Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

The structure of League rules is:

- Matters concerning the conduct of the game itself are contained in 'League playing conditions', 'Cup playing conditions' and 'T20 Playing conditions'
- Matters concerning the competition in which the game is being played are contained in 'Competition Rules'
- All other matters, including administration and player eligibility, are contained in 'Administrative Rules'

League administrative rules – *2026 revision*

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Section 1 – Governance

1 **YCSPL structure.** Under the overall governance of a League Executive Board (LEB), the League will be split into three sections, 'Premier', 'Senior' and 'Women's & Girls', each of which will have their own section committees, responsible for their respective day-to-day management. These are the:

i. Premier Section, which will comprise the Premier Division and the Championship Division,

ii. Senior Section, which will comprise Divisions 1 to 9, *and*

iii. Women's & Girls' Section, will comprise the women's and girls' outdoor hardball and softball divisions, and the winter indoor league

2 **League Executive Board**. The governance of the YCSPL will be the responsibility of a League Executive Board (LEB). The LEB will be responsible for:

i. ensuring that the League is governed in accordance with the Principles and Tier 4 requirements of the Sports England Code of Sports Governance, all relevant ECB and YCF directives, and its own constitution, rules and guidance,

ii. decisions on any issues that are common to the whole league, and for considering and endorsing any changes to playing conditions proposed by the cricket committees,

iii. the League's long-term strategy, including a five-year plan, that will include financial and succession planning and will be subject to bi-annual review, *and*

iv. ensuring that a risk assessment register is maintained and formally reviewed on a bi-annual basis.

3 **Composition of the LEB**

i The LEB will comprise a maximum of 10 full members as follows:

- three representatives of the Premier Section, including the Head of the Section (see para 9 below),
- three representatives of the Senior Section, including the Head of the Section (see para 9 below),
- three representatives of the Women's & Girls' Section, including the Head of the Section (see para 9 below), *and*
- the League Safeguarding Manager.

ii In addition, there will be a representative of the League Equity & Diversity Group (E&DG – see para 19 below) and a representative of the Yorkshire Cricket Foundation, who will be invited to attend the LEB as non-executive members, without formal voting rights.

4 **Chair**. The AGM will elect a Chair, who be one of the representatives of the three sections in 3.i above, and who will:

i. have overall personal accountability for the governance of the League in accordance with 2.i above,

ii. have overall responsibility for the organisation of, and chairing, LEB and clubs' meetings in accordance with the constitution and League rules,

iii. ensure that suitable individuals or sub-committees are tasked with specific responsibilities (see para 13 below) and for ensuring report-back on their activities, as required by the LEB, *and*

iv. nominate a Vice-Chair for election by the LEB; who will act as his/her deputy and assist in the fulfilment of the Chair's duties.

5 **LEB membership**

i. Full LEB members, including the Chair, must be nominated and seconded by either a club or a member of the LEB or Section Committees, and will be elected at the League's Annual General Meeting.

ii. Nominations for full LEB members must be made by 30 September in the year of the AGM. Nominations must be made and seconded by either by officials of a club or any members of the LEB or cricket committees.

iii. No full LEB member shall serve for more than nine years in total, except where, at the next AGM, there is only 12 months or less to serve on that member's three-year term, or where a 12-month extension is necessary in the case of the Safeguarding Manager to induct a suitable replacement.

iv. Full members, other than the Safeguarding Manager, will serve for three-year terms, after which they must stand for re-election, unless:

- the member elects to stand down either at the end of their term, or earlier, *or*
- the member completes nine years membership of the LEB, *or*
- the member is removed from the LEB for reasons of misconduct or unsatisfactory attendance, by a majority vote of the other LEB members.

v. One each of the three Section representatives will stand for re-election each year.

vi. In order to replace a member who stands down or who is removed between AGMs, the LEB may co-opt a new member, who will serve for the remainder of the replaced member's three-year term before standing for re-election; this new member must, however, be confirmed for the remainder of the relevant term by vote at the next AGM.

6 **Meetings of the LEB**

i. The LEB will normally meet monthly but, if the Chair determines for any reason that a meeting is not necessary in any month, then a meeting must be held the following month.

ii. Meetings may be held by video-conference, but there will be a minimum of two face-to-face meetings each year.

iii. The Chair may call additional meetings as and when necessary.

iv. A quorum that will be required for any formal vote to take place, shall be six members.

v. Notes of meetings, covering main points discussed and decisions made, must be kept and published on the League website.

7 **Accountability of the LEB.** The LEB will be accountable to the clubs in membership through an Annual General Meeting (AGM). AGMs will be held in accordance with para 21 of the YCSPL constitution. All clubs must attend the AGM, and any club not represented will be liable to a fine under 29 below.

8 **Section committees.** Responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the Premier, Senior and Women's & Girls' Sections will be delegated to three section committees, one for each section, whose Chairs will be members of the LEB. These will be the:

i. Premier Section committee – to have responsibility for the rules and playing conditions governing the Premier League and Championship divisions and associated cup competitions, subject to endorsement by the LEB and voting at AGMs as appropriate,

ii. Senior Section committee – to have responsibility for the day-to-day running, rules and playing conditions governing the Senior Section divisions and associated cup competitions, and for deciding on applications by new clubs to join the League, in accordance with YCF rules; this committee will also include persons responsible for any necessary specific roles in the Senior Section, *and*

iii. Women's & Girls' Section committee – to have responsibility for the day-to-day running, rules and playing conditions governing the Women's & Girls' Section divisions and associated cup competitions, and for deciding on applications by new teams to join the Section, in accordance with YCF rules; this committee will also include persons responsible for any necessary specific roles in the Women's & Girls' Section.

9 **Roles of Heads of Sections.** The tenure of the heads of the three sections will be limited to their overall nine-year term of LEB office, but they may serve as members of their section committees indefinitely. They will be responsible for:

i. representing the Section at LEB,

ii. arrangements for, and chairing, Section committee meetings,

iii. day-to-day issues affecting the Section that require committee decisions,

iv. review of 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,

v. reporting to the LEB on Section activities and issues and seeking approval for changes as necessary, *and*

vi. ensuring that LEB decisions are carried forward in the Section.

10 **Membership of the section committees.** The three committees will each comprise a maximum of 10 persons, plus an Equity & Diversity and an umpires' representative. These may have specific roles that the respective committees determine are necessary to their efficient operation. Each committee will have a Chair, whose role will be termed the 'Head of (respective) Section'. These committee positions, with the exception of the Equity & Diversity and umpires' representative, will be subject to election by clubs within that particular section at the AGM. Section committee positions will not be time limited but will terminate when:

i. the member elects to stand down, *or*

ii. the member is removed from the committee for reasons of misconduct or unsatisfactory attendance, by a majority vote of the other committee members

11 **Safeguarding Manager.** The League Safeguarding Manager will have responsibility for ensuring that clubs comply with YCF safeguarding requirements as detailed in the League Safeguarding Policy (see *appendix 4*); liaison with the County Safeguarding Officer; and advice to the LEB about actions necessary in connection with safeguarding issues. The Safeguarding Manager may be assisted by safeguarding officers within the separate sections.

12 **Conflicts of interest.** At the start of each year, all LEB and section committee members must be required by the respective Chair to declare any personal or family commitment to any particular club. Such commitments to be published in the notes of the relevant meeting. The respective Chair will ensure, where they feel necessary, that a member with a declared interest takes no part in any discussion or vote relevant to the club in question. No member of the LEB must be related to, or in a relationship with, another member.

