



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

League administrative rules

Governance

- Annual General Meeting.** AGMs will be held in accordance with para 17 of the YCSPL constitution. All clubs must attend the AGM. Any club not represented at the AGM will be liable to a £50 fine.
- League Executive Board.** The overall governance of the League will be the responsibility of a League Executive Board (LEB). The LEB will comprise a maximum of ten persons plus the chairman, and will include the following specific roles and responsibilities:

<i>Role</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall personal accountability for the governance of the League • Ensuring that the YCSPL is run in accordance with its constitution and rules, and in accordance with ECB and YPLMB guidance and requirements • Representing the YCSPL at meetings of ECB chairmen and at the YPLMB • Arrangements for, and chiring, the League Executive Board (LEB) • Liaison with the PLMB, other PLs and partner leagues • Ensuring that, as agreed by the LEB, specific individuals or sub-committees are tasked with specific responsibilities and for ensuring report-back on their activities
Competitions Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of divisions • Season scheduling • Arrangement of all league & t20 fixtures • Initial cup draws • Co-ordination of final venues in consultation with the cricket committees • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with fixture issues • Advice to LEB on the promotion and relegation protocol following closure of the YCB club transfer deadline
Compliance Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility for ensuring that the Premier Section clubs are aware of and meet all relevant Premier League accreditation, grounds and playing criteria, and bringing any failures to LEB attention • Approving the registration of all overseas players in the League, ensuring that they are compliant with League, ECB and Home Office rules • Advice to all Premier and Senior Section clubs on matters concerning overseas players, bringing any concerns to the attention of LEB and the relevant Section cricket committee • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with compliance issues
Equity & Diversity representative (nominated by the E&D group)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairing a standing group of League equity and diversity representatives, which will be a recognised stakeholder group that the YCSPL Board & committees can consult and collaborate with on strategy, action plans and resources • Providing representation to the YCSPL on issues, challenges and opportunities regarding equity and diversity • Advocating good practice in equity and diversity to ensure that its fits within both the ECB and YCSPL aims and objectives • Helping to create more opportunities for BAME communities to engage with cricket, whether playing, supporting, or working in the game

Head of Premier Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrangements for Premier Section cricket committee meetings • Day-to-day issues affecting the Premier Section that require cricket committee decisions • Review of Premier Section playing conditions as and when issues are identified by the committee or are raised by clubs, and seeking LEB endorsement for changes as necessary • Reporting to the LEB on Premier Section activities and issues and seeking approval for changes as necessary • Responsibility for ensuring that LEB decisions are carried forward in the Premier Section
Head of Senior Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day-to-day management of Senior Section operations, specifically ensuring that arrangements are in place to manage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring compliance with any specific divisional requirements • player registration • match-day ball provision • live scoring issues • checking and locking results on PC • Senior Section t20 and Cup competitions • advice and support attaining ECB club accreditation standards • press and publicity for the Senior Section • Arrangements for Senior Section cricket committee meetings • Day-to-day issues affecting the Senior Section that require cricket committee decisions • Review of Senior Section playing conditions as and when issues are identified by the committee or are raised by clubs, and seeking approval for changes as necessary • Reporting to the LEB on Senior Section activities and issues and seeking approval for changes as necessary • Responsibility for ensuring that LEB decisions are carried forward in the Senior Section • Liaison with Senior Section clubs • Supporting the Safeguarding Manager on any safeguarding issues concerning Senior Section clubs
Participation Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison with ECB/YCB on participation initiatives • Responsibility for promoting to clubs, giving advice on, and signposting further information about, all participation initiatives • Supporting and developing womens' and girls' cricket • Maintaining a register of female and junior participation teams and initiatives • Championing inclusivity issues • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with participation and inclusivity issues
Premier Section Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day-to-day management of Premier Section operations, specifically including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • player registration • match-day ball provision • live scoring issues • DLS support • checking and locking results on PC • liaison with clubs • Advice and support to clubs on attaining ECB club accreditation standards • Lead League responsibility for scoring issues • Day-to-day management of Premier Section cup competitions • Supporting the Safeguarding Manager on any safeguarding issues concerning Premier Section clubs • As a member of the Premier Section cricket committee, ensuring that any relevant issues are brought to its attention
Safeguarding Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility for ensuring that clubs comply with YCB safeguarding requirements as detailed in the League Safeguarding Policy • Liaison with the County Safeguarding Officer • Advice to the LEB about actions necessary in connection with safeguarding issues

Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility for making and receiving all payments on behalf of the League • Responsibility for ensuring that proper accounts are kept • Provision of financial statements for LEB meetings • Preparation of end-of-year accounts • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with financial issues
Umpires' representative (nominated by SYLUA and YPLUA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representing the interests of the SYLUA and the YPLUA • Recruitment and development of umpires • Provide umpire input on ground & facilities and playing conditions issues
YCB representative (nomination to be agreed with YCB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To represent the interests of the YCB at LEB meetings • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with YCB issues

3 Membership of the LEB

- i. The tenure of LEB membership will be indefinite, ending when:
 - a member elects to stand down,
 - a member is removed from the LEB for reasons of misconduct, by a majority vote of the other LEB members, *or*
 - a member loses his position following a vote at the AGM
- ii. Subject to the provisions of para 8.ii in the League Constitution, any person may be nominated and seconded for any specific LEB role. Nominations must be made by a proposer and seconder, by 30 September in the year of the AGM. Proposals and nominations must be made either by a club or a member of the LEB.
- iii. The chairman and one other nominated member of the LEB will represent the League on the YPLMB.
- iv. The LEB will elect a vice-chairman from within its members.
- v. No LEB member shall hold more than two positions.

4 **Meetings of the LEB.** The LEB will meet face-to-face before the start of and at the end of each season. Meetings during the season will take place as often as is deemed necessary by the committee and will normally take place by video-conference. The LEB chairman may call additional meetings as and when necessary. A quorum that will be required for any formal vote to take place shall be six members.

