

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

play-cricket.com

Players in all categories – Category 1, Category 2 and Category 3 must be registered on play-cricket.com and approved by the General Manager, at least 48 hours before they are eligible to play in a match under the jurisdiction of BDPCL.

If the player is transferring from another BDPCL club or from a club outside BDPCL, the onus is on the club that the player is leaving to object to the transfer within seven days of the player's nomination on play-cricket.com. Objections will only be considered if the player owes money to the club that he is leaving, from the immediately preceding season, or has an outstanding disciplinary issue.

If the club that the player is leaving fails to respond to the transfer request on play-cricket.com within seven days, registration will be approved by the General Manager.

Each nomination on play-cricket.com must include the following information: -

- First name
- Surname
- Gender
- Date of Birth – Month and Year
- Residential address including Post Code
- Passport/Visa type (even if born in UK)
- Place of Birth (even if born in UK)
- Player Category

The following additional information is required if the nomination is for a Category 3 player

- Date last entered the UK
- Planned date of entry into the UK
- Document Number
- Expiry date

If any of the above information is missing, the application for registration will be rejected and the player will not be eligible to play until the nomination is re-submitted with the full details.

The maximum number of players that a club may register on play-cricket.com is 25. Further registrations will only be approved by the General Manager if the same number of players, already on the club's list of BDPCL League Registered Players, are de-registered.

A complete list of players registered to a club may be downloaded from play-cricket.com

Clubs should check that their player database is clean and accurate at regular intervals.

Category 1 players will remain permanently registered unless their registration is removed by their club or he/she is transferred to another club.

Category 2 and Category 3 players will have their registrations removed by the General Manager at the end of each season.

A club may not hold a player's registration if he is transferred to a club in another League.

Players who move to a club outside BDPCL must have their registration removed by the club that he/she is leaving when the transfer is approved.

Dual Registration

No player may be registered for more than one club unless approval is granted by the General Manager.

Dual registration will be granted when a player is in full-time education and the General Manager is satisfied that it is impractical for the player to return to play for his/her home club at weekends. Whilst registered for another club, the player may not return and play for a BDPCL club.

Category 1 players who are registered by a BDPCL club may also be registered to play, concurrently, for the same club in the County League in which its lower teams are placed.

Transfer Window

From the Monday after the first League match of the season until 31st May, players who, are, currently, registered with a BDPCL member club will be permitted to transfer to another BDPCL club providing that they have not played in a League match, a Graham Williamson Trophy match, a (Twenty20) Challenge Cup match or a National Club Championship match for the club that they wish to leave during the current season.

A player will be deemed to have played in any of the above matches if his name has appeared on the team sheet submitted to the umpires and the opposition captain or the scorecard published on play-cricket.com even though that match may have been abandoned with little or no play at all.

Category 1 player

The deadline for Category 1 players moving from a club which was a member of BDPCL in the immediately preceding season is 5.00 p.m. on 31st March in the current season.

The deadline for Category 1 players moving from a club which was not a member of BDPCL in the immediately preceding season is 5.00 p.m. on 30th June in the current season providing that he/she is registered in accordance with the League's regulations and registration procedure.

Any player who moves to a club outside BDPCL after 31st March will not be permitted to transfer back to a BDPCL club (including the club he has left) before the end of the current season.

A Category 1 player may not be registered while continuing to play for a club in another League, particularly with the express purpose of playing on those dates when the other League does not have a match programme.

Category 2 player

Every club will be permitted to register one Category 2 player for the current season.

A replacement Category 2 player will not be permitted once the registered Category 2 player has appeared in a match under the jurisdiction of BDPCL or a match in an ECB club competition

such as the National Club Championship or the National Club T20 Competition in the current season.

