

This guidance is to be used for all T2 and T5 governing body endorsement requests made on or after the 1 September 2021.

Section 1: overview of governing body endorsements for T2 Sportsperson and T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting categories of the points-based system

This page provides a brief explanation of what endorsement requirements apply in respect of the T2 Sportsperson and/or T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting categories of the points-based system.

The T2 Sportsperson category is for elite sportspeople and coaches who are internationally established at the highest level and whose employment will make a significant contribution to the development of their sport at the highest level in the UK, and who will base themselves in the UK; and the post cannot be filled by a suitable settled worker.

The T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting category is for sportspeople (and their entourage where appropriate) and coaches (who must be suitably qualified to fulfill the role in question) who are internationally established at the highest level in their sport, and/or will make a significant contribution to the development of their sport in the UK; and the post cannot be filled by a suitable settled worker.

The application process explained: Migrants applying to come to the UK under either of the sporting categories above need to be sponsored by an organisation that has a sponsor licence under T2 Sportsperson or T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting.

If you wish to sponsor such migrants, you must have a sponsor licence. Before you apply to the Home Office for a licence you must be endorsed by the **approved governing body** for your sport. This endorsement confirms to the Home Office that the application for a licence is from a genuine sports club (or equivalent) that has a legitimate requirement to bring migrants to the UK as sportspeople. Once licensed, you can assign certificates of sponsorship to a sportsperson or coach with a job offer that allows them to apply for leave to enter or remain in the UK. Each individual must also have a personal endorsement from the **approved governing body** for their sport before you assign the certificate of sponsorship.

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An **approved governing body** is one specified in [Appendix M](#) of the Immigration Rules. Such a governing body must be recognised by one of the home country sports councils such as, Sport England, and will have been approved by the Home Office before being included in [Appendix M](#) of the Immigration Rules.

Approved governing bodies will work within the Home Office '[Code of practice for sports governing bodies](#)' and must comply with any immigration regulations, UK legislation and the principles of the points-based system as detailed on the [GOV.UK](#) website.

Length of endorsement

Governing body endorsements should be issued for a period appropriate to the period of approval for sponsorship or the tier under which the migrant's application is being made, that is:

| Type of application | Tier | Length of endorsement |
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| Sponsor | T2 Sportsperson and/or T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting | 4 years from date of issue |
| Migrant | T2 Sportsperson | For an initial maximum period of 3 years, with a further extension of a maximum period of 3 years. If the contract is for fewer than 3 years, it will be issued for the length of the contract. |
| Sponsor | T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting | For the length of the contract or up to a maximum of 12 months, whichever is the shorter period. |

Change of employment

If a migrant is intending to change employer, their new employer must request a new governing body endorsement. The endorsement can be issued for the length of the contract or to the maximum period permitted within the category, whichever is the

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shorter. The new employer must assign a new certificate of sponsorship to the migrant to allow them to apply to the Home Office for new leave to remain. Leave to remain must be granted before the migrant can start work with the new employer.

Supplementary Employment

T2 Sportsperson and T5 migrants are eligible to undertake supplementary employment under the Home Office supplementary employment regulations. The 'Supplementary employment' section of the Sponsorship: guidance for employers and educators has more information on this.

Section 2: requirements

This page explains the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) requirements under the T2 Sports person and T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting categories. The requirements are effective from 1 September 2021.

These requirements are only applicable to England and Wales.

Consultation and Review

The Governing Body Endorsement criteria within this document apply only to the 2022 season and will be reviewed on an annual basis. Details of the process for review and the method by which clubs may propose changes in these criteria are set out below.

The 2022 season criteria were determined by a process of consultation based upon the 2021 criteria for governing body endorsements for cricket.

The criteria for T2 Sports person (Coach Only) and T5 (Player Only, Coach Only for the FC Game, the Women's Elite Development Structure and The Hundred) were reviewed through public consultation and the ECB Cricket Committee working groups, as well as the ECB Board which has representatives from First-Class and non-First-Class clubs and MCC. The Professional Cricketers' Association and other interested parties were also involved in the consultation.