13 **Other roles**. The LEB will be empowered to appoint individuals or sub-committees to take on specific functions that they deem necessary. These roles will not be limited to LEB or section committee members. Specific individual roles will include the:

i. *Communications Manager* – who will be responsible for external League communications; maintaining the League website; issue of the clubs' bulletin; and advice to the LEB on formal communications with clubs and external bodies,

ii. *Competitions Manager* – see 25 below,

iii. *Compliance Manager* – who will be responsible for approving the registration of all overseas players in the League, ensuring that they are compliant with League, ECB and Home Office rules; advice to clubs on matters concerning the registration of overseas players; and providing advice to the LEB on overseas player issues,

iv. *Disciplinary Adjudicator* – who will be responsible for the management of all disciplinary reports in accordance with the General Conduct Regulations and all other relevant ECB guidance; and reporting to the LEB on disciplinary issues,

v. *IT & Social Media manager* – who will be responsible for providing IT support to the League; and for maintaining and monitoring the League's social media accounts,

vi. *Participation Manager* – who will be the LEB lead on participation initiatives, including advice, promotion and signposting to clubs, liaison with ECB/YCF; supporting the development of women's and girls' cricket; championing inclusivity issues; and advice to LEB on participation and inclusivity issues,

vii. *Play-Cricket Manager* – who will be responsible for the maintenance and correct use of the League's Play-Cricket website; and management of player registrations,

viii. *Treasurer* – see 20 below, *and*

ix. *Trophy Steward* – who will be responsible for the maintenance of all League trophies; keeping a record of the current holders; and ensuring that they are available and in good condition for presentation as required

Section 2 – Movement of clubs between leagues

14 **Applications to join the League**. Applications from new clubs to join the YCSPL will be dealt with in accordance with YCSPL Club Application Criteria and must be accompanied by a £100 bond, which will be returned on the satisfactory completion of the probationary period – see *appendix 1*.

15 **Clubs wishing to transfer to another league.** 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 YCF may be asked to mediate.

16 **Notice period.** Teams or clubs wishing to resign from the YCSPL must give notice in writing before 30 June in the year previous to the season in which they intend to play in a new League.

Section 3 – Equity & diversity

17 **Equity & Diversity policy.** The Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League (YCSPL) in all its activities, is fully committed to the principles of equity of opportunity in cricket, and to ensuring that its officials, member clubs and all other individuals working or volunteering for the League, and participating in or watching League activities, are treated fairly and are able to conduct their activities free from discrimination, harassment or intimidation – see *appendix 2.*

18 **Discrimination**. The YCSPL aims to create an environment in which no individual or group experience discrimination or acts in a discriminatory manner. We aim to ensure that our committees reflect the diversity of our clubs. The League will ensure adherence to the ECB Anti-Discrimination Code.

19 **Equity & Diversity Group**. The League will support an independent Equity & Diversity Group (E&DG) that the LEB and section committees can consult and collaborate with about all equity and diversity issues. It will provide representation to the YCSPL on issues, challenges and opportunities regarding equity and diversity, and advocate good practice in equity and diversity to ensure that its fits within both the ECB and YCSPL aims and objectives

Section 4 – Finances

20 **Treasurer.** The League Treasurer will be responsible for making and receiving all payments on behalf of the League; ensuring that proper accounts are kept; provision of financial statements for LEB meetings; preparation of end-of-year accounts; and advice to LEB about League finances.

21 **Banking**. The Treasurer will maintain separate bank account(s) on behalf of the League. The normal method of receiving and making payments will be by BACS transfer; and if this is not possible, payment will be made by cheque. The treasurer will not pay out any monies in cash.

22 **ECB monies**. The League receives ECB funding, conditional on its meeting set ECB accreditation criteria. The funding is to be allocated as agreed by the LEB.

23 **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 30 April in the year in question. Where possible, YCF subscriptions will be collected from clubs at the same time as League subscriptions, and paid directly to the YCF.

24 **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 thanks for their time. All such payments must be approved by the LEB.

25 **Expenses claims**. 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. Claims should be made in accordance with the following:

i. All claims for reimbursement of expenses should be made on the League expenses claim form. Receipts are required for all individual items of £15 or more.

ii. Where claims are made on the online League expenses form, and are received from a known email address, electronic claims will be deemed to be 'signed' (any necessary receipts must be scanned and forwarded).

iii. Where a hardcopy claim form is used, this should be signed and posted to the Treasurer, along with any necessary receipts.

iv. Claims for expenses incurred on League business by people other than League officials, e.g., club officials, should be made in accordance with the above. The League official who has agreed the expenditure should notify the treasurer accordingly.

v. Where a League official necessarily incurs significant IT and internet costs on League business, the Chair or Head of Section may authorise a contribution to these costs.

26 **Travel expenses**. Claims should be made for travel expenses genuinely incurred on League business, including attendance at LEB or committee meetings; for attending League events and games in an official capacity, e.g., as a match manager or to meet with external organisations or suppliers on League business. Public transport costs will be reimbursed in full, and, where a private car is used, mileage will be paid at 40p per mile.

27 **Approval for expenditure.** The authority required to approve a claim will depend on the total amount of the claim:

i. Amounts of up to £25 – the committee member making or approving the claim.

ii. Amounts over £25 and up to £100 – Chair or Head of Section.

iii. Amounts in excess of £100 – LEB

Section 5 - Compliance

28 **Club responsibility**. Clubs must ensure that they comply with all relevant ECB, YCF and YCSPL policies and rules, including the Spirit of Cricket. In particular:

i. Safeguarding – clubs must register on the Safe Hands Management System and be fully compliant with the League Safeguarding policy – see *appendix 4.*

ii. Electronic media – all clubs and players must ensure they comply with the League Electronic Media Policy – see *appendix 5.*

iii. Filming and live-streaming at games – clubs must ensure that if they wish to film and/or live-stream at games, they comply with the League Filming & Live-Streaming policy – see *Competition Rules* – *appendix.*

29 **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 others specified in League rules, will include:

- 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, *or*
- failure to attend League club meetings.

ii. *Administrative failures*. Failure to complete, within the relevant specified period, and without good reason, captains' reports, play-cricket actions, and requests for information by the League will, in the first instance, result in a formal warning by email, clearly stating the nature of the failure. On the second instance; a final warning by email, advising that on the next occasion a two-league point deduction may be applied. On the third, and each subsequent, instance; a two-league point deduction may be applied. Points deductions must be endorsed by the relevant Section Committee at their next meeting.

iii. *Check of scorecards*. Scorecards published on P-C throughout the season will be monitored by a designated League official, who will report any infringements to the relevant Section Committee, which may impose sanctions for failures.

iv. *Points deductions for other breaches*. Decisions on all other points deductions may be made by the relevant Section Committee; will take into account any extenuating circumstances and the club's previous record; and must be approved by the LEB.

v. *Unpaid monies*. All fines, invoices, subscriptions and any other monies due to the League should be paid within 14 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 14 days, payment has still not been made, a 12-league point deduction will be made. Any further failure will be dealt with by further points deductions, and/or other sanctions, at the discretion of the LEB.

vi. *Procedure for all points deductions*. Points deductions will be:

a. 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,

b. notified to clubs once any points deduction is approved, and the decision about when these deductions will be applied will be made by the relevant Section committee, *and*

c. applied at the start of the following season in the case of deductions for breaches in the close season.

Section 6 - Club administration

30 **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, equity and diversity, grounds & facilities, privacy, and safeguarding.

31 **Accreditation and participation requirements**

i. Premier Section clubs are expected to comply with all ECB Premier League accreditation criteria, including those relevant to the delivery of:

- All Stars and Dynamos programmes (or equivalent),
- junior cricket, *and*
- women's and girls' cricket.

ii. Clubs in the Premier Section and in Divisions 1 to 3 of the Senior Section must:

a. have Club Accreditation, *and*

b. run a minimum number of junior teams as shown below, in a recognised junior league, ideally at under 11 age group or above; or have in place an action plan to do so within a two-year timescale

- Premier & Championship Divisions – three junior hardball teams (one of which will be a girls' team)
- Divisions 1 and 2 – two junior teams (one of which may be a girls' team)
- Division 3 – one junior team (which may be a girls' team)

iii. If, during the season, three or more games are conceded by a specific junior team, then that team will not count as one of the minimum number required in 31.ii above.

