

This guidance is to be used for all International Sportsperson governing body endorsement requests made on or after the **3 November 2022**.

Section 1: Overview of governing body endorsements for the International Sportsperson route of the points-based system

This page provides a brief explanation of what endorsement requirements apply in respect of the International Sportsperson route of the points-based system.

The International Sportsperson route is for elite sportspeople and coaches who:

- Are internationally established and whose employment will make a significant contribution to the development of their sport at the highest level in the UK
- who will base themselves in the UK
- will be filling a post that cannot be filled by a suitable British citizen or person who has a right to enter or stay in the UK without restriction.

The application process explained: migrants applying to come to the UK under the International Sportsperson route need to be sponsored by an organisation that has an International Sportsperson sponsor licence.

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 entry clearance or permission to stay 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.

An **approved governing body** is one specified in [Appendix SGB](#) 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 SGB](#) of the Immigration Rules.

Approved governing bodies will work within the Home Office's '[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, that is:

Type of application	Length of endorsement
Sponsor	4 years from date of issue.
Migrant	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.

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 route, whichever is the 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 permission to stay. Permission to stay must be granted before the migrant can start work with the new employer.

Salary

The salary should be agreed as part of the contract between the migrant and the sponsor. This and the other conditions of employment should be at least equal to those normally given to a resident worker for the type of work undertaken.

Supplementary employment

International Sportsperson migrants are eligible to undertake supplementary employment under the Home Office supplementary employment regulations. The 'Supplementary employment' section of the [Workers and Temporary Workers: guidance for sponsors - Sponsor an International Sportsperson guidance](#) has more information on this.

Section 2: Requirements

This page explains the Cricket Scotland requirements for the International Sportsperson route. The requirements are effective from **3 November 2022**.

Consultation

The following requirements have been agreed by the Home Office following consultation with Cricket Scotland. The requirements for International Sportsperson were determined in consultation with: the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) which has representatives from the professional clubs; the Professional Cricketers Association; other interested parties such as the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC); the ECB Recreational Cricket Group; and the Club Cricket Conference which represents over 70 leagues across England and Wales. Cricket Scotland subscribes, in general terms, to the criteria.

Review

The requirements will be reviewed annually in August.

Length of season

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

Requirements

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

Category	Requirement
Sponsor International Sportsperson	Governing body endorsements for a sponsor licence will only be issued to Cricket Scotland.
Sponsor International Sportsperson (Non-First Class)	Governing body endorsements will be available for clubs affiliated to Cricket Scotland and meet one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the club is a fully paid up member of Cricket Scotland • the club will be participating in a league recognised by Cricket Scotland

<p>Migrant</p> <p>International Sportsperson</p>	<p>Full Time Coach Only</p>	<p>Initial Application</p> <p>If a sponsor licence holder wishes to apply for governing body endorsement to employ a Full Time Coach they will have to satisfy 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 2) 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 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>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</p>
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		<p>assessed against the criteria for the relevant season to which the extension applies.</p>
	<p>Player Only</p>	<p>Initial Applications</p> <p>In order to obtain a governing body endorsement the individual must meet one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 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 60 months immediately prior to the date of the governing body endorsement application for their country who must be a Full Member Country of the ICC (Full Members are Australia, Bangladesh, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies and Zimbabwe as well as the ECB) which were approved and recorded by the ICC as authorised Test Matches ; or b) 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 their country (in all cases their country must be a Full Member Country of the ICC) which were approved and recorded as authorised matches by the ICC); or c) 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 where the home country is a Full Member Country of the ICC; or

		<p>d) the cricketer was granted a T2 Sportsperson/ International Sportsperson Player Only governing body endorsement in the previous season.</p> <p>A certificate of sponsorship (CoS) with a governing body endorsement under International Sportsperson Player Only does not permit the player under any circumstances to be taken on, engaged or employed by any cricket club other than Cricket Scotland.</p>
<p>International Sportsperson</p>	<p>Non First Class Cricket –Player Coach Only</p>	<p>In order to obtain the governing body endorsement the migrant must meet all of the following requirements:</p> <p>a) the individual must have, in the previous 36 months, played a minimum of five:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. First Class and/or b. ODI and/or c. International T20 and/or d. Test and/or e. U19 World Cup cricket matches. <p>(The definition of First Class cricket matches will be that set down by the ICC in its regulations. However, only matches of three or more days duration will be considered as First Class for the purpose of determining whether the five First Class matches criterion is satisfied); and</p> <p>b) 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 and the ECB Health & Safety Assessment within 6 weeks of arrival (failure to complete these will result in future endorsements not being granted); and</p>