5 **Specialist roles.** The LEB may appoint individuals or sub-committees to cover specific roles. These will include:

- Disciplinary manager
- Events sub-committee
- Ground inspections sub-committee
- Publicity sub-committee
- Sponsorship sub-committee
- Trophy steward

6 **Correspondence.** Correspondence may be addressed, according to the subject matter, to the relevant member of the LEB, and, in the case of disciplinary issues, to the Disciplinary manager. All other correspondence, including that in connection with disputes and complaints, should be addressed to the LEB chairman. Contact numbers and email addresses of officials will be posted on the league website.

7 **Secretarial duties.** A secretary to the LEB will be appointed to take notes of meetings and circulate relevant information to clubs. This post will not be a member of the LEB and will be entitled to remuneration agreed by the Board.

League organisation

8 **Premier and Senior Sections.** The league will be split into two sections, 'Premier' and 'Senior'. The Premier Section will comprise the Premier division and the Championship division. The playing conditions and match-day requirements in these two divisions will be aligned. The Senior Section will comprise all remaining divisions of the League.

9 Cricket committees

- i. Two cricket committees will oversee the day-to-day operations and playing conditions for the two Sections.
- ii. The two committees will meet as often as they agree necessary; and the relevant chairmen may call additional meetings as and when required.
- iii. The maximum membership for each of these committees will be ten, including the chairman. The positions on the committees will be subject to election, by majority vote of the clubs in membership of the relevant Sections in the following season, at the AGM.
- iv. Nominations must be made proposed and seconded by either existing committee members or clubs in membership of the relevant Sections in the following season by 30th September.
- v. The committees will be empowered to co-opt members to fulfil any vacancies, but such co-optees must be nominated for election at the following AGM.

Finance

- 10 **Subscriptions.** The LEB will have the power to set annual subscriptions for all clubs in membership. Subscriptions will be based on the number of teams that clubs have in the League. The rate of subscriptions will be reviewed annually and will be published in the match-day handbook and on the website. Subscriptions are due to be paid by 30th April in the year in question.
- 11 **Honoraria and expenses.** Holders of specific responsibilities on behalf of the League, that take up significant amounts of time, may be awarded annual honoraria payments by way of a 'thank you' for their time. All such payments must be approved by the LEB. In addition, anyone who incurs genuine expenses as a result of business undertaken for the League will be entitled to claim reimbursement of such expenses, irrespective of whether they are in receipt of honoraria, in accordance with the League Expenditure Policy.

Compliance

- 12 **Disciplinary breaches.** Reports of disciplinary breaches by players will be the responsibility of the Disciplinary Manager, who will ensure that they are dealt with in accordance with the League's published *Disciplinary Procedures*, which will be in line with ECB disciplinary regulations for Premier Leagues.
- 13 **Breaches by clubs of league rules.**
 - i. *General.* Failure to comply with any League rules will render a club liable to a penalty. Breaches of rules may be dealt with by the LEB by means of a warning, a fine or deduction of league points. In the case of persistent and serious failures, membership of the League may be at risk. Examples of failures, in addition to those specified below, will include failure to:
 - failure to fulfil a fixture or fielding a side with less than 11 players
 - fielding an unregistered player or incorrectly notifying umpires of any player in the match XI
 - late starts or delays in re-starting after any interval
 - failure to provide a scorer
 - failure to follow safeguarding policies
 - failure to meet relevant ground and facilities guidance
 - failure to attend AGMs and EGMs
 - ii. *Points Deductions.* All points penalties must be approved by the LEB chairman and the head of the relevant Section, and will be applied in the season when the breach occurred, unless their application makes no material difference to whether a team wins the divisional championship, is promoted, or is relegated in the current season, in which case the penalty will apply in the following season.
 - iii. *Unpaid monies.* All fines, invoices, subscriptions and any other monies due to the League should be paid within 21 days of the date of the invoice. If any such monies are not paid within this period, an additional 20% surcharge will be applied. If after a further 21 days, payment has still not been made, and all league points gained by the club, after that date and prior to payment, will be deducted. If the expiry of the second 21-day period falls in the close season, then points earned by the club will be deducted from the start of the following season for a period equivalent to the that between the expiry of the second 21-day period and the payment being made. Any further breach will be dealt with at the discretion of the LEB.

- iv. *Administrative failures.* Failure to complete, within the relevant specified period, captains' reports, play-cricket actions, and requests for information by the league will, in the first instance, result in a formal warning by email. On the second occasion, a final warning by email advising that on the next occasion a two-league point deduction will be applied. On the third, and each subsequent, failure, a two-league point deduction will be applied.

Grounds and facilities

- 14 **Standards.** Clubs must comply with the requirements of the separate *Ground & Facilities Standards* document on the League website. ECB Club development and safeguarding accreditation (formerly *Clubmark*) will be required for all teams down to and including Division 3.
- 15 **Spectators.** Both clubs are responsible for the behaviour of spectators on match-days. In the event of unacceptable behaviour by the followers of a particular club, that club will be expected to investigate and take action as necessary. Any reports to the League of unacceptable behaviour by spectators will be dealt with as a disciplinary matter.

League fixtures

- 16 **Playing season.** The YCSPL playing season shall be from 1st April to 30th September each year. Grounds to be used for league fixtures must be available for 22 Saturdays between the penultimate Saturday in April and the second Saturday in September inclusive.
- 17 **Arrangement of fixtures.** All fixtures will be arranged by the League's competitions manager. Home clubs must take all possible steps to ensure that games take place. Changes to the fixture list will be permitted only as in 18 below.
- 18 **Cancellations.** If, taking into account the ground conditions and weather forecast, and having taken all possible action to prepare and protect the pitch and surrounding areas, the home club believes that play is unlikely, they should make verbal contact with the visitors (it is not acceptable to just leave or send a message), no less than three hours (Premier Section) or four hours (Senior Section) before the scheduled start time. At that stage:
 - i. the clubs may agree to cancel the game,
 - ii. agreement may be reached to delay a decision for up to three hours, *or*
 - iii. the visiting side may insist that the fixture is not cancelled and that they will travel. Should they do so and there is subsequently no play, they will be liable to pay a maximum of £150 to cover the cost of umpires' fees and all teas. This liability will not apply where, in the opinion of the umpires, the pitch, surrounding areas or run-ups have not been adequately covered, when the home team will be liable for all such expenses.