32 **Grounds & facilities requirements.** Premier Section clubs must comply with the Premier Section Grounds & Facilities Standards. No team may play in Division 5 or above without meeting the relevant mandatory ground criteria set out in our Grounds & facilities criteria.

33 **Failures to meet requirements.** Failure to meet any of the requirements in 31 and 32 above may render a club illegible to play in a particular division.

34 **Pre-Season requirements**. Clubs must furnish the League upon request:

i. a list of the names and contact details for the club chair, secretary, treasurer, safeguarding officer, captains, scorers and match-day contacts, *and*

ii. a copy of their club insurance certificate.

35 **Cricket ball orders.** Clubs are responsible for ordering balls direct from the suppliers via the website addresses provided, and for their collection. The League will not accept responsibility for any financial loss as a result of a club's failure to collect balls or equipment on the appointed date.

36 **Pre-Season meetings**. Clubs must attend the pre-season all clubs' meeting, at which any important information and/or documents will be provided, and clubs will be able to collect ball and equipment orders.

37 **Play-Cricket**. All clubs must have their own registered ECB P-C website, and must comply with the following:

i. Details must be provided in the 'About Us' section of the club's P-C website of the club's key officials. They must provide an email address at which the official can be contacted, and the club secretary must in addition include a full postal address and postcode for any written correspondence. If one official fulfils more than one of these functions, their name must be entered for each relevant role.

ii. P-C email correspondence is automatically issued to nominated club administrators, and to minimise this, clubs should ensure that only necessary officials are designated as administrators. Clubs should make regular checks of their 'Action Centres' and clear actions as requested.

Section 7 - Fixtures

38 **Competitions manager.** The Competitions Manager will be responsible for the formation of divisions, including advice to LEB on promotion and relegation; season scheduling; arrangement of all fixtures; co-ordination of final venues in consultation with the Section committees; and advice to LEB about all fixture-related issues.

39 **Playing season**. The YCSPL playing season shall be from 1 April to 30 September each year. Grounds to be used for league fixtures must be available for 22 Saturdays between the third Saturday in April and the second Saturday in September inclusive. Failure to meet this requirement, may render a club illegible to play in a particular division.

40 **Playing of fixtures**. Home clubs must take all possible steps to ensure that games take place. All action to be taken is detailed in Competition Rule 8.

41 **Rearrangements.** Changes to the fixture list will be permitted only in accordance with the following:

i. No fixture rearrangements will be permitted for reasons of player availability. Rearrangements due to ground conditions are permitted only as in *iv* below.

ii. Except as provided for in *iii*, *iv* and *v* below, fixtures may only be rearranged 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.

iii. In Divisions 3 and below in the Senior Section, changes to the fixture list may be made by the mutual consent only, and by 31 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 31 December. If a game cannot be played on the original date, or rearranged by mutual consent, then four points will be awarded to each side.

iv. *Rearrangement of a full league programme.* A rearrangement made be made in accordance with the following:

   a. such a rearrangement should take place only for the first game of the season and where adequate ground preparation has not been possible due to the weather conditions,
   b. it should be termed as 'a delayed start to the season',
   c. the Premier Section should be considered separately from the Senior Section due to the higher standards of ground preparation expected, and the increased likelihood of injury to players due to faster bowling,
   d. a specific date should be reserved for potential rearrangements, probably a Bank Holiday Monday, *and*
   e. if games are rearranged, player eligibility will be adjudged as on the new date – eligibility on the original date should be irrelevant

v. *Religious festivals*. The YCSPL respects the implications of significant religious festivals. If a fixture will clash with such a festival and a club is going to be significantly depleted, rearrangement will be permitted. A club wishing to rearrange under this rule should, in the first instance, contact their opposition and, if possible, reach agreement about playing the game on a mutually convenient date outside the religious festival period. In the event of no agreement being reached between the clubs, the League will work with the Equity & Diversity Group and any other relevant parties to ensure that the request is dealt with as fairly as possible. We encourage all clubs to be flexible and accede to requests of this nature, and advise that the opposing club should be given priority in providing two dates convenient to them on which the game can be re-arranged. Where the two clubs cannot agree on rearrangement, the following principles will apply:

   a. religious festivals are those widely recognised within a particular religion, not family festivals such as weddings,
   b. 'significantly depleted' will be defined as 'missing four or more regular players from a specific team because they are observing the festival and unable to play any cricket on that day', ie, in addition to any other players who may be missing for other reasons of unavailability,
   c. where a club has more than one team in the League, consideration should be given to rearranging a second, or lower, team game,

d. where no rearrangement is agreed and, as a result of the unavailability of players due to the festival, a club will be unable to fulfil a fixture, the lowest division fixture should be cancelled (unless there are less than four players from the lower team who have played six or more games at the higher level),

e. in any fixture cancelled under this rule, four points will be awarded to each side,

f. in order not to disadvantage the opposition, if ground and weather conditions would, in all probability, have allowed the game to be played on the original date, but there is no result on the rearranged date, it may be rearranged again, but once only, *and*

g. if a club needs support when they believe a request is not being managed appropriately, they should contact the Equity & Diversity Group.

vi. When any league game is re-arranged for any reason, if there is no result in 75% or more games in that division on the original date, then the re-arranged match will also be regarded as an abandoned game.

42 **Clubs failing to fulfil fixtures.** All League fixtures should be fulfilled. For the purposes of this rule, fielding a minimum of seven 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 9, 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, members of which will 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, they must pay a minimum £50 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, *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, they must pay a minimum £50 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 a complete league programme, all fixtures involving that club will be removed from the league table; i.e., 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 a complete league programme, 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; points awarded where other games in the locality are cancelled or abandoned will be restricted to those normally awarded in abandoned and cancelled matches.

43 **Repeated conceding of fixtures**. Where a specific club team concedes more than three fixtures in any one season, they will be asked to explain the reasons, what measures will be put in place to avoid a repeat of the situation, and will be required to seek the re-election of that team to the League at the AGM.

Section 8 – Player registration

44 **General**. Registration of all players will take place in accordance with ECB guidelines. Clubs must ensure that all players have registered online accounts on P-C before they play in any game under the auspices of the YCSPL, or if this is not possible, within 48 hours of doing so. By virtue of their registration, every player registered to play in the League explicitly acknowledges and agrees to abide by the following:

- the Spirit of Cricket,
- the Laws of Cricket,
- the General Conduct Regulations and Anti-Discrimination Code, *and*
- the playing conditions and rules of the of YCSPL.

45 **Club responsibility**. The responsibility for registering a player lies with the club, and it is the club's responsibility to ensure that all players are correctly registered and eligible to play in YCSPL competitions. If clubs have any doubts about the eligibility of a player, they should contact the P-C registration manager before the player participates in a competitive match for the club.

46 **Player P-C accounts**. All players over 16 years of age must have their own registered online account on P-C, assigned to their club, before playing in the YCSPL. The following details must be registered:

- full first name and family name,
- home or work 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 an email address),
- date of birth,
- full postal address for place of residence during the season, including postcode, *and*
- personal contact telephone number (optional).

47 **Registration categories**. Clubs must register their players in one of the following categories:

i. *Category 1 (Eligible Players).* Players eligible to play for England under current regulations or 'ordinarily resident' in England, Wales, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. 'Ordinarily resident' will mean players who:

a. have resided for a minimum of 210 days in England Wales, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man in the immediately preceding 12 months,

b. have not in this period played competitive cricket as a home or local player in another country, *and*

c. have the right to reside in the UK for the whole of the relevant season.