		<p>c) the individual must have satisfied the ECB vetting process for coaches.</p> <p>Once the 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"> i. attained a qualification of at least ECB Coach (UKCC 2) standard under the structured ECB National Coaching Scheme before undertaking any coaching duties for a club based in the UK; or ii. evidenced in writing by confirmation from a course provider recognised by the ECB 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 UKCC 2 level by the end of the relevant season. If the individual fails to complete and pass the course before leaving the UK future International Sportsperson endorsements will not be granted until it is proven that a UKCC 2 level or overseas equivalent coaching course has been completed and passed; or iii. obtained a non UK coaching qualification that is of an equivalent or higher standard to the ECB Coach (UKCC 2) standard <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) course to attain the appropriate level before undertaking any coaching duties.</p>
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		<p>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 Coaching Assistant course – UKCC 1. 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 International Sportsperson.</p> <p>A certificate of sponsorship (CoS) with a governing body endorsement under International Sportsperson Player Coach Only does not permit the Player Coach under any circumstances to (i) be taken on, engaged or employed by a First Class County, a Women’s Cricket Super League team or Minor County Cricket Club; or (ii) register for, or participate in, any matches or training sessions at a First Class County, Women’s Cricket Super League team or Minor County Cricket Club at any level.</p>
	<p>Non First Class Cricket – Coach Only</p>	<p>In order to obtain the governing body endorsement the migrant must satisfy 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 standard or holds a non-UK qualification that is at least equivalent to the ECB Coach (UKCC 2) 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 (UKCC) 2 and the ECB Health & Safety Assessment within 6 weeks of arrival (failure to complete these will result in

		<p>future endorsements not being granted); and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate that there are no suitable resident workers who are qualified to UKCC 2 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 Cricket Scotland vetting process for coaches. <p>A certificate of sponsorship (CoS) with a governing body endorsement under International Sportsperson Non First Class Coach Only does not permit the Non First Class Coach under any circumstances to be engaged in any playing or coaching activity for Cricket Scotland, MCC, the ECB, First Class Counties, any Women`s Cricket Super League teams, Minor County Cricket Clubs or County Cricket Boards.</p> <p>Out of season coaching</p> <p>If a cricket club wish to employ a coach or player-coach outside the cricket season, where coaching is part of a nationally recognised initiative, they will have to satisfy the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate that there are no suitable resident workers who are qualified to UKCC 2 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, Regional /Board Website or Cricket Scotland Website which provides the best way of
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		<p>reaching suitably qualified resident workers; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide proof that the individual has 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 and the ECB Health & Safety Assessment within 6 weeks of arrival (failure to complete these will result in future endorsements not being granted); and • prove that the individual has satisfied the ECB vetting process for coaches. <p>Once the 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. attained a qualification of at least ECB Coach (UKCC 2) standard under the structured ECB National Coaching Scheme before undertaking any coaching duties for a club based in the UK; or ii. obtained a non UK coaching qualification that is of an equivalent or higher standard to the ECB Coach (UKCC 2) standard. <p>Extensions</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt, governing body endorsements for player coaches and coaches are issued by Cricket Scotland for a maximum of 36 months only. Applications for extensions of governing body endorsements in 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</p>
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		the relevant season to which the extension applies.
<p>Participation eligibility</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt, individuals issued a GBE by Cricket Scotland may only participate in the capacity in which they are endorsed. Coaches are unable to play, in any competitive game (league or cup), within any of the leagues or cups organised by Cricket Scotland or any of the regional associations in which their sponsor club participates, including for their sponsor club. In order to both coach and play, an individual must apply for a GBE as a Player Coach.</p>		
<p>Injuries, Absences and Suspensions</p> <p>Consideration will be given to the following when applying the criteria: injury; a period of maternity or paternity leave; serious illness or any legitimate medical reasons; suspension; international duty; bereavement; or family crisis.</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 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 the applicable Codes, Rules and Regulations of the ECB or the ICC.</p>		

Further information

This information is available on the Cricket Scotland website at www.cricketscotland.com

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

George Burns
 Governing Body Endorsements
 Cricket Scotland National Cricket Academy
 MES Sports Centre
 Ravelston
 Edinburgh EH4 3NT

Email: georgeburns@cricketscotland.com

Information on visas and immigration is available on the GOV.UK website.

Dispute handling procedures

Appeals against the Cricket Scotland decision not to issue a Governing Body Endorsement under these criteria for an individual migrant will be dealt with by Sport Resolutions. The separate Cricket Scotland document “Governing Body Endorsement Appeals Procedure” (Annex H) details how to submit an appeal in relation to a governing body endorsement decision and the applicable fees.