When it is agreed that a game is to be cancelled, the home club is responsible for verbally notifying both umpires and the relevant umpires appointments officer – see <https://www.ycspl.co.uk/umpires-section/>.

19 Rearrangements

- i. No rearrangements will be permitted for reasons of weather or player availability.
 - ii. In divisions three and below in the Senior Section, changes to the fixture list may be made by the mutual consent only, and by 31st December for the following season. The rearranged fixture must be played by a date 14 days after the originally arranged date. The club initiating the change will be responsible for notifying the competitions manager, by email, copied to the opposing club, by 31st December.
 - iii. In any division, other than specifically provided for in 18.ii above, fixtures may only be rearranged, at any time, where either the ground becomes unavailable for reasons outside the home club's control, or following a natural disaster, unlawful act, or accident, the facilities at the ground are no longer suitable for the game to take place. Applications for rearrangement must be made by email to the competitions manager within 24 hours of the ground becoming unavailable or unsuitable. Rearrangements must be confirmed within 14 days of the application.
- 20 **Clubs failing to fulfil fixtures.** All League fixtures should be fulfilled. For the purposes of this rule, fielding a minimum of eight players will constitute fulfilment of a fixture. In the event of any club being unable to fulfil a fixture the following rules will apply:

- i. In the event of a club with more than one team being unable to fulfil one of its fixtures on a given day, it should be the fixture in the lowest division that is not fulfilled. If a club is unable to field complete teams on the same day, the highest division team(s) must field 11 players.
- ii. However, for clubs with teams in Divisions 3 to 8, in the event that a club cannot field 11 players in all of its fixtures in those divisions on a particular day, then they must not field more than the number of players in the higher team in the lower team. For example, if the club has two teams in division three and below, and has 19 players available, they may play eleven in the first team and eight in the second, or ten in the first team and nine in the second. If a club has three teams in division 3 and below, and has 30 players available, then they may, for example, play 11 in the first team, 11 in the second, and eight in the third; 11 in the first team, ten in the second, and nine in the third; or ten in each.
- iii. If a club fails to fulfil a league fixture for other than ground or weather reasons, and there is reason to believe that this may be more than a 'one off', the head of the relevant Section will arrange an emergency sub-committee, who have no interest in the outcome of the issue, to consider the implications. The committee will decide, taking into account all known circumstances at the club and the league's duty of care responsibilities, whether the failure should be viewed as a 'one-off', or whether there are genuine grounds to believe that the club cannot properly fulfil the remainder of its fixtures for the season. In the latter case, unless the club voluntarily withdraws from the league, the LEB will rule on whether they should be suspended from playing for the remainder of the season.
- iv. In the case of a 'one off' failure in the Premier Section:
 - a. the fixture will be treated as conceded and the win and points awarded to the opposition,
 - b. the defaulting club may be deducted 12 points, *and*
 - c. the club that has cancelled the fixture will be liable to make a compensation payment of £50 to the opposition, plus, if the fixture is cancelled by the away side after 16.00 hours on the day before the game, must pay a minimum £44 expenses to the home club
- v. In the case of a 'one off' failure in the Senior Section:
 - a. the fixture will be treated as conceded and the win and points awarded to the opposition
 - b. conceding clubs in Divisions 1 and 2 may be deducted up to 12 points; in divisions 3 to 5 up to eight points and in divisions 6 to 9 up to four points
 - c. the club that has cancelled the fixture will be liable to make a compensation payment of £50 to the opposition, plus, if the fixture is cancelled by the away side after 16.00 hours on the day before the game, must pay a minimum £44 expenses to the home club
- vi. In the case of a withdrawal from the league or a suspension from playing fixtures:
 - a. if the club has completed no more than 75% of its' fixtures, all fixtures involving that club will be removed from the league table; ie, all points accrued in them will be lost; however, all team and individual performances in these games will stand
 - b. if the club has completed more than 75% of its fixtures, all league points earned in those games will be retained, and the remaining games will be treated as conceded, with points being awarded to the opposition; such points awarded in the event of a cancellation or abandonment may be restricted in the event of all other games in the locality being cancelled or abandoned

Club administration

21 **General.** All clubs are expected to be administered on an efficient basis, paying due regard to the needs and wishes of their membership, and the requirements of the League. They are expected to follow league rules, and policies in respect of electronic media, inclusivity and diversity, and safeguarding.

22 **Clubmark and participation initiatives**

- i. Premier Section clubs are expected to support the following ECB Initiatives in partnership with, and Support from, the YCB:
 - All Stars cricket
 - Dynamos cricket
 - Development of womens' and girls' cricket

- ii. All clubs in the Premier Section and in Divisions 1-3 of the Senior Section must be Clubmark (or equivalent) accredited. Clubs in these divisions must run a minimum number of junior teams in a recognised junior league, ideally at under 11 age group or above, as shown below; or have in place an action plan to do so within a two-year period from the date of the plan:
 - Premier Division – three junior teams
 - Championship and Divisions 1-3 – two junior teams
- 23 **Safe Hands.** All clubs are expected to register on the Safe Hands Management System and to be fully compliant with Safe Hands policies.
- 24 **Pre-Season requirements.** Clubs must furnish the League upon request:
- i. a list of the names and contact details for the club chairman, secretary, treasurer, safeguarding officer, captains, scorers and match-day contacts
 - ii. a summary of their cricket ball requirements for the season
 - iii. a copy of their club insurance certificate
- 25 **Pre-Season meetings.** Pre-season delegates' meetings will be held for both the Premier and Senior Sections, at which any important information and/or documents will be provided.