In addition:

d. A copy of the relevant passport or evidence of right to reside in the UK must be provided.

e. A player who holds a British passport and lives outside the UK must also meet the 'ordinarily resident' criteria.

f. Players from Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are classified as Category 3 (Overseas Players) under this regulation.

ii. *Category 2 (Contracted Players).* Players qualified to play for England under the current regulations, and currently under contract to a First-Class County Club or MCC Young Cricketers. For clarification, a contracted player is one who has a current full playing contract or a development (scholarship) contract but not an Academy contract (16-19 years).

iii. *Category 3 (Unqualified Players).* An unqualified player is a player not qualified to play for England under the current ECB regulations. All non-EEA citizens will require prior permission (a visa) to come to the UK to participate in sport if they do not hold a British or European passport or Ancestral visa – see paras 53 & 54 below.

48 **Timeframes for player registration**

i. Players who have not played in any other ECB-affiliated Saturday league, or in a comparable or higher standard of cricket, in the current or previous season, may register for any YCSPL cricket club at any time in or out of the season.

ii. Players who have played in any other ECB-affiliated leagues, or a comparable or higher standard of cricket, will be allowed to register in the YCSPL up to 31 July or after 30 September in any year.

iii. A player who has played in any other ECB-affiliated Saturday league in the current or previous season must be transferred from their previous club in accordance with paras 56-58 below.

49 **Period of registration.** Unless a player has any outstanding contractual, financial or disciplinary issues with their club, they will remain registered to that club until five full seasons have elapsed since they last played for the club, or the register for another club, after which their registration will be removed from the YCSPL P-C 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.

50 **Dual registration of students.** Category 1 registration students whose home and their higher education establishment are in different parts of the UK may be allowed to dual register with two clubs, subject to the agreement of both clubs, and verification of their student status, as follows:

i. students who are registered to YCSPL clubs but are living away from home to attend a higher education establishment, will be allowed to dual register in order to play for a club nearer to where they are studying, *or*

ii. students who normally live elsewhere but are attending a higher education establishment in the area covered by the YCSPL, will be allowed to dual register and play for a YCSPL club whilst they are attending that establishment, provided they are registered by 31 July in that season.

51 **Registering junior players.** Junior players over 13 may have their own P-C account with their parent/guardian details attached. For full information on the registration of junior players see *appendix 6*.

52 **Data protection**. A player's data will be held electronically and may be disclosed to other cricket authorities as necessary and in accordance with the League Privacy policy – see *appendix 7*.

Section 9 – Overseas players

53 **Permissions and advice**

i. Before an overseas player can be registered to play in the YCSPL, the relevant online overseas player registration form (professional, amateur or student) on the League forms page on our website must be completed and submitted to the Compliance Manager and permission obtained.

ii. Queries about the potential eligibility of overseas players to play in the YCSPL must be sent in writing to the Compliance Manager, with as full detail as possible about the player in question (nationality, visa, details of cricket played in the last five years).

54 **Sub-categories of Category 3 overseas players**. Overseas players are those in Category 3 in 47.iii above, and will fall into one of the four sub-categories below.

i. 'Overseas professionals' who, in order to be registered on Play-Cricket, must furnish the Compliance Manager with a copy of:

- the registering club's ECB Certificate of Sponsorship for the player,
- a Tier 5 International Sportsperson's (ISP) visa or the Permitted Paid Employment (PPE) visa,
- a completed copy of the YCSPL Overseas Professional Registration form on the League forms page of our website, *and*
- for players on PPE or Ancestral visas, verification of equivalent DBS or Police checks and ECB-recognised coaching qualifications, if the player is to be employed in any coaching role, as already required for players on ISP visas.

ii. 'Overseas amateurs' who, in order to be registered on P-C, must furnish the Compliance Manager with a copy of:

- British or European Passport (or document confirming spouse/dependent of), *or*
- a relevant visitor visa, eg, a Standard Visitor Visa, Ancestral Visa, Tier 5 Youth Mobility Visa, or Tier 4 (Student) Visa, *and*
- a completed copy of the YCSPL Overseas Amateur Registration form on the League forms page of our website, *and*
- verification of equivalent DBS or Police checks and ECB-recognised coaching qualifications, if the player is to be employed in any coaching role.

iii. Asylum seekers, who will be allowed to play in the League as overseas players, but will be exempt from the overseas player registration cut-off in 55.ii, subject to the following:

a. They must provide Home Office verification of their asylum seeker status.

b. Players subsequently granted 'refugee status' or 'leave to remain in the UK' may be paid to play, but an asylum seeker who is awaiting a decision on his status cannot be paid.

iv. Bona fide overseas students, who are studying in the UK, who will be allowed to play in the Senior Section only, and at the discretion of the Senior Section committee, irrespective of whether they have met the 210-day qualification criteria, provided that they:

a. complete the League overseas student registration form on the League forms page on our website; *and*

b. are studying at a college or university in the immediate vicinity of the area covered by the YCSPL; *or*

c. are studying at a college or university elsewhere but are living with family or friends in that area for the duration of their summer vacation.

Such students will register as Category 3 and must not be paid for playing, but they will **not** be classed as overseas players for League purposes, and there will be no restriction on when they can be registered. They will not be allowed to play in the Premier Section, unless they are registered as their team's 'overseas amateur' and the League Overseas Amateur Registration Form on the League forms page on our website has been completed, until they have qualified by residence for registration as a Category 1 player in a subsequent season.

55 The following conditions will apply to the registration of overseas players:

i. All Home Office and ECB rules and guidelines must be followed, the correct visa obtained, and the relevant Overseas Player Registration form submitted to the Compliance Manager for approval before registration. The Compliance Manager will make such checks as they deem necessary before giving approval to register.

ii. No overseas player may be registered after 30 June, except as where a replacement overseas player is registered in accordance with 56 below

iii. Clubs may register a maximum of one overseas player per team, who may be an 'amateur' or 'professional', subject to the relevant status and immigration criteria being satisfied. The team for which the player is registered must be specified at the time of registration. In addition;

   a. in the Senior Section, overseas players may be registered only with the approval of the Senior Section committee, who will take into account the standard at which the player has previously played, in line with the ECB Disparity Policy

   b. in the Senior Section only, asylum seekers and overseas students may be registered in addition to the one overseas player per team, subject to Senior Section committee agreement

   c. in all cases, overseas players may play only in the team for which they are registered, unless permission is granted to do otherwise by the relevant Section committee.

56 **Replacement overseas players**. A replacement overseas player shall only be permitted once only in a season, where:

i. the replacement player is registered by 31 July, *and*

ii. the originally-registered overseas player is unable to play cricket through genuine injury or illness confirmed by a medical certificate, *or*

iii. returns home for the remainder of the season unexpectedly, due to selection for international level cricket or a franchised tournament, and has not been selected at that level within the previous five years; such selection to be confirmed in writing by the appropriate body.

Section 10 - Player transfers and loans

57 **Transfers in the period prior to, and during, the season**

i. Transfers will be permitted between YCSPL clubs in the period between 1 October and 31 July in accordance with the transfer procedure below, with the exception that transfers between clubs in the Premier Section between 1 March and 31 July will be permitted only with the express consent of the exporting club.

ii. No registration of players into the YCSPL from ECB-affiliated leagues or higher will be allowed between 1 August and 30 September in any year, except under 48.i above.

iii. Players who transfer to another club are prohibited from returning to the club they have transferred from, or to any other YCSPL club, for a period of four weeks.

iv. A player's YCSPL registration on Play-Cricket only becomes active after they have played Saturday cricket in the YCSPL for that club:

a. A player who has played in the YCSPL for any club in the current or previous season may only play in the YCSPL for any other club by following the transfer process in 58 and 59 below.

b. If a player is registered with a club, but has not played for them in any ECB-affiliated League in the current or previous season, and, where the player has in the past played for that club, has no outstanding disciplinary or financial issues with them, they will be considered a free agent until they register and play for another club.

c. A player who has played in the YCSPL in the current or previous season, but whose registration with that club has lapsed, eg, where the previous club is no longer an active member of the League, or the player has been de-registered by the previous club, will be considered a free agent until they register and play for another club.

d. A player can only be registered to play in the YCSPL by one club, and if a player is a registered playing member of more than one club (eg, in order to play Sunday or midweek cricket), they will be considered to be registered for the first club for which they play in the YCSPL in any season.