Section 3: Process for applying for an endorsement

How to apply for governing body endorsements for International Sportsperson sponsor applications

Cricket Scotland should use Annex A: International Sportsperson Sponsor Licence Governing Body Endorsement Application Form.

Clubs should use Annex D: International Sportsperson 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 UK Visa & Immigration (UKVI) 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. UKVI has additional criteria for sponsors that must be met in order for a cricket club to be granted a sponsor licence. Note: UKVI - not Cricket Scotland - will grant a sponsor licence to a club.

There is an administration fee of £10 for each governing body endorsement for a sponsor licence. A Cheque payable to Cricket Scotland or a Bank Transfer to 80-46-38 10271364 with reference CS/GBE/CoS MUST be included with applications.

How to apply for Governing Body Endorsements for International Sportsperson Migrant Applications

Once a cricket club has obtained their sponsor licence from UKVI, the sponsor will be able to apply for certificates of sponsorship (CoS), which it will allocate to migrants coming here to work for it. Each migrant that a club wishes to employ needs to be assigned a CoS by the club. However, before a club can assign a CoS to a sportsperson, they will also have to obtain an endorsement from Cricket Scotland 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 and that it is appropriate to fill the post from outside the UK. The assigning of a CoS authorises the migrant to apply for entry clearance but does **not** mean that his or her application will succeed. UKVI 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 process.

Cricket Scotland should use Annex B: International Sportsperson Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Player Only) or Annex C: International Sportsperson Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Coach).

Clubs should use Annex E: International Sportsperson Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Player/Coach) or Annex F: International Sportsperson Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form (Coach).

There is an administration fee of £20 for each governing body endorsement for migrant applications. Cheques payable to Cricket Scotland or a Bank Transfers to 80-46-38 10271364 with reference CS/GBE/MIG MUST be included with applications.

Annex G should be used to assist with the provision of evidence submissions in relation to player and player-coach applications.



Annex A - International Sportsperson () Sponsor Licence Governing Body Endorsement Application

This form should be used to apply to Cricket Scotland for a Governing Body Endorsement of an application for a Sponsor Licence under the International Sportsperson (long term) route of the Points Based System.

Please complete all sections of the form below unless otherwise indicated:

Name of Club:

Address:

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Postcode.....

Contact Name and position:

Telephone Number:

Fax Number:

Email

Signature.....

Date of application.....

Supporting Evidence Required:

None

Please send this form to:

Governing Body Endorsements
Cricket Scotland
MES Sports Centre
Ravelston
Edinburgh EH4 3NT



Annex B - International Sportsperson Individual Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form – Player Only

This form should be used to apply to Cricket Scotland for a Governing Body Endorsement of an application for a migrant under the International Sportsperson route of the Points Based System.

Please complete all sections of the form below unless otherwise indicated:

Full Name of Player:

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Address:

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Postcode:.....

Name of Club:.....

CS Sponsor Licence

Number:.....

Club Contact Name and position:

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Telephone Number:

Fax Number:.....

Email:.....

Please indicate which of the following criteria are met: (all that are applicable)

- 5 First Class Matches test matches in past 24 months (please provide evidence of date and details of matches – Annex G)

- Player-only work permit for 2023 (please provide evidence through a copy of 2023 Work Permit)

Signature:.....

Date of application:

Cricket Scotland Governing Body Endorsement Requirements



Please send this form to:

Cricket Scotland
MES Sports Centre
Ravelston
Edinburgh EH4 3N



Annex C - International Sportsperson Individual Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application – Coach only

This form should be used to apply to Cricket Scotland for a Governing Body Endorsement of an application for a migrant under International Sportsperson of the Points Based System.

Please complete all sections of the form below unless otherwise indicated:

Full Name of Player:

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Address:

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Postcode :.....

Name of Club:

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CS Sponsor Licence Number:

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Club Contact Name and position:

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Telephone Number: Fax

Number:.....

Email:.....

Please provide evidence as stated below to meet the criteria, either:

- UKCC 2 or ECB Level II (please provide evidence of date and details of course and copy of certificate) OR
- Non – UK coaching qualification and written confirmation from the ECB that this qualification is of an equivalent or higher standard to the ECB UKCC 2 (please provide evidence of date and details of course and copy of certificate) AND
- evidence that the job has been advertised in the most appropriate national medium, such as Wisden Cricketer Magazine

Cricket Scotland Governing Body Endorsement Requirements



Signature.....

Date of Application.....

Please send this form to:

Governing Body Endorsements
Cricket Scotland
MES Sports Centre
Ravelston
Edinburgh EH4 3NT



Annex D – International Sportsperson Sponsor Licence Governing Body Endorsement Application

This form should be used to apply to Cricket Scotland for a Governing Body Endorsement of an application for a Sponsor Licence under the International Sportsperson (short term) route of the Points Based System.