The criteria will be reviewed on an annual basis through appropriate ECB committees and Board which has representatives from the professional clubs, the Professional Cricketers' Association, Women's Cricket and other interested parties such as the MCC. Clubs who wish to propose changes for the review process to consider must submit those proposals to the Professional Game Department via the Domestic Cricket Operations team at the ECB from 31 January 2022 and by no later than 31 May 2022. The ECB Cricket Committee will submit the criteria to be formally ratified by the ECB Board for submission to the Home Office for approval in July 2022.

The criteria for T5 Player Coach & T5 Coach Only (Non-FCC) will be reviewed through public consultation as well as the Development Pathway Cricket Sub-Group which represent leagues across England and Wales.

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Clubs who wish to propose changes for the review process to consider must submit those proposals to the Non-First-Class Cricket Department via the Domestic Cricket Operations team at the ECB from 31 January 2022 and by no later than 31 May 2022. The Development Pathway Cricket Sub-Group will submit criteria to be formally ratified by the ECB Board for submission to the Home Office for approval in July 2022.

Length of season

The season for cricket in general runs from April to the end of September.

Requirements

The tables below shows the endorsement requirements for sponsors and migrants.

| Category | Requirement |
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| Sponsor T2 Sportsperson | Governing body endorsements for a sponsor license will only be issued for the following bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Class County Cricket Clubs – as recognised by ECB• Women’s Elite Domestic Structure– as recognised by ECB• Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)• England and Wales Cricket Board• The Hundred Competition Teams – as recognised by ECB• County Cricket Boards – as recognised by ECB |
| Sponsor | Governing body endorsements for a sponsor license will only be issued for the following bodies: |

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| T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• any of the First-Class Counties• any of the Women’s Elite Domestic Structure– as recognised by ECB• the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)• the England and Wales Cricket Board• The Hundred Competition teams – as recognised by ECB• County Cricket Boards – as recognised by ECB• Non-First-Class Cricket Clubs – affiliated to ECB, are “Safe Hands” compliant and meet at least one of the following criteria:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ they are Clubmark accredited○ in the 2022 season they will be participating in one of the top 2 divisions of a league recognised by the ECB as a Premier League |
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| Category | | Requirement |
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| Migrant T2 Sports person | First Class Cricket/ The Hundred / Women's Elite Domestic Structure - Full Time Coach Only | <p>Initial Application</p> <p>In order to obtain a governing body endorsement the individual must not be subject to a provisional suspension or any unexpired period of ineligibility from cricket playing and/or coaching activities in any jurisdiction as a result of being charged with or found guilty of a corruption offence and/or a doping offence and/or another misconduct offence pursuant to (or recognised under) the applicable Codes, Rules and Regulations of the ECB or the ICC and must meet all of the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate that the individual is either qualified to UK Coaching Certificate (UKCC) 3 or ECB Level III standard or holds a non-UK qualification that is at least equivalent to the ECB Coach (UKCC 3) standard coaching qualification as confirmed by the ECB. Notwithstanding this qualification requirement, the individual will also be required to provide evidence, in writing by a course provider recognised by the ECB, to undertake (or have undertaken) the Safeguarding & Protecting Children module of the ECB (UKCC) 2 / Foundation 2 / Coach Core and the ECB Health & Safety Assessment within 6 weeks of arrival; and • demonstrate that the individual has satisfied the ECB vetting process for coaches; and • demonstrate that there are no suitable resident workers who are qualified to UKCC 3 level available to do the job. The sponsor will need to provide evidence that the job has been advertised in the most appropriate national medium, such as Wisden Cricketer Magazine, County Club/Board Website or ECB Website which provides the |

