ENGLAND AND WALES CRICKET BOARD

GENERAL CONDUCT REGULATIONS FOR RECREATIONAL CRICKET

DEFINITIONS

1. In these General Conduct Regulations for Recreational Cricket ("**Regulations**"):

"**Adjudicator**" means an individual (who may be one of a group of individuals) appointed by a Relevant Cricket Organisation to have responsibility for the Summary Procedure.

"**Appeal Body**" means the body appointed by a Relevant Cricket Organisation under Regulation 3(d) which is responsible for dealing with appeals.

"**Appeal Hearing**" means the hearing at which an appeal will be determined.

"**Appeal Panel**" means a panel of 3 people, unless otherwise agreed by the parties, appointed from the Appeal Body to deal with any appeal against a decision of an Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel in accordance with these Regulations.

"**Appeal Panel Chair**" means a member of the Appeal Body who is the appointed chair of an Appeal Panel in respect of a particular case.

"**Appellant"** means an individual, Club or League which has issued an appeal to either (i) an Appeal Body in respect of a decision by an Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel; (ii) a Review Panel in respect of a decision of an Appeal Panel; or (iii) a Recreational Appeal Panel in respect of a decision by a Recreational Discipline Panel.

"Charge Letter" means a letter or email outlining the charge(s) to a Respondent. The Charge Letter will be in the form at Appendix 2 or contain substantially the same categories of information as a minimum.

"**Club"** means a club which participates in Relevant Recreational Cricket and is affiliated to a Recreational Cricket Board.

"**Club Official**" means any official of a Club, as listed on their website or official Club documentation, acting in an official capacity at a match.

"**Cricket Discipline Panel**" means the panel of individuals responsible for adjudicating on regulatory cases on behalf of the ECB.

"**Cricket Regulator"** means the body responsible for investigating and prosecuting breaches of ECB Regulations.

"**Disciplinary Officer**" means an individual (who may be one of a group of individuals) appointed by a Relevant Cricket Organisation to have responsibility for the disciplinary process under these Regulations when that Relevant Cricket Organisation is acting as the Relevant Disciplinary Body and/or Appeal Body.

"**Disciplinary Panel**" means a panel of 3 people, unless otherwise agreed by the parties, appointed to deal with a disciplinary charge at a Hearing in accordance with these Regulations.

"**Disciplinary Panel Chair**" means the appointed chair of a Disciplinary Panel.

"**Disciplinary Procedure Regulations**" means the regulations governing the disciplinary procedure for regulatory cases brought before the Cricket Discipline Panel as in force and amended from time to time.

"**Disciplinary Report**" means a report prepared by an umpire (or captain or Club Official, as outlined in Regulation 8) detailing any alleged On-Field Breach and/or Off-Field Breach. The Disciplinary Report will be in the form at Appendix 1 or contain substantially the same categories of information.

"**ECB**" means the England and Wales Cricket Board.

"**ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations**" means the ECB's anti-discrimination regulations as in force and amended from time to time, which can be found on the following ECB webpage, along with guidance on the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations: https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/regulations/recreational-cricket.

"**ECB GCR**" means the General Conduct Regulations which are applicable to ECB Competitions (as defined in the ECB GCR) as in force and amended from time to time.

"**ECB Regulations**" means the ECB's rules, regulations, playing conditions and codes as published and in force (and as amended and supplemented) from time to time.

"**Effective Date**" means 1 April 2026.

"**Hearing**" means a hearing at which any charges against a Respondent are dealt with.

"**The Hundred**" means the ECB's domestic cricket competition in a "100-ball" format.

"Hundred Team" means any of the teams playing in The Hundred from time to time.

"**League"** means an ECB Premier League or each league which operates under a Recreational Cricket Board's jurisdiction or which should reasonably have been under its jurisdiction (for example due to that league receiving a benefit from the Recreational Cricket Board).

"**Match"** means any cricket match in an organised cricket competition or league.

"**National County**" means any National County Cricket Club which plays in the competitions organised by the NCCA.

"**NCCA**" means the National Counties Cricket Association.

"**Notice of Appeal**" means the document containing an Appellant's ground(s) of appeal which is required to be lodged to commence an appeal pursuant to Regulation 40 or 87 (as applicable).

"**Off-Field Breach**" means an alleged breach of Regulations 11-13.

See Appendix 4, guidance note A for further information.

"**On-Field Breach**" means an alleged breach of Regulations 5-7 and 9-10.

See Appendix 4, guidance note A for further information.

"**Participant**" means (a) any individual who is under the jurisdiction of a Relevant Cricket Organisation, including:

(i) cricketers;

(ii) volunteers, officers, employees, contractors, and members of any Relevant Cricket Organisation;

(iii) match officials;

(iv) coaches; and

(v) any other person under the jurisdiction of any Relevant Cricket Organisation, and

(b) any Club; and (c) any League, except where the surrounding context requires "Participant" to be read as referring to an individual under part (a) of this definition only, or a Club under part (b) of this definition only, or a League under part (c) of this definition only.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 1 and 2 for further information.

"**Professional County Club**" means any of the clubs and/or companies from time to time listed in

Schedule A to the ECB's articles of association and/or any county cricket club from time to time playing in the County Championship and/or the Tier 1 Competitions and/or the Tier 2 Competitions.

"**Professional Cricket**" means cricket activities which are carried out by: (i) the England Men's or England Women's teams; (ii) Professional County Clubs or (iii) any Hundred Team.

"**Recreational Appeal Hearing**" means the hearing at which an appeal from a decision by a Recreational Discipline Panel will be determined.

"**Recreational Appeal Panel**" means a panel of 3 people (unless otherwise agreed by the parties) appointed from the Recreational Discipline Panel Pool to deal with any appeal against a decision of a Recreational Discipline Panel.

"**Recreational Appeal Panel Chair**" means any person who has been appointed as a chair of a Recreational Appeal Panel.

"**Recreational Conduct Regulations**" means the ECB's Recreational Conduct Regulations as in force and amended from time to time.

"Recreational Cricket Board" means a body designated as a Recreational Cricket Board by the ECB which is responsible for the organisation of recreational cricketing activity and the development of cricket generally within a county and such other areas (if any) as may be agreed by the ECB.

"**Recreational Discipline Panel**" means a panel of 3 people (unless otherwise agreed by the parties) appointed from the Recreational Discipline Panel Pool to deal with a disciplinary charge at a Hearing occurring from a Referral under Regulation 17.

"**Recreational Discipline Panel Chair**" means any person who has been appointed as a chair of a Recreational Discipline Panel.

"**Recreational Discipline Panel Pool**" means the group of individuals compiled for the purposes of hearing complex cases referred to the Cricket Regulator under Regulation 17 (including any subsequent appeals), reviewing decisions of Appeal Panel Chairs under Regulation 43 and reviewing decisions of Appeal Panels under Regulation 59.

"**Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary**" means any person appointed from time to time to provide administrative assistance to any Recreational Discipline Panel, Recreational Appeal Panel or Review Panel (including the chairs of those panels). The role of the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary is purely administrative and has no decision-making powers on a Referral, a review of a rejection of a Notice of Appeal, a Review, an appeal from a decision of a Recreational Discipline Panel or a review of a lifetime ban.

"**Referral"** means a Disciplinary Report, Written Complaint or any alleged breach of these Regulations which is brought to the attention of the Relevant Disciplinary Body.

"**Relevant Cricket Organisations**" means Recreational Cricket Boards, National Counties, the NCCA and ECB Premier Leagues, who are required to adopt these Regulations, and any other cricket organisation which has adopted these Regulations.

"**Relevant Criminal Offence**" means any offence against a child, any sexual offence, any violent offence, any drug offence, any public order offence, any offence with an aggravated element, any offence of cruelty against animals and any offence relating to integrity.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 15 and B for further information.

"**Reportable Criminal Offence**" means any offence against a child, any sexual offence, any serious violent offence (ABH or above), any drug offence, any public order offence with an aggravated element, any offence involving harassment or stalking and any offence relating to integrity.

"**Relevant Disciplinary Body**" means the body appointed by a Relevant Cricket Organisation under Regulation 3(d) who is responsible for conducting disciplinary processes.

"**Relevant Recreational Cricket**" means all cricket competitions formally organised by Recreational Cricket Boards, the NCCA, ECB Premier Leagues or any Relevant Cricket Organisation which has adopted these Regulations. For the avoidance of doubt, the Tier 3 Competitions fall under the ECB GCR, rather than these Regulations.

"**Respondent"** means a Participant that is the subject of a disciplinary charge.

"**Review**" has the meaning given to it in Regulation 59.

"**Review Panel**" means a panel of 3 individuals (unless otherwise agreed between the parties) appointed from the Recreational Discipline Panel Pool for the purposes of reviewing an Appeal Panel's decision in accordance with Regulations 59-72.

"**Review Panel Chair**" means the person appointed to chair a Review Panel in accordance with Regulation 63.

"**Summary Procedure**" means the procedure to determine a disciplinary charge where a Hearing is not required, in accordance with Regulations 22-28.

"**Tier 1 Competitions**" means any women's domestic cricket competitions designated by the ECB as being a "Tier 1" competition, which, as at the Effective Date, includes the T20 Blast Women's Competition and the One Day Cup Women's Competition.

"**Tier 2 Competitions**" means any women's domestic cricket competitions designated by the ECB as being a "Tier 2" competition, which, as at the Effective Date, includes the T20 Blast Women's League 2 and the One Day Cup Women's League 2.

"**Tier 3 Competitions**" means any women's domestic cricket competitions designated by the ECB as being a "Tier 3" competition, which, as at the Effective Date, includes the T20 Blast Women's League 3 and the One Day Cup Women's League 3.

"**Written Complaint**" means a complaint made by any person detailing an alleged breach of these Regulations at any time in writing.

SCOPE AND APPLICATION

2. These Regulations come into full force and effect on the Effective Date.

3. From the Effective Date:

   (a) all Relevant Cricket Organisations are bound by and must familiarise themselves with the requirements of these Regulations;

   (b) all Participants must comply with the disciplinary process set out in these Regulations;

   (c) all Relevant Cricket Organisations must adopt these Regulations and implement the requirements of these Regulations in respect of the disciplinary processes they carry out in relation to those under their jurisdiction. All Relevant Cricket Organisations must adopt these Regulations in their entirety, except that where a specific Regulation is <u>underlined</u> a Relevant Cricket Organisation may amend and/or supplement that Regulation, provided that any amendments:

      (i) are not inconsistent with the mandatory provisions or overall purpose of these Regulations;

      (ii) are not inconsistent with the guidance in Appendix 4;

      (iii) are clearly reflected in the version of these Regulations that the Relevant Cricket Organisation adopts; and

(iv) are clearly communicated to the Participants under their jurisdiction,

and where any amendment goes beyond what is permitted by this Regulation 3(c), that provision will be deemed deleted and automatically replaced with the equivalent provision in these Regulations.