Play-Cricket registration

- 26 **Clubs.** All clubs must have their own registered ECB Play-Cricket website. Clubs must ensure that all players ~~are~~ have registered online accounts on Play-Cricket before they play in any game under the auspices of the YCSPL, or if this is not possible, within 48 hours of doing so.
- 27 **Club officials**
- i. Details must be provided in the 'About Us' section of the club's Play-Cricket website of the club chairman, secretary, treasurer, fixtures secretary, website administrator(s), club welfare officer(s), head groundsman, team captains, results administrator, and cancellations contact(s).
 - ii. If one official fulfils more than one of these functions, their name must be entered for each relevant role, as emails are sent through the website for the persons fulfilling the different functions.
 - iii. Club officials who are not registered players must be registered members of their club's Play-Cricket website.
 - iv. All club officials must provide a telephone contact number, and the club secretary must in addition include a full postal address and postcode for any printed correspondence.
 - v. In order to minimise Play-Cricket email correspondence, that is automatically issued to nominated club administrators, clubs should ensure that only necessary officials are designated as administrators.
- 28 **Player registration**
- i. Players may register for any YCSPL cricket club at any time in or out of the season, providing they have not played in any other ECB-affiliated Saturday Cricket League in the current or previous season. A player who has played in any other ECB-affiliated Saturday Cricket League in the current or previous season must be transferred from his previous club in accordance with the procedures below.
 - ii. All players over 16 years of age must have their own registered online account on Play-Cricket, assigned to their club, before playing in the YCSPL. The following details must be registered:
 - full first name and family name
 - personal e-mail address (for players who do not have email addresses, that box must remain blank and a statement inserted in the 'Comments on Nomination' box, saying that the player does not have a personal email address)
 - date of birth
 - full postal address for place of residence during the season, including post code
 - personal contact telephone number (optional)

- iii. All players registered with must be selected for a least one team within the 'Squad Player' tab in each player's 'Edit Roles' area.
- iv. Overseas players must provide the following information:
 - passport/visa type
 - place of birth
 - date last entered UK (for Visa applications only, not UK passport holders)
 - planned date of entry to UK (for Visa applications only, not UK passport holders)
 - visa document number (if appropriate)
 - visa expiry date (if appropriate)

29 Juniors

- i. Players under 16 must be registered by being added to their Parent's/Guardian's own registered Play-Cricket account in accordance with Play-Cricket rules and to comply with the Children Act (see 26.iii below). The sign-up process and video for junior members can be downloaded from this link [here](#).
- ii. Players under 16 must have their application for registration made on the YCSPL Play-Cricket website preceding the start time of any match in which they wish to play, in accordance with 26.i above.
- iii. As the Children Act defines players under the age of 18 as children. Any text and email messages from the club or league to a player aged 16 or 17 must be sent to the player's parents or carers, but may also be sent to the player, provided that the parents or carers have given written consent to this.

Player transfers and loans

- 30 **Period of registration.** Unless a player has any outstanding contractual, financial or disciplinary issues with his club, they will remain registered to that club until five full seasons have elapsed since they last played for the club, after which their registration will be removed from the YCSPL Play-Cricket website. If the player has any such outstanding issues with a club, they will remain registered to that club until such time as they are resolved, or the club cancels their registration.
- 31 **Transfers in the period prior to, and during the season.** Transfers will be permitted between YCSPL clubs in the period between 1st October and 31st July in accordance with the transfer procedure below, with the exception that transfers between clubs in the Premier Section between 1st March and 31st July will be permitted only with the express consent of the exporting club. No transfers between clubs will be allowed between 1st August and 30th September in any year.
- 32 **Transfer procedure.** Players must be transferred in accordance with the following transfer procedure:
 - i. A club wishing to approach a player registered to another YCSPL club shall first advise that club of their intended approach. This approach must be made to a named club official on the Play-Cricket website, seeking confirmation that the player has no outstanding contractual, financial or disciplinary issues with that club.
 - ii. Once a player has agreed to transfer, this should be initiated by either:
 - the player logging onto his new club's Play-Cricket website and from the dropdown box menu clicking on 'Join this site' <https://play-cricket.ecb.co.uk/hc/en-us/articles/115004507465-How-Do-I-Become-a-Member-Of-My-Club-s-Website> or
 - the club administrator collecting the player from their existing club's Play-Cricket website through 'Add New Member' <https://play-cricket.ecb.co.uk/hc/en-us/articles/360000828558-Adding-a-New-Member-post-GDPR->
 - iii. During the transfer registration process the name of the official at the present club, and a statement certifying that the player has no outstanding contractual, financial or disciplinary issues with that club, must be noted in the 'Comments on Nomination' box.
 - iv. The exporting club will have 48 hours from the time when the player has initiated the process on Play-Cricket in which to accept or raise a valid objection on Play-Cricket to the transfer. Transfers may only be objected to where there are any unresolved contractual, financial or disciplinary issues against the player.