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| | | <p>best way of reaching suitably qualified resident workers</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt the coach may not register for, nor participate in, matches played by a First-Class County, ECB Women’s Elite Domestic Structure teams, National Counties Cricket Association, Non-First-Class Cricket Club, County Cricket Board or The Hundred team as applicable.</p> <p>Governing body endorsements would normally be issued to coaches for the length of the contract period up to 3 years</p> <p>Extensions</p> <p>Applications for extensions of governing body endorsements in respect of future seasons after 2022 should be made in the same way as an initial application would be made. It will be assessed against the criteria for the relevant season to which the extension applies.</p> <p>T2 Sportsperson migrants will need to wait for a 12 month “cooling-off” period from the expiry of their previous visa before they may apply for a further T2 Sportsperson visa. Coaches who therefore wish to extend their T2 Sportsperson Governing Body Endorsement who are or become subject to this “cooling-off” period, are able to apply for a governing body endorsement under T5 First Class Coach Only.</p> |
| <p>Migrant T5 (Temporary)</p> | <p>First Class Cricket/ The Hundred / Women’s Elite</p> | <p>Initial Applications</p> <p>In order to obtain a governing body endorsement the individual must not be subject to a</p> |

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| <p>Worker) Creative or Sporting</p> | <p>Domestic Structure - Player Only</p> | <p>provisional suspension or an unexpired period of ineligibility from cricket playing and/or coaching activities as a result of being charged with or found guilty of a corruption offence and/or a doping offence and/or another misconduct offence pursuant to the applicable Codes, Rules and Regulations of the ECB or the ICC and must meet one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the cricketer must have played a minimum of one Test Match during the 36 months immediately prior to the date of the Governing Body Endorsement application or 5 Test Matches during the 72 months immediately prior to the date of the Governing Body Endorsement application provided that the country represented by the cricketer was on each occasion a Full Member of the ICC (Full Members are Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies and Zimbabwe as well as the ECB); and which were approved and recorded by the ICC as authorised Test Matches or • during the 36 months immediately prior to the date of the governing body endorsement application the cricketer must have played in at least fifteen One Day Internationals and/or International Twenty20 matches for his/her country or, in the case of a cricketer seeking endorsement to participate in a Women's Cricket Regional Development team, twelve One Day Internationals and/or International Twenty20 matches (provided that the country represented by the cricketer was on each occasion a Full Member of the ICC) which were approved and recorded as authorised matches by the ICC; or • the cricketer must be currently centrally contracted to the Cricket Board of the cricketer's home country and in the current or most recent Test Match or One Day International or International Twenty20 team squad provided that the home country represented by the cricketer was a Full Member of the ICC or |
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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the 36 months immediately prior to the date of the governing body endorsement application the cricketer must have played in a minimum of 20 List A – Twenty 20 matches in an ICC Full member country or, the cricketer was granted a T5 Player Only governing body endorsement in either 2018 and 2019 or 2019 and 2020. • During the 36 months immediately prior to the date of the governing body endorsement application the cricketer must have played in a minimum of 20 List A – Twenty 20 matches in an ICC Full member country or, the cricketer was granted a T5 Player Only governing body endorsement in either 2019 and 2020 or 2020 and 2021. <p>A certificate of sponsorship with a governing body endorsement under T5 First Class Player Only does not permit the player under any circumstances to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be taken on, engaged or employed by a National Counties Cricket team or Non-First Class Cricket Club • register for, or participate in, matches played by Non First Class Cricket Clubs or National Counties Cricket team <p>For Players in the country on a governing body endorsement for a First-Class County or Women’s Elite Domestic Structure team who will be taken on loan to a Hundred team, no further endorsement will be required. Players must return to the First-Class County or Women’s Elite Development team at the end of the Hundred competition. Persons who have a work permit or permission to play under the points-based system for previous seasons will need to reapply and satisfy the criteria for the 2021 season. If the player has a contract for other subsequent seasons then they will need to reapply for each new season</p> |
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| | | and satisfy the relevant criteria for that season in question. |