(d) all Relevant Cricket Organisations must decide who has responsibility for conducting the disciplinary process (and that entity will be the Relevant Disciplinary Body under these Regulations) and dealing with appeals (and that entity will be the Appeal Body under these Regulations). A Relevant Cricket Organisation may delegate responsibility to an appropriate Club, League or Recreational Cricket Board in relation to some, or all, categories of cases arising under these Regulations. However, in each case the Relevant Cricket Organisation must ensure that the Relevant Disciplinary Body and the Appeal Body has agreed to accept that responsibility and complies with the requirements in relation to the disciplinary and/or appeals process as set out in these Regulations;

(e) all Relevant Cricket Organisations must appoint a Disciplinary Officer, and ensure appropriate contact details for the Disciplinary Officer are made available to allow other Disciplinary Officers to contact them. Where resources allow, a disciplinary secretary should be appointed to deal with the administration of any Disciplinary Panel or Appeal Panel; and

(f) all Relevant Cricket Organisations must provide the ECB with any details requested in relation to any disciplinary matters it has carried out in accordance with these Regulations.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 2 and 4 for further information.

4. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed under these Regulations will be separate to any sanctions imposed under a Participant's employment contract or any action taken in accordance with a Club, League or Recreational Cricket Board's terms of membership.

CONDUCT OBLIGATIONS

On and around the field of play

5. Any cricketer will be in breach of these Regulations, at the relevant level of offence detailed below, if they do not conduct themselves fairly and properly on and around the field of play and otherwise in accordance with the Laws of Cricket or the Spirit of Cricket. Such conduct which will result in a breach of these Regulations will include any misconduct of a cricketer on any match day as specified in Law 42 of the Laws of Cricket, namely:

Level 1

(a) wilfully mistreating any part of the cricket ground or any equipment or implements used in the match;

(b) showing dissent at an umpire's decision by word or action;

(c) using language that, in the circumstances, is obscene, offensive or insulting;

(d) making an obscene gesture;

(e) appealing excessively;

(f) advancing towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing; and/or

(g) any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 1 offence; or

Level 2

(a) showing serious dissent at an umpire's decision by word or action;

(b) making inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with another cricketer;

(c) throwing the ball at or near a cricketer, umpire or another person in an inappropriate and dangerous manner;

(d) using language or gesture to another cricketer, umpire, team official or spectator that, in the circumstances, is obscene or of a seriously insulting nature; and/or

(e) any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 2 offence; or

Level 3

(a) intimidating an umpire by language or gesture; and/or

(b) threatening to assault a cricketer or any other person except an umpire; or

Level 4

(a) threatening to assault an umpire;

(b) making inappropriate and deliberate and/or dangerous physical contact with an umpire;

(c) physically assaulting a cricketer or any other person; and/or

(d) committing any other act of violence.

6. A cricketer will also be in breach of these Regulations on and around the field of play if they:

(a) commit any breach of Law 41 of the Laws of Cricket (*Unfair Play*); or

(b) act in a manner contrary to the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations; or

(c) conduct themselves in a manner or act in a manner which is improper, or which may be prejudicial to the interests of cricket, or which may bring the ECB, the game of cricket or any cricketer or group of cricketers into disrepute.

7. Any coach, match official or Club Official will be in breach of these Regulations if they fail to conduct themselves fairly and properly at any part of the cricket ground on any match day. Conduct which is not fair and proper and will therefore result in a breach of these Regulations will include, but not be limited to:

(a) making inappropriate and deliberate and/or dangerous physical contact with, threatening to assault, physically assaulting or committing any act of violence towards any other Participant (including an umpire) or any member of the public;

(b) showing dissent at an umpire's decision by language or gesture, advancing towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing or intimidating an umpire by language or gesture;

(c) using language that, in the circumstances, is obscene, offensive, insulting or seriously insulting;

(d) making an obscene or seriously insulting gesture;

(e) conducting themselves in a manner or acting in a manner which is improper, or which may

be prejudicial to the interests of cricket, or which may bring the ECB, the game of cricket or any cricketer or group of cricketers into disrepute; and/or

(f) acting in a manner contrary to the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 3 and A for further information.

8. If an umpire considers that there has been an On-Field Breach, they must (i) make reasonable efforts to inform the individual (or their captain or a Club Official) before they leave the ground and (ii) make a Disciplinary Report to the Disciplinary Officer of the Relevant Disciplinary Body. This Disciplinary Report will be made irrespective of any action the umpire may have taken on the field of play. Other individuals can also report On-Field Breaches either to the umpire, in which case the umpire will make a Disciplinary Report, or to the Disciplinary Officer directly by way of Written Complaint (for example, if the On-Field Breach relates to a match official). If there is no umpire appointed to a particular match, individuals can report On-Field Breaches to a captain or Club Official who can then make a Disciplinary Report on their behalf.

See Appendix 4, guidance note 5 for further information.

Captain/Team responsibility

9. If any cricketer commits two or more breaches of Regulation 5 or 6 (*Conduct obligations on and around the field of play)*, which take place during or immediately before or after a match, when playing for the same Club in a season it will automatically be a separate offence of failing to ensure that the relevant cricketers have complied with their obligations for each of:

(a) any person who captained the team in all of the relevant match(es); and

(b) the Club the cricketer was playing for.

10. Clubs will also be held responsible for disorderly behaviour at any part of the cricket ground on any match day by their members and spectators, unless they can show that:

(a) they took adequate steps to ensure that their members and spectators behaved in an orderly fashion; and/or

(b) they did not or could not control entry to that part of the cricket ground by the relevant spectators and it would therefore not be fair for them to be held responsible.

See Appendix 4, guidance note C for further information.

Off-field conduct

11. A Participant will be in breach of these Regulations if they commit any misconduct as set out below which either relates to their participation in Relevant Recreational Cricket and/or is of a sufficiently serious nature to justify disciplinary action being taken in relation to their participation in Relevant Recreational Cricket:

(a) making an abusive, obscene, offensive or otherwise insulting comment or gesture (in any form) in relation to any other Participant or any other person;

(b) any act of violence towards another person;

(c) engaging in behaviour that constitutes any form of abuse or harassment, whether physical, sexual, emotional, neglectful or bullying in nature;

(d) any breach of the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations;

(e) making any adverse public statement or comment in any form and by any means about the performance and/or decision(s) of any match official(s);

(f) failing to report to their Club, any Relevant Criminal Offence for which they have been

subject to investigation and/or charged with;

(g) conducting themselves in a manner, or doing or omitting to do anything which is or may be prejudicial to the interests of cricket, or which may bring or does bring the game of cricket or the ECB into disrepute;

(h) engaging in any corrupt conduct in relation to cricket, in particular:
  (i) fixing the result, progress, conduct or any aspect of a match;
  (ii) ensuring the occurrence of a particular incident in a match;
  (iii) accepting a bribe to conduct the activities described in (i) or (ii) above; and/or
  (iv) receiving a custodial sentence for any of the activities described in (i)-(iii) above; and/or

(i) failing to comply with any decisions or sanctions validly imposed on them following due process as prescribed by these Regulations.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 3, 15 and A for further information.

12. A Club will be in breach of these Regulations if, at any time:

(a) it fails to take reasonable steps to ensure the good behaviour and conduct of their Participants for any breach of these Regulations;

(b) it knowingly permits a cricketer who is suspended as a result of a previous breach of these Regulations to play in any match or competition;

(c) any of its Participants commit any serious, collective or repeated breaches of these Regulations;

(d) it commits any breach of its obligations under the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations; and/or

(e) it fails to comply with any decision(s) and/or sanction(s) validly imposed on it or on any person within the organisation, which has arisen following due process as prescribed by these Regulations.

13. A League will be in breach of these Regulations if, at any time, it:

(a) commits any breach of its obligations under the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations; or

(b) fails to comply with any decision(s) and/or sanction(s) validly imposed on it or on any person within the organisation, which has arisen following due process as prescribed by these Regulations.

14. Participants are considered responsible for any relevant posts on their social media accounts and may be in breach of Regulations 11 to 13 for posting, repeating, commenting or supporting posts or comments by others (e.g. 'retweeting' or 'liking') on social media that amount to a conduct breach under Regulations 11 to 13.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 3, 6 and A for further information.

15. If an umpire considers that there has been an Off-Field Breach which occurs on or around the field of play at a match, they will (i) make reasonable efforts to inform the individual (or their captain or a Club Official) before they leave the ground and (ii) make a Disciplinary Report to the Disciplinary Officer of the Relevant Disciplinary Body. Other individuals can also report an Off-Field Breach which occurs on or around the field of play at a match to the umpire, in which case the umpire will make a Disciplinary Report, or to the Disciplinary Officer directly (wherever the Off-Field Breach may have occurred) by way of a Written Complaint.

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

16. If the Relevant Disciplinary Body is aware that the Referral relates to a cricketer who is registered with a Professional County Club or a Hundred Team, the Disciplinary Officer must inform the Cricket Regulator by email to Integrity@cricketregulator.co.uk mailto:that the Referral has been received and provide any further information in respect of the disciplinary process that is requested by the Cricket Regulator.

17. If the Referral is of sufficient complexity, in accordance with Regulation 18 below, the Disciplinary Officer may request the Cricket Regulator to investigate and prosecute the case on behalf of the Relevant Disciplinary Body. The Disciplinary Officer must share the Referral with the Cricket Regulator by email to RecreationalDiscipline@cricketregulator.co.uk and the Cricket Regulator will confirm within 7 days whether it will accept the Referral. The Cricket Regulator is under no obligation to accept the Referral, whether on the basis that the Referral does not meet the applicable threshold, has not been submitted by a Relevant Disciplinary Body which falls under the jurisdiction of the ECB or otherwise. If the Cricket Regulator does not accept the Referral, the Disciplinary Officer must adopt the process set out in these Regulations.

18. For the purposes of Regulation 17, the following cases will be considered to be of sufficient complexity for the Disciplinary Officer to share the Referral with the Cricket Regulator:

    (i) allegations of breaches of the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations which are complex and/or at the upper end of the scale of seriousness;
    (ii) cases with police involvement and/or involving a Reportable Criminal Offence;
    (iii) cases which require specialist expertise, such as legal or safeguarding expertise; or
    (iv) cases which do not fall into categories (i) to (iii) above but the Disciplinary Officer nevertheless considers to be of significant complexity to justify the Cricket Regulator investigating and prosecuting the case, in which case the Cricket Regulator will determine whether the case reasonably requires the involvement of the Cricket Regulator.

    In determining whether to accept a Referral, the Cricket Regulator will consider whether it has jurisdiction to act in terms of whether the alleged misconduct took place on or around the field of play, or relates to a Participant's participation in Relevant Recreational Cricket or is of a sufficiently serious nature to justify disciplinary action being taken in relation to their participation in Relevant Recreational Cricket.

Disciplinary process for all cases save those referred under Regulation 17 (complex or serious)

19. Following receipt of a Referral, a Disciplinary Officer must consider whether there is sufficient information and/or grounds to charge the relevant Participant with a breach of these Regulations. If further information is required, the Disciplinary Officer will conduct any further investigation that is necessary. All Participants must co-operate fully with, and must in no way obstruct or delay, any investigation conducted by the Disciplinary Officer under these Regulations; as part of this obligation, Participants must provide any relevant documents, footage or recordings in their possession or control that are reasonably requested by the Disciplinary Officer. An Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel is entitled to draw an adverse inference from any breach of this duty to co-operate.

20. If there is sufficient information and/or grounds, the Disciplinary Officer will issue a Charge Letter to the Respondent or the Respondent's Club to share with the Respondent. If there is not, the Disciplinary Officer will inform the individual who submitted the Referral that no further action will be taken.

21. If the Disciplinary Officer decides that the matter does not require a Hearing, the Disciplinary Officer may refer the matter to be considered under the Summary Procedure and the process in Regulations 22-28 will apply. If the Disciplinary Officer decides that the matter does require a

Hearing, the process in Regulations 29-39 will apply.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 7, 8 and D for further information.