58 **Transfer procedure.** Players must be transferred in accordance with the transfer procedure below.

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. The named official shall be entered into the text box provided *('Do you wish to supply any further information with this players registration?'*) during the registration process.

ii. Once a player has agreed to transfer, this should be initiated by either:

- the player logging onto their 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 entered into the text box provided.

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, as in *appendix 7,* prior to the start of the match, with the agreement of the exporting club official, on Play-Cricket, within 48 hours as above.

vi. For a transferring player to be eligible to play for their new club on a given weekend, their transfer must have been completed within the weekly transfer window below:

- window opens Monday 6:00pm
- window closes Thursday 1:00pm

59 **Transfers from non-YCSPL clubs**. Any player from a club outside the YCSPL, but affiliated to either the YCF 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 58 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 their 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.

60 **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.

61 **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 62.v & vi.

62 **Restrictions on 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 3 in the Senior Section; or in cup games except for junior players signed as in 61.iv, who will be allowed to play in the President's Cup and Billy Oates Memorial Cup.

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 another league of equal standard.

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 another league of equal standard.

iv. No loan players will be allowed after the last Saturday in August, except Junior players as in v and vi below.

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. Junior players over 16 years of age may be loaned out 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 be liable to penalties under rule 29 being applied.

Section 11 – Match officials

63 **Umpire qualifications**. All umpires on the League panel must have completed the Umpire Introductory Course or equivalent, have a valid DBS, and be members of the ACO and the Yorkshire Premier Leagues Umpires Association or the South Yorkshire Cricket Umpires Association. Under no circumstances should junior players under 16 years of age, be used to umpire, even in the 'square leg' position.

64 **Recruitment of umpires.** The League Officials Recruitment & Retention Group will advise on initiatives and rules aimed at encouraging the recruitment and retention of umpires and scorers.

65 **Club nomination of umpires**

i. All clubs must nominate at least one umpire, either for the YPLUA or SYCUA umpires' panel, who will stand as their club's own umpire in Divisions 4 and below, as follows:
   a. clubs with up to two teams in membership must provide one umpire,
   b. clubs with three teams must provide two,
   c. clubs with four teams must provide three
   d. clubs with five or more teams must provide four

ii. Lincolnshire-based clubs must provide evidence of supplying umpires into, or genuine efforts to recruit an umpire for the Lincolnshire County Premier League.

iii. To qualify under this rule, the umpire (or two newly-nominated umpires between them) must not be an umpire from an existing panel in Yorkshire, and must be available to stand in a minimum of 10 Saturday league matches in the season in question.

iv. The League will reimburse the fees for ECB Umpire Introductory Course and the Umpire Development Course training for umpires nominated as above. Once the second course has been completed, the umpire must officiate for a minimum of three seasons. If this requirement is not met, the fee must be repaid to the League.

66 **Club failure to nominate umpires for the panel**. Clubs that do not comply with rule 64.i will be invited, at the end of the relevant season, to provide evidence of what they have done in order to recruit umpires, in line with Appendix 9. If they cannot adequately demonstrate genuine activity to recruit umpires, they will be liable to a points deduction in the following season, as follows:

- one umpire short of requirement in 64.i: six points from the club's highest division team
- two umpires short of requirement in 64.i: six points from each of the club's two highest division teams
- three umpires short of requirement in 64.i: six points from each of the club's three highest division teams

If a club provides an umpire by 30 June in the following season, who has been available to stand, pro rata, in eight games by that point, the deduction will be reduced to three points for the relevant team. If the umpire subsequently does not stand, pro-rata, in 10 games over that whole season, the three-point reduction will be reapplied in the following season.

67 **Judging activity submissions**

i. Submissions of activity undertaken, as in 64 above, will be judged by a panel comprising one representative each from the LEB, SYCUA, and YCSPL clubs.

ii. Evidence to be considered will include; names of persons approached, number of social media posts, evidence of other advertising, names of community organisations approached, suitable evidence of any other activity. The size of the club will be taken into account.

iii. The panel will agree the exact criteria to be used in adjudicating submissions. Where all criteria are fully met, the deduction will not be applied; where they are partially met, pro-rata deduction(s) will be applied; and where none are met, the full six-point deduction (s) will be applied.

68 **Panel umpires' appointments**

i. Umpires are appointed to games, according to YCSPL rules, by a designated umpires' appointments officer.

ii. Where neither side in a game in the Championship Division or Senior Section has nominated an umpire for the league panel, no umpires will be appointed, except where the League requests that umpires are appointed because of circumstances particular to the game in question.

iii. Umpires will not be appointed on their own to games by the SYCUA appointments officer unless there is an odd number of umpires available to appoint at a particular level.

69 **Club umpires**

i. Where no umpires are appointed to games in the Senior Section Divisions 1 to 3, clubs will be allowed to use their own umpire (ie, a club umpire) on a match-by-match basis. In these circumstances, the club **must** notify the designated umpires' appointments officer and the opposition as soon as possible.

ii. In Senior Section Divisions 4 and below, clubs may use a club umpire in preference to a panel umpire on a regular basis. In these circumstances, the designated umpires' appointments officer must be advised as soon as the arrangement is made. If the club umpire is not available in any week, any request for a panel umpire should be made with as much notice as possible.

iii. All umpires used in the YCSPL must have an up-to-date DBS clearance; and we also strongly recommend that regular club umpires:

a. Complete the ECB Umpire Introductory Course and the Umpire Development Course

b. join the ECB ACO in order to ensure that they are fully insured.

70 **Recording on P-C.** Clubs must ensure that the names of the umpires (club or panel) and the scorers are recorded on Play-Cricket in all games. For umpires, this will also count as evidence of the club recruiting an umpire for the purposes of Administrative Rule 65.

71 **Scoring**

i. The Scoring Manager will maintain a Scoring Development Plan, aimed at encouraging the recruitment and development of scorers, and at providing on-going support for the scoring community.

ii. The YCSPL will pay the fees for ACO courses for scorers. Once the course has been completed the scorer must score for their club in the League for a minimum of three seasons; if this requirement is not met, the fee must be repaid to the League.

iii. The YCSPL will pay £100 towards the cost of a lap-top to clubs to encourage them to use lap-top scoring. The payments will be on the basis of once only per team not already using lap-top scoring.

Section 12 – League awards

72 **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 30 June (cup and T20 trophies below) and then **all** trophies by 30 September. The League will be responsible for the cost of engraving trophies won by teams in League and Inter-League Competitions. A full list of League trophies is appended at *appendix 8.*

73 **Individual award qualification***.* 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.

Divisions	*Minimum no of runs*	*Minimum no of innings*
Senior batting awards		
Premier, Championship, Divisions 1 & 2	500	12
Divisions 3-5	400	12
Divisions 6-9	350	12
Junior batting awards		
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.

Divisions	*Minimum no of wickets*	*Minimum no of games*
Senior bowling awards		
Premier, Championship, Divisions 1 & 2	35	12
Divisions 3-5	30	12
Divisions 6-9	30	12
Junior bowling awards		
All	20	10

iii. *All-rounders.* An award for the best all-rounder will be given in each of the Premier Section divisions and Divisions 1 & 2. The award will be based on points awarded for performances as follows:

- one point for each run
- 12 points for each wicket
- eight points for each catch, stumping or run out
- the qualification will be 300 runs **and** 30 wickets or 20 wicket-keeping wickets.