- v. Players under 16 must be transferred on Play-Cricket through their Parent/Guardian-registered Play - Cricket account, with the agreement of the exporting club official, on Play-Cricket, within 48 hours as above.
- 33 Transfers from non-YCSPL clubs.** Any player from a club outside the YCSPL, but affiliated to either the YCB or another County Board, who wishes to transfer to a YCSPL club must in the first instance follow the same procedure as in the transfer procedure in 29 above. In addition:
- i. players transferring from any other league within the Play-Cricket system, and with whom the YCSPL has a transfer agreement, will take place in the same way as transfers within the YCSPL and will be approved on Play-Cricket before the player appears for his new club
 - ii. players transferring from any other ECB-affiliated league that is not operating Play-Cricket system must have consent from their existing club in writing and the transfer must be registered and approved on Play cricket before the player appears for their new club
- 34 Loan players.** Adult players may transfer on a loan basis in order to assist shorthanded clubs. All adult loans must be sanctioned by the YCSPL Play-Cricket administrator in advance. Any player, whether adult or junior, involved in a loan transfer shall not be permitted to formally transfer to the borrowing Club for the current season or subsequent season without specific permission of the loaning club and approval by the YCSPL Play-Cricket administrator.
- 35 Loan transfer procedure.** The same procedure should be followed as for transfers but by selecting 'yes' to the 'Loan' box and entering the relevant Thursday expiry date for either the over 16's or under 16's as in 33.v & vi.
- 36 Restrictions for loan players**
- i. Loan players will only be allowed to play in the lowest team in any club. No loan players will be allowed in the Premier Section; above Division 4 in the Senior Section; or in cup games.
 - ii. A club's lowest ranked team or single team club in Divisions 3 to 5 will be able to loan players from other clubs from a lower division, or other league.
 - iii. A club's lowest ranked team or single team club in Divisions 6 to 9 will be able to loan players from other clubs one division higher or any division lower, or other league.
 - iv. No loan players will be allowed after the last Saturday in August with the exception of (v) above.
 - v. Junior players under 16 may be loaned out for a complete season using the new loan system on Play-Cricket, subject to the written consent of the lending club, using their Parent/Guardian-registered Play-Cricket account. The 'expiry date' used will be the Thursday following the last match played on loan at the end of the season.
 - vi. Loans of players over 16 years of age will be on a week-to-week basis only by using the new loan system on Play-Cricket. The 'expiry date' used will be the Thursday following the last match played over the previous weekend.
 - vii. The loan system is intended to assist clubs who are short of players. Any club using this system to strengthen their team will result in penalties in rule 36 being applied.

Players

37 Juniors

- i. Clubs must follow ECB guidelines for junior players in open age cricket - <https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2020/03/16/89c1bb4d-120e-471e-ab36-a66a05a3c36b/2020-Guidelines-for-Juniors-Playing-in-Open-Age-Cricket.pdf>
- ii. Players under 12 on 31st August of the previous year are not eligible to play in senior open age cricket, unless they are listed on the YCB approved list. Parental consent will be through the Parent/Guardian-registered Play-Cricket account.
- iii. Players under 13 on that date are allowed to play in senior cricket only with parental consent through the Parent/Guardian-registered Play-Cricket account and a Level 2 coach, but see the Age Group Table below.
- iv. All players under 15 on that date may play in the Premier Section and Senior Section Division 1 with the prior approval of the Premier Section or Senior Section cricket committees.

The Age Group Table

Age group (school year)	Date of birth	Overs per spell (overs per day)	Permission required
U19 (Y14)	1.9.2001 – 31.8.2002	7 (18)	n/a
U18 (Y13)	1.9.2002 – 31.8.2003	7 (18)	n/a
U17 (Y12)	1.9.2003 – 31.8.2004	7 (18)	n/a
U16 (Y11)	1.9.2004 – 31.8.2005	7 (18)	n/a
U15 (Y10)	1.9.2005 – 31.8.2006	6 (12)	Cricket comm (Prem Div/Champ Div/Div 1)
U14 (Y9)	1.9.2006 – 31.8.2007	6 (12)	Cricket comm (Prem Div/Champ Div/Div 1)
U13 (Y8)	1.9.2007 – 31.8.2008	5 (10)	Parental & L2 coach (Div 1 & below only)
U12 (Y7)	1.9.2008 – 31.8.2009	5 (10)	Parental – YCB county approved u12s list (Div 1 & below only)

38 Overseas players

- i. All teams in the Premier Section and Senior Section Division 2 upwards will be allowed to engage one overseas player, who may be either an overseas tier 5 professional, or an overseas tier 3 amateur. Below Division 2, overseas players may only be engaged with the permission of the Senior Section Cricket Committee. For all registered overseas players, Home Office and ECB rules and guidelines must be followed, the correct visa obtained, and the approval of the Compliance Manager obtained before the player is registered. The Compliance Manager will make such checks as he deems necessary before giving approval to player registrar.
- ii. In addition to the above, clubs may register up to two players who are deemed to be category 3 exempt, or habitually resident in the UK, under current Home Office/ECB guidelines. In the case of any doubt, advice should be sought from the Compliance Manager.
- iii. No overseas Player may be registered after 30th June. At the end of the season, all overseas players will be removed from Play-Cricket registration.
- iv. At the end of the season, all Category 3 overseas players will be removed from the YCSPL registration.

39 Player selection

- i. All clubs are expected to play within 'The Spirit of the Game' and this should be reflected in team selection. It is not acceptable for clubs to select players from a higher division team to play in a lower division team in order to strengthen that team. This does not prevent players recovering from injury or loss of form from being selected for a lower division team.
- ii. Breaches of this rule in league matches will result in the match being declared a win for the non-offending team, with maximum points awarded to the non-offending and none to the offending side, who will also be deducted a further maximum win points. In cup matches, the offending team will lose the match, and may be suspended from that competition in the following season.
- iii. If a club feels that their opponents have breached this rule they have been adversely affected by a potential breach of this rule, they should report the matter to the head of the relevant Section within seven days of the match, giving all relevant details of the complaint. Complaints must be accompanied by a £50 deposit, which will be refunded if the complaint has merit; otherwise it will be donated to junior cricket. For the avoidance of doubt, the League may impose a penalty outside the 10-day time limit, but will take into account when deciding whether or not to do so, the reasons why a complaint has not been made within the time limit by the opponent or any club affected.

40 **Yorkshire Academy players.** A player registered to the Yorkshire Academy may play for a club in the YCSPL in league games provided that he:

- i. was registered for that club at the start of the season *and*
- ii. has not in the same season played Saturday league cricket for any other club than the Academy.