Summary Procedure

22. The Disciplinary Officer must provide the Charge Letter to the Adjudicator. If the Adjudicator considers that the matter is not appropriate for the Summary Procedure, the Adjudicator can refer the matter for a Hearing, in which case the process in Regulations 29-39 will apply but the Adjudicator will not form part of the Disciplinary Panel.

23. The Disciplinary Officer must then confirm to the Respondent (either in the Charge Letter or separately) the identity of the Adjudicator.

24. If the Respondent objects to the Adjudicator on the basis of a conflict of interest, the Disciplinary Officer must consider whether to appoint an alternative Adjudicator to consider the conflict of interest and/or as the Adjudicator in relation to the case.

25. The Adjudicator will set the Respondent a reasonable timeframe to respond to the Charge Letter in writing, if they wish to, and provide any further information which may be relevant.

26. The Adjudicator will consider the charge and determine whether, on the balance of probabilities, there has been a breach of these Regulations.

27. If the Adjudicator decides that there has been a breach of these Regulations, they will impose a sanction in accordance with the sanction guidelines in Appendix 3.

28. The Adjudicator's decision will be communicated to the Respondent (and, where applicable, the Respondent's Club) in writing.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 8, 10 and 13 for further information.

Hearing

29. The Disciplinary Officer will appoint a Disciplinary Panel Chair, who in turn will appoint a Disciplinary Panel, and the Disciplinary Officer will arrange a Hearing. The Disciplinary Officer will confirm to the Respondent (either in the Charge Letter or separately) the identity of the Disciplinary Panel members, where and when the Hearing will take place and, if the Hearing will take place virtually rather than in person, by what means. If the Respondent is unable to attend a Hearing at that date or time, the Disciplinary Officer will attempt to reschedule the Hearing.

30. In appropriate circumstances, including if the Respondent is not contesting the charge or does not wish to attend a Hearing, the Disciplinary Panel Chair may direct that the charge be considered by the Disciplinary Panel by way of written submissions only (i.e. without a Hearing) provided that a Hearing must be arranged if this is requested by the Respondent.

31. If the Respondent objects to any member of the Disciplinary Panel on the basis of a conflict of interest, it will be resolved by the Disciplinary Panel Chair unless the potential conflict has been raised in respect of the Disciplinary Panel Chair in which case the Disciplinary Officer will consider whether to appoint an alternative Disciplinary Panel Chair to consider the conflict of interest and/or be appointed to the Disciplinary Panel.

32. The Disciplinary Panel Chair will set the Respondent a reasonable timeframe to respond to the Charge Letter in writing and set any other directions for the exchange of information and/or evidence (which may include witness statements) that the Disciplinary Panel Chair considers appropriate. The Disciplinary Panel will not be bound by rules governing the admissibility of evidence in judicial or other proceedings. Instead, facts may be established by any reliable means, including admissions, circumstantial evidence and hearsay (to the extent appropriate). Findings in criminal and civil proceedings are admissible and assumed to be correct, unless it is shown by clear

and compelling evidence that this is not the case.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 9, 17 and E for further information.

33. In exceptional circumstances, the Disciplinary Panel Chair may suspend a Respondent from participating in cricket until the Hearing has concluded. If so, the Disciplinary Panel Chair will give the Respondent the opportunity to give written submissions on why it would not be appropriate to suspend the Respondent and consider those submissions before making any decision. Any suspension which has been ordered by the Disciplinary Panel Chair (or otherwise issued) will be taken into account by the Disciplinary Panel when considering what sanctions to impose in accordance with Regulation 36.

See Appendix 4, guidance note I for further information.

34. At the outset of any Hearing, the Disciplinary Panel Chair will confirm how the Disciplinary Panel would like the Hearing to proceed, and in particular how the case should be presented (and by whom). The Respondent (or their representative) will be entitled to provide oral submissions at the Hearing if they wish to do so.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 9, 17and F for further information.

35. At the end of any Hearing, the Disciplinary Panel will consider the charge (in private) and determine whether, on the balance of probabilities, there has been a breach of these Regulations. Any decision of the Disciplinary Panel will be taken by majority vote, with the Disciplinary Panel Chair having a casting vote in the event of a tie.

See Appendix 4, guidance note 10 for further information.

36. If the Disciplinary Panel decides that there has been a breach of these Regulations, it will impose a sanction in accordance with the sanction guidelines in Appendix 3.

37. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Disciplinary Panel's decision, any ban which is imposed by a Disciplinary Panel will apply to the Respondent's next match (or matches) following receipt of the decision by the Respondent or Respondent's Club, whichever is sooner, regardless of whether the match is in an ECB Competition.

38. Unless the Disciplinary Panel directs otherwise, the parties will bear their own costs of preparing for and attending a Hearing.

See Appendix 4, guidance note 12 for further information.

39. Wherever possible, the Disciplinary Panel Chair will communicate the decision and any sanction to the parties verbally at the end of the Hearing. The Disciplinary Panel's decision will also be confirmed to the parties (and, where applicable, the Respondent's Club) in writing following the Hearing.

See Appendix 4, guidance note 13 for further information.

APPEALS PROCESS FOR ALL CASES SAVE THOSE REFERRED UNDER REGULATION 17 (COMPLEX OR SERIOUS)

40. Any decision made by an Adjudicator or a Disciplinary Panel may be appealed by the Respondent. In order to commence an appeal, the Respondent must submit:

    (a) a Notice of Appeal; and

    (b) a fee to cover the standard administrative costs of the Appeal Panel,

    to the Disciplinary Officer of the Appeal Body within 7 days of receipt of the decision in writing.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 14 and G for further information.

41. The Notice of Appeal must contain at least one of the following grounds of appeal:
    (a) the Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel came to a decision to which no reasonable body could have come;
    (b) there was a serious procedural irregularity, which includes the Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel not following the procedure set out in these Regulations, in a way which significantly impacted the Appellant's rights and caused the decision to be unjust;
    (c) there is fresh evidence (in which case the Notice of Appeal must state why the evidence could not be presented at the original Hearing or before the original decision was made and is, or would have been, material to the decision); and/or
    (d) the sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Panel was manifestly excessive.

42. The Disciplinary Officer of the Appeal Body will appoint an Appeal Panel Chair to determine whether the Notice of Appeal identifies sufficient grounds for an appeal. The Appeal Panel Chair will notify the Respondent (and, where applicable, the Respondent's Club) and the Disciplinary Officer of the Relevant Disciplinary Body of their decision in writing.

43. Where the Appeal Panel Chair rejects the Notice of Appeal, the Respondent may refer the matter to a Recreational Discipline Panel Chair for review of that decision, via the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary, by sharing the Notice of Appeal and the Appeal Panel Chair's written decision by email to RecreationalDiscipline@cricketregulator.co.uk within 3 days of receipt of the decision.

44. The Recreational Discipline Panel Chair will confirm within 7 days whether it will accept the request. The Recreational Discipline Panel Chair is under no obligation to accept the Respondent's request, whether on the basis that the request does not disclose sufficient information to suggest that the Appeal Panel Chair's decision was wrong, has not been submitted in respect of an Appeal Body that falls under the jurisdiction of the ECB or otherwise.

45. If the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair does not accept the request, the Appeal Panel Chair's decision stands and there is no further right of review or appeal.

46. If the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair accepts the request, they will move on to review the Appeal Panel Chair's decision on the basis of the written documents only. If the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair determines that, on the balance of probabilities, the Notice of Appeal identifies sufficient grounds for an appeal, the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair will remit the matter back to the Disciplinary Officer of the Appeal Body, who must proceed to arrange for the appeal to be heard in accordance with Regulation 48. If the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair decides against the Respondent, the Appeal Panel Chair's decision stands and there is no further right of review or appeal.

47. Where a Recreational Discipline Panel Chair remits a matter back to be heard as an appeal following the decision of an Appeal Panel Chair not to allow an appeal to proceed, an alternative Appeal Panel Chair must be appointed from that which rejected the appeal under Regulation 43.

48. If there are sufficient grounds for an appeal, or if required by Regulation 46, the Disciplinary Officer of the Appeal Body will appoint an Appeal Panel and arrange an Appeal Hearing. No individual who was appointed as the Adjudicator or as a member of the original Disciplinary Panel or who has otherwise been involved in the case will be appointed to the Appeal Panel, save that the Appeal Panel Chair that allowed the appeal to proceed to an Appeal Hearing following review of the Notice of Appeal may be a member of the Appeal Panel. The Disciplinary Officer of the Appeal Body will confirm to the parties the identity of the Appeal Panel members, where and when the Appeal Hearing will take place and, if the Appeal Hearing will take place

virtually rather than in person, by what means. If either of the parties are unable to attend the Appeal Hearing at that date or time, the Disciplinary Officer of the Appeal Body will attempt to reschedule the Appeal Hearing.

See Appendix 4, guidance note 14 for further information.

49. Unless otherwise determined by the Appeal Panel Chair (following consideration of any written submissions from the parties), any sanction imposed by an Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel will not come into effect until the appeal has been determined.

50. If the Respondent objects to any member of the Appeal Panel on the basis of a conflict of interest, it will be resolved by the Appeal Panel Chair unless the potential conflict has been raised in respect of the Appeal Panel Chair in which case the Disciplinary Officer will consider whether to appoint an alternative Appeal Panel Chair to consider the conflict of interest and/or be appointed to the Appeal Panel.

51. The Appeal Panel Chair will set the Disciplinary Officer of the Relevant Disciplinary Body a reasonable timeframe in which to respond to the Notice of Appeal in writing, if they so wish, and set any other directions for the exchange of information and/or evidence that the Appeal Panel Chair considers appropriate.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 14, 17 and H for further information.

52. Unless the appeal is brought under Regulation 41(c), the Appellant has no right to a complete rehearing of the case and the Appeal Panel will instead consider whether the grounds of appeal have been made out. If an appeal is brought under Regulation 41(c), if the Appeal Panel determines that the fresh evidence is admissible the Appeal Panel will consider whether to re-hear the case in full.

53. At the outset of the Appeal Hearing, the Appeal Panel Chair will confirm how the Appeal Panel would like the Appeal Hearing to proceed, and in particular how the case should be presented (and by whom). The parties will be entitled to provide oral submissions at the Appeal Hearing if they wish to do so.

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 17 and J for further information.

54. At the end of the Appeal Hearing, the Appeal Panel will consider the appeal (in private) and determine whether, on the balance of probabilities, the appeal should be allowed (in whole or in part). Any decision of the Appeal Panel will be taken by majority vote, with the Appeal Panel Chair having a casting vote in the event of a tie.

See Appendix 4, guidance note 10 for further information.

55. If the appeal is allowed (in whole or in part), the Appeal Panel may disapply the sanction imposed by the Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel or issue a new sanction in accordance with the sanction guidelines in Appendix 3. If the appeal is dismissed, the sanction imposed by the Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel will remain in place.

56. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Appeal Panel's decision, any ban which is imposed or maintained by an Appeal Panel will apply to the Respondent's next match (or matches) following receipt of the decision by the Respondent or Respondent's Club, whichever is sooner, regardless of whether the match is in an ECB Competition.

57. The Appeal Panel Chair will decide whether to make a costs order and whether the appeal fee will be refunded to the Appellant in the event of a successful appeal. Any costs ordered by the Appeal Panel will be limited to £250 (which will be paid on top of the appeal fee referred to in Regulation 40).

