



## February 2026 Compliance and Safeguarding Update

### **Safehands Management System**

The new season will soon be upon us so now is the time to make sure that all roles requiring an enhanced ECB DBS are registered in the system and that all role holders have an up-to-date ECB DBS. For a club to be fully compliant all role holders are also required to take the ECB SGL2 e-learning course.

### **Club Safeguarding Officers**

Newly appointed Club Safeguarding Officers are mandated to attend an in person Safehands management Course. A link to the course was sent out a few weeks ago.

### **Girls' Cricket**

Clubs are reminded that the deadline to meet ECB compliance is 31 March 2026.

Compliance means:

- Have a girls' team coordinator\* (who must be listed in the about us page of Play Cricket, with contact details)  
*\*this replaces the requirement for an activator which was misleading. The role of activator applies only to a person who manages a clubs All Stars/Dynamo's or Yorkshire Roses programme in Club Spark.*
- Have a girls' section\*, this can be at any age group from and including U9 up to U18  
*\*a girls' section is defined as a minimum of one girls' team playing in either a softball or hardball fixture, league or friendly, indoors or outdoors and registered on Play-Cricket*

### **Important new information received from the ECB states:**

Where a club cannot comply by 31 March 2026 and cannot evidence sustained attempts to reach this deadline, in collaboration with YCF, the League must take appropriate action.

This action is demonstrated through a points deduction ahead of the 2026 season

**matching the total points awarded for ONE win = a 6 point deduction**

The League do not want to be in a position of sanctioning a club for failing to meet this requirement. Any club who feels that they are struggling to meet the girls' section need are urged to contact Katie Stewart our YCF Women and Girls' Development Manager (if they haven't already done so) [k.stewart@yorkshirecb.com](mailto:k.stewart@yorkshirecb.com)

I am working closely with Katie and have a meeting planned with her for week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> February. If any new information comes to light, I will let you know.

#### THE HUDDERSFIELD PREMIER CRICKET LEAGUE

HEADQUARTERS: ALMONDBURY WESLEYAN CRICKET CLUB

**PRESIDENT**

ANDREW SUGDEN

**CHAIRMAN**

TREVOR ATKINSON

**GENERAL SECRETARY**

NORMAN CLEE



### **Club Affiliation Process - Play Cricket**

2026 is a transition year for all clubs moving from Clubmark to the new ECB Accredited Club status. Phase one includes focusing on preparation and understanding the new requirements. Phase one requires clubs to affiliate to the YCB through a new process via Play-Cricket.

This new online system is now live on Play-Cricket, simplifying how our clubs accept the standard ECB Terms & Conditions. This replaces previous manual method.

#### *Key information:*

- Action Required: Starting on Friday 30th January at 12 noon, an automated notification will appear in each club's Play-Cricket action centre
- Simple Process: Accept the T&Cs requires just three clicks. A step-by-step walkthrough will guide the user through the new 'Affiliation' tab
- Who Should Act: Clubs are asked that this task is completed by someone within the club with suitable authority (e.g., Chair, Secretary)
- Deadline: Clubs **must complete this step by the compliance deadline of 31 March 2026.**

Annual affiliation **Fees** will be collected via the usual process and managed by Andy Hill

### **The conditions of affiliating to the Yorkshire Cricket Foundation are as follows:**

- 1.** To adopt and enforce the **ECB Anti-discrimination (AD Code)** code and to comply with the obligations and disciplinary process set out under the **ECB General Conduct Regulations for Recreational Cricket (GCR's)** and the **ECB Recreational Conduct Regulations (RCR's)**; and any other conduct/disciplinary rules or regulations that are applicable to your club.
- 2.** To accept the jurisdiction of the Yorkshire Cricket Foundation, the ECB, and the Cricket Regulator to enforce the AD code, the GDR's and the RCR's against the club and its cricketers, coaches, committee members, directors, officers, employees, contractors, members, match officials, volunteers and any other persons your club exercises control over such as spectators.
- 3.** To ensure that all participants agree to comply with their obligations under the AD Code, GCR's, RCR's and the ECB Safeguarding procedure. (Or any successor thereof).
- 4.** To ensure that all participants agree to accept the jurisdiction of the Yorkshire Cricket Foundation, the ECB, and the Cricket Regulator to enforce the AD Code, the GCR's, RCR's, and the ECB's Safeguarding procedure. (Or any successor thereof).
- 5.** To adopt and implement the ECB's Safe Hands Policy.
- 6.** To be registered on the ECB's safeguarding management tool, the Safe Hands Management System.

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7. To recognise and give effect to any penalty or sanction imposed under the GCR's, the RCR's by the ECB or another cricket organisation, including any decision or outcome imposed under the ECB's Safeguarding Procedure or the International Cricket Council (and any other ICC member country or any international anti-doping authority, to the extent it would be recognised by the ECB.)

8. To adopt, comply with, enforce, and accept the jurisdiction of the Yorkshire Cricket Foundation, the ECB and the Cricket Regulator to enforce such other rules and regulations as may be required by the ECB from time to time.

Please refer to the ECB toolkit for further information - [ECB Club Affiliation Toolkit](#)

**Further information:**

Clubs who play in two different Saturday leagues, or a Saturday and a Sunday league, should affiliate their teams, with the league in which each of them play.

**About us – Play Cricket**

All clubs are requested to review and update their details via the 'About Us' page, and to include roles such as:

- Chairperson
- Club Secretary
- Cricket Development Officer
- Club Umpire
- Disciplinary Officer
- EDI Officer
- Head Grounds person
- Club Safeguarding Officer
- Women & Girls' Coordinator

Keeping these details current helps YCF support clubs more effectively. It is also an ECB Premier League requirement that this section is kept up to date.

I hope you find this information useful - please do let me know if you need any help or support in relation to Compliance and/or Safeguarding matters

Jackie

07718 617007

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