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| <p>Migrant T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting</p> | <p>First-Class Cricket/ The Hundred / Women's Elite Domestic Structure - Full Time Coach Only</p> | <p>Initial Application</p> <p>In order to obtain a governing body endorsement the individual must not be subject to a provisional suspension or any unexpired period of ineligibility from cricket playing and/or coaching activities in any jurisdiction as a result of being charged with or found guilty of a corruption offence and/or a doping offence and/or another misconduct offence pursuant to (or recognised under) the applicable Codes, Rules and Regulations of the ECB or the ICC and must meet all of the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate that the individual is either qualified to UK Coaching Certificate (UKCC) 3 or ECB Level III standard or holds a non-UK qualification that is at least equivalent to the ECB Coach (UKCC 3) standard coaching qualification as confirmed by the ECB. Notwithstanding this qualification requirement, the individual will also be required to provide evidence, in writing by a course provider recognised by the ECB, to undertake (or have undertaken) the Safeguarding & Protecting Children module of the ECB (UKCC) 2 Foundation 2/ Core Coach and the ECB Health & Safety Assessment within 6 weeks of arrival; and • demonstrate that the individual has satisfied the ECB vetting process for coaches; and • demonstrate that there are no suitable resident workers who are qualified to UKCC 3 level available to do the job. The sponsor will need to provide evidence that the job has been advertised in the most appropriate national medium, such as Wisden Cricketer Magazine, County Club/Board Website or ECB Website which provides the best way of reaching suitably qualified resident workers <p>For the avoidance of doubt the coach may not register for, nor participate in, matches played by a First-Class County, a Women's Elite Domestic Structure team, National</p> |
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| | | <p>Counties Cricket Association Non-First-Class Cricket Club, County Cricket Board or The Hundred team as applicable.</p> <p>It is expected that First-Class Counties, The Hundred teams and the Women's Elite Domestic Structure are unlikely to appoint and employ a full-time coach with no, or limited coaching experience. Under these circumstances governing body endorsements would normally be issued to coaches for the length of the contract period up to 12 months.</p> <p>Extensions</p> <p>Applications for extensions of governing body endorsements in respect of future seasons after 2022 should be made in the same way as an initial application would be made. It will be assessed against the criteria for the relevant season to which the extension applies.</p> |
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| <p>Migrant T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting</p> | <p>Non-First-Class Cricket - Player/ Coach Only</p> | <p>In order to obtain the governing body endorsement the individual must not be subject to a provisional suspension or any unexpired period of ineligibility from cricket playing and/or coaching activities in any jurisdiction as a result of being charged with or found guilty of a corruption offence and/or a doping offence and/or another misconduct offence pursuant to (or recognised under) the applicable Codes, Rules and Regulations of the ECB or the ICC and must meet all of the following requirements:</p> <p>The individual must have played a minimum of 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-Class and/or • ODI and/or • International T20 and/or • Test and/or • U19 World Cup cricket matches <p>in the previous 36 months</p> <p>Note: the definition of First-Class cricket matches will be that set down by the International Cricket Council in its regulations. However, only matches of 3 or more days' duration will be considered as First-Class for the purpose of determining whether the 5 First-Class matches criterion is satisfied) or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the 36 months immediately prior to the date of the governing body endorsement application the cricketer must have played in a minimum of 20 List A – |
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| | | <p>Twenty 20 matches in an ICC Full member country and,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the individual must have attained the relevant coaching qualification standard - notwithstanding this qualification requirement, the individual will also be required to undertake (or have undertaken) the Safeguarding & Protecting Children module of the ECB (UKCC) 2 Foundation 2 / Core Coach and the ECB Health & Safety Assessment within 6 weeks of arrival (failure to complete these will result in future endorsements not being granted) and • the individual must have satisfied the ECB vetting process for coaches <p>Once the ECB (UKCC) 2 standard or equivalent has been achieved coaching duties can be undertaken but not before.</p> <p>In order to meet the relevant coaching qualification standard the individual must show they have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attained a qualification of at least ECB (UKCC) 2 standard or equivalent under the structured ECB National Coaching Scheme before undertaking any coaching duties for a club based in the UK or • obtained a non-UK coaching qualification that is of an equivalent or higher standard to the ECB (UKCC) 2 standard <p>If the individual does not hold a recognised coaching qualification and has not been endorsed by the ECB previously. It is possible for an endorsement to be issued providing that there is evidence in writing, from a course provider recognised by the ECB, confirming that a place on a course has been booked and a fee collected to undertake, complete and pass an ECB coaching course to at least ECB (UKCC) 2 level</p> |