See Appendix 4, guidance notes 12 and K for further information.

58. Wherever possible, the Appeal Panel Chair will communicate the decision and any sanction to the parties verbally at the end of the Appeal Hearing. The Appeal Panel's decision will also be confirmed to the parties (and, where applicable, the Appellant's Club) in writing following the Appeal Hearing. Where the Appeal Body is a League, decisions of the Appeal Panel must also be provided to the Disciplinary Officer of the relevant Recreational Cricket Board to which the League is affiliated.

See Appendix 4, guidance note 13 for further information.

59. If an appeal is dismissed, the unsuccessful Appellant may make a request to the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary to appoint a Review Panel to review the decision of the Appeal Panel (the "**Review**").

60. The sole ground on which such a request can be made is that there was a serious procedural irregularity affecting the Appeal Panel's decision which significantly impacted the Appellant's rights and caused the Appeal Panel's decision to be unjust (the "**Sole Ground of Review**").

61. Any request to the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary under Regulation 59 must be made within 7 days of receipt by the Appellant of the Appeal Panel's decision in writing, and must include:
    (i) a copy of the Appeal Panel's decision;
    (ii) written reasons explaining how the Sole Ground of Review is satisfied in relation to that decision;
    (iii) the original Notice of Appeal; and
    (iv) any other documents or evidence that was submitted to the Appeal Panel in order for it to reach its decision,

    together, the "**Notice of Review**".

62. The Notice of Review must be sent to the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary by email to RecreationalDiscipline@cricketregulator.co.uk, with a copy sent to the Disciplinary Officer of the Appeal Body whose Appeal Panel's decision is being challenged.

63. The Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary will appoint a Review Panel Chair who will confirm within 7 days whether the request for a Review will be accepted. The Review Panel Chair is under no obligation to accept the request, whether on the basis that the Sole Ground of Review is clearly not satisfied, the decision has not been made by an Appeal Panel on behalf of an Appeal Body which falls under the jurisdiction of the ECB or otherwise. If the Review Panel Chair does not accept the request, the Appeal Panel's decision will stand and there is no further right of review or appeal.

64. If the Review Panel Chair accepts the request for a Review, the Review Panel Chair will appoint a Review Panel to determine the Review. No individual who has previously been involved with the case will be appointed to the Review Panel, save that the Review Panel Chair that accepted the request may be a member of the Review Panel.

65. Unless otherwise ordered by the Review Panel Chair, any sanction upheld or otherwise imposed by the Appeal Panel will not come into effect until the Review has been determined.

66. The Review Panel Chair will set the Disciplinary Officer of the Appeal Body a reasonable timeframe in which to respond to the Notice of Review in writing, if they so wish, and set any other directions for the exchange of information and/or evidence that they consider appropriate. The Review Panel may adopt such procedure as it considers appropriate, which may include considering the matter on written evidence/submissions alone or hearing oral submissions from the parties (or their representatives).

67. The Review Panel will consider the matter (in private) and determine whether, on the balance of probabilities, the Sole Ground of Review is made out. Any decision of the Review Panel will be taken by majority vote, with the Review Panel Chair having a casting vote in the event of a tie.

68. If the Review Panel decides that the Sole Ground of Review has been made out, the Appeal Panel's decision will be set aside and either:
    (i) any sanction originally imposed on the Appellant will not apply and the case will be considered finally determined; or
    (ii) in exceptional circumstances, the Review Panel will refer the case back to the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary for a Recreational Discipline Panel Chair and Recreational Discipline Panel to be appointed in order for the case to be heard afresh in accordance with Regulations 75-86. Any decision of such a Recreational Discipline Panel will be final and binding and there will be no further right of appeal.

69. If the Review Panel decides that the Sole Ground of Review has not been made out, the decision of the Appeal Panel will remain in place and any ban which was imposed or maintained will apply to the Appellant's next match (or matches) following receipt of the Review Panel's decision by the Appellant or Appellant's Club, whichever is sooner.

70. The Review Panel Chair will decide whether to make a costs order and whether the Appeal Body will be required to refund the Appellant's original appeal fee.

71. The Review Panel's decision will be delivered to the parties in writing (and, where relevant, may be shared with the Appellant's Club). Where the Review involves an Appeal Body that is a League, decisions of the Review Panel may also be provided to the Disciplinary Officer of the relevant Recreational Cricket Board to which the League is affiliated.

72. Any decision of the Review Panel is final and binding, and there is no further right of review or appeal.

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS FOR CASES REFERRED TO THE CRICKET REGULATOR UNDER REGULATION 17 (COMPLEX OR SERIOUS)

73. Following a Referral being accepted by the Cricket Regulator under Regulation 17 of these Regulations, the Cricket Regulator will consider whether there is sufficient information and/or grounds to charge the relevant Participant with a breach of these Regulations. If further information is required, the Cricket Regulator will conduct (either internally or via a third party) any further investigation that is necessary. All Participants must co-operate fully with, and must in no way obstruct or delay, any investigation conducted by the Cricket Regulator under these Regulations; as part of this obligation, Participants must provide any relevant documents, footage or recordings in their possession or control that are reasonably requested by the Cricket Regulator. Any failure to co-operate will constitute a standalone breach of these Regulations and the Cricket Regulator may bring a charge for such breach as it sees fit. In addition, a Recreational Discipline Panel is entitled to draw an adverse inference from any breach of this duty to co-operate.

74. If there is sufficient information and/or grounds, the Cricket Regulator will issue a Charge Letter to the Respondent or the Respondent's Club to share with the Respondent. The Respondent will have 14 days to respond to the Charge Letter in writing. This period may be extended by agreement of the parties, failing which it can only be extended by a Recreational Discipline Panel Chair in exceptional circumstances. If there is not sufficient information and/or grounds to charge, the Cricket Regulator will inform the individual who submitted the Referral that no further action will be taken.

Hearing

75. The Cricket Regulator will instruct the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary to appoint a Recreational Discipline Panel Chair, who in turn will appoint a Recreational Discipline Panel.

76. The Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary will arrange a Hearing. The Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary will confirm to the Respondent (either in the Charge Letter or separately) the identity of the Recreational Discipline Panel members, where and when the Hearing will take place and, if the Hearing will take place virtually rather than in person, by what means. If the Respondent is unable to attend a Hearing at that date or time, the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary will attempt to reschedule the Hearing.

77. If the Respondent objects to any member of the Recreational Discipline Panel on the basis of a conflict of interest, it will be resolved by the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair unless the potential conflict has been raised in respect of the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair in which case the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary will consider whether to appoint an alternative Recreational Discipline Panel Chair to consider the conflict of interest and/or be appointed to the Recreational Discipline Panel.

78. In appropriate circumstances, including if the Respondent is not contesting the charge or does not wish to attend a Hearing, the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair may direct that the charge be considered by the Recreational Discipline Panel by way of written submissions only (i.e. without a Hearing) provided that a Hearing must be arranged if this is requested by the Respondent.

79. The Recreational Discipline Panel Chair will set any other directions for the exchange of information and/or evidence (which may include witness statements) that the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair considers appropriate. The Recreational Discipline Panel will not be bound by rules governing the admissibility of evidence in judicial or other proceedings. Instead, facts may be established by any reliable means, including admissions, circumstantial evidence and hearsay (to the extent appropriate). Findings in criminal and civil proceedings are admissible and assumed to be correct, unless it is shown by clear and compelling evidence that this is not the case.

80. In exceptional circumstances, the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair may suspend a Respondent from participating in cricket until the Hearing has concluded. If so, the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair will give the Respondent the opportunity to give written submissions on why it would be inappropriate to suspend the Respondent and consider those submissions before making any decision. Any suspension which has been ordered by the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair (or otherwise issued) will be taken into account by the Recreational Discipline Panel when considering what sanctions to impose in accordance with Regulation 83.

81. At the outset of any Hearing, the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair will confirm how the Recreational Discipline Panel would like the Hearing to proceed, and in particular how the case should be presented (and by whom). The parties (or their representatives) will be entitled to provide oral submissions at the Hearing if they wish to do so.

82. At the end of any Hearing, the Recreational Discipline Panel will consider the charge (in private) and determine whether, on the balance of probabilities, there has been a breach of these Regulations. Any decision of the Recreational Discipline Panel will be taken by majority vote, with the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair having a casting vote in the event of a tie.

83. If the Recreational Discipline Panel decides that there has been a breach of these Regulations, it will impose a sanction in accordance with the sanction guidelines in Appendix 3.

84. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Recreational Discipline Panel's decision, any ban which is imposed by a Recreational Discipline Panel will apply to the Respondent's next match (or matches) following receipt of the decision by the Respondent or Respondent's Club, whichever

is sooner, regardless of whether the match is in an ECB Competition.

85. Unless the Recreational Discipline Panel directs otherwise, the parties will bear their own costs of preparing for and attending a Hearing.

86. Wherever possible, the Recreational Discipline Panel Chair will communicate the decision and any sanction to the parties verbally at the end of the Hearing. The Recreational Discipline Panel's decision will also be confirmed to the parties (and, where applicable, the Respondent's Club) in writing following the Hearing.

APPEALS PROCESS FOR CASES REFERRED TO THE CRICKET REGULATOR UNDER REGULATION 17 (COMPLEX OR SERIOUS)

87. Subject to Regulation 68(ii), any decision made by a Recreational Discipline Panel may be appealed by the Respondent. In order to commence an appeal, the Respondent must submit:

    (a) a Notice of Appeal; and

    (b) a fee of £125 to cover the standard administrative costs of the Recreational Appeal Panel;

    to the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary within 7 days of receipt of the Recreational Discipline Panel's decision in writing.

88. The Notice of Appeal must contain at least one of the following grounds of appeal:

    (a) the Recreational Discipline Panel came to a decision to which no reasonable body could have come;

    (b) there was a serious procedural irregularity, which includes the Recreational Discipline Panel not following the procedure set out in these Regulations, in a way which significantly impacted the Appellant's rights and caused the decision to be unjust;

    (c) there is fresh evidence (in which case the Notice of Appeal must state why the evidence could not be presented at the original Hearing or before the original decision was made and is, or would have been, material to the decision); and/or

    (d) the sanction imposed was manifestly excessive.

89. The Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary will appoint a Recreational Appeal Panel Chair to determine whether the Notice of Appeal identifies sufficient grounds for an appeal. The Recreational Appeal Panel Chair will notify the Appellant (and, where applicable, the Appellant's Club) and the Cricket Regulator of their decision in writing.

90. Where the Recreational Appeal Panel Chair rejects the Notice of Appeal, the sanction imposed by the Recreational Discipline Panel will remain in place and there is no further right of review or appeal.

91. If there are sufficient grounds for an appeal to proceed, the Recreational Appeal Panel Chair will appoint a Recreational Appeal Panel and notify the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary, who will arrange a Recreational Appeal Hearing. No individual who was appointed as a member of the original Recreational Discipline Panel or who has otherwise been involved in the case will be appointed to the Recreational Appeal Panel, save that the Recreational Appeal Panel Chair who initially reviewed the Notice of Appeal may be a member of the Recreational Appeal Panel.

92. The Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary will confirm to the parties the identity of the Recreational Appeal Panel members, where and when the Recreational Appeal Hearing will take place and, if it will take place virtually rather than in person, by what means. If either of the parties are unable to attend the Recreational Appeal Hearing at that date or time, the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary will attempt to reschedule the Recreational Appeal Hearing.

