMC may require to see the passport of non-UK passport holders.
- g. Possession of a UK passport shall not of itself satisfy the requirements for any of the four playing categories and shall not give an automatic entitlement for a player who possesses such a passport to be registered to play in any WDCU League match.

8. TEAM SHEETS

- a. Team sheets will be taken as the teams submitted within Play HQ prior to the toss taking place in any WDCU organised match being shared with the opposition in advance and verified by umpires where allocated. Electronic copies of team sheets for umpires are acceptable.
- b. Substitute fielders do not require to be listed on the Team sheet but must conform to the Laws of Cricket: Law 2



9. COMPLAINTS

- a. Any complaint by one Club against another Club must be notified to the CMC in writing within seven days of the event, otherwise they may be considered time-barred by the CMC.
- b. A complaint will not be time-barred if the Club making the complaint can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the CMC that (i) it could not reasonably have become aware of the event which is the subject of the complaint within seven days of the event occurring, and (ii) that the Club has made the complaint within seven days of becoming aware of the event.
- c. On receipt of the complaint the CMC will, where appropriate, as soon as practicable invite reports from all parties involved. Any such report which has been requested must be back in the CMC's hands within seven days of its letter requesting the report.
- d. Once all reports have been received, and once any additional information has been obtained, a meeting of the CMC will be convened, if appropriate, at the earliest opportunity to consider the matter. Any Club which is involved may be requested to attend.
- e. After the meeting the decision of the CMC will be communicated as soon as practicable to all parties involved. Any decision of the CMC can be subject to appeal to the Cricket Scotland/WDCU Conduct Liaison who will form an independent appeals committee.
- f. For the avoidance of doubt, this rule relates to complaints by one Club against another where the complaining Club seeks a remedy (such as, for example, an award of points) against the accused Club. Nothing in this rule shall prevent the CMC from investigating any matter and, where appropriate

10. DISCIPLINE

All Clubs are expected to maintain a high standard of behavior as laid down by the Cricket Scotland Code of Conduct which forms part of these Rules. Any Club or player found in breach of the Code may be liable to such action as deemed appropriate and necessary by the WDCU CMC or Cricket Scotland/WDCU Conduct Liaison as appropriate. Any Club or player has the right of appeal to the Cricket Scotland/WDCU Conduct Liaison as laid down in the Cricket Scotland Code of Conduct Procedure.

11. SANCTIONS

- a. Subject to the specific procedures and penalties laid down in Appendix 3, If any member Club fails to comply with any of the provisions of these Rules, then the CMC shall have the power to impose any sanction upon the Club including, without prejudice to the foregoing generality, any one or more of the following sanctions:
 - to require the Club to carry out such remedial action as the CMC deems appropriate within such time limit as to the CMC shall seem reasonable in all the circumstances.
 - to order that the Club be deducted points whether for the current season or for the following season.
 - to suspend Clubs from competitions.
 - to disqualify the Club from membership of the League

For the avoidance of doubt, the CMC may suspend the operation of a sanction or part of a sanction for such time as it shall consider appropriate to afford the Club an opportunity of securing compliance with the particular rule which has been breached.

- b. Disqualification of Clubs

The following shall apply where a Club is disqualified under Rule 11.a(iii):

- If any Club is disqualified under Rule 11.a(iii) during a season all results in all League matches in which the disqualified Club participated in that season shall be declared null and void and zero points awarded;
- If any Club is disqualified under Rule 11.1(c) after the end of a season, then the following shall apply:
 - I. all results from all League matches in which the disqualified Club participated in that season shall continue to apply for all purposes (subject to paragraph (11 a ii) above) notwithstanding that Club's subsequent disqualification; and
 - II. the disqualified Club (or Clubs as the case may be) shall, for the purposes of relegation, be deemed to finish in the last place (or the last places as the case may be) of the Division in which the disqualified Club played in that season.



c. Right of Appeal

Any Club which is sanctioned in accordance with this rule may appeal to WDCU under the appeals procedure set up by them. Any Club submitting an appeal must also lodge a bond of £300 which will be retained by the WDCU if the appeal is found to be frivolous and returned to the Club if the appeal is upheld or dismissed without prejudice. Any appeal must be made to the WDCU Administrator by email within 7 days of the notification being sent electronically to the Club.