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| | | <p>by the end of the relevant season. If the individual fails to complete and pass the course before leaving the UK future T5 endorsements will not be granted until it is proven that an ECB (UKCC) 2 level or overseas equivalent coaching course has been completed and passed.</p> <p>It will not be necessary for player-coaches already awarded the previous ECB Level II qualification to be re-accredited as this qualification is of an appropriate level. However, player-coaches who have only attained the previous ECB Level I qualification will need to complete the new ECB Coach (UKCC 2) Foundation 2/Core Coach course to attain the appropriate level before undertaking any coaching duties. In order to gain the maximum benefit from migrant player-coaches, the Home Office will allow player-coaches with the appropriate coaching qualifications to undertake coaching duties on a wider scale e.g. under the auspices of the local county cricket board.</p> <p>The ECB also offers an ECB Support Coach/ECB Foundation 1 Coach course. This only qualifies an individual to assist a qualified coach and is therefore an insufficient level to meet the governing body endorsement requirements for player-coaches under T5.</p> <p>A certificate of sponsorship with a governing body endorsement under T5 Player-Coach Only does not permit the player-coach under any circumstances to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be taken on, engaged or employed by a First-Class County, a Women's Elite Development Structure team a Hundred team or• National Counties cricket team• register for, or participate in, any matches or training sessions at a First-Class County, Women's Elite Development Structure team, National Counties cricket team or Hundred team at any level. |
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| <p>Migrant T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting</p> | <p>Non-First-Class Cricket – Coach Only</p> | <p>In order to obtain a governing body endorsement the individual must not be subject to a provisional suspension or any unexpired period of ineligibility from cricket playing and/or coaching activities in any jurisdiction as a result of being charged with or found guilty of a corruption offence and/or a doping offence and/or another misconduct offence pursuant to (or recognised under) the applicable Codes, Rules and Regulations of the ECB or the ICC and must meet all of the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate that the individual is either qualified to UKCC 2 or ECB Level II / Foundation 2 / Core Coach standard or holds a non UK qualification that is at least equivalent to the ECB Coach (UKCC 2) Foundation 2 / Core Coach standard coaching qualification as confirmed by the ECB - notwithstanding this qualification requirement the individual will also be required to undertake (or have undertaken) the Safeguarding & Protecting Children module of the ECB Core Coach/Foundation 2 course and the ECB Health & Safety Assessment within 6 weeks of arrival (failure to complete these will result in future endorsements not being granted) and • demonstrate that there are no suitable resident workers who are qualified to ECB (UKCC) 2 or equivalent level available to do the job. The club will need to provide evidence that the job has been advertised in the most appropriate national medium, such as Wisden Cricketer Magazine, County Club/Board Website or ECB Website which provides the best way of reaching suitably qualified resident workers; and • demonstrate that the individual has satisfied the ECB vetting process for coaches. <p>A certificate of sponsorship with a governing body endorsement under T5 Non-First-Class Coach Only does not permit the Non-First Class Coach under any circumstances to:</p> |
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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be engaged in any playing or coaching activity for the MCC, the ECB, First-Class Counties, Women's Elite Development Structure, National County Cricket teams County Cricket Boards or a Hundred team.• register for, or participate in any cricket matches played by Non-First-Class Cricket Clubs. <p>Extensions and out of season coaching</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt, governing body endorsements in T5 for, player coaches and coaches are issued by the ECB for a maximum of 12 months only. Applications for out of season coaching where the coaching is part of a nationally recognised initiative and extensions to governing body endorsements which will fall into a future season after 2022, should be made in the same way as an initial application would be made. It will be assessed against the criteria for the relevant season to which the extension/ out of season coaching applies.</p> |