93. If the Appellant objects to any member of the Recreational Appeal Panel on the basis of a conflict of interest, it will be resolved by the Recreational Appeal Panel Chair unless the potential conflict has been raised in respect of the Recreational Appeal Panel Chair in which case the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary will consider whether to appoint an alternative Recreational Appeal Panel Chair to consider the conflict of interest and/or be appointed to the Recreational Appeal Panel.

94. Unless otherwise determined by the Recreational Appeal Panel Chair (following consideration of any written submissions from the parties), any sanction imposed by a Recreational Discipline Panel will not come into effect until the appeal has been determined.

95. The Recreational Appeal Panel Chair will set the Cricket Regulator a reasonable timeframe in which to respond to the Notice of Appeal in writing, if it so wishes, and set any other directions for the exchange of information and/or evidence that they consider appropriate.

96. Unless the appeal is brought under Regulation 88(c), the Appellant has no right to a rehearing of the case and the Recreational Appeal Panel will consider whether the grounds of appeal have been made out. If an appeal is brought under Regulation 88(c), if the Recreational Appeal Panel determines that the fresh evidence is admissible the Recreational Appeal Panel will consider whether to re-hear the case in full.

97. At the outset of the Recreational Appeal Hearing, the Recreational Appeal Panel Chair will confirm how the Recreational Appeal Panel would like the hearing to proceed, and in particular how the case should be presented (and by whom). The parties (or their representatives) will be entitled to provide oral submissions at the hearing if they wish to do so.

98. The Recreational Appeal Panel will consider the appeal (in private) at the end of the hearing and determine whether, on the balance of probabilities, the appeal should be allowed (in whole or in part). Any decision of the Recreational Appeal Panel will be taken by majority vote, with the Recreational Appeal Panel Chair having a casting vote in the event of a tie.

99. If the appeal is allowed (in whole or in part), the Recreational Appeal Panel may disapply the sanction imposed by the Recreational Discipline Panel or issue a new sanction in accordance with the sanction guidelines in Appendix 3. If the appeal is dismissed, the sanction imposed by the Recreational Discipline Panel will remain in place.

100. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Recreational Appeal Panel's decision, any ban which is imposed or maintained by the Recreational Appeal Panel will apply to the Appellant's next match (or matches) following receipt of the decision by the Appellant or Appellant's Club, whichever is sooner, regardless of whether the match is in an ECB Competition.

101. The Recreational Appeal Panel Chair will decide whether to make a costs order and whether the appeal fee will be refunded to the Appellant in the event of a successful appeal. Any costs ordered by the Recreational Appeal Panel will be limited to £1,000 (which will be paid on top of the appeal fee referred to in Regulation 87).

102. Wherever possible, the Recreational Appeal Panel Chair will communicate the decision and any sanction to the parties verbally at the end of the Recreational Appeal Hearing. The Recreational Appeal Panel's decision will also be confirmed to the parties (and, where applicable, the Appellant's Club) in writing following the Recreational Appeal Hearing. Where a Referral originally came from a League, decisions of the Recreational Appeal Panel may also be provided to the Disciplinary Officer of the relevant Recreational Cricket Board to which the League is affiliated.

103. Any decision of a Recreational Appeal Panel is final and binding and there is no further right of appeal or review.

APPLICABILITY OF PENALTIES

104. The Disciplinary Officer of the Relevant Disciplinary Body and/or Appeal Body and the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary (as applicable) will communicate any sanction imposed or upheld by any Adjudicator, Disciplinary Panel, Appeal Panel, Recreational Discipline Panel, Recreational Appeal Panel or Review Panel under these Regulations to any League that they are aware the Respondent participates in (including any league run by a Recreational Cricket Board) and the Cricket Regulator in respect of any Respondent in Professional Cricket.

105. Any ban which is imposed under these Regulations will be applicable to all cricket that falls under the ECB's regulatory jurisdiction. As bans take effect across all regulated cricket they may be required to be served in a Match (or Matches) which are not in the same league or competition that the disciplinary incident arose in (including in Professional Cricket).

See Appendix 4, guidance note 11 for further information.

106. All Participants, cricket organisations and the ECB (subject to the specific provisions in the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations) will immediately recognise, give effect to and fully enforce any sanction(s) which have been imposed under these Regulations, the Recreational Conduct Regulations, the ECB GCR or the Disciplinary Procedure Regulations and which they have been notified about.

REVIEW OF LIFETIME BANS

107. Any Participant serving a lifetime ban from all cricket imposed under these Regulations may apply to the Relevant Disciplinary Body that imposed the ban (or, in the case of a lifetime ban imposed by a Recreational Discipline Panel, may apply to the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary) for their sanction to be reviewed.

108. A lifetime ban may only be commuted if, having taken into account the views of any victim(s) (where available), a Disciplinary Panel or Recreational Discipline Panel (as applicable) is satisfied that the applicant:

(a) does not pose a threat to the safety of other Participants;

(b) has demonstrated sustained good conduct; and

(c) has taken significant steps to redeem themselves, whether by (i) making a positive contribution to society, whether at a national or local level, or (ii) participating in educational/reformative programmes.

109. An application for a lifetime ban to be reviewed must be made in writing to the Relevant Disciplinary Body (or the Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary, if applicable) accompanied by any evidence the applicant wishes to submit in support of their application.

110. Upon receipt of an application the relevant Disciplinary Officer (or Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary, if applicable) will appoint a Disciplinary Panel Chair (or Recreational Discipline Panel Chair) who in turn will appoint a Disciplinary Panel (or Recreational Discipline Panel), and a hearing will be arranged to determine the application.

111. The Disciplinary Officer (or Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary, as applicable) will confirm to the applicant the identity of the appointed panel, where and when the hearing will take place and, if the hearing will take place virtually rather than in person, by what means. If the applicant is unable to attend a hearing at that date or time, the Disciplinary Officer (or Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary) will attempt to reschedule the hearing.

112. If the applicant objects to any member of the panel on the basis of a conflict of interest, it will be resolved by the chair of that panel, unless the potential conflict has been raised in respect of that person in which case the Disciplinary Officer (or Recreational Discipline Panel Secretary, as applicable) will consider whether to appoint an alternative chair to consider the conflict of

interest and/or be appointed to the panel.

113. The chair will set the Disciplinary Officer (or Cricket Regulator, as applicable) a reasonable timeframe in which to respond to the application in writing, if they so wish, and set any other directions for the exchange of information and/or evidence that they consider appropriate. The Disciplinary Officer (or Cricket Regulator, as applicable) must use reasonable efforts to obtain a response to the application from the victim(s) of the offence(s) which led to the lifetime ban being imposed.

114. At the outset of the hearing, the chair will confirm how the hearing will proceed, and in particular how the case should be presented (and by whom). The parties (or their representatives) will be entitled to provide oral submissions at the hearing if they wish to do so. The panel will not be bound by rules governing the admissibility of evidence in judicial or other proceedings. Instead, facts may be established by any reliable means, including admissions, circumstantial evidence and hearsay (to the extent appropriate). Findings in criminal and civil proceedings are admissible and assumed to be correct, unless it is shown by clear and compelling evidence that this is not the case.

115. The panel will consider the application (in private) at the end of the hearing and determine whether, on the balance of probabilities, the lifetime ban should be commuted. Any decision of the panel will be taken by majority vote, with the chair having a casting vote in the event of a tie. If the application is successful, the panel may disapply the lifetime ban or reduce it to a lesser period of suspension, taking into account time already served by the applicant.

116. Wherever possible, the chair will communicate the panel's decision to the parties verbally at the end of the hearing. The panel's decision will also be confirmed to the parties (and, where applicable, the applicant's Club) in writing following the hearing. Where the lifetime ban was originally imposed by a League's Disciplinary Panel, decisions of the panel under Regulation 115 may also be provided to the Disciplinary Officer of the relevant Recreational Cricket Board to which that League is affiliated.

117. If the application is dismissed, the lifetime ban will remain in place and there will be no further right of review or appeal.

MISCELLANEOUS

118. Where the incident(s) leading to any charge relating to conduct occurred when any other disciplinary regulations were in force, then:

    (a) the offences which may be charged and the sanctions that may be applied will be determined by the regulations that were in force at the time of the offence; and

    (b) the process to be followed will be determined by the regulations that were in force when the complaint was first brought to the attention of the Relevant Disciplinary Body.

119. Leagues and Clubs will maintain a record of all disciplinary decisions and, where applicable, sanctions imposed.

Appendix 1
Disciplinary Report Template

The Disciplinary Officer of the Relevant Disciplinary Body will use the information contained in this form, along with any other conduct history and information it holds about the Participant, to determine what disciplinary action (if any) is to be taken. The Disciplinary Officer may pass it on to an Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel where necessary who may use it to assist in their disciplinary decisions.

***[Data protection.** Each person whose personal data is to be recorded on this form should receive the Relevant Disciplinary Body's Privacy Notice attached to this form.]*

	To be completed by Umpire (or any other reporting party where relevant)
Competition/Match/Teams	
Venue/Location	
Date	
Participant's Name	
Participant's Club	
Captain (of the Participant's Club) on the day	
Persons present (witnesses to incident)	
Umpire(s) Name(s) (and ACO Number(s) if known)	
Umpire's report of the incident (include name(s) and Clubs of those involved in the incident) *Please continue on separate sheet if necessary. Please detail whether the matter was dealt with on-field.*	
Regulation(s)/Law(s) breached	
Level of On-Field breach	
Any relevant comments that the Participant has made	
Date cricketer, captain or Club Official notified of the alleged breach	

[ENCLOSE COPY OF PRIVACY NOTICE OF RELEVANT DISCIPLINARY BODY]

Appendix 2
Charge Letter Template

[FULL NAME OF RESPONDENT (PERSON, CLUB OR LEAGUE)]
[ADDRESS OF RESPONDENT]

[DATE OF LETTER]

Dear [INSERT NAME OF RESPONDENT]

CHARGE LETTER

You are charged with breaching the following provisions of the ECB's General Conduct Regulations, a full copy of which is enclosed with this letter [together with the Disciplinary Body's Privacy Notice which explains how personal data in this matter will be used]:

(1) [LIST RELEVANT REGULATION(S) BREACHED]

(2) [LIST RELEVANT REGULATION(S) BREACHED]

[IF INDIVIDUAL RESPONDENT] Please confirm which cricket leagues and/or competitions you participate in and in which county or counties.

Facts

[It is alleged that on [DATE] at [PLACE/MATCH] you [INSERT BACKGROUND FACTS TO ALLEGATION(S)]

Evidence

The evidence relied on in this matter is [INSERT DETAILS OF ANY EVIDENCE RELIED ON FOR THIS CHARGE].

[Procedure

In accordance with Regulation 29 of the ECB's General Conduct Regulations, I have appointed a Disciplinary Panel Chair as follows:

[INSERT NAME OF CHAIR] (Disciplinary Panel Chair)

The Disciplinary Panel Chair has appointed the following members to form a Disciplinary Panel:

[INSERT NAME OF PANEL MEMBER]

[INSERT NAME OF PANEL MEMBER]

If you object to any of the above Disciplinary Panel members on the basis of a conflict of interest, please notify me as soon as possible in writing, stating the reason(s) for your objection(s).