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 9, 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 and Divisions 1 & 2. If two players tie for first place the winner will be the one who has most run outs.

vi. *Junior players*. A junior player is one who has not reached their 19th birthday by 31 August 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.

Section 13 – Disputes

74 Disputes procedure

i. Any disputes between clubs, complaints about the actions of any players or officials, or about decisions made by League committees must in the first instance be referred to the LEB Chair by email within seven days of the incident arising. The Chair 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 non-conflicted members from the relevant Section committee, who may ask for further information from either party, and who may decide to apply a penalty in accordance with para 29 above. The panel Chair will notify the player or club concerned of the decision of the panel within 14 days of the complaint being made.

ii. Where any incident is brought to the attention of the LEB Chair that may bring the League into disrepute, they will ask the player or club concerned to provide any comments in explanation and mitigation. The Chair will arrange for the matter to be considered by a panel non-conflicted members from the relevant Section committee, who will notify the club concerned of the decision within 14 days of the incident being brought to attention.

iii. If, after following the steps in i or ii above, as appropriate, an individual or club wishes to appeal against a decision made by the League or its officials;

   a. the appeal must be made by email to the League Chair within seven days of the date of notification of the decision, and must include the grounds for the appeal, along with any mitigating factors

   b. at the same time as the appeal is made, an appeal fee of £50 (individual appeals) or £100 (club appeals) must be sent to the League treasurer

   c. the League Chair will arrange for the decision to be heard by a panel of non-conflicted persons, who may be appointed from the LEB, Section committees, or another league.

   d. the chair of the panel will decide, taking into account the wishes of the appellant, whether hearing will be by correspondence, video-conference or face-to-face hearing

   e. the individual or club concerned will be informed of the decision within 14 days of days of receipt of the appeal, and this decision will be final and binding

   f. the appeal fee may be returned, in full or in part, where the panel considers that the appeal had merit; where the fee is not returned, it will be put into the Development Fund.

75 **Issues not covered in League rules.** Any matter not covered in League rules will be decided by the LEB or the relevant section cricket committee.

V5/525

Appendix 1 – Applications from clubs to join the YCSPL

The Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League (YCSPL) is part of the Yorkshire pyramid system, which enables clubs to progress to the highest level of recreational cricket, the Premier Leagues.

We welcome applications from ambitious clubs in South Yorkshire and the surrounding area, who want to improve their standards, both on and off the field.

Clubs that wish to join the YCSPL will be expected to comply with the following criteria:

- Applications to join the YCSPL must be made in accordance with YCF club transfer rules. Before entering into any negotiations with the YCSPL, clubs must first obtain the permission of their current league. Applications to join the League must be made by 31 March for the season starting the following year.
- Clubs must be able to show that they can meet all required criteria by 2 June to join the league the following year.
- Applications to join the League must be for the whole club, ie, all its Saturday teams.
- No team can move directly into the Premier Division.
- All new clubs are required to serve a probationary period of three seasons, during which membership may be terminated if the requirements of league rules are not met.
- There will be an inspection of ground and facilities by league officials prior to approval being given to join the League, at which club officials must be available in order to answer any questions raised. The inspection will also be used to help decide on the appropriate division(s) of entry into the League, and to advise on action that may be needed to enable progression. The YCF may be able to signpost clubs towards grants to enable them to improve their facilities.
- To be placed in Division 3 or higher a club must have ECB Club Accreditation.
- Clubs in the YCSPL Premier Section must have at least three junior teams (one of which must be a girls' team); clubs in the Senior Section Divisions One and Two must have two junior teams (one of which may be a girls' team); and clubs in the Senior Section Division Three must have one junior team (which may be a girls' team). All junior teams must play in a recognised junior league, ideally in the under 11 age group or above. Confirmation will be required of the age groups and the leagues in which junior sides play.
- All prospective clubs must be registered on the Safe Hands system.
- Grounds used should be available on Saturdays between the third Saturday in April and the second Saturday in September. Grounds where there are restrictions will be placed at levels that will allow rearrangement (ie, Division 3 and below).
- New clubs must provide one umpire per team. All umpires on the League panel must have completed the ECB Umpire Introductory Course, have a valid DBS, and be members of the ACO. Club umpires must have a valid DBS, and are encouraged to complete the ECB Umpire Introductory Course and be members of the ACO. Training courses are provided. Umpires must be nominated by 30 June prior to the season of entry to the League. Clubs who do not provide the required number of umpires will not be accepted. The umpires will need to officiate in a minimum of 10 Saturday league matches every season. If this criterion is not met, a club will be deemed not to have satisfactorily completed the probationary status, and will be liable to be expelled from the YCSPL.

The League constitution, administrative rules, playing conditions and all other necessary information can be found on the YCSPL website.

Recommendations on applications to join the League, including the divisions to which new clubs will be allocated, will be made by the YCSPL Senior Section cricket committee. After the endorsement of these recommendations by the League Executive Board, clubs will be informed of their allocated divisions by the end of October in the year of the application. Any club wishing to apply to join the League, or who have any questions, should please contact the Head of Senior Section, Richard North, by email at senior.head@ycspl.co.uk.

Appendix 2 – Equity & Diversity policy

The Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League (YCSPL) in all its activities, is fully committed to the principles of equity of opportunity in cricket, and to ensuring that its officials, member clubs and all other individuals working or volunteering for the League, and participating in or watching League activities, are treated fairly and are able to conduct their activities free from discrimination, harassment or intimidation.

Policy

The YCSPL will, in all its activities:

i. not discriminate, or in any way treat anyone less favourably, on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, parental or marital status, pregnancy, religion or belief or sexual orientation,

ii. not tolerate harassment, bullying, abuse or victimisation of individuals,

iii. not tolerate any public comments being made by league officials or officials of member clubs, whether on websites, social media, written material or public pronouncements, that are disrespectful to any individuals on the grounds of their age, gender, disability, race, parental or marital status, pregnancy, religion or belief or sexual orientation,

iv. endeavour to create equal access and opportunity for all those individuals who wish to participate, and are lawfully eligible to participate, in its activities, *and*

v. ensure that it complies with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and take all reasonable steps to ensure that its officials, member clubs and volunteers adhere to these requirements and this policy.

This policy is fully supported by the League Executive Board (LEB), who are responsible for the implementation of this policy.

Complaints

The YCSPL is committed to investigate any complaints brought to its attention of any breaches of this policy, and reserves the right to impose such sanction as it considers appropriate and proportionate, where such is found to be the case.

Any complaint of discrimination, harassment, bullying, abuse, victimisation or any other breach of this policy as a result of action by a YCSPL club or league official should be reported by email to the YCSPL Disciplinary Adjudicator at disciplinary@ycspl.co.uk.

Any such report should include; details of what occurred, when and where the occurrence took place, any witness details, and copies of any witness statements.

The Disciplinary Adjudicator will direct action in line with the League's disciplinary panel, in consultation with the Equity & Diversity Group as follows:

- decide whether it is appropriate to ask the club concerned (if any) to investigate, and report back with their proposed action
- if the proposed action of a club is not acceptable, or if it is considered necessary in the first instance, a formal hearing will be arranged – in which case, the Equity & Diversity Group and the League Executive Board will each be asked to nominate a member of the panel

The conduct of any panel will be as provided for in the League's disciplinary regulations.

In the event of the complaint being upheld, the Disciplinary Adjudicator will recommend to the LEB the sanction they consider appropriate, which may include, a warning about future conduct, a suspension from position, removal from position, or penalties (as in Administrative Rule 13). The LEB will, at its discretion, ratify or vary, the recommended sanction.

The Disciplinary Adjudicator will then arrange for the complainant and the party(ies) complained about to be notified of the decision on the complaint. The latter will be notified of any sanctions to be applied and of their right of appeal. The right of appeal will be to the Yorkshire Cricket Foundation (YCF) in writing/by email within one month of the YCSPL decision being notified.

