Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

Points cap system for the Premier & Championship Divisions from season 2027 onwards

The aims of the system are to:

- discourage clubs from 'buying success'
- promote homegrown player development
- promote a more level playing field in financial terms across all clubs and incentivise club sustainability

The way in which the system will work is that each player who plays in the Premier Section will be allocated the points value appropriate at the time of their signing for/transferring to their present club, and adjusted according to their length of service at their club in the case of other than overseas players; and there will be a cap on the total number of player points per team fielded in all Premier Section games.

Points cap rules

For all league games in the Premier and Championship Divisions, all players will be allocated a points value, and the composition of teams will be restricted to an overall points cap in accordance with the following:

i. A points value will be allocated to all players in each club's squad(s) for their Premier and Championship Division team(s) in accordance with the 'Player points allocation table' (see below), using historical information from Play-Cricket and Cricket Archive.

ii. A Points Cap Sub-Committee (PCSC) of three persons will be nominated by the Premier Section Committee to oversee the administration of the system.

iii. Each club must submit a list of squad players for their team(s) by the first Saturday in April each year, along with the points they consider should be allocated to each player. These lists will be checked by the PCSC; corrected, if necessary; certified; and published. Players can be added or removed during the season.

iv. Where more than one category applies to a player, except where the player qualifies as a Cat 1 player, it will be the higher category that determines the player's points value.

v. Other than for overseas players, the points value for each category will reduce, to a minimum of one point, after a player has completed service to their club as follows:
   - after three full seasons, by one point
   - after five full seasons, by two points
   - after seven full seasons, by three points
   - after nine full seasons, by four points

vi. In the event of an overseas player gaining UK citizenship, their points value will be recalculated on the basis of what it would have been had they been a non-overseas player at the point of their transferring to their club. For example, a former overseas test player who last played for their country four years before they joined their club four years ago, would have been a Cat 6 player at that time; but if they subsequently obtain UK citizenship that will be adjusted to Cat 4b and reduced to three points by virtue of having been at the club for over three years.

vii. In the event of a player who was originally registered as an overseas player becoming habitually resident and thus no longer regarded as an overseas player, their points value will simply be reduced in accordance with 5 above.

viii. If a player returns to a club after **no more** than one season's absence, and he has played cricket with an ECB-affiliated league in that time, that one year will be disregarded for the purposes of calculations under 5 above.

ix. If a player returns to a club after **more** than one season's absence:
   - If they have **not** played cricket with an ECB-affiliated league in that time; the time of absence will be disregarded for the purposes of calculations under 5 above

- If they have played cricket with an ECB-affiliated league in that time; unless they qualify as a Cat 1 player, they will be treated as a completely new signing

x. If the Category of the player changes after they have joined the club, this will not affect their points value (eg, an overseas player who gains international honours) but if the player moves to another club, their points value will be calculated afresh.

xi. The points cap per game will be 24 points.

xii. The points cap will apply in League games only.

xiii. Clubs will be exempted from penalty under League competition rule 16 *Player Selection* if they need to demote a player to avoid breaching the points cap, but they must not infringe ECB Disparity Regulations.

xiv. If the total points value of the eleven players in a team in any league game in which play takes place exceeds 24, penalties will apply as follows. On each occasion on which a team exceeds the cap:

- any points they have won in the game will be lost, *plus*
- a 12-league point penalty will be applied, *and*
- if the offending team have won the game, the result will be overturned.

xv. The only exception to the application of penalties as in 14 above will be where a player is subsequently found to have a higher points value than was previously certified by the League and published. In these circumstances, the corrected value will be applied immediately, but not retrospectively.

xvi. Potential breaches of the cap may be identified and brought to the attention of the Head of Premier Section by any Premier Section club or committee member within five days of the alleged breach. The breach will be considered and adjudicated by the PCSC. In the event of any dispute, Administrative Rule 74 (Disputes) will apply.

In addition:

A one-point reduction from the value shown in the Points Cap table will apply, at the start of next season only, for players who transferred to their present club from UK clubs, before the transfer deadline in the 2026 season.

Player points allocation table

1-point players	
Cat 1	Players playing for, or returning to, a club for which they played as a junior or made their senior debut. Where a player has played for more than one club as a junior, they must have played for a minimum of three seasons for a club to be counted as a 'one-point player' for that club – this that means they may qualify as a 'one-point player' for more than one club.
2-point players	
Cat 2	Players who have transferred from another club, who have played **no more** than six games for their previous club in the previous complete season at the same or higher level as the team they will be playing for ('levels' being defined as; (i) top division of another Premier League, (ii) second division of another Premier League, (iii) lower divisions of Premier Leagues **and** all other leagues)
3-point players	
Cat 3a	Players who have transferred from another club, who have played **more** than six games for their previous club in the previous complete season at the same or higher level as the team they will be playing for ('levels' being defined as in 2a above)
Cat 3b	Players who have transferred from another club, who are currently on a County Academy/EPP pathway or have played more than six games at county 2nds or National Counties level.
Cat 3c	Players who have transferred from another club, who are England-qualified players who **have** played at 1st Class/List A/T20/franchised competition level, but **not** in the last three years.
Cat 3d	Players who are not eligible to hold a British Passport but have been resident in the UK for a minimum of 210 days between 1 April and 31 March in the year preceding the start of the relevant season.
4-point players	
Cat 4a	Players who have transferred from another club, who are England-qualified players who **have** played at 1st Class/List A/T20/franchised competition level in the last three years.
Cat 4b	England players who have played at full international level, but **not** in the last three years.
Cat 4c	Overseas amateur players.
5-point players	
Cat 5a	Overseas professional players who **have not** played at full international level (test or List A).
Cat 5b	England players who have played at full international level in the last three years.
6-point players	
Cat 6	Overseas professional players who **have** played at full international level (test or List A).

Note: except where specifically stated otherwise, a 'player' means a player who is defined by the ECB regulations as a Category 1 player by reason of being a British Citizen who was born in England or Wales.