The Disciplinary Panel Chair will set you a timeframe by which to reply to this Charge Letter in writing and set any other directions for the exchange of information and/or evidence that the Disciplinary Panel Chair considers appropriate. You will be informed of the date, time, and place of the Hearing as soon as possible.

All parties to the Hearing will have the right to:

(a) be accompanied;

(b) have the complaint explained;

(c) see and hear the evidence being presented;

(d) present their account of the relevant conduct;

(e) represent themselves at the Hearing or arrange for a third party to act on their behalf; and/or

(f) ask for the Hearing to be rearranged and offer reasonable alternative date(s) if they are unable to attend on the date proposed.

The charge(s) detailed in this Charge Letter will be the only charges heard at the Hearing.

OR

Procedure

In accordance with Regulation 22 of the ECB's General Conduct Regulations, I have provided this Charge Letter to the Adjudicator, [INSERT NAME OF ADJUDICATOR].

If you object to the Adjudicator on the basis of a conflict of interest, please notify me as soon as possible in writing, stating the reason(s) for your objection(s).

The Adjudicator will set you a timeframe by which to reply to this Charge Letter in writing, if you wish to do so, and to provide any other information that you consider relevant.

The Adjudicator will then consider whether there has been a breach of the Regulations and, if so, what sanction should be applied.]

Your sincerely

[INSERT NAME OF DISCIPLINARY OFFICER AND RELEVANT CRICKET ORGANISATION]

Encl. [ENCLOSE COPY OF GCR AND PRIVACY NOTICE OF RELEVANT DISCIPLINARY BODY]

Appendix 3
Sanction Guidelines

1. **The table below sets out recommended sanctions to be applied on Respondents in respect of On-Field Breaches. However, the Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel will not be limited to imposing the recommended sanctions and can impose greater or lesser sanctions as appropriate in the circumstances of the particular case.**

2. Unless the Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel stipulate otherwise, bans will apply to all cricket, be effective immediately and, for the purpose of totting up the number of breaches within a specified period, will remain on the Respondent's record for 24 calendar months from the date of the breach.

Level of On-field breach	First On-Field breach	Second On-Field Breach (within 24 months)	Third On-Field Breach (within 24 months)
Level 1	1 match ban	2 match ban	3 match ban
Level 2	2 match ban	4 match ban	12 match ban
Level 3	6 match ban	12 match ban	24 match ban
Level 4	10 match ban	20 match ban	40 match ban

3. If Adjudicators or Disciplinary Panels prefer, they can stipulate that bans cover:
   (a) a specific time period, e.g. one week; and/or
   (b) a specific number of days of cricket.

   However, it is important for decisions to be clear about the scope of any ban, including when a specific time period starts and ends. See Appendix 4 guidance note 11.

4. The Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel will take into account all aggravating and mitigating factors when determining the appropriate sanction. The Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel will determine whether, and to what extent, to depart from the standard sanctions and/or to impose additional or lesser penalties as they deem fit, including (but not limited to) the following, which may be suspended (in full or in part):

   All Respondents

   (a) Caution or reprimand
   (b) Letter of apology
   (c) Fine of no more than £500
   (d) Ban of a period of matches or weeks
   (e) Expulsion of the cricketer from a League or competition

   Clubs

   (f) Deduction of a Club's league points
   (g) Expulsion of a Club from a League or competition
   (h) Relegation to a lower division of a League

   The sanctions described in paragraph 4(a) to 4(h) above can only be imposed on a Club if this is consistent with the rules in place for the relevant League or competition.

5. The Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel will give consideration to the following aggravating and mitigating factors, as appropriate, to include but not limited to:

Aggravating factors

(a) The ages of the Respondent and any victim at the time of the offence, particularly where the victim was a minor and the Respondent was not.
(b) The profile of the Respondent, including whether they hold a position of responsibility within their Club (e.g. Club captain, Chair or member of senior management).
(c) Poor previous disciplinary record.
(d) Failure to cooperate with the Disciplinary Officer and/or Relevant Disciplinary Body.
(e) Any attempt to conceal the breach.
(f) The extent of any premeditation or planning.
(g) The level of harm and/or distress incurred.
(h) The public nature of the offence (such as commission of the offence in a public place, via broadcast media or a social media platform).
(i) Use of discriminatory language or conduct, or any other behaviour that breaches the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations, whilst also carrying out a separate offence under the Regulations.

Mitigating factors

(a) Good previous disciplinary record.
(b) The age of the Respondent at the time of the offence.
(c) Admission at the earliest opportunity, where the factual conduct forming the basis of the charge would be capable of being disputed.
(d) Demonstration of genuine remorse.
(e) Co-operation with the Disciplinary Officer and/or Relevant Disciplinary Body.
(f) Inexperience of the Respondent by reference to their age or background at the time of the offence.
(g) In respect of social media posts, the age of the post and the Respondent's age at the time of the post.

Appendix 4
Guidance

A. The on-field behaviour listed in Regulation 5 mirrors the conduct provisions in the Laws of Cricket and additional conduct provisions have been included in Regulations 6-7 and 9-13. Relevant Cricket Organisations can stipulate that additional categories of on-field and/or off-field behaviour will constitute an On-Field Breach or an Off-Field Breach in accordance with the version of these Regulations that they adopt. If so, the Regulations and definition of On-Field Breach and Off-Field Breach should be amended accordingly. For the avoidance of doubt, Relevant Cricket Organisations cannot exclude any of the categories of on-field or off-field behaviour which fall within the definition of On-Field Breach or Off-Field Breach in the version of these Regulations published by the ECB from time to time.

B. Relevant Cricket Organisations can stipulate that players under their jurisdiction are obliged to report additional categories of offence to them. If so, the definition of Relevant Criminal Offence should be amended accordingly.

1. Jurisdiction (Definitions)

1.1. When a definition or regulation refers to someone (or something) being "*under the jurisdiction*" of another body or organisation (for example, the definition of *"*Participant*"*), this means that the relationship between that person and other body is such that the body or organisation has official power to make decisions or judgments in respect of that person. For example, when a cricketer signs up to join and play for a cricket club, they agree to be bound by the rules and regulations of that cricket club and are therefore officially under that cricket club's jurisdiction.

2. Scope of these Regulations

2.1. These Regulations do not apply to competitions organised by Professional County Clubs, including any academy fixtures, nor the Tier 3 Competitions.

2.2. If a Recreational Cricket Board or National County arranges or participates in ad hoc or friendly matches that do not form part of a formal competition structure, these Regulations will not apply to those fixtures and the Recreational Conduct Regulations will apply instead.

2.3. These Regulations also do not apply to competitions organised by University Centres of Cricketing Excellence or Colleges of Sport.

2.4. The ECB GCR will apply to any competitions organised by the ECB, including County Age Group and Emerging Player Programme fixtures.

3. Anti-Discrimination Regulations

3.1. The ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations can be found on the following ECB webpage, along with guidance on the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations: https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/regulations/recreational-cricket.

3.2. Although every case will be considered on its facts, the starting position is that all On-Field Offences which involve an alleged breach of the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations should be considered equivalent to a Level 3 breach and charged accordingly. The Disciplinary Officer and/or the Disciplinary Panel may consider that an alleged breach of the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations in a particular case is not equivalent to a Level 3 breach, based on the severity of the alleged conduct, and charge and/or sanction on that basis.

4. Responsibility for disciplinary processes (Regulations 3(c)-(d))

4.1. Relevant Cricket Organisations are responsible for implementing the disciplinary

processes contained in these Regulations in respect of those Participants that are under their jurisdiction. In the case of Recreational Cricket Boards, this will be those Participants that commit On-Field Breaches and Off-Field Breaches in any competitions organised by a Recreational Cricket Board, as well as Off-Field Breaches committed by Participants where there is no obvious connection with any other Relevant Cricket Organisation. An example of the latter might be where a cricketer at a Club which is affiliated to a Recreational Cricket Board posts something discriminatory on social media in the close season. Relevant Cricket Organisations may make other arrangements delegating responsibility for cases that fall within their jurisdiction, as described in paragraph 4.2 below.

4.2. Relevant Cricket Organisations may already have structures in place where there is an agreed division of responsibility between Clubs, Leagues and Recreational Cricket Boards about which categories of case will be determined by which entity. Whilst the ECB would prefer for there to be consistency in this across the game, we appreciate that in many cases these systems are operating effectively and therefore are not seeking to disrupt this approach at this stage. However, in order for these Regulations to be effective it is crucial that there is consistency of process, procedure and approach to sanctions. Accordingly, Relevant Cricket Organisations who wish to retain that existing structure will not be in breach of these Regulations provided that whichever Club, League and/or Recreational Cricket Board has jurisdiction over a particular category of cases complies with the requirements in relation to the disciplinary and/or appeals process as set out in these Regulations.

4.3. Relevant Cricket Organisations should consider, and clearly stipulate to all Participants:

(a) Whether offences at Level 1 and Level 2 should be determined by the same Relevant Disciplinary Body as offences at Level 3 and Level 4.

(b) Whether On-Field Breaches should be determined by the same Relevant Disciplinary Body as Off-Field Breaches.

(c) Which cricket organisation has jurisdiction in respect of each of cricketers, coaches, club officials and/or match officials.

(d) Which cricket organisation has jurisdiction in respect of appeals.

5. Disciplinary Reports and Written Complaints (Regulation 8)

5.1. Disciplinary Reports and Written Complaints must only be submitted in good faith, i.e. with honest intentions and containing correct information (to the best of the individual's knowledge). The primary purpose of allowing Written Complaints to be submitted by individuals other than the umpire is to capture offences that an umpire did not see but which would constitute an offence if the umpire had seen it.

5.2. Disciplinary Reports and Written Complaints should include a description of the alleged breach including:

(a) any relevant background information;

(b) name(s) of any witnesses;

(c) who was involved;

(d) what the Participant(s) is/are alleged to have done;

(e) anything anyone said at the time (including admissions and/or apologies); and

(f) any information regarding any relevant evidence and the context of that evidence (for example, information about a recording of the match, which captured the alleged incident or photographs taken and, if so, whether the parties involved were

aware of and consented to this video footage and/or photographs). We refer to the ECB Live Streaming Guidance, which can be found here: https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/regulations/recreational-cricket.

5.3. A Relevant Disciplinary Body may become aware of a potential or alleged breach of these Regulations by other means than a Disciplinary Report or Written Complaint, for example by identifying an inappropriate social media post which has not been independently referred to it. Notwithstanding the fact that the Relevant Disciplinary Body has not received a Disciplinary Report or Written Complaint, the Relevant Disciplinary Body may consider this conduct in accordance with the process set out in these Regulations.

5.4. Relevant Cricket Organisations may wish to stipulate in the version of these Regulations that they adopt, that there should be a deadline for Disciplinary Reports to be made.

5.5. Where an action (or inaction) is determined to be "*prejudicial to the interests of cricket*" and therefore a breach of the Regulations, this means it is an act (or omission) not covered by any of the breaches listed specifically in Regulations 5, 6(a)-(b), 7(a)-(d), 7(f), 11(a)-(f), or 11(h)-(i) but is an act (or omission) that a reasonable person would consider detrimental to the ethos, reputation and/or environment of the game. Examples of this may include 'running a book' on outcomes or having a sponsor that is banned through other advertising policies.

C. Relevant Cricket Organisations can impose more rigorous conduct obligations for captains or Clubs if they wish. However, they cannot impose less rigorous conduct obligations for captains or Clubs than are set out in these Regulations.