Review

This policy will be reviewed periodically by the YCSPL in consultation with the League's Equity & Diversity Group and the YCF, and in accordance with ECB guidelines.

Appendix 3 – Development Fund criteria for payments to be made

1. Payments can be made only to clubs that do not belong to the Premier Section
2. Prior to payment being made, two quotations an invoice and proof of payment will be required.
3. Payments can only be made for cricket-related work.
4. Examples of the kind of projects for which payments may be made are:
    - emergency repairs to equipment,
    - disabled access improvements,
    - improvement to facilities for women & girls, scorers and umpires.
5. The maximum payment that may be made for any single project is £1,000; for projects of less than £1,000 the maximum is £750.
6. Any club receiving a performance- related payment of ECB money in the season before an application is made shall be ineligible for funding.
7. Payments cannot be made for projects where a third party has provided funding.
8. Payments cannot be made for routine maintenance.
9. For 'one-off' unexpected expenses, the availability of insurance will be taken into account.
10. On completion of work, the club and League to publicise the work.

Appendix 4 – Safeguarding policy

1 **Our commitment.** The Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League (YCSPL) is committed to ensuring that all children (persons under the age of 18) participating in cricket have a safe and positive experience. We do this by:

- putting procedures in place,
- having the right people in place,
- publicising what to do if anyone has a concern, *and*
- providing cricket-specific guidance

2 **Putting procedures in place**

i. We recognise that all children participating in cricket (regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability) have the right to have fun and be protected from harm in a safe environment.

ii. We expect that individuals working within cricket in our league provide a welcoming, safe, and fun experience for children.

iii. We provide an environment where the views of children, parents and volunteers are sought and welcomed on a range of issues. This helps us create an environment where people have the opportunity to voice any concerns (about possible suspected child abuse/neglect, and/or about poor practice).

iv. We adopt and implement the ECB policy 'Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children'.

v. We ensure all individuals working within our league are recruited and appointed in accordance with ECB guidelines and relevant legislation.

3 **Having the Right People in Place.** We appoint a League Safeguarding Manager (LSM) and ensure that the LSM attends training modules required by the ECB. Our LSM can be contacted at safeguarding.manager@ycspl.co.uk.

4 **Role of the LSM**. The LSM will:

i. ensure that each club in our league has a Safeguarding Officer and that all relevant officials in clubs have had 'Safe Hands' training

ii. be the first point of contact for parents, children and volunteers/staff within the league as a source of procedural adVice for the league, its committee and members

iii. be the main point of contact within the YCSPL for external agencies in connection with child safeguarding, including the YCF County Welfare Officer and the ECB Safeguarding Team

iv. ensure that correct and comprehensive reporting procedures exist for raising and managing child safeguarding concerns

5 **What to do if you have a concern.** If you have a concern about a safeguarding issue within the YCSPL, you should contact the LSM as above.

i. We will ensure that all suspicions, concerns and allegations are taken seriously and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

ii. We will ensure access to confidential information relating to child safeguarding matters, is restricted to those who need to know, in order to safeguard children – including relevant Safeguarding Officers and the appropriate external authorities, such as the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), as specified within ECB child safeguarding procedures.

6 **Providing cricket-specific guidance**

i. We ensure all individuals working in our league are provided with support, through education and training, so they are aware of, and can adhere to, good practice and Code of Conduct guidelines defined by the ECB.

ii. We ensure all people who work in our league (such as staff, officials, volunteers, team managers, coaches, etc) understand how the 'Safe Hands Policy' applies to them.

Appendix 5 – Electronic Media policy

1 Introduction

The Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League (YCSPL) understands the value of electronic media in information provision and communications, and will use it for these purposes; but we are at the same time very aware of the threats that it poses. All those connected with the League must remember that what they post on the internet, in particular on social networking sites, is in the public domain, and they must follow the rules in the policy detailed below.

2 Policy

General

i. Clubs and league officials must take account of this policy before emailing, messaging or posting on the internet, including engaging in blogging, video-sharing or posting on social networking sites or forums.

ii. No-one connected to the League must email, message, or post any material that might bring League into disrepute. In particular, abuse, threats, personal insults, and discriminatory language in any post connected with the League will not be tolerated.

iii. No YCSPL logo or other copyright material that infers official endorsement of any photograph, article, document or opinion must be used without the express approval of an LEB member.

iv. Cricket club-related social media accounts and message groups should be kept separate from personal ones, and should only be used for cricket-related messages.

Use by YCSPL Board and committee members and other League officials

v. The YCSPL will use its website as its main channel for providing information to all those interested in the League, in support of its policy of openness and transparency. The League constitution, rules, announcements, meeting notes and other relevant information will be posted on the website for all to see.

vi. We will use email as the primary channel for communications to league officials and clubs.

vii. We will use social media to alert people to new website posts and to provide any other relevant information to those interested.

viii. League officials must not divulge any confidential information or information belonging to YCSPL which is not in the public domain. They must not comment in electronic media in an official capacity unless sanctioned by the League Chair or Vice-Chair.

ix. If an official gives a personal opinion about a YCSPL-related issue, they must state that this is solely their view and not the view of the YCSPL. They must not criticise league policy and decisions.

x. Any person who has an official role in the League, whether as a Board or committee member, holds an official position, or is representing the League in a coaching or playing capacity, must ensure that, in any social media posting, they do not bring the League into disrepute.

Use by clubs and their members

xi. We understand that people use social media, including email, messaging and posting, in their own time and on their own equipment, and we do not deny anyone's right to free speech – but with rights come responsibilities, which means following the social media rules below.

Juniors

xii. All communications must conform to the Safe Hands policy and guidance, and nothing must be posted that is inappropriate for children to see.

xiii. Communications to under-18s should be via their parents or carers, not direct to the young person.

xiv. Communications to 16/17-year-olds may, with the parent/carer's consent, be copied to the 16/17-year-old

xv. Private messages should not be sent to juniors via social media.

xvi. If a junior player is concerned about any messages sent to them, they should bring the matter to the attention of their parent/carer or the club safeguarding officer.

3 Social media rules

i. It is ok to criticise or disagree with someone or something provided it is done respectfully.

ii. It is not ok to be abusive or threatening, to make personal insults, or to use language that is racist or discriminatory.

iii. Would you say it to the person's face? If not, don't write it!

iv. If it would not be acceptable on a club noticeboard, it is not acceptable on social media.

v. Think! How would you feel if someone wrote it about you? If you wouldn't like it yourself, don't post it.

vi. Are you certain that it is correct and acceptable? If in doubt, leave it out.

vii. Remember - by retweeting or sharing something, you are effectively posting it yourself.

4 Breaches

Any inappropriate posts made to social media sites could lead to disciplinary action and in extreme cases, civil and criminal liability.

Defamatory, malicious or offensive comments on any electronic media about the League, its officials and clubs, or individual players, by anyone connected with the League or someone acting on their behalf, will be regarded as breaches of this policy. This applies regardless of whether:

- the individual is messaging or posting personally or sharing someone else's message or post
- the individual is tagged in the post or not
- the communication is by word, photograph, video or any other form.
- the post is anonymous or not – if it can be traced, we will act

5 What to do if you believe this policy has been breached

If you believe that this policy has been breached, please contact the LEB Chair or Vice-Chair.

6 Action

Any alleged breach of this policy may lead to disciplinary action under the League disciplinary procedures, up to and including expulsion from the League and, potentially, civil action under libel laws. Anyone found to be in breach of the Data Protection Act or Malicious Communications Act, could face criminal proceedings and prosecution.

Appendix 6 – Registering junior players

There are two options for registering junior players over 13:

- *Option 1.* Players over 13 can now have their own P-C account with their parent/guardian details attached.
- *Option 2.* Temporary member linked to a parent/guardian account over the age of 13 - TMP 13+. Existing juniors registered in this way are now eligible to register as a user as in i. above.