Please complete all sections of the form below unless otherwise indicated:

Full Name of Player:

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Address:

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Postcode :.....

Name of Club:

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CS Sponsor Licence Number:

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Club Contact Name and position:

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Telephone Number: Fax Number:

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Email:.....

Please indicate which of the following criteria are met: (all that are applicable)

- Current Membership of Cricket Scotland

- The club will participate in a league recognised by Cricket Scotland

- Enclose cheque for £10 made payable to “Cricket Scotland”

Signature.....

Cricket Scotland Governing Body Endorsement Requirements



Date of application.....

Please send this form to:

Governing Body Endorsements
Cricket Scotland
MES Sports Centre
Ravelston
Edinburgh EH4 3NT



Annex E - International Sportsperson Individual Migrant Governing Body Endorsement Application Form – Player/Coach Only

This form should be used to apply to Cricket Scotland for a Governing Body Endorsement of an application for a migrant under the International Sportsperson (short term) route of the Points Based System.

Please complete all sections of the form below unless otherwise indicated:

Full Name of Player:

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Address:

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Postcode :.....

Name of Club:

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CS Sponsor Licence Number:

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Club Contact Name and position:

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Telephone Number: Fax Number:

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Email:.....

Please provide evidence as stated below to meet the criteria:

- Five First Class and/or ODI and/or International T20 and/or Test and/or U19 World Cup cricket matches in the previous 36 months (please provide evidence of date and details of matches – Annex G)
- UKCC 2 or ECB Level II (please provide evidence of date and details of course and copy of certificate)
- Enclose cheque for £20 made payable to “Cricket Scotland”

Cricket Scotland Governing Body Endorsement Requirements



Signature.....

Date of application.....

Please send this form to:

Governing Body Endorsements
Cricket Scotland
MES Sports Centre
Ravelston
Edinburgh EH4 3NT

**Annex F - International Sportsperson Individual Migrant Governing Body
Endorsement Application Form – Coach Only**

This form should be used to apply to Cricket Scotland for a Governing Body Endorsement of an application for a migrant under International Sportsperson (short term) route of the Points Based System.

Please complete all sections of the form below unless otherwise indicated:

Full Name of Player:

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Address:

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Postcode :.....

Name of Club:

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CS Sponsor Licence Number:

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Club Contact Name and position:

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Telephone Number: Fax Number:

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Email:

Please provide evidence as stated below to meet the criteria, either:

- UKCC 2 or ECB Level II (please provide evidence of date and details of course and copy of certificate)
- evidence that the job has been advertised in the most appropriate national medium, such as Wisden Cricketer Magazine
- Enclose cheque for £20 made payable to “Cricket Scotland”

Cricket Scotland Governing Body Endorsement Requirements



Signature.....

Date of application.....

Please send this form to:

Governing Body Endorsements
Cricket Scotland
MES Sports Centre
Ravelston
Edinburgh EH4 3NT

Annex H - Governing Body Endorsement Appeals Procedure

Any appeal by a club against the decision of Cricket Scotland not to provide a Governing Body Endorsement for either an individual migrant or for a sponsor licence will be dealt with by the independent dispute resolution service for sport: Sport Resolutions.

If a club wishes to instigate an appeal pursuant to this Procedure, the club must submit to Cricket Scotland a written request for an appeal (“the Appeal”) containing the following details:

- a) the name and address of the Club (and of the nominated club representative); and
- b) a brief statement stating the grounds that the club wishes to use to appeal the Cricket Scotland decision.

The applicable grounds for appeal are limited to a “strong arguable case” that either:-

- i. relevant information was ignored or not considered by Cricket Scotland; or
- ii. the endorsement application process was tainted by unreasonable bias or conflict of interests; or
- iii. the provisions of the Cricket Scotland Governing Body Endorsement procedure were not adhered to; or
- iv. Cricket Scotland exceeded its jurisdiction; or
- v. the findings of Cricket Scotland were irrational or otherwise exhibited an error of general law

There are no other grounds of appeal. This request for appeal must be submitted within fourteen (14) days of the notification of the original Cricket Scotland decision not to provide a Governing Body Endorsement and include the relevant Appeal Fee. (Cheque for £125 made payable to “Sport Resolutions”).

Cricket Scotland will acknowledge the Appeal in writing with the request that full written evidence in support of the Appeal must be submitted to Sport Resolutions within 10 days for the Appeal to proceed.

The Appeal will be undertaken by a sole arbitrator, based on written submissions only, and will be final and binding on Cricket Scotland and the club who sought the Appeal.