6. Social Media (Regulation 14)

6.1. Posting, repeating, commenting, or supporting posts or comments by others that breach the Regulations may itself constitute a breach of the Regulations. For example, liking or otherwise promoting or supporting a comment that breaches the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Regulations is likely to result in a breach of the Regulations not only for the person who posted the comment in the first place but also for any Participant who supports that post.

6.2. If a Participant is alleged to have breached Regulations 11-13 as a result of having liked or supported a discriminatory comment but claims that someone else logged into their social media account to submit that "like" (or other supportive comment/gesture), this will not necessarily prevent regulatory action being taken but should be taken into account by the Adjudicator or Disciplinary Panel.

7. Responsibilities of a Disciplinary Officer (Regulations 16, 19-21 and 29)

7.1. Following receipt of a Referral, the Disciplinary Officer may conduct any further investigation as they deem necessary to limit the chances of vexatious complaints and ensure there is a full understanding of the circumstances in which the complaint arose.

7.2. Once any additional investigation is carried out, if a Disciplinary Officer decides that there is sufficient information to charge the Participant for an alleged breach of the Regulations, and the Disciplinary Officer determines it is right to do so having considered the information and evidence provided, the Charge Letter issued may include a charge for a different breach to that detailed in the Referral.

D. Relevant Cricket Organisations may decide that all cases should be determined at a Hearing and therefore disapply the Summary Procedure at Regulations 22-28. If this approach is chosen, all of Regulations 22-28 should be removed from the version of the Regulations that the Relevant Cricket Organisation adopts.

8. Summary Procedure (Regulations 22-28)

8.1. Relevant Cricket Organisations may decide that it is not necessary for lower-level offences to be determined by a Disciplinary Panel at a Hearing. By way of example, it may be appropriate for on-field offences at Level 1 and Level 2, or off-field offences which would constitute a Level 1 or Level 2 offence if they had been carried out on the field (e.g. dissent), to be determined using the Summary Procedure rather than at a Hearing. However, on-field offences at Level 3 and Level 4 and all other off-field offences should be determined by a Disciplinary Panel. Where the sanction potentially available is significant, for example a third Level 2 on-field breach within 24 months resulting in a 12-match ban, the case should be determined by a Disciplinary Panel rather than under the Summary Procedure.

8.2. If a Relevant Cricket Organisation decides to adopt the Summary Procedure, it should adopt clear internal guidelines on the types of cases that should be determined at a Hearing and the types of cases that should be determined using the Summary Procedure. These guidelines should then be applied consistently to all cases the Relevant Cricket Organisation has to deal with.

9. Disciplinary Panel Hearing Process (Regulations 29-39)

9.1. Reasonableness will depend on the circumstances of the case but, in most instances, it is reasonable to request a response to a Charge Letter within seven days.

9.2. Any Hearing should be arranged in a timely manner. As the matters brought under the Regulations will likely involve volunteers in most instances, this will likely differ for each matter. However, arranging a Hearing in a timely manner means allowing sufficient time for all the parties concerned to prepare adequately, taking account of their availability and other commitments but not scheduling a Hearing so far in advance that it causes unreasonable delay. There must still be efficient handling of all matters and determination within a timeframe that allows everyone concerned to recall the matter adequately. Although a Hearing may be rescheduled if the Respondent is not able to attend at the original date or time, this is designed to ensure that the Respondent is given an opportunity to attend and will not be used by the Respondent as a way to unreasonably delay proceedings. If the Disciplinary Officer feels that the Respondent is seeking to unreasonably delay proceedings (for example, if they have requested multiple postponements of the Hearing without very good reason) they will take this into account when deciding whether to agree to the Respondent's request to reschedule the Hearing.

9.3. It may be appropriate for Relevant Disciplinary Bodies to seek to ensure that they arrange a Hearing within 28 days of the Charge Letter. However, this timeframe may not be appropriate in all cases and a shorter timeframe may be considered more expedient in the interests of the case. A longer timeframe may also be considered in extremely complex cases.

9.4. The Disciplinary Panel Chair has the discretion to set a disciplinary timetable as they consider appropriate. This means they can administer the proceedings according to a timetable they deem fit for the matter at hand (albeit whilst ensuring compliance with the Regulations). The Disciplinary Panel Chair should notify the parties, within a reasonable timescale in advance of the Hearing, of their expectations on all parties and provide the parties with the opportunity to:

(a) share any documentation relevant to the case of either party in the proceedings, such as witness accounts;

(b) submit any written witness accounts and/or any other evidence that relate to the charge(s) against the Respondent; and/or

(c) prepare written submissions where the Disciplinary Panel considers the proceedings to be sufficiently sensitive or complex to require them.

9.5. Although it is a matter for the Disciplinary Panel Chair to determine how to run the

Hearing, most Hearings relating to a breach of the Regulations should be inquisitorial (taking on a fact-finding approach to get to the bottom of the situation as it is alleged) rather than adversarial and oppositional (which is the approach taken in criminal or civil proceedings). The Disciplinary Panel Chair should make clear that the parties will have the opportunity to raise any matters they consider relevant to determining whether the charge(s) can be made out and allow for an appropriate length of Hearing to provide sufficient time for this.

9.6. All parties should be given information explaining that they will have the opportunity to put forward any observations, question the other party or parties, and/or make any submissions on the matter (including in relation to the other side's evidence).

9.7. The Disciplinary Panel Chair and Disciplinary Panel should:

(a) seek to ensure that witnesses are not present in the room being used for the Hearing until the time that they are required to give their evidence when they should be called into the room on an individual basis; and

(b) ask each party, as part of their submissions, to outline any factors that the Disciplinary Panel should consider in determining an appropriate sanction in the event that the alleged breach is found to be proven, with reference to the ranges prescribed in Appendix 3 of the Regulations.

9.8. Disciplinary Panels should seek to ensure that decisions are produced within 7 days of the respective Hearing.

E. The only permitted amendment Relevant Cricket Organisations can make to Regulation 32 is that they may stipulate a fixed deadline for a Respondent to respond to the Charge Letter by. In all cases however the Disciplinary Panel Chair must have the power to grant the Respondent additional time to respond to the Charge Letter in appropriate circumstances.

F. Relevant Cricket Organisations may amend Regulation 34 to stipulate how a Hearing will typically proceed, provided that in all cases the Disciplinary Panel Chair must have the power to alter these directions in appropriate circumstances.

10. Balance of Probabilities (Regulations 26, 35 and 54)

10.1. Adjudicators, Disciplinary Panels and Appeals Panels will determine matters on the "*balance of probabilities*". This means that when the Adjudicator or relevant panel is considering whether the alleged breach has been committed or not, they must be satisfied that it is "more likely than not" that the alleged breach took place, taking account of the evidence submitted and heard. Therefore, the Adjudicator or relevant panel do not have to be absolutely sure that it took place but satisfied that it is more likely that it did.

11. Sanctions

11.1. As noted in Appendix 3, it is important for decisions to be clear about the scope of any ban, including when a specific time period starts and ends. In the interests of clarity, it is therefore suggested that Disciplinary Panels and Appeal Panels adopt the following template wording, amended as appropriate for the circumstances:

"The [Disciplinary Panel/Appeal Panel] imposes a [X match ban]. This ban will apply to all cricket, be effective immediately and remain on [the Respondent's] record for 24 calendar months from the date of the breach. The ban will therefore be served in the next [Match/X Matches] [Respondent] is due to participate in, regardless of whether [that match/those Matches] [is/are] in an ECB Competition."

OR

"The [Disciplinary Panel/Appeal Panel] imposes a ban of [X days], which will commence on [Y] and end on [Z] (the "**Period**"). This ban will apply to all cricket, be effective immediately and remain on [the Respondent's] record for 24 calendar months from the date of the breach. The ban will therefore apply to any matches [the Respondent] is due to participate in during the Period, regardless of whether [that match/those matches] [is/are] in an ECB Competition."

11.2. Where a Disciplinary Panel or Appeal Panel is considering imposing a playing suspension on a Participant under the age of 18, it is recommended that any such suspension should be expressed by reference to the number of *matches* – rather than weeks – the Participant must miss. This is because a suspension expressed in weeks can have a disproportionately punitive effect on a junior cricketer, who may be playing in multiple cricket environments throughout a given week.

11.3. Where a sanctioned individual has multiple roles in cricket, for example they are both a player and a coach/umpire, any suspension imposed should clearly identify whether it relates to just playing in a match, or whether it also covers other activities such as coaching and umpiring. For example a one match ban imposed on a player that also umpires should be expressed in terms that enable that individual to know whether they are just banned from playing in a match or whether they are also prohibited from umpiring in that match.

12. Costs (Regulations 38 and 57)

12.1. For first instance decisions, the Disciplinary Panel may choose to make a costs order against the Relevant Disciplinary Body in instances where the alleged breach is found not to have been committed and/or the allegation is found to have been spurious or vexatious. In such instances, the Respondent against whom the Referral has been made may be reimbursed for reasonable costs as the Disciplinary Panel deems appropriate.

12.2. For appeals, the Appeal Panel may also choose to make a costs order in instances where the appeal is successful or if it feels that one party has acted unreasonably by bringing the appeal or in any way during the appeal process.

12.3. All parties are encouraged to keep costs to a minimum and the Appeal Panel Chair will take any unreasonable incurring of costs by either party into account when determining whether to require one party to pay more of the additional costs.

13. Publication of sanctions

13.1. Relevant Cricket Organisations may wish to publish the outcome of disciplinary cases concluded under these Regulations on their websites. However, before doing so, Relevant Cricket Organisations should consider the data protection implications of publishing information about Respondents on a public forum.

14. Appeals (Regulations 40-54)

14.1. If the Notice of Appeal or required administrative fee is not submitted within 7 days, the appeal will not proceed unless there are reasons justifying otherwise, which will be decided by the Appeal Panel Chair in their sole discretion. The appeal fee is requested to cover the administrative costs associated with holding a hearing and/or otherwise determining the matter. For example, there may be costs associated with the travel of the panel members or hiring a room for the day. If no administrative costs are incurred, the Appeal Body may choose to refund all or part of the fee in accordance with Regulation 57.

14.2. All procedural rules and principles that apply to Hearings at first instance also apply to appeals. The process and timing requirements for Disciplinary Panel Hearings (detailed in the Regulations and above at paragraph 9 of this guidance) will also apply to Appeal Hearings.

G. An Appeal Body may stipulate an appropriate fee in respect of appeals. The maximum fee that would be considered appropriate is £150, but the Appeal Body may stipulate a lower figure. An Appeal Body may also stipulate a different timeframe for a Notice of Appeal to be filed.

H. The only permitted amendment an Appeal Body can make to Regulation 51 is to stipulate a fixed deadline for the Relevant Disciplinary Body to respond to the Notice of Appeal by. In all cases however the Appeal Panel Chair must have the power to grant the Relevant Disciplinary Body additional time to respond to the Notice of Appeal in appropriate circumstances.

I. It may be appropriate for the Disciplinary Panel Chair to suspend a Respondent from participating in cricket until the Hearing has concluded, or the Appeal Panel Chair to impose a sanction imposed by a Disciplinary Panel until an appeal has concluded, where the allegations which have been made are serious, the sanctions imposed (or likely to be imposed) are severe and it would potentially bring the sport into disrepute for the Respondent to participate in cricket whilst the disciplinary process is ongoing.