12. FIXTURES

- a. The CMC, in conjunction with the Administrator, shall arrange fixtures for each Division which may be subject to change either before or during the season.
- b. If any Club finds that their ground is unavailable after the fixtures are issued, they will be responsible for finding a suitable alternative venue, which must be acceptable to the CMC. The CMC may assist clubs to find alternative grounds which should not be unreasonably refused. If Clubs or the CMC are unable to find a suitable alternative venue, then the game will be conceded by the home team.
- c. If any Club finds that, within seven (7) days of any fixture, its ground is 'out of bounds due to extenuating circumstances as agreed with the CMC, it may request permission to find a suitable alternative venue, which must be acceptable to the CMC. If that Club is unable to find a suitable alternative venue, then the match will be cancelled and declared null and void.
- d. No alteration to the fixtures so arranged shall be permitted other than with the prior consent of the CMC. Alterations to fixtures will be permitted subject to both teams and the CMC agreeing and a minimum of one week's notice provided to WDCU.

13. GROUND & FACILITIES REQUIREMENTS

All Clubs are responsible for providing facilities which comply with League standards as outlined in the Ground and Facilities Criteria Appendix (Appendix 1). Certain provisions are mandatory where noted.

- Any League club who does not meet the requirements may be subject to sanctions as outlined in Rule 11.

14. UMPIRES

- a. Accommodation
 - Ideally, there should be separate accommodation provided for the Umpires, of a similar standard to the players' dressing rooms.
- b. Equipment
 - As noted in Appendix 1, Clubs must provide a properly matched set of adult-sized stumps and bails in good condition. In addition, there should also be made available, spare stumps and bails in case of breakages, bowlers' markers and drying cloths.
- c. Umpires' Match Fees and Travel Expenses.
 - Umpires' fees and travel expenses will be paid to them by Cricket Scotland in accordance with their prevailing policy.
- d. Umpires' Reports
 - Before leaving the ground, the Umpires will advise the captain of a Team or player if they will be reported under the current Code of Conduct.
- e. Umpire Sustainability
 - While an established umpiring body is in place, clubs are strongly encouraged to support the sustainability of officiating by identifying and developing suitably qualified umpires from within their own membership. Although not currently mandatory, clubs should actively consider enrolling members on recognised umpire training programmes in preparation for future requirements.

15. SCORING

- a. All member Clubs in Premiership One must provide a scorer for every match in Saturday League Cricket. One team must use the Cricket Scotland (CS) Live App for scoring. Where possible, one team should use a paper score book or alternative method to the CS Live App. The Home team is given priority for use of the CS Live App, apart from in the event of the away team utilising Frogbox for live streaming, in which case the away team shall have priority.
- b. All member Clubs in Premiership Two should provide a scorer for every home match in Saturday League Cricket. The away team may (if they do not provide a scorer), use players to keep the book.



- c. If a Team fails to provide a dedicated scorer, the Captain should nominate one of the Team to act as scorer. In this case, the nominated player would become the dedicated scorer and take no part in either innings of the match. In the absence of this occurring, sanctions will apply as outlined in Appendix 3.

16. MATCH RETURNS

Returns will be made by the home Club and endorsed by the away club on the WDCU Live portal. In all cases, this must be completed for every fixture where any play has taken place, and submitted, no later than midnight on the Monday immediately following matches.

- a. Penalties will be imposed on any Club that fails to comply with either Rule 16 (a) above, as provided for in Rule 11 (f), unless these are demonstrably due to issues with the score submission system.
- b. ALL clubs should provide a fully completed Captains report, which must be submitted no later than 10pm on the Monday following the Saturday league match. Failure to do so will result in a 5 point penalty being administered. Clubs should also note that it is acceptable for the report to be completed by a responsible person on behalf of the club.

17. MATCH CANCELLATIONS

Weather issues prior to match.

