



SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE

AN EXPLANATION OF THE RULES CONCERNING THE USE OF OVERSEAS PLAYERS IN 2018

1. 'Overseas Players' * **shall not** be permitted to play in the Somerset Cricket League unless specified in the sections below.
2. An 'Overseas Player' * is defined as an overseas national who is not a holder of a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Passport or an Eire Passport. Any person who falls into this category and wishes to play cricket in the Somerset Cricket League may ask the Management Committee for permission to play at least 7 days before his first game and no later than 31st May. (Form OP 2 applies – obtainable on the website).
3. **The player must be able to show that he has resided permanently in the UK for the SIX months prior to the season commencing.**
4. **Photocopied evidence of Payslip/HM Revenue & Customs documentation/P60 or similar official document MUST be attached to the OP2 – 2017 form. The player/club must include this relevant documentation at the time of submission of the form.**
5. Any player who holds a current United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Passport or an Eire Passport shall be deemed a 'home player'. A player who holds a current United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (or Eire) Birth Certificate shall be declared a 'home' player. **Note.** To avoid confusion any overseas national who also holds a current UK passport should forward a copy of the passport page to the Hon. Secretary for record purposes.
6. If a player is uncertain of his national status in relation to the League's rules then he must check out his credentials with the Hon. Secretary before he may play.
7. If there is any doubt about the credibility of any player from overseas or elsewhere who has not completed Form OP2 then the player will be required to justify his status. This eligibility may be challenged by another club or a League official and the onus will be upon the player (and his club) to provide clear prove of status to the Hon. Secretary.

8. The submission to the Hon. Secretary of Form OP2 – 2017 **MUST** be made at least 7days before the player’s first game for the club. Applications made after May 31st 2017will not be accepted.
9. In the special case of an overseas player seeking to play for a club then he (and his club) must complete Form OP2 - 2018 and also give a separate detailed explanation of the reasons. *Clubs will only be given permission for this player if he is resident in the UK on a permanent basis and his reason for being here is **not primarily cricket**. Players who have come to the Club (and this Country) initially to play cricket and have stayed on afterwards will not be considered for approval under Form OP2.*
10. *An example of approval may be someone who has moved to the club’s local community for employment/marital/family reasons. However, even this category will require a detailed explanation of the reasons for approval within the SCL Rules regarding ‘Overseas Players’*
11. *The detailed explanation to seek approval for registration purposes under Form OP2 should be made on club headed paper and should include as much information as is available to the club administration to allow the Management Sub-Committee of the Somerset Cricket League to have a full picture of the reasons to grant special approval under Rule 7 (d) ii). **Note.** Any person who falls into this category and wishes to play cricket in the Somerset Cricket League may ask the Management Committee for permission to play at least 7 days before his first game. (Form OP 2 applies – obtainable on the website).*
12. **‘Home’ Status.** Any player who holds a current United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Passport or an Eire Passport shall be deemed a ‘home player’. - **Rule 7 (d) ii) applies.** British & Eire nationals who do not have a passport (eg. A person who has never been out of the Country and has therefore no requirement for a passport *will* need to clarify status with a birth certificate if challenged).
13. Failure to provide the correct information or provide misleading information or incomplete information could seriously affect the status of the club and involvement in any matches by ‘illegal’ players could result in stringent penalties being imposed by the Committee.
14. * For the purposes of the Somerset Cricket League Rules, an ‘Overseas Player’ is defined as – **“An overseas national who is not a holder of a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Passport or an Eire Passport”**. - **Rule 7 (d) ii) applies.**

Hon. Secretary Ray Hancock. MBE.

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