41 **County players.** Any county player who has played first class or list A cricket for any county or a Hundred franchise in that season, may play for a club in the YCSPL in a league game provided that he:

- i. was registered for that club at the start of the season,
- ii. has not in the same season played Saturday league cricket for any other club than the Academy *and*

- iii. makes his first such appearance in the YCSPL by 31st July.

Conduct of games

- 42 **General.** All games played under the auspices of the YCSPL will be conducted in accordance with the Laws of the Game (2017 Code), the Spirit of Cricket and any current ECB directives, except as provided for in League playing conditions.
- 43 **Players' attire**
- i. *White clothing.* 'Whites' must be worn on the field for all league games and cup games where specified. Shirts, jumpers, trousers and shoes must be either white or cream. The only areas where colour will be permitted are:
 - shirts – collar, cuffs, under-arm panels
 - jumpers – in a lined pattern around the border to the V-neck, the cuff, or around the bottom of the garment; as traditionally worn for cricket games
 - trousers - no coloured stripes or patterns are allowed on trousers
 - shoes – shoes may have coloured trim but must be predominantly white or cream
 - ii. *Coloured clothing.* Coloured clothing should be worn for cup competitions where so specified, and for all T20 games. The restrictions detailed above for white clothing do not apply, but the provisions of *iii* to *vii* below must be followed.
 - iii. *Club logos and names.* These may be displayed on shirts, jumpers and/or trousers.
 - iv. *Sponsors.* Logos and names of club sponsors may be worn on players' shirts and/or sweaters. They can be either on the collar, sleeve, chest, chest pockets or across the back. The name of one sponsor may be displayed in lettering across the chest.
 - v. *Names and numbers.* The name and number of the players may be displayed on the back of shirt and jumpers; a number and/or initials may be displayed on trousers.
 - vi. *Slogans.* No slogans of any nature may be displayed on clothing worn by players playing in a game at any time during the course of the game.
 - vii. *General.* Clubs are reminded that the appearance of players reflects on the club and the League. Clothing worn by players at all times during the course of a game should be smart and conform to the above. If any doubt exists as to whether proposed clothing meets these rules, a formal approach must be made to the Head of the relevant cricket section. The decision of the League Executive Board on permissible attire will be final and binding.
- 44 **Match balls**
- i. A grade 'A' quartered ball of the type and make specified by the league will be used for all games. All balls used must be acceptable to the umpires.
 - ii. In the Premier Section, the red Oxbridge *Windsor* ball must be used.
 - iii. In the Viking Cup and the Whitworth Cup the pink Oxbridge *Windsor* ball must be used.
 - iv. In Divisions 1 & 2 of the Senior Section and Mick Savage Trophy, the red Reader *Sovereign* ball must be used.
 - v. In Divisions 3 to 8 and the President's Trophy and Billy Oates Cup, clubs can use either the red Reader *Sovereign* or *League Special* ball.
 - vi. In the T20 Blast, clubs will use the pink Oxbridge *Magna* ball and in the T20 Plate, the Pink Reader ball will be used.
 - vii. All balls used must be embossed with the League logo.
 - viii. A new ball must be used at the start of each innings unless mutually agreed by captains and umpires prior to the toss.

- ix. Clubs are responsible for ordering their cricket balls with the league and for collection of their cricket ball orders. The League will not accept responsibility for any cricket balls (or equipment) not collected on the appointed date. Any financial loss as a result of a club's failure to do so, shall be the responsibility of the club concerned.
- x. The League will provide balls for finals day in cup and t20 competitions.
- xi. Lost balls are to be replaced with a ball in similar condition. If the away team, when fielding, lose the match ball and the spare, the home team shall provide all additional balls which shall be approved by the umpires. Members of the batting side must search for any lost balls during play
- 45 **Incllement weather and ground conditions.** The decision as to whether play shall take place in the prevailing weather or ground conditions shall be entirely that of the umpires. The umpires will keep captains appraised of inspections, required action to get the game on, likelihood of play, and proposed start times. The umpires will follow ECB ACO guidance in determining whether the ground conditions are suitable for play.
- 46 **Result recording**
- i. *Premier section.* Both clubs should check that the scorecard is correctly downloaded after the game, and that any queries, for example, 'unknowns' or registration issues are promptly resolved.
- ii. *Senior section*
- A full summary result and full detailed scorecard of the match, (referring to your club's Play-Cricket administration *Action Centre* to clear any outstanding issues) together with the leading performances, must be posted by the home team on their club's Play-Cricket website by 22.30hrs on the day of the match for all matches.
 - The home team must confirm the full summary result and full detailed scorecard of the match on their club's Play-Cricket website by 22.30hrs on the day of the match. The away team must confirm the full summary result and full detailed scorecard of the match by midday on the day following the match, on their club's Play-Cricket website, referring to the club's Play-Cricket administration *Action Centre* to clear any outstanding issues.
 - Both the home and away clubs must ensure that all players are registered to the YCSPL and identified correctly in all aspects of the administration scorecard within 48 hours following the match start time for matches played on the Saturday, Sunday or Bank Holiday Monday. Any player not identified correctly in all aspects of the scorecard on the administration scorecard will incur a team penalty as in rule 13.
- iii. *Cup Games.* Games cannot be entered as abandoned or cancelled, as a result must be obtained at some time. Summary results, scorecards or other details must not be entered if the game was abandoned, cancelled, or requires a replay. The competition administrator must instead be advised of the date of the re-scheduled game.