- a. In the event of inclement weather in the week leading up to a League match causing damage to the pitch or its surrounds, the home side shall advise the visiting side as early as possible that the match may be in doubt. However, no game shall be called off until the morning of the match unless it is agreed by the CMC or by a member of the Cricket Scotland Umpiring Panel that an earlier cancellation is correct.
- b. A responsible official of the home side shall, as early as possible on the morning of a match, check the state of the ground and the pitch. If the prospects of play are unlikely, the home Club shall contact the visiting Team and advise accordingly in order that unnecessary travel expenditure may be avoided. In this context it should be remembered that the important point is not whether the pitch is playable at the time of inspection but whether play may be possible by the latest permitted starting time for the relevant division if it is possible, the home Club may call in a member of the Cricket Scotland Umpiring Panel to give an independent assessment of the likelihood of play being possible.
- c. Should the visiting Team wish to travel, however, that will be their right. Under these circumstances the home Club must continue to take whatever steps are within its power to ensure the pitch is playable either using covers, blankets or by spiking or any other method;
- d. The visiting Team should travel if there is the slightest chance of play so that any steps taken by the home Club to make the pitch playable might have the chance to take effect.
- e. The Umpires appointed for the match must be kept informed by the home Club of all events as they unfold.

Concessions

- a. An away Team that concedes any match must do so more than three nights before the match is scheduled or may be required to reimburse the home Club for any fees payable for the use of the ground. Any club that incurs costs due to a late call off should approach the CMC in the first instance.

18. LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION

- a. Each member Club shall have a copy of these Rules available at its ground at each League match in digital or paper format.
- b. These Rules may be amended at any time prior to the start of each season at the discretion of the CMC. Amendments to the playing conditions for the following season may be proposed by participating Clubs at the end of season Forum, or in any case no later than 31st October. The CMC shall consider whether further consultation is appropriate for these, and if so, determine the most appropriate method of consulting participating Clubs on such proposals.



APPENDIX 1: GROUND & FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

a. Match Requirements

Access to grounds and facilities must be available to visiting Clubs and umpires at least one hour before the scheduled start time.

b. Pitch & Square

All Clubs with team(s) in Premiership One and Two and Championship One must provide a grass playing square. This should consist of a minimum of 8 suitable pitches, unless prior approval for fewer than this is given by the CMC.

- i. Non-grass surfaces are not allowed unless express permission is requested of the CMC and granted, which shall only happen in special circumstances.
- ii. The square must be well maintained and in good condition. The pitch must be prepared to the highest standard possible and clearly distinguishable from the remainder of the square. The grass on the pitch shall be marked and rolled before play. Any holes or ruts on the square caused by previous matches must be levelled, filled and firmed before a subsequent match.
- iii. The pitch must be appropriate for matches of at least 100 overs duration. The bounce of the pitch should be true and predictable throughout the match, and should not produce excessive spin or movement off the seam. The pitch shall not be watered during the match.
- iv. Pitches reported as substandard by Umpires may be liable to examination by the CMC and Clubs responsible may be subject to sanctions as outlined in Rule 11.
- v. Pitch markings shall be made in accordance with those indicated in the Appendix 1 to the WDCU League Playing Conditions which form part of these rules and in addition the protected area for the bowlers follow through (Law 42 - 11b) shall be indicated with markings off the playing surface 1.52 metres (5 feet) in front of the popping crease and on the bowling crease 30.5 centimetres (1 foot) either side of the middle stump. The width of the crease markings shall be no less than 12 millimetres (½ inch) and no more than 25 millimetres (1 inch).
- vi. Stumps must be properly matched adult sets in good condition and with matching bails. LED stumps and bails are permitted. The stumps shall be pitched by the home Club at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start with holes adequately watered to allow easy resetting by the Umpires. The pitch shall be swept and remarked (and rolled if requested) during the interval between innings. At least one roller must be available for use during the match.
- vii. Any Club which fails to have the required mandatory pitch markings, 30-yard circles, and boundaries marked will be subject to a report by the Umpires. In addition, failure to remark the pitch during the interval between innings wherever possible will be reported by the Umpires. The Umpires will inform the Captain of the home Team of any such report(s). The home Club may be subject to sanction (see Rule 11).

c. Outfield

The outfield must be well maintained and adequately drained. It must be mown with no noticeable grass cuttings. Balls should be able to run true and the outfield must be free of holes, ruts or other obstructions which might pose a hazard to fielders.

d. Boundary

The boundary must be clearly marked by rope or white line. Where a rope is used, markers may also be used, but where a white line is used, markers must also be used. Such markers shall be at regular intervals



not more than 18.3 metres (20 yards) apart. Alternatively, where a gutter is used the edge shall be cleanly cut; if a picket fence or advertising boards form part or all the boundary they shall be secure and in good condition. No boundary shall be less than 45.75 metres (50 yards) from the centre of the match pitch without explicit dispensation being given by the CMC.

e. Sightscreens

All Premiership One and Two Clubs and Championship One must have sightscreens.

