



PREMIER LEAGUE ACCREDITATION & PRFP CRITERIA 2022 SEASON

ECB Accredited Premier Leagues are expected to collaborate with other parts of the cricket network, namely, First Class County Clubs, National County Cricket Clubs and County Cricket Boards to provide an attractive offer to players and clubs and a coherent player pathway. The national and local strategic priorities with other important details are contained within the County Partnership Agreements (CPA)

In line with the CPA, ECB Accredited Premier Leagues will adopt the ECB's General Conduct Regulations and Anti-Discrimination Code. A designated member of the Premier League executive will need to undertake EDI training.

ECB Premier Leagues are required to comply with the criteria in this document and submit the following information to the ECB Leagues Manager as a condition of funding. If any criteria in this document are inconsistent with the rules and/or constitution of the relevant ECB Premier League, in relation to player eligibility, those rules and/or constitution should be amended to ensure consistency with the criteria in this document and in the meantime these criteria shall take precedence.

LEAGUE STRUCTURE AND PLAYING CONDITIONS

Please provide the latest information on your League structure for 2022, including number of clubs and teams, with details of formal links with 'Feeder Leagues' and proposed playing conditions.

STANDARDS OF FAIR PLAY, PITCHES, OFFICIALS

For 2022 Season ECB will be collecting Pitch & Fair Play Marks. Leagues will need to restart the collection of marks for Umpires, Fair Play and Pitches at a local level.

All Umpires operating in Premier Leagues should be members of ECB ACO, it is preferred that scorers are made members of ECB ACO by their clubs.

JUNIOR CRICKET

Any club without three Junior sides up to and including U15 level playing hardball cricket in 2021 to be identified and an action plan put into place to correct this. ECB to be advised of the clubs without three Junior sides in the League.

ECB CLUBMARK ACCREDITATION

Clubmark is an important and visible confirmation that clubs with a Junior Section provide a safe and child-friendly environment. For 2022, in addition to clubs being compliant on the Safe Hands Management System (SHMS), ECB require clubs to upload key governance documents to the Clubmark system for review by 30th June. Evidence across the Clubmark Portal and SHMS will then be reviewed for compliance. A list of compliant clubs will then be shared with leagues by 30/09/22.

It is important for clubs looking to gain promotion or planning to obtain or renew a tier 5 licence to be aware of these timescales.



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WEB SITES

All Premier Leagues are required to update Play-Cricket.com within 24 hours of end of play each week with fixtures and summary results to ensure the League table is correct. Clubs must submit complete scorecard details within 48 hours of end of play.

The League 'About Us' section of the Play-Cricket.com site must be kept up to date and all Premier Division clubs must enter, as a minimum, ground and clubhouse details, team information with at least one contact and e-mail address in this section of the site.

REGISTRATION

Leagues shall ensure, as a minimum, that all players in the Top 2 Divisions of the Premier League are registered on Play-Cricket.com. Players will need to have agreed to abide by the ECB General Conduct Regulations, if introduced, and the Spirit of Cricket. This will include understanding the impact of a suspension, namely that any suspension imposed by the League will apply to all cricket played under the auspices of the ECB and affiliated Leagues and not just the Premier League that the player is, at the relevant time, registered with. Please see paragraph below relating to Player Discipline.

REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

All Premier Leagues must ensure that their registration procedures identify the categories of players as shown below.

Category 1:

In the Top 2 Divisions of 1st XI cricket in the Premier League, a Player may be registered as a "Category 1 Player" if they:

- (a) are either (i) a British or Irish citizen; or (ii) an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, with settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme; **or**
- (b) have been resident in England and Wales for a minimum of 210 days between 1 April and 31 March in the year preceding their participation in the relevant premier League;
and
- (c) have not played cricket played as a local/domestic player in any ICC Full Member Country (except England) in the 12-month period up to and including 31 March before the season in question, or at any time subsequently before or after applying to be and being registered as a Category 1 Player.

It is the responsibility of the player to ensure they provide the League with the necessary paperwork (such as bank statements and/or utility bills) to evidence their residency for the purpose of (b) above. The Premier League Registration Secretary or Premier League Executive Committee will be responsible for determining whether a player has met the necessary requirements and shall have full discretion in the matter.



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Category 3:

Players not eligible to be registered as a Category 1 Player must be registered as a “Category 3 Player” if they wish to take part in the League. Teams may register more than one Category 3 Player as part of their club (subject to League rules) but must not field more than one (1) Category 3 Player in the 1st XI at any one time.

COACHES

All coaches in open age cricket need to have completed the ECB vetting procedures and this will include seasonal player-coaches arriving in England and Wales for 2022 season. For further details on the appropriate procedures please see the ECB website – under Managed Migration section. <http://www.ecb.co.uk/managedmigration>

PLAYER DISCIPLINE

As shown in the Registration requirements listed above, all Leagues must inform players that Premier Leagues will be providing to ECB details of any players who are suspended for part or all the 2022 season, and that this information may be shared with other Leagues. The details are to include the player’s name, club, the nature of the offence, the sentence and the start and end dates of the suspension.

PERFORMANCE RELATED FEE PAYMENTS

There will be three components to the PRFP payments in 2022.

- 1) Provide an outline plan to increase the number of qualified umpires. The plan is to include initiatives increasing the average number of fixtures supported by umpires.
- 2) Provide a plan for diversifying the League committee over the next three years.
- 3) Use of the Injury Surveillance reporting tool on play-cricket.com.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Payment will be made in two tranches reflecting the ‘teams’-based model of funding. This will be allocated as 75% Fixed Fee and 25% Performance Related Fee payment.

TIMESCALES

Friday 27th May 2022 – List of any top two division clubs without three separate Junior hard ball cricket teams. All registered Category 3 players to be listed on play-cricket.com and any major playing condition changes together.

Fixed Fee payment made on or by 31/07/22

PRFP Fee Payment made on or by 31/12/22 – subject to any Covid-19 issues.