J. An Appeal Body may amend Regulation 53 to stipulate how an Appeal Hearing will typically proceed, provided that in all cases the Appeal Panel Chair must have the power to alter these directions in appropriate circumstances.

K. An Appeal Body may amend Regulation 57 to stipulate a different limit for any award of costs.

15. Disclosure of Relevant Criminal Offences (Regulation 11)

15.1. In instances where a Participant discloses a Relevant Criminal Offence, in accordance with Regulation 11, the Relevant Cricket Organisation receiving that disclosed information must abide by its duty of confidentiality and all applicable data protection laws.

15.2. Any Relevant Criminal Offence should be disclosed to the Club Safeguarding Officer in the first instance and, if that Club Safeguarding Officer has any concerns in relation to the handling of the matters disclosed, they should escalate it only to the County Safeguarding Officer. Such matters should only be disclosed beyond those two people and discussed at committee level in complex cases and only following discussion and agreement with the County Safeguarding Officer. The ECB's Safe Hands Training Course provides further information on this.

15.3. Full information about the relevant ECB contacts for referring any safeguarding concerns can be found here: https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/safeguarding.

16. Data Protection

16.1. The UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 are the primary data protection legislation in the United Kingdom. It is a legal requirement for all Relevant Cricket Organisations (including Disciplinary Panels and Appeal Panels) to comply with data protection law when processing personal data. If Relevant Cricket Organisations do not comply with their obligations under data protection law, the Information Commissioner can impose various sanctions on the Relevant Cricket Organisation including preventing the use of the personal data and/or imposing a significant financial penalty on the Relevant Cricket Organisation. Relevant Cricket Organisations may wish to obtain independent legal advice to ensure they meet their obligations.

16.2. The UK GDPR provides that, where personal data is obtained, the person or organisation receiving the personal data must provide transparency information (usually referred to as a 'privacy notice') to each individual whose personal data is received. If the data is not received directly from the individual (as may be the case following receipt of a Disciplinary Report or Written Complaint), the person or organisation receiving the personal data must provide the privacy notice within a reasonable period following receipt of the data and, in any event, within one month. What amounts to "reasonable" will depend on the circumstances, but as a general principle, the Relevant Disciplinary Body should take all

steps to communicate with the data subject (about whom personal data is received in a Disciplinary Report or Written Complaint) as soon as is reasonably practicable, providing the privacy notice with the communication, to ensure compliance.

16.3. All Relevant Cricket Organisations will need to include appropriate references to the Regulations and its provisions in their respective privacy notices to ensure that they comply with transparency obligations in data protection law when collecting, processing and/or sharing personal data as a result of handling disciplinary matters. The UK GDPR provides a list of what information must be included in a privacy notice, but in the context of these Regulations it will be important to explain the collection, processing, disclosure and use of information relating to the particular individual and their activities. In particular, this should address the conduct of any applicable disciplinary procedures and any associated issuing and recognition of penalties. Independent legal advice should be sought on this point where necessary.

16.4. A template privacy notice, which can be adopted and amended as appropriate for use by Relevant Cricket Organisations, appears in Appendix 5. The privacy notice should be provided to each person whose personal data is obtained, either at the point that their data is obtained or, if the personal data is not obtained directly from the individual, within a reasonable period (e.g. when the relevant Participant is notified of any allegation made against them).

17. Children, Adults at Risk and Reasonable Adjustments

17.1. When handling proceedings involving an under-18 or an adult at risk who is a witness, alleged victim or alleged offender, the processes that are followed must pay due consideration to safeguarding and welfare issues and associated data protection laws. Full guidance from the ECB on disciplinary proceedings that involve under-18s or adults at risk can be found on the ECB's website: https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/safeguarding/kit-bag-resources.

17.2. Reasonable adjustments should be made for anyone with a disability. Whilst the reasonable adjustments that may be required will differ depending on the nature of the disability, we have set out below some examples of the ways in which a person's disability may affect the application of these Regulations and practical steps that can be taken to assist when such issues arise:

(a) Officials should be educated on the ways in which a person's disability may affect the application of these Regulations. By way of example, people with certain disabilities may have different coping mechanisms and reactions to certain situations - a player with a learning disability may respond to being called out with profanity which would constitute an offence under these Regulations.

(b) Wherever possible, correspondence and documents should be sent to a person with a disability in a manner which will assist their understanding of the relevant document. This might be in an easy read format, be assisted by sign language or in braille. For example, companies such as Ace Anglia and Language Wire can provide easy read translation services, while companies such as Word360 and Sign Together UK can provide braille and British Sign Language services respectively.

(c) The Disciplinary Panel and/or Appeal Panel should be educated on the ways in which a person's disability may affect their participation in the disciplinary process and consider:

(i) Whether to allow a person with learning disabilities more time to respond to any written documents submitted in the proceedings.

(ii) The use of a sign language interpreter in cases involving people who are deaf or have hearing impairments.

(iii) The use of appropriate technology in virtual hearings. By way of example, Google Meet is generally considered to be more accessible than Microsoft Teams or Zoom for people with learning disabilities.

(iv) Whether it is necessary to provide an individual with a learning disability with more detail around the intended process for the hearing at the start of the hearing.

(v) Whether to involve a coach or a representative of the player's team (with the player's consent) in the disciplinary process for a case involving a person with learning disabilities to provide them with support and assist their understanding of the process.

(vi) Whether any hearing venue is accessible for a person with a physical disability.

(vii) Whether to allow a reasonable adjournment of the hearing in respect of a person with a mental disability who claims that they are unable to attend a hearing on health grounds. Consideration should be given to whether requesting medical evidence is necessary/appropriate.

(d) Consideration should be given to whether the Disciplinary Panel and/or Appeal Panel can be diversified to include individuals with experience of disability and its effects, from a personal or professional perspective.

General Conduct Regulations – Appendix 5

1 General

1.1 The YCSPL will follow the ECB General Conduct Regulations, amended as in this appendix.

2 Privacy policy

2.1 The YCSPL Privacy policy is contained at Appendix 7 of the League Administrative Rules as published on the League website.

3 Length of bans

3.1 With reference to GCR Appendix 3, para 3, all bans will be in weeks.

4 Automatic Player & Team penalties

4.1 Where any member club of the League has cautions or bans imposed on its participants, whether these are the same or different participants, disciplinary penalty points will be awarded against the team for which the offenders were playing at the time. The 'totting up' procedure applies to teams only.

4.2 The disciplinary penalty points will be awarded, according to the level of the breach, as follows:

Level 1 warning:	1 point
Level 1 offence:	3 points
Level 2 offence:	6 points
Level 3 offence:	9 points
Level 4 offence:	12 points

4.3 Once a team has reached 15 disciplinary penalty points within the specified period, the Disciplinary Committee will make a recommendation to the League Chairman and the appropriate Section Head that the team be deducted 12 league points (see section 3.9 for further information).

The specified period in question would commence from the date of the initial disciplinary breach and would remain in force until the end of the following season.

The captain of the team for that season would also receive an automatic (minimum) one week ban if 15 disciplinary penalty points are reached by the team within the specified period.

Should the players within a team commit three disciplinary breaches within the specified period, an automatic disciplinary meeting will be triggered where the captain of the team in question – together with another (senior) club official – will attend to discuss matters of ill-discipline. Attendance at such a meeting is mandatory.

4.4 *Level 1 warnings*

An initial Level 1 warning would result in a suspended ban of at least one week. One disciplinary penalty point would be applied to the team in question. Both the suspended ban and the disciplinary penalty point would remain in force until the end of the following season.

A further Level 1 warning for the same player within the specified period would result in the automatic activation of the existing suspended ban, together with the addition of a further suspended ban of one week that would expire at the end of the following season (the original suspended ban would remain in place until the end of the season in question).

An additional disciplinary penalty point would also be applied to the team in question. This would also expire at the end of the following season.

If, during the course of a season, a player receives two separate 'advisories' (words of advice) from the umpires, then, following the second occasion, a Level 1 warning will be applied. This will remain in place until the end of the following season.

4.5 *Level 1 offences*

A minimum of a one-week ban from all cricket would be considered, plus a suspended ban which would last for twice the length of any ban that was imposed. Any suspended ban would remain in place until the end of the following season.

In addition, three disciplinary penalty points would be applied to the team of the player in question and would also remain in place until the end of the following season.

Any further disciplinary offences committed by the player within that or the following season would result in the automatic activation of (a) the original suspended ban and (b) a Level 2 offence.

In addition, six disciplinary penalty points would be applied to the team in question in respect of the activation of the Level 2 offence. These too would remain in place until the end of the following season.

The player would also be subject to additional disciplinary action in respect of the subsequent offence.

4.6 *Level 2 offences*

A minimum of a two-week ban from all cricket would be considered, plus a suspended ban which would last for twice the length of any ban that was imposed. Any suspended ban would remain in place until the end of the following season.

In addition, six disciplinary penalty points would be applied to the team of the player in question. They too would remain place until the end of the following season.

Any further Level 2 offence committed by the same player within that or the following season would result in the automatic activation of the original suspended ban and the application of a further six disciplinary penalty points. These too would remain in place until the end of the following season.

The player would also be subject to additional disciplinary action in respect of the subsequent offence.

4.7 *Level 3 offences*

A minimum of a six-week ban from all cricket would be considered, plus a suspended ban which would last for twice the length of any ban that was imposed. Any suspended ban would remain in place until the end of the following season.

In addition, nine disciplinary penalty points would be applied to the team of the player in question and would also remain in place until the end of the following season.

4.8 *Level Four offences*

A minimum of a ten-week ban from all cricket would be considered, together with a suspended ban which would last for twice the length of any ban that was imposed. Any suspended ban would remain in place until the end of the following season.

In addition, 12 disciplinary penalty points would be applied to the team of the player in question and would also expire at the end of the following season.

4.9 The circumstances of all reported Level Three and Level Four offences are heard by a panel at a (mandatory) disciplinary hearing.

4.10 All ‘team point’ penalties must be approved by the League Chairman and the appropriate Section Head. They will apply as soon as the penalties are approved unless their application makes no material or potential difference to league championship, promotion or relegation issues in the current season, in which case they will be applied the commencement of the following season.

4.11 The captain of a team should lead by example. If, having received a disciplinary report from the umpires, the Disciplinary Committee determines that a captain could and should have done more to stop or prevent issues of poor behaviour – both on or off the field of play – then appropriate sanctions will be considered for the captain in question.

4.12 The Disciplinary Committee will continue to apply a consistent approach to all matters of ill-discipline that are reported and in so doing, will deal with each disciplinary case on an individual basis – applying appropriate sanctions as they see fit (as in the guidelines contained within the ECB GCRs)

5 Disciplinary hearing costs

5.1 A participant involved in disciplinary proceedings will be solely responsible for meeting such costs or expenses as the hearing or they may incur. This would include the cost of any legal or other representation, umpires’ and panel members’ costs and room hire. Umpires and panel members attending will receive a fee of £25 and 40 pence per mile travel costs each. As above, such costs will be met by disciplinary participant.

6 Non-payment of fines or costs

6.1 Disciplinary fines imposed on a club under the General Conduct Regulations will be paid to the League treasurer within four weeks of the date of imposition. In default of payment at the end of four weeks, the fine will be doubled, and thereafter it will be doubled for every further period of four weeks it remains unpaid.

6.2 In the case of disciplinary fines and/or costs levied on a player, such player will not be allowed to play in any match until such fines and/or costs have been paid in full.

rev July 2026