- i. The structure and non-reflective surface of the sightscreens must be in good condition. They must measure a minimum of 3.05 metres (10 feet) wide and 3.65 metres (12 Feet) high and must be completely outside the playing area. Screens must be properly positioned outside the boundary before the commencement of play and provided at both ends. The screens may be mobile or fixed but must be of sufficient width and height to allow the batsmen to see the bowler's delivery from either over or around the wicket without impediment.
- ii. A rope or boards should be provided to define the boundary and the roped/boarded area must be of sufficient size to allow screens to be moved from side to side without adjusting the ropes/boards.

f. Fielding Circles

The fielding circles shall have as their centre the middle stump at either end of the pitch. The radius of each of the semi-circles shall be 27.45 metres (30 yards). The semi-circles shall be linked by two parallel straight lines. The outer fielding circle shall be marked by white dots 4.5 metres (5 yards) apart, covered by circular white plastic or rubber (but not metal) discs 180 millimetres (7 inches) in diameter.

g. Scoreboard or Scorebox

- i. The numbers on the board should show at least: Total (or information sufficient to inform the Team batting second of the runs they require to win the match); Wickets; Overs Bowled; First Innings Total; Duckworth/Lewis Score if appropriate.
- ii. A scorebox should, ideally, be visible from the Pavilion, players' viewing area and playing area. Umpires should be able to see the scorers' signals clearly, and the scorers should be able to see at least 90 per cent of the playing area. A scorebox must be clean, tidy and reasonably comfortable, with adequate table and chairs and full protection from the weather. The system for changing the numbers should be easily accessible to the scorers, simple to operate and in full working order.

h. Seating

Clubs must provide clean, dry seating for at least fifteen (15) individuals.

i. Covers

All Premiership One and Two Clubs and Championship One must have covers.

- i. Covers must be used to protect the pitch from rain, both during the match and in the preceding days as appropriate. Arrangements should be made for ground staff or other helpers to put the covers in place as quickly as possible.
- ii. Wheeled covers are recommended. However, plastic sheets/tarpaulins can be used provided they are well maintained. It is recognised that use of an underlay may be difficult if the pitch requires to be covered during a match. Such underlay must cover the pitch area as a minimum. Whichever covers are used they must protect an area of at least 21.35 metres x 3.65 metres (70 feet x 12 feet).



- iii. In addition to the match-pitch, Clubs are encouraged to make every effort to ensure that bowlers run-ups are covered, protecting an area of 5 metres (length) x 3 metres (width) as a minimum behind each set of stumps.
- iv. Clubs are also encouraged to make every effort to ensure that an area adjacent to each side of the match pitch to a size of 25 metres (length) and 3 metres (width) is covered (including wicket ends).
- v. Whichever method of covering is used, it must not allow water to seep through, and Clubs will be required to show that their covering arrangements are adequate to protect the pitch, considering the contour and draining characteristics of the ground.

j. Drying Equipment

An adequate supply of sawdust and cloths must be available to minimise lost playing time due to wet conditions. Additional covering for areas likely to cause a delay in play (e.g. the ends of previously used pitches) should be provided whenever possible. Other drying facilities, including brushes, forks, squeegees etc. can also be used.

k. Rollers

At least one roller must be available for use during the match. However, it is recommended that a light roller, 75 to 100 kg (1.5 to 2 cwt), and a heavy roller, 500 to 1000 kg or more (10 cwt to 1 ton or more), be available to the Captain of the batting side.

l. Practice Facilities

- i. Clubs should ensure that they have access to good quality practice facilities for mid-week practice for senior players and either mid-week or weekend practice for junior players. Net practice facilities should be available for use by both Teams before matches.
- ii. Any grass nets must be in good condition with true and predictable bounce. Artificial net pitches should be regularly maintained and rolled where appropriate to ensure true and predictable bounce.