If junior players already have an ECB account under the same email address, this will become one account under the new Single Sign On (SSO). During the registration process, the junior's email address will be visible until the registration is complete; then the email address will remain invisible until they reach 16 when they will have full control. Once this is completed, it should not be necessary to re-register when the player reaches 16.

Temporary member linked to a parent/guardian account under the age of 13 - TMP <13. All other requirements for registration must comply with the *Age Group Table* below.

Temporary members (TMP). No junior registration will be allowed in the YCSPL under this banner.

Players under 16 must have their application for registration made on the YCSPL P-C website preceding the start time of any match in which they wish to play, in accordance with 46. above.

Any form of contact (email, text, voice call, etc) to a junior player either from the club or league must be made via their parent(s) or legal guardian(s). As the ECB defines a junior player as any player under the age of 18, this includes players aged 16 & 17 years old.

Clubs must follow ECB Recreational Cricket Safety Regulations for junior players while playing in the YCSPL.

The minimum age for players in the YCSPL is 12 years. 12-year-olds must have written approval from a Level 2 coach and will only be allowed in Divisions 7, 8 and 9.

Players aged 13 are allowed to play in the YCSPL (Divisions 2 and below) only with written approval from a Level 2 coach (see also table below).

All players aged 14 may play open age cricket in the Premier Section and Senior Section Division 1 only with written approval from a Level 2 coach and with the prior approval of the Premier Section or Senior Section cricket committees.

In all cases listed above and with players aged 15 to 17, all players may play in the YCSPL only with written parental consent.

The Age Group Table (the age of the player on the day of the fixture)

Age	*Overs per spell (overs per day)*	*Permission required*
19	7 (18)	None
18	7 (18)	None
17	6 (15)	Parental consent
16	6 (15)	Parental consent
15	5 (12)	Parental consent
14	5 (12)	Parental (Premier Section & Div 1 approval from Section committee & L2 coach)
13	5 (10)	Parental & L2 coach (Div 2 & below only)
12	5 (10)	Parental – L2 coach (Div 7 & below only)

Appendix 7 – Privacy policy

The Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League ('the League') is committed to protecting its members' privacy. This notice which explains what information we collect about our players and officials, how we use it, and your rights. The League is the data controller of the personal data it collects in connection with League administration and surveys, the League handbook and the League website.

About us

The League organises open age league and cup competitions for its member clubs in the South Yorkshire area. We are the data controller for the purposes of data protection law and can be contacted as follows:

email website.administrator@ycspl.co.uk
phone 07887 732176
website www.ycspl.co.uk

The personal data we may process

We may process the following categories of personal data:

- Name (and any 'known as' name)
- Contact details (eg address, telephone number(s), email address(es))
- Club, team, county cricket board, league or other cricket organisation (as applicable)
- Role at club, team, county cricket board, league or other cricket organisation (if applicable)
- Age or date of birth
- Gender
- Nationality, ethnicity and other equity and inclusion questions (if applicable)
- Cricket skills and experience (if applicable)
- Details of injuries (if applicable)
- Eligibility to play or participate (if applicable)
- Immigration status
- Social media posts
- Each club/team/competition played for/in (if applicable)
- Matches attended (if applicable)
- Details of any consents given or withheld (if applicable)
- Actions advised to protect the individual in respect of the use of protective equipment
- Conduct issues, including reports of incidents
- Grievances/concerns raised
- Evidence of grievances/concerns/incidents (including any video evidence)
- Comments of or statements given or submissions made by the individual
- Criminal offence(s) (if applicable)
- Breaches of general conduct regulations
- Breaches of ECB anti-discrimination code
- Actions and decisions taken
- Information in match officials report(s)
- Sanctions and penalties imposed

Where we may get your personal data from

Examples of where we may get personal data about you include:

- yourself
- Play-Cricket
- another Club, team, County Cricket Board, League or other cricket organisation (as applicable)
- statements/submissions in disciplinary cases
- other disciplinary officers/bodies/panels
- appeal bodies/panels
- Other participants, witnesses, spectators, complainants
- Social media
- Family members, in particular, in the case of juniors
- umpires and other match officials
- team captains/coaches and the management team

Automated decisions about you

We do not make any solely automated decisions about you.

Our purposes for processing your personal data

i. Ensuring compliance with ECB regulations and policies including general conduct regulations, disparity policy and, where relevant, anti-corruption code.

ii. Participant and spectator welfare: dealing with any safety concerns, incidents and complaints.

iii. Disciplinary purposes: administration for disciplinary purposes and regulatory enforcement.

iv. Safeguarding:

v. League statistical record-keeping

vi. Equity & diversity surveys

Our legal basis for processing your data

The law sets out the potential legal bases for processing personal data. These differ depending on the nature of the personal data. The data processed by the League is defined as 'ordinary personal data' in the UK GDPR. There are two legal bases for processing ordinary personal data that apply to data processed by the League:

i. *Article 6 (a) Consent*: where the individual has given clear consent for us to process their personal data for a specific purpose (for example to publish club or officials' contact details)

ii. *Article 6(f) Legitimate interests*: the processing is necessary for our legitimate interests for example, player registration, safeguarding issues, disciplinary issues.

To whom we may disclose your personal data

Other than data published by the League where content has been given so to do, data will be shared only with the ECB, YCF and other leagues where necessary in connection with legitimate interests such as:

- Player transfers
- Disciplinary issues
- Safeguarding issues

How we will hold your personal data

Contact details of club officials and umpires within the League are maintained by the LEB secretary and administration manager on a spreadsheet on secure private (non-network-linked) computers and deVices, and are shared within the League with officials only in accordance with the above.

We will keep your personal data for as long as we need it for the purposes set out above, therefore this period will vary depending on your interactions with us. We will not hold data for longer than is required for legitimate League business as described above.

Security

Whilst we do everything within our power to ensure that personal data in our possession is protected at all times, we cannot guarantee the security of the information that has been transmitted to us.

Play-Cricket

The League uses its *Play-Cricket* site to communicate with players and officials belonging to the clubs in our league, and to record match statistics, in accordance with the *Play-Cricket* privacy statement https://www.play-cricket.com/privacy

Who's the Umpire

The League uses the *Who's the Umpire* site to notify umpires' appointments and to collect match reports from captains and umpires. The information obtained from reports is summarised and published by the League. The privacy policy for *Who's the Umpire* can be found at https://www.whostheumpire.com/security_and_privacy.php

Your legal rights over your personal data and complaints

Where you have given your consent to any processing of personal data you have the right to withdraw that consent at any time. If you do, it will not affect the lawfulness of any processing for which we had consent prior to your withdrawing it.

You also have the right of access to your personal data and, in some cases, to require us to restrict, erase or rectify it or to object to our processing it, and the right of data portability.

To exercise your rights or if you have any concerns or complaints about how we are handling your personal data please, contact the League Chair. You can also lodge a complaint at the Information Commissioner's Office .

Contact Us

If you have any queries on any aspect of our Privacy Policy, please contact our website administrator.

Appendix 8 – List of League trophies

The League trophies are:

i. *Divisional trophies*

Championship	-	The Mark Smith Memorial Trophy	Division 5	-	The Paul Hunt Cup
Division 1	-	The Tuby Cup	Division 6	-	The Oscar Baines Silver Cup
Division 2	-	The S C Ward Cup	Division 7	-	The Arthur Thompson Cup
Division 3	-	The Sismay Cup	Division 8	-	The Ronnie Walters Cup
Division 4	-	The George Lawrence Trophy	Division 9	-	The L.W. Parsonage Cup

ii *Cup & t20 trophies*

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 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 Terry Bentham Trophy - for the umpire of the year
- The Fearnley Trophy - for the scorer of the year
- (un-named as present) - for the groundsman of the year
- The Dominic Sayles Trophy - for outstanding junior all rounder
- The William Pye Trophy - for long and outstanding administrative service