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| <p>Migrant T2 Sportsperson</p> | <p>The Hundred-Full Time Coach Only</p> | <p>Initial Application</p> <p>It is expected that the Hundred Teams will not appoint full-time coaches with no coaching or relevant playing experience. For those that do not hold a recognised coaching qualification, but who can demonstrate a proven track record of relevant coaching and/or playing experience, a governing body endorsement would be issued to coaches for the length of the contract or up to a maximum period of 3 years.</p> <p>In order to obtain a governing body endorsement the individual must not be subject to a provisional suspension or any unexpired period of ineligibility from cricket playing and/or coaching activities in any jurisdiction as a result of being charged with or found guilty of a corruption offence and/or a doping offence and/or another misconduct offence pursuant to (or recognised under) the applicable Codes, Rules and Regulations of the ECB or the ICC and must meet all of the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the individual will be required to provide evidence, in writing by a course provider recognised by the ECB, to undertake (or have undertaken) the Safeguarding & Protecting Children module within 6 weeks of arrival; and • demonstrate that the individual has satisfied the ECB vetting process for coaches; <p>For coaches, in the country on a Governing Body Endorsement for a First-Class County, Women’s Elite Development Structure team who will be taken on loan to a Hundred team, no further endorsement will be required. Coaches must return to the First-Class County, Women’s Elite Development Structure team at the end of the Hundred tournament.</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt the coach may not register for, nor participate in, matches played by a First-Class County, Women’s Elite Domestic Structure teams, National</p> |
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| | | <p>Counties Cricket Association, Non-First-Class Cricket Club, County Cricket Board or The Hundred team as applicable.</p> <p>Extensions</p> <p>Applications for extensions of governing body endorsements in respect of future seasons after 2022 should be made in the same way as an initial application would be made. It will be assessed against the criteria for the relevant season to which the extension applies.</p> <p>T2 Sports person migrants will need to wait for a 12 month “cooling-off” period from the expiry of their previous visa before they may apply for a further T2 Sports person visa. Coaches who therefore wish to extend their T2 Governing Body Endorsement who are or become subject to this “cooling-off” period, are able to apply for a governing body endorsement under T5 First-Class Coach Only.</p> |
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| <p>Migrant T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting</p> | <p>The Hundred-Full Time Coach Only</p> | <p>Initial Application</p> <p>It is expected that the HundredTeams will not wish to appoint full-time coaches with no coaching or relevant playing experience. For those that do not hold a recognised coaching qualification, but who can demonstrate a proven track record of relevant coaching and/or playing experience, a governing body endorsement would be issued to coaches for the length of the contract or up to a maximum period of 12 months.</p> <p>In order to obtain a governing body endorsement the individual must not be subject to a provisional suspension or any unexpired period of ineligibility from cricket playing and/or coaching activities in any jurisdiction as a result of being charged with or found guilty of a corruption offence and/or a doping offence and/or another misconduct offence pursuant to (or recognised under) the applicable Codes, Rules and Regulations of the ECB or the ICC and must meet all of the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the individual will be required to provide evidence, in writing by a course provider recognised by the ECB, to undertake (or have undertaken) the Safeguarding & Protecting Children module within 6 weeks of arrival; and • demonstrate that the individual has satisfied the ECB vetting process for coaches; <p>For coaches, in the country on a Governing Body Endorsement for a First Class County or Women’s Elite Development Structure team who will be taken on loan to a Hundred team, no further endorsement will be required. Coaches must return to the First Class County/ Women’s Elite Development Structure team at the end of the Hundred tournament.</p> |
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| | | <p>Extensions</p> <p>Applications for extensions of governing body endorsements in respect of future seasons after 2022 should be made in the same way as an initial application would be made. It will be assessed against the criteria for the relevant season to which the extension applies.</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt the coach may not register for, nor participate in, matches played by a First-Class County, Women's Elite Domestic Structure teams, National Counties Cricket Association , Non-First-Class Cricket Club, County Cricket Board or The Hundred team as applicable.</p> |
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Further information