m. Changing Rooms

- i. Changing rooms must be well ventilated, lit and decorated, with heating whenever possible. Changing facilities must be provided for the visiting Team with a separate facility, where possible, of a similar standard, for the Umpires. It is acknowledged that there may be circumstances where changing rooms will not be used.
- ii. The rooms should be of adequate size and with suitable seating, tables or shelving for bags and equipment. Changing rooms should be easily accessible from the playing area, whilst preserving the privacy of the players, and should allow viewing of the playing area whenever possible. Flooring must be suitable for bare feet.
- iii. The changing rooms should have adequate security to ensure the security of equipment and possessions.

n. Showers

Adequate clean and hygienic showers shall be available and conveniently located to allow private access by players and Umpires. It is acknowledged that there may be circumstances where showers are not available.

o. First Aid

A first aid kit must always be available for treatment of minor injuries. In the event of an injury occurring which is so severe that it would require the use of a stretcher, the player should not be moved until professional medical help is available.

p. Telephone

All Clubs must supply a working telephone number for the use of media sources and in case of need by WDCU officials for result reporting and information retrieval. A mobile phone number is acceptable provided the number remains the same throughout the season.

q. Commercial Advertising

Clubs are permitted to have advertising on each sleeve of shirt / sweater, front of shirt /



sweater and across the shoulders on the reverse of the shirt / sweater.

In line with ICC regulations the following applies to the sizing of all logos:

- i. Sleeves – 10 sq. inches (64.5 sq. cm)
- ii. Front of shirt / sweater – 32 sq. inches (206.45 sq. cm)
- iii. Back – maximum height of advertising 2.93 inches (7.5 cm)

r. Refreshments & Catering

Teas should be provided between innings by the home club, and these should where possible take account of the dietary requirements of the visiting team and umpires.



APPENDIX 2: CLUB DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

WDCU JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

The WDCU Executive and Cricket Management Committees have developed and agreed the criteria noted below in respect of measuring and monitoring club junior development.

These criteria, together with ground and facilities requirements, will be the determinants of the groupings (pots') which clubs play in for Saturday league cricket.

The criteria seek to recognise the importance of inputs (junior coaching and club outreach) as well as outputs (junior match participation) in developing these criteria.

The criteria come under the following five headings:

1. **PLAN:** an approved demonstrable and measurable plan of what the club is doing to attract, retain and develop junior cricketers. This might be in the form of a single document but may be a combination of material. It should be "demonstrable" and "measurable" - the WDCU can see what it involves and whether it is being carried out. In this context, "approved" means that the WDCU should – in partnership with Cricket Scotland's Development team – assess each club's structure and conclude whether it's acceptable or not. Plans should typically cover no more than 3 years ahead.
2. **STRUCTURE:** this should cover both structure in an organisational sense, and structure in a programme sense. The first measures the breadth and depth of the resources involved; the second is how these resources are being deployed, now and in future. "Organisationally" a club should be able to evidence it has a Junior Convenor, coach(es) and volunteer assistance, these persons being suitably qualified for the roles they carry out include evidencing PVG Scheme membership, coaching qualification, Child Protection training, First Aid etc. "Programme" means there should be an annual plan of coaching and matches, as well as the outreach planning below. The two aspects clearly link in that it is very important that the programme looks achievable in the context of the organisational resources available.
3. **OUTREACH:** a club should be able to evidence development work in its community, either on its own, or in active partnership with others and/or third parties. We do not believe that this should be too prescriptive, but it should be proportionate to the club structure. There would be some minimum threshold in practice.
4. **ACCREDITATION:** each club should have at least one coach qualified beyond the lowest "Introductory" level, with appropriate PVG Scheme membership as noted. They should also be actively working with junior players. There are a considerable number of 'dormant' or under-utilised coaches in WDCU area.
5. **INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY AND MATCH PLAY:**

Premiership 1 Premiership One clubs must have at least one, autonomous junior XI playing within the WDCU Junior Leagues, this does not include "kwik cricket". (This will be enforced from 2027). Participation within WDCU Junior Leagues will be evidenced using Player HQ, 80% of fixtures must be completed, notwithstanding cancellations due to weather. Any club failing to fulfil this requirement will be demoted from Premier One or will not be considered for promotion to Premier One.

