

To Chairmen and Secretaries of all clubs

Re: Overseas Players

Since my email of 9 December 2008, further guidance has been obtained in respect of how the United Kingdom Border Agency will deal with visa applications.

The Yorkshire Cricket Board has issued a Managed Migration Briefing Paper and that is attached to this email.

The League Management Committee wishes to stress that it is the responsibility of the club involved and that of any overseas players which it wishes to register with the League to satisfy themselves that all necessary information and documentation has been provided by the club and the overseas player to enable the overseas player to lawfully enter the country. The League Management Committee will continue to pass on to clubs any guidance it receives from the relevant authorities.

Whilst, as stressed, it is for the clubs and any proposed overseas player to satisfy themselves as to visa requirements and, without offering any advice, it seems to the League Management Committee that those who are likely to obtain visas and to be registered as an overseas player within the League would be covered by E Sports Visitor Visas, as set out on the attached Yorkshire Cricket Board briefing paper or the Youth Mobility Scheme.

It is recognised that the guidance given in my email of 9 December 2008, as to what an overseas player registered with the League may or may not do within current League Rules, may not be permitted by the terms of the visa obtained by the overseas player.

In such circumstances, the League wishes to make it plain that the terms of the overseas player's visa are to prevail.

By way of guidance, in the light of the following matters set out under E Sports Visitor Visas, the clarification given to clubs in my email of 9 December needs to be modified as follows:

- **They must show they have enough money to support themselves during their stay without working and/or are supported for accommodation and living expenses by family/friends**

So long as the family/friends are not a member of the club, or any official or supporter of the club, or any person connected to the club, then the League Rules will permit such support as identified above.

- **They must not be paid but can receive board and lodgings and receive reasonable subsistence**

It is against League Rules for any overseas player to be paid for playing for a club. If board and lodgings are provided on the terms set out immediately above, that is acceptable. A subsistence payment is not permitted by the League.

- **They cannot charge for any services - this means they cannot be paid for casual bar or ground work or coaching by the club (or others) NB they are not working holidaymakers - this category has ceased**

Whilst the League has indicated that, subject to its absolute discretion, under certain conditions, an overseas player can act and be paid for coaching services and as a groundsman, this is clearly not now permitted for immigration purposes and the League's approach in these respects, notified in my email of 9 December, is now withdrawn.

It was also stated in my email of 9 December, under the heading "**2 Provision of Employment**", that securing employment outside the game for regular salary/wage would be permitted. It will be noted that one of the grounds for obtaining a visa under E Sports Visitor Visas category is that no employment can be taken by the player concerned whilst in this country. In such circumstances, the clarification previously offered by the League Management Committee in this respect would no longer apply.