This information is available on the ECB website at:

www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies-and-regulations/regulations/overseas

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For any queries relating to the requirements or the endorsement process please contact:

ECB Governing Body Endorsements

England and Wales Cricket Board

Lord's Cricket Ground

London

NW8 8QZ

Email: managedmigration@ecb.co.uk

Information on visas and immigration is available on the [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) website

Governing Body Endorsement Appeals Procedure

Scope of appeal procedure

1.1 This document sets out the ECB's procedure for appeals by a cricket club or other applicable employer (each a Club) against the decision of the ECB not to provide a Governing Body Endorsement (GBE) for a sponsor licence in respect of the Club or any given individual migrant (the Migrant).

1.2 All such GBE decisions by the ECB (each a GBE Decision) are made pursuant to the ECB's published GBE procedure (as amended by the ECB from time to time and agreed by the Home Office and specifically through the ECB's application of the relevant criteria which forms the substantive element of that procedure and which must be satisfied for the ECB to be able to grant a GBE (the Criteria).

1.3 This Appeal Procedure has been adopted as of midnight 1 September 2010, supersedes any other appeal procedure published by the ECB, forms the entire agreement between the ECB, each Club and each relevant Migrant (together the Parties) as to how the ECB's GBE Decisions may be challenged and shall remain in place until superseded or amended by the ECB from time to time.

1.4 The Parties agree to submit any dispute concerning any matter connected with or arising out of a GBE Decision for resolution pursuant to this Appeal Procedure.

1.5 The Parties shall treat all decisions made pursuant to this Appeal Procedure as final and binding upon them.

Sole of ground appeal

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2.1 The sole ground of appeal shall be that there has been a failure by the ECB to correctly apply the relevant Criteria in making a GBE Decision.

2.2 No other grounds of appeal or other challenges in relation to a GBE Decision, including but not limited to any challenge to the form or substance of any or all of the Criteria, can legitimately be made pursuant to this Appeal Procedure.

Notice of appeal

3.1 This Appeal Procedure is commenced when a Club affected by a GBE decision (the Appellant) submits a written appeal (the Notice of Appeal) to the ECB's Head of Integrity, England & Wales Cricket Board, Lord's Cricket Ground, London, NW8 8QZ within 14 days of the contested GBE Decision being issued by the ECB to the Club, together with a non-refundable appeal fee of £125.

3.2 The Notice of Appeal must include full details of the basis of the appeal including the precise manner in which the Appellant alleges that the Criteria have not been correctly applied, together with any supporting documentary evidence.

Initial evaluation

4.1 Upon receiving a Notice of Appeal, the ECB's Head of Integrity shall within 7 days acknowledge receipt to the Appellant and then arrange for an initial judgment on the validity of the appeal to be made by a panel consisting of himself/herself and two members of the ECB Cricket Discipline Commission (the Evaluation Committee). The Evaluation Committee shall not include any person who was involved in any way in making the original GBE Decision.

4.2 The Evaluation Committee shall determine whether the Notice of Appeal is valid and whether the Appellant's complaint should be referred to and considered by a sole arbitrator in accordance with section 5 below, having regard to the following three issues:

- a) whether the Notice of Appeal has been served in time;
- b) whether the Notice of Appeal is based on the sole applicable ground of appeal set out at section 2 above; and
- c) whether the Notice of Appeal discloses a prima facie case that the appeal is, on the balance of probabilities, likely to succeed

(each a Condition).

4.3 If all three Conditions are satisfied in the majority opinion of the Evaluation Committee, it shall confirm that the Appellant's appeal should be referred to a sole arbitrator in accordance with section 5.

4.4 If any one or more of the three Conditions are not satisfied in the majority opinion of the Evaluation Committee, the Notice of Appeal shall be dismissed and no further action shall be taken by any Party. The Appellant and the Migrant shall accept this decision as final and binding on them.

4.5 The decision of the Evaluation Committee, and where the Evaluation Committee does not remit the matter to the sole arbitrator the reasons for their decision, shall be provided in writing to the Appellant as soon as reasonably practicable and in any case normally within 28 days after the receipt by the ECB's Head of Integrity of the Notice of Appeal.

Arbitration

5.1 In the event that the Evaluation Committee decides to refer an Appellant's appeal for a decision by a sole arbitrator in accordance with paragraph 4.3, it shall be referred to Sport Resolutions (UK) for final and binding arbitration by a sole arbitrator in accordance with the Appeal Arbitration Procedure set out in Sport Resolutions (UK)'s Arbitration Rules, save as amended by the provisions of this Appeal Procedure (the Arbitration).

5.2 The sole arbitrator shall be appointed by the Executive Director of Sport Resolutions (UK), unless otherwise agreed in writing by all the Parties.

5.3 The Parties agree that the Arbitration shall be conducted without any hearing, on the basis of written submissions only, unless otherwise agreed in writing by all the Parties.