Promotion and relegation

47 **General principles**

- i. Promotion and relegation between divisions in the YCSPL will normally take place in accordance with the following:

<i>Division</i>	<i>Promotion</i>	<i>Relegation</i>
Premier	-	2 teams to Championship
Championship	2 teams to Premier	2 teams to Division 1
Division 1	2 teams to Championship	2/3 teams to Division 2†
Division 2	2/3 teams to Division 1*	2/3 teams to Division 3
Divisions 3-9	2/3 teams to the division above	2/3 teams to the division below (except from Division 9)

* two promoted if a P&DCL team enters the league or three otherwise

† two relegated if a P&DCL team is relegated or three otherwise

- ii. Where, for any reason, a team in a promotion position will not take their place in the higher division, they will only be replaced by the next-placed team where that team is no more than 12 (Championship) or nine (Senior Section) points of the team in the second promotion position.

- iii. Teams must satisfy the ground and facilities conditions in respect of the division into which they are to be promoted, and should they fail to do so, the team that finishes highest of the teams that would otherwise be relegated, will not be relegated.
 - iv. To be eligible for promotion to the Premier division, clubs must meet published YCSPL Ground & Facilities standards and comply with any ECB Premier League accreditation criteria.
 - v. Clubs promoted to the Championship division will be expected to work towards YCSPL Ground & Facilities standards and ECB Premier League accreditation criteria.
 - vi. Where a team from a club qualifies for promotion into a division in which that club already has a team, no promotion will take place, and, at the discretion of the Senior Section cricket committee, the next eligible team in the lower division may be promoted instead. Where a team from a club is to be relegated into a division in which that club already has a team, the team in the lower division will also be relegated, and, at the discretion of the Senior Section cricket committee, may be replaced by the next eligible team from that division. This process will be repeated in the club also has a team in the lower division into which any of their teams is to be relegated, except where the lower team in in the bottom division, when neither team will be relegated.
- 48 **Adjustments.** The Senior Section cricket committee will have the right to adjust promotion and relegation, as necessary, to take into account new clubs into the League and resignations from the League. Promotion and relegation arrangements will be announced at the pre-season clubs meeting before the start of the season.
- 49 **Pontefract & District Cricket League (P&DCL)**
- i. Under the terms of the promotion and relegation agreement with the P&DCL, one team from the P&DCL will be promoted into Division 1 of the YCSPL per season, provided that they meet the YCSPL application criteria – see [here](#). Normally this team will be the P&DCL champions, but if they not wish to be promoted into the YCSPL or meet the required criteria, the promotion spot will be offered to the second placed P&DCL team on the same basis. If no team is promoted from the P&DCL the third promotion place will be offered to the third placed YCSPL Division 2 team.
 - ii. Should a team that has been promoted into SYSC Division 1 from the P&DCL subsequently finish in the relegation places in Division 1, then they will be relegated back to the P&DCL rather than YCSPL Division 2. P&DCL teams finishing outside the relegation places will retain their place in Division 1, irrespective of whether further P&DCL teams are promoted.

Umpires

50 **Appointments**

- i. *Qualification.* All umpires in the YCSPL must be qualified to a minimum Stage 2, with a valid DBS, and be members of the ACO and the Yorkshire Premier Leagues Umpires Association or the South Yorkshire Umpires Association.
- ii. *Appointments.* Umpires will be appointed to all games by the appointments officer.
- iii. *Senior Section*
 - a. Where no umpires are appointed by the League, it shall be the responsibility of the batting side to provide umpires for that innings, and the club captains will be jointly responsible for ensuring that the game is conducted within the Spirit of Cricket and that League safeguarding policies are followed.
 - b. Should only one umpire be appointed by the League, it will be the responsibility of the batting team to provide a square leg umpire.
 - c. All persons standing as umpires must be suitably dressed in an umpire's coat, not in casual dress or shorts. Clubs must have two clean umpires' jackets available for all matches. No player under the age of 19 and who is not a qualified umpire must be asked to stand as an umpire.
- iv. *Fees.* Umpires' fees will be reviewed annually and will be published in the matchday handbook and on the website. Fees will include travelling expenses. Umpires' fees must be paid prior to the resumption of play after tea. Each team will be responsible for paying one umpire. Once the umpires have arrived at the ground the full fee will be payable, irrespective of whether or not play takes place. Where only one appointed umpire stands in a game, one and a half times the normal fee will be payable.

- 51 **Club nomination of umpires.** All clubs must nominate at least one umpire for the YPLUA or SYCUA umpires' panel as follows:
- i. clubs with up to two teams in membership must provide one umpire
 - ii. clubs with three teams must provide two
 - iii. clubs with four teams must provide three
- 52 **Qualification for nominated umpires.** To qualify under this rule, the umpire must be available to stand in a minimum of 16 Saturday league matches in the season in question. Nominated umpires will need to officiate for a minimum of three seasons and will then automatically become pool umpires. Clubs that do not comply with this rule will be required, at the end of the relevant season, to provide evidence of what they have done in order to recruit umpires and will be liable to pay a levy to League funds at the end of the relevant season, to pay a levy to League funds to assist with umpire recruitment, as follows:
- i. first team in Premier Section: £300
 - ii. first team in divisions 1 or 2: £200
 - iii. first team in divisions 3 to 5: £150
 - iv. first team in divisions 6 to 8: £100
- 53 **Payment for umpires' training.** The YCSPL will pay the fees for stage 2 ACO courses for umpires nominated under rule 48 above. Once the course has been completed the umpire must officiate for a minimum of three seasons in accordance with the provisions of rule 49. If this requirement is not met, the fee must be repaid to the league.
- 54 **Payments to clubs for newly-nominated umpires.** Clubs that provide a new umpire under paras 47 and 48 above will be entitled to a 'one off' payment from the levy of £100 for the first season in which the umpire stands.
- 55 **Failure to nominate umpires.** Where a club in the Senior Section has not nominated an umpire for the league panel, only one umpire will be appointed to their games. Where neither side has nominated an umpire, no umpires will be appointed. Clubs who have not nominated an umpire will be allowed to provide their own umpire.

