

Cherwell Cricket League Registration Rules (2021 until further notice)

Addendum 15th April 2021.

The ECB have very recently recategorized certain overseas players. Our initial reading of this shows no discrepancies between their intention and our current rules as written and so for expediency we are leaving them as they are for now. If clubs wish to discuss specific cases based on any apparent discrepancy between the CCL rules and the ECB classifications, they should in the first instance contact the League Secretary. The League Management Committee will read the ECB statement carefully and amend our rules if necessary, in due course.

1. GENERAL

1.1 Requirements

All clubs must register all players who they wish to play in any team in the Cherwell League.

1.2 U15s

Players under the age of 15 at 31st August preceding the season and 13 or over (see below) are eligible to play in any team in any Division but must first be registered. No fee is payable, and section 2 below setting out fees refers only to registration charges for players over 15 years of age.

1.2.1 ECB regulations mean that no player who is in School Year 8 (under 13 at midnight on the previous 31st August) is allowed to play or take part as a substitute in any Cherwell League match unless 'Explicit Written Consent' to play has been obtained prior to playing. (Forms for this consent are available from the Cherwell League website).

1.2.2 ECB regulations also provide that any player who is in School Year 7 or below (under 12 at midnight on the previous 31st August) cannot play in open age cricket (i.e. The Cherwell League) with the exception below in 1.2.3

1.2.3 An U12 player (School Year 7 and Under 12 at midnight on the previous 31st August) can play open age cricket provided they are part of the County age group squad at U12 level. Proof of their inclusion in the relevant County squad will be required. The same 'Explicit Written Consent' as in 1.2.1 above will also be required for any such player.

1.3 Limits

There are no limits on the number of players a club may register.

1.4 Deregistration

There is no requirement to deregister players. Player transfers are covered in section 5 below.

1.5 Player Categories

Player Categories are defined in Appendix 1 to these Regulations. **see addendum 15th April 2021**

2 TIMETABLE/FEES

2.1 Pre-Season Player List

A list of players that were registered for the previous season in the Cherwell League will be available on the website and open for alteration when clubs are informed by the League Secretary. Clubs will have until the 30th April 2020 to add or remove names from the list. Bulk lists supplied to the Registration Secretary from OCA clubs before the 30th April 2021 will be uploaded and all players will be deemed registered for the start of the season. This excludes category 3 & 4 players who must register in accordance with section 3. All registrations after 30th April will be treated as In-season Registrations.

2.2 Payment

Payment for the above registration list must be made before 1st May each year. Penalties may apply to clubs who breach this regulation. **Note: there will be no charge for pre-season registrations for 2021.**

2.3 Eligibility

All players correctly registered and paid for on this list will be eligible to play from the first match of the 2021 season.

2.4 Fees

For each player on the list over the age of 15 years a registration fee of £2 must be paid. This includes players who have been registered in previous seasons and any new registrations for the forthcoming season (**see note above**).

2.5 Signatures

Clubs will be responsible for collecting signatures of existing players and holding this record, which may be requested by the League in the event of a disciplinary incident. Not having a signature for a player subject to disciplinary proceedings may count against both the player and the club at that time.

2.6 During the Season

Registrations during the Season: After 30th April 2021, a club wishing to register a new or additional player must do so online at its own Cherwell League website area and at the same time pay £2 for each player using the PayPal link on the website. If this process is completed correctly the registration takes effect immediately. Please note that there is no alternative method of payment.

2.7 Change of Status

Any club wishing to register a player for Tiers 1-5 who is already listed in the player list for Tiers 6-8 need only make the transfer on the website and pay the fee using the same process as above in 2.6. No additional documentation is required.

2.8 Eligibility

Any player registered as per 2.6 and/or 2.7 above will be available to play in the next match scheduled to start after the change is made.

2.9 Qualification

For a player to qualify for the subsequent match the on-line registration must be completed before the match is due to start.

2.11 Timing

No new registrations or transfers of players in any category will be allowed after matches in week 13 (31 July 2021). The on-line form will be disabled at this time. Clubs will be permitted to move players from their Tiers 6-8 list to their Tiers 1-5 list after this date subject to the appropriate payment

3 REGISTRATION FOR 2021 FOR ELIGIBLE PLAYERS (see Appendix 1 for Player Categories)

3.1 Category 1

Category 1 players are eligible to register and play in the Cherwell League.

3.2 Category 2

Category 2 players are not allowed to play in the Cherwell League.

3.3 Category 3

The following players need to register for the 2020 season even if they have previously been registered to play in the Cherwell League:

3.3.1 Visiting Player Category 3 as defined below. Up to a maximum of two Category 3 players can be registered by a club. However, only one may play for a team in a Cherwell League match in Divisions 1-6 and they are not permitted to play in Divisions 7-10 of the Cherwell League (see 5.3 below)

3.3.2 Temporary Residence Category 4 (see below). There is no limit on the number of Category 4 players that a team can register and no restrictions on how many Cat 4 players can play in a team at one time. Category 4 players properly registered can play in any division of the Cherwell League. Note, players who were previously categorised as 3E now automatically fall into Category 4.

3.4 Paperwork

Paper copies of Category 3 & 4 registrations and supporting documents where requested, are required and the timetable set out in 2 above will apply to Category 3 & 4 registrations. Category 3 players must be registered before 23rd April (see 5.4 below).

3.5 Fees

The fees for Category 3 & 4 are the same as for Category 1 players as set out in section 2 above.

3.6 Verification

The League reserves the right to ask for and to verify by sight any information it requires concerning registration of Category 3 & 4 players.

4 TRANSFERS

4.1 Paperwork

A player transferring from one club to another after the season has started needs to have a completed Player Transfer Form submitted. Forms are available on the League website.