5.4 The sole arbitrator shall be entitled to order one Party to pay another Party's legal and other costs, subject to a cap of £2,000 (including VAT).

5.5 The Parties agree that the reasons for the sole arbitrator's decision shall remain confidential.

Remedies

6.1 The sole arbitrator shall have the power, in making his/her written decision, either to affirm or to reverse the ECB's GBE Decision. In the event that the sole arbitrator reverses the ECB's GBE Decision, he/she shall also direct the ECB to grant a GBE to the Appellant in its own capacity as a sponsor and/or in respect of the relevant Migrant (as applicable) and the ECB shall comply with such direction.

Section 3: process for applying for an endorsement

How to apply for Governing Body Endorsements for T2 Sportsperson and T5 Sponsor Licences for Clubs and Teams

First-Class Counties, the Marylebone Cricket Club, Women's Elite Development Structure teams and the England & Wales Cricket Board should use:

Annex 1: T2 Sportsperson / T5 Sponsor Licence Governing Body Endorsement Application Form

County Cricket Boards should use:

Annex 2: T2 Sportsperson/ T5 Sponsor Licence Governing Body Endorsement Application Form

Non-First-Class Cricket Clubs should use:

Annex 3: T5 Sponsor Licence Governing Body Endorsement Application Form

The Hundred teams should use:

Annex 10: T5 Sponsor Licence Governing Body Endorsement Application Form

All potential sponsors should note that the purpose of an endorsement for a prospective sponsor is to confirm to the Home Office officials processing sponsor applications that the application is from a bona fide sports club or equivalent that has a legitimate requirement to bring migrants to the UK as sportspeople. The Home Office has additional criteria for sponsors that must be met in order for a cricket club to be granted a Sponsor Licence. It is not the England and Wales Cricket Board that will grant a Sponsor Licence to a club.

England and Wales Cricket Board Governing Body Endorsement requirements

There is an administration fee of £24 for each Governing Body Endorsement for Sponsor Licences. This will be waived for The Hundred teams. Cheques must be included with applications, made payable to England and Wales Cricket Board.

England and Wales Cricket Board Governing Body Endorsement requirements

How to apply for Governing Body Endorsements for T2 Sportsperson and T5 migrant applications

Once a cricket club/ team has obtained their Sponsor Licence from the Home Office, the sponsor will be able to apply for Certificates of Sponsorship, which it will allocate to migrants coming here to work for it. Each migrant that a club/ team wish to employ needs to be offered a Certificate of Sponsorship by the club/ team. However, before a club/ team can issue a Certificate of Sponsorship to a sportsperson, they will also have to obtain an endorsement from the England and Wales Cricket Board for all applications made for individual sports people and coaches.

The purpose of an endorsement for a migrant is to confirm that he/she is an internationally established sportsperson at the highest level, will make a significant contribution to the development of his/her sport at the highest level in the UK. The issue of a Certificate of Sponsorship authorises the migrant to apply for entry clearance but does not mean that his or her application will succeed. The Home Office will make the final decision about who is allowed to come here. The migrant will need to obtain sufficient points and their personal or immigration history will be considered as part of the entry clearance application.

First-Class Counties, the ECB Women's Elite Development Structure, the Marylebone Cricket Club and the England & Wales Cricket Board should use:

- Annex 4: T5 Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Player Only); or
- Annex 5: T2 Sportsperson Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Coach); or
- Annex 6: T5 Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Coach).

County Cricket Boards should use:

England and Wales Cricket Board Governing Body Endorsement requirements

- Annex 5: T2 Sportsperson Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Coach)
- Annex 6: T5 Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Coach)

Non First-Class Cricket Clubs should use:

- Annex 7: T5 Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Player-Coach)
- Annex 8: T5 Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Coach)

The Hundred Teams should use:

- Annex 11: T5 Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Player Only)
- Annex 12: T2 Sportsperson Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Coach)
- Annex 13: T5 Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Coach)

There is an administration fee of £35 for each Governing Body Endorsement for Migrant applications this will be waived for The Hundred Teams. Application fees must be paid as soon as the application is sent.

Annex 9 can be used to assist with evidence submissions in all applications, if you have not provided links to the matches.