Clubs wishing to transfer to another league

- 56 **Permission to negotiate.** No YCSPL club must negotiate with another league with the possible intention to join the latter league without first obtaining permission in writing from the YCSPL. Such permission will only be withheld if the club has failed to fulfil its financial obligations, has outstanding disciplinary action pending, or has failed to observe these rules in respect of withdrawal of membership. In the event of a dispute between the parties not being resolved within 21 days, the YPLMB may be asked to mediate.
- 57 **Resignation from the League.** Teams or clubs wishing to resign from the YCSPL must give notice in writing before 30th June in the year previous to the season in which they intend to play in a new League.

League trophies

- 58 **Trophies.** Clubs are responsible for the safety, protection and insurance of all league team and individual trophies in the possession of the club and its' members in the season in which they were awarded. They must ensure that they are cleaned, any damage repaired, and returned to the League trophy steward by 30th September. The League will be responsible for the cost of engraving trophies won by teams in League and Inter-League Competitions. The League trophies are:

i. Divisional trophies

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Championship - The Mark Smith Memorial Tr'hy | • Division 4 - The George Lawrence Trophy |
| • Division 1 - The Tuby Cup | • Division 5 - The Paul Hunt Cup |
| • Division 2 - The S C Ward Cup | • Division 6 - The Oscar Baines Silver Cup |
| • Division 3 - The Sismay Cup | • Division 7 - The Arthur Thompson Cup |
| | • Division 8 - The Ronnie Walters Cup |

- ii *Cup competitions*
 - The Whitworth Cup
 - The Mick Savage Memorial Trophy
 - The President's Cup

The Billy Oates Cup
The T20 Plate (The Terry Bentham Cup)

iii *Individual trophies*

- The Ian Dickinson Memorial Trophy - for the Whitworth Cup final man-of-the-match
- The Hunsley Cup - for the highest aggregate of runs in league matches
- The Turner Cup - for the highest aggregate of wickets in league matches
- The Harry May QPM Rose Bowl - for meritorious service to the League
- The Ben Jessop Junior Cup - for outstanding batting performance(s)
- The Ernest Bullock Memorial Trophy - for the best all-rounder
- The Ben Jessop Fair Play Trophy - for the team playing in the best spirit of the game*
- The Fearnley Trophy - for long and outstanding services to scoring
- The Dominic Sayles Trophy - for outstanding junior all rounder
- The William Pye Trophy - for long and outstanding administrative service

* voted for by the League umpires

59 **Individual awards.** All winners of divisional batting, bowling, wicket-keeping awards will be decided by the statistics on the YCSPL Play-Cricket website. It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure that all players' statistics have been correctly recorded on the relevant match scorecards. All relevant clubs will be provided with a list of qualifiers, which must be verified by each club secretary. The qualifying criteria are:

- i *Batting awards.* The awards will be determined by the highest batting average, subject to the criteria below, in league matches only.

<i>Divisions</i>	<i>Minimum no of runs</i>	<i>Minimum no of innings</i>
<i>Senior batting awards</i>		
Premier, Championship, Divisions 1 & 2	500	12
Divisions 3-5	400	12
Divisions 6-8	350	12
<i>Junior batting awards</i>		
All	200	10

- ii *Bowling awards.* The awards will be determined by the lowest bowling average, subject to the criteria below, in league matches only.

<i>Divisions</i>	<i>Minimum no of games</i>	<i>Minimum no of games</i>
<i>Senior bowling awards</i>		
Premier, Championship, Divisions 1 & 2	35	12
Divisions 3-5	30	12
Divisions 6-8	30	12
<i>Junior bowling awards</i>		
All	20	10

- iii. *All-rounders.* An award for the best all-rounder will be given in each of the Premier Section divisions.
- iv. *Wicket-keeping.* A wicket-keeping award will be given for the best wicket-keeper in each Division. The qualification in the Premier Section and Divisions 1-5 will be 20 victims and in Divisions 6 to 8, 16 victims. If two players tie for First Place the winner will be the one who has most stumpings. An award will also be given for the best junior wicket-keeper in each division.
- v. *Fielding.* An award for the player with the most fielding wickets will be given in each of the Premier Section divisions.
- vi. *Junior players.* A junior player is one who has not reached his 19th birthday by 31 August 31 in the previous year. Junior players must be indicated accordingly on the Play-Cricket website.
- vii. If no-one qualifies for a particular prize, the LEB has the discretion to make an award to the most successful player in that category.

Dispute procedure

60 Disputes and complaints

- i. Any dispute between clubs, or complaint about the actions of any players or officials, must in the first instance be referred to the LEB chairman by email within 14 days of the incident arising. The chairman will invite the parties named in the dispute or complaint to provide comments in explanation or mitigation within seven days. The dispute will then be considered by a panel of non-conflicted members of the LEB, who may ask for further information from either party, and who may decide to apply a penalty in accordance with para 10 above. The chairman will notify the player or club concerned of the decision of the panel within 21 days of the complaint being made.
- ii. Any dispute in connection with a decision made by the League or its officials must in the first instance be referred to the LEB chairman, along with any relevant reasons, explanations or mitigation, within seven days of the decision being notified. The chairman will arrange for the decision to be reviewed, and will notify the club concerned of the decision within 14 days of receipt of the dispute.
- iii. Where any incident is brought to the attention of the LEB chairman that may bring the league into disrepute, he will ask the player or club concerned to provide any comments in explanation and mitigation. The chairman will arrange for the matter to be considered by a panel of non-conflicted members of the LEB, and will notify the club concerned of the decision within 14 days of the incident coming to light.
- iv. If, after following the steps in i to iii above, a club wishes to appeal against the decision of the LEB, they must do so by email to the chairman of the YPLMB within 14 days of the date of notification of the decision. Any such referral must be followed up by payment of a non-refundable deposit of £100 to cover the costs of dealing with the dispute. The decision of the YPLMB will be final and binding.

Other issues

- 61 Any matter not covered in these rules will be decided by the LEB or the relevant Section cricket committee.