4.2 Fees

The fee for a player transfer is £6 per player. As checks are needed on the eligibility of transferring players the payment for this must be submitted at the same time as the appropriate paperwork.

4.3 Eligibility

A transferred player becomes eligible to play for a new club fourteen days after last being eligible to play for the previous club i.e. At least one week of league matches will be missed.

4.4 Bans

If a player is serving any league or club ban whilst wishing to join a new club, the registration period of fourteen days will commence on the day following the end of such a ban.

4.5 Obligations

Players who are seeking to transfer must have discharged all their financial obligations to their former club and the League before the fourteen day qualifying period can start.

5 ELIGIBILITY

5.1.1 Weeks 17/18

In **the final two weeks of the regular season for the division in question** a player shall not play in a lower division than which they normally played in weeks 1 to 12 inclusive, unless during that period he/she has played for the team in the lower division on at least two occasions.

5.1.2 Weeks 17/18

If a player has played in the Home Counties Premier Cricket League (divisions 1 or 2), in order to be eligible to play in the Cherwell League in weeks 17 & 18, they must have played more games in the Cherwell League than in the HCPCL during weeks 1-16. In determining which team they may play for in the Cherwell League, the normal rules will apply in relation to all games played in the CCL.

Note: If a team is awarded a match by forfeit (not if they themselves have forfeited) or had a game cancelled because of weather without a ball being bowled, any player who was already registered but not logged as playing in another team for the club on that day, can be considered as having played in that team that week for the purpose of determining eligibility for weeks 17 & 18.

5.2 Eligibility

All clubs can review their lists of eligible players on the Cherwell League website in the secure club area.

5.3 Category 3 & 4

Category 3 players can only play in Tiers 1-5 inclusive of the Cherwell League. Category 4 can play in any division.

5.4 Registration

All category 3 players must register prior to the start of the 2021 season. Category 4 players can be registered during the season, but their eligibility to play may be restricted as per 3.4 above.

6 SUSPECTED BREACHES

6.1 Suspected Breaches

Anyone wishing to report a suspected breach of the regulations should do so in writing or by e-mail to the League Secretary. If there appears to be a case to answer, the complaint will go to the Management Committee for consideration and the possible imposition of penalties.

6.2 Appeals

Appeals against penalties imposed by the Management Committee must be submitted in writing and be accompanied by new or additional evidence that was not available at the original consideration and accompanied by a deposit on account of costs as provided by the Constitution.

6.3 Penalties

Any team found to have fielded an ineligible player will be deemed to have lost the match and as a consequence gain no points from the match.

6.4 Points

Maximum points for a win will be awarded to the opposing side.

6.5 Additional Penalties

In addition to any forfeiture of points, any club found to have breached Registration Regulations will have its offence considered by the Management Committee.

6.6 Further Sanctions

The Management Committee has the power to further sanction (in addition to the loss of points in 6.3 above) any club found guilty of breaching Registration Regulations.

Clubs so sanctioned have the right to an appeal as per the Constitution and in accordance with 6.2 above.

Appendix 1 to Registration Regulations

Player Categories (see addendum 15th April 2021 at the top of the document)

The player categories below are based on the ECB definition:

The league reserves the right to ask for and to verify by sight any information it requires concerning registration of any player.

Category 1

a) Any player not covered below in the categories below.

b) A non-British citizen who has been permanently resident in England, Wales, Scotland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man for the previous four consecutive years and has not been out of these countries for more than 35 consecutive days or 70 days in total in the previous eighteen months will qualify as a category one player.

c) Any player who holds a UK (Or European) passport and is entitled to live and work in the UK without restriction or requiring additional documentation such as a visa.

Category 2

Any player who is contracted to play for a first class county. No Category 2 players are permitted to play in the Cherwell League.

Category 3 - Visiting Player

A player wishing to play cricket in the Cherwell League whilst visiting the UK must fulfil the following requirements:

- a) The player must have been under 24 years of age on 1st September in the year before the current season.
- b) The player must not have played in any first class match, at any level, in any country.
- c) Playing cricket is incidental to the reason for coming to the UK.
- d) The player has never received, is not intending on receiving, or has not received within the previous 4 years, payment, including payment in kind, for playing or coaching that is covering all, or the majority of, their costs for travelling to, and living in the UK.
- e) The player is not currently registered to, or who has not been registered within the previous 4 years to a professional or semi-professional cricket team. This includes all academy and development team age groups.
- f) The player has not represented their nation or national team within the previous two years, including all youth and development age groups from under 17's upwards.
- g) The player has not represented their state or regional team within the previous two years, including all youth and development age groups from under 17's upwards.
- h) The player has not within the last 12 months engaged an agent or representative, with the aim of finding opportunities as a cricket player, and/or developing a current or future career as a cricket player.

Players who fit the above criteria will qualify to come to the UK on Tier 5 Youth Mobility Visa. If they do not, they will need a Tier 5 Creative and Sporting Visa and players holding such a visa are not permitted to play in the Cherwell League.

Up to a maximum of two Category 3 players can be registered, however only one may play for a team in a Cherwell League match in Tiers 1-5 (inclusive). Clubs are responsible to ensuring players so registered comply with the appropriate Home Office/UK Border Agency residency rules and regulations

Category 4 – Temporary Residence (less than 4 years)

Any person who is legally resident in the UK from February 1st for the upcoming season and has not left the country for a continuous period of 21 days, and has a right to work or study on the UK, where this right is not for the purpose of playing or coaching cricket is entitled to play cricket in the Cherwell League in any division. All the conditions for a category 3 player apply apart from a) (age)

The League Management Committee may require proof to be submitted of the above before approving a player.