An exemption will be granted to all Category 2 players who are classified as “Home Grown” by the Cricket & Registration Committee. These players will be permitted to play in League matches and the Graham Williamson Trophy competition as Category 1 players. The decision of the Committee will be final, and, at the start of each season, they will confirm which players will be classified as “Home Grown”. **N.B.** The ECB classification of “Home Grown” which permits a player to play in the National Club Championship and the National Club T20 Competition is different to the BDPCL classification and clubs are advised to contact ECB to check the regulations for those competitions.

If any player is awarded a contract by a First-Class County after the League season has commenced, he may continue to play for that club as a Category 1 player for the remainder of that season.

If a Category 3 player is under contract to a First-Class County, he/she will be treated as a Category 3 player for registration purposes.

A Category 2 player may not play in League matches 20, 21 and 22 in the current season unless he/she has already played in a minimum number of three League matches before match 20.

The deadline for registering Category 2 players is 5.00 p.m. on 30th June in the current season.

Category 3 player

Every club will be permitted to register one Category 3 player for the current season.

A Category 3 player will be classified as an Overseas “Amateur” or an Overseas “Professional”.

A replacement Category 3 player will only be permitted if the registered Category 3 player is called up to join an international touring party or an international training camp provided that the appropriate documentation is supplied. Once a Category 3 player has been replaced, he may not be re-registered during the same season.

The deadline for registering Category 3 players is 5.00 p.m. on 30th June in the current season.

Paragraph 6 of the Home Office Immigration rules set out the definitions for an amateur and a professional sportsman: -

An “**Amateur Sportsman**” is a person who engages in a sport or creative activity solely for personal enjoyment and who is not seeking to derive a living from the activity. This also includes a person playing or coaching in a charity game.

A “**Professional Sportsman**” is a person, whether paid or unpaid, who is: -

- providing services as a sportsman, playing or coaching in any capacity, at a professional or semi-professional level of sport
- or a person who, currently, derives, who has in the past derived or in the future to derive, a living from playing or coaching
- or providing services as a sportsman or coach at any level of sport, unless they are doing it as an “Amateur”

Deriving a living is defined as receiving payment for playing cricket and does not need to be the sole earnings.

A person may also be considered as “seeking to derive a living” if they have played as part of a “Player Pathway”.

“Player Pathway”

A player may be considered as on a **“Player Pathway”** and, therefore, classified as a **“Professional Sports person”** if that person has played cricket above Under 17 at state/province/territory level (paid or unpaid) in any country.

Responsibility of Clubs

Clubs wishing to use the services of a player who is in the UK but not on a Tier 5 Creative and Sporting (Non – first class cricket) visa must ensure that the visa held by the person permits them to play and/or coach. They must carry out their own checks and must not, solely, rely on information provided to them by Agents.

Sanctions and Penalties

If any club is found to be playing an individual who is in breach of their visa the process is to: -

- inform the Home Office of the breach
- recommend to the club that they no longer use the player
- inform the League and request that they take the appropriate action as per the League rules
- the same process will apply if a player, in breach of the visa rules, was denied registration in one league to be found registered in another

In cricket, the club Chairman holds the legal responsibility for all activities in the club and is, therefore, the “Employer”. An employer who has not carried out the correct checks or chooses to ignore the requirements: -

- faces a penalty of up to £20,000.00
- the individual concerned could be stopped from entering the UK or deported
- if the club holds a current Tier 5 Sponsor Licence, they can expect this to be withdrawn

Penalties for Breaches of the Regulation Procedure

A club playing an unregistered player, or a player, subsequently, found to be ineligible or unqualified shall be deducted 20 points in matches 1 to 5 and 17 to 22 irrespective of the result of the match. The penalty will apply to all games in which the player has appeared before the breach comes to light.

A club playing an unregistered player, or a player, subsequently, found to be ineligible or unqualified shall be deducted 24 points in matches 6 to 16 irrespective of the result of the match.

The opposing club shall be awarded 20 points in matches 1 to 5 and 17 to 22 and 24 points in matches 6 to 16 irrespective of the result of the match.