Premiership 1 and Championship 1 - Delivery of a minimum of two of three introductory programmes. All stars, Dynamos Cricket or Kwik cricket. Participation in WDCU or equivalent junior leagues (taking account of geographical practicalities), in at least two designated age groups. One of the two teams must be a stand alone team and not combined with a team from another club. There should be no more than 2 concessions for each of the designated age group teams.

Premiership 2 and Championship 2 - Delivery of a minimum of one of three introductory programmes. All stars, Dynamos Cricket or Kwik cricket. Participation in WDCU or equivalent junior leagues (taking account of geographical practicalities), in at least one designated age group. There should be no more than 2 concessions for each of the designated age group teams.

- **Other combinations of activity and match play may be considered as acceptable on application**



These criteria will be assessed annually using a standard template which will be issued to clubs. Where there is doubt over compliance with 1, 2 and/or 3 the WDCU can meet the club concerned and discuss the matter before reaching a formal determination. The oversight of this, **and determination of whether a club meets the requirements**, will sit with the CMC in consultation with other parties (WDJCU, CS among others) as the criteria would be linked to senior league participation.

Continuing the precedent set over number of years a club not meeting the minimum threshold cannot move into a 'higher' league structure (the 'precautionary principle' which has existed for a number of years), and a club already there would have a maximum of a season to retain its position if it was failing the criteria.

Non-compliance can result in a club being put "on probation" for a maximum of a season; being penalised by way of senior team points deduction; and/or removed from the top two divisions. The nature of the outcome would in part depend on how material the issue is, and whether there is evidence showing that a club has made reasonable endeavors under the first four criteria.



APPENDIX 3 – SANCTIONS FOR RULE BREACHES

As outlined in Rule 11, there are prescribed procedures and penalties for specific rule breaches as follows:

Breach of Rule 5 (Players), Rule 6 (Player Eligibility), or Rule 7 (Team Sheets)

In the event of any breach of Rule 5 and / or Rule 6 and/or Rule 7, the CMC reserves the right to deduct points from the Club concerned. A minimum penalty of 1 point will be automatically imposed for any such breach. The maximum penalty enforceable for such breaches shall be removal from the League.

Breach of Rule 10 (Discipline)

- i. Refusal to Play / Concession of Match
- ii. Any team that refuses or fails to fulfil a scheduled fixture, having the ability to do so, shall be deemed to have conceded the match. In such circumstances, the match shall be awarded to the opposition in accordance with the relevant Laws of Cricket.
- iii. In addition, the offending team will incur a deduction of 50 league points.
- iv. Any team found to be in breach of this rule on a second occasion within the same season shall, in addition to any match forfeiture and points deduction, be subject to automatic relegation at the conclusion of the season, regardless of their final league position.
- v. The CMC reserves the right to review exceptional circumstances and apply discretion where appropriate.

Breach of Rule 12 (Fixtures)

- vi. A Team playing in any Division must have a minimum of 7 players.
- vii. If a Team playing 1st or 2nd XI cricket in any Saturday League Division cannot raise a Team of at least 7 players and fails to fulfil a Saturday League fixture, it will be penalised by the forfeiture of match with maximum match points awarded to the opposing side and no points awarded to the forfeiting side from that fixture.
- viii. On the second occasion a Team playing 1st or 2nd XI cricket in any Saturday League Division cannot raise a Team of at least 7 players and fails to fulfil a Saturday League fixture, it will be penalised by the forfeiture of the match as outlined in ii) above, and with deduction of maximum match points from that fixture.
- ix. On the third occasion a Team playing 1st or 2nd XI cricket in any Saturday League Division cannot raise a Team of at least 7 players and fails to fulfil a Saturday League fixture, it will be penalised by the forfeiture of the match as outlined in ii) above, and with deduction of maximum match points from that fixture and also by the deduction of full match points from any other team from that club with a scheduled fixture on the same day.
- x. On the fourth occasion a Team playing 1st or 2nd XI cricket in any Saturday League Division cannot raise a Team of at least 7 players and fails to fulfil a Saturday League fixture, in addition to the penalties outlined in iv) above, the club will be required to attend a meeting of the CMC to explain the circumstances. The penalties available to the CMC shall include all sanctions provided for in Rule 11.a

Breach of Rule 13 (Ground & Facility Requirements)

- i. Where, in the opinion of the CMC, there is ongoing concern about playing conditions at a Club and it appears to the CMC that a long-term solution is required to resolve the concern, the following provisions shall be applied:
 - (a) In the first instance the CMC shall attempt to agree with the Club a plan for remedying the breach and a timescale within which that remedy is to be implemented; but
 - (b) If no such agreement is reached or if the Club fails to implement an agreement which has been reached then the Club shall be liable to sanction in accordance with Rule 11.a, provided always that prior to any sanction being imposed the Club shall have the opportunity to be heard either in person or by written submissions.
 - (c) If a pitch is deemed unfit / dangerous for play by the Umpires prior to play, then the home Club shall be deducted twenty-five (25) points. The visiting Team will not be awarded any points in such an eventuality, and the match will be treated as not having been played.
 - (d) If a pitch is deemed unfit/dangerous for play after play has begun, and is then abandoned, then the home Club shall be deducted twenty-five (25) points. The visiting Team shall not



- be awarded any match points in such an eventuality, and the match will be treated as not having been played.
- (e) Any subsequent abandonment will result in a doubling of the previous points penalty.
 - (f) This rule will not be applied where normal climatic conditions have influenced the nature of the ground either prior to the game or once the game has started.
- ii. Nothing in paragraph (i) of this Rule (11.c) shall prevent the CMC from imposing sanctions in accordance with Rule 11.a for a breach of Rule 13 where, in the opinion of the CMC, the breach does not require a long-term solution and was caused by fault on the part of the Club.

Breach of Rule 15 (Scoring)

The following provisions shall be applicable in the cases of Clubs which are in breach of any or all their obligations under Rule 15 (Scoring):

- i. on the occurrence of the first such failure the Club shall be warned about its future conduct and shall be deducted five (5) points.
- ii. on the second such occurrence the Club will be deducted a further five (5) points.
- iii. on the third such occurrence the Club will be subject to sanction by the CMC in accordance with Rule 11 a

Breach of Rule 16 (Match Returns)

The following provisions shall be applicable in the cases of Clubs which are in breach of any or all their obligations under Rule 16 (Match Returns):

- i. on the occurrence of the first such failure the Club shall be warned about its future conduct and shall be deducted five (5) points
- ii. on the second such occurrence the Club will be deducted a further five (5) points
- iii. on the third such occurrence the Club will be subject to sanction by the CMC in accordance with Rule 11.1

APPENDIX 4 LEAGUE STRUCTURE 2026

Available: <https://wdcu.co.uk/document-centre>



4. AIRFARE

Who is paying for the airfare? :

5. EMPLOYMENT

Has employment been arranged? Please delete as appropriate:

If YES, please give details of the employment and who has arranged it.

6. What is the main reason is for visiting Scotland?

It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that all the information is accurate and that the Overseas Amateur fully meets the criteria set out in the Home Office Immigration rules for cricket and the WDCU Saturday League Administration Rules.

Proof of age should be enclosed together with a recent photograph. If submitting this form electronically, the photograph can also be submitted in this way or, alternatively, mailed under separate cover.

(Date)

(Signature of Club Secretary)
(Type name if submitting electronically)



APPENDIX 6 – PAID PLAYER or PLAYER/COACH REGISTRATION FORM

WESTERN DISTRICT CRICKET UNION

PAID PLAYER or PLAYER/COACH REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF CLUB:	
NAME OF PLAYER:	
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE	
COUNTRY OF BIRTH	
DATE OF BIRTH	
PASSPORT NUMBER	
It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that any paid player or player/coach that they register fully meets the criteria set out in the Home Office Immigration rules for cricket and the WDCU Saturday League Rules	
SIGNATURE OF CLUB SECRETARY (Type name if submitting electronically)	
Date	

The following information must accompany this form:

- a copy of any Work Permit or other entry visa
- a copy of a current coaching certificate (see NOTE below)
- a recent photograph.

NOTE: Where Players have already been endorsed by Cricket Scotland under UKBA arrangements, there is no need to resubmit a copy of the coaching certificate

If submitting this form electronically, the above information can also be submitted in this way or, alternatively, mailed under separate cover.

