



GIRLS' COUNTY AGE GROUP CRICKET PROGRAMME REGULATIONS

INTRODUCTION

These Regulations set out the eligibility criteria, enrolment and player movement provisions relating to Girls' CAG Players. Each FCC and CCB responsible for delivering a Girls' CAG Programme (each a "County") has an obligation to promote, protect and support the individual wellbeing of each player on its Girls' CAG Programme. Where any Girls' CAG Player is under the age of 18, each County must ensure that the Girls' CAG Player's parent/carer is provided with appropriate information and gives their consent to the Girls' CAG Player's participation in the relevant Girls' CAG Programme. Where any of these Regulations require a Girls' CAG Player to take some action (for example, give notice to a County), that action can be performed by the Girls' CAG Player's parent/carer on their behalf where the player is under 18 years old. Any approach or notice by a County to a Girls' CAG Player that is under the age of 18 must be made or given (as appropriate) to the parent/carer of the player.

DEFINITIONS

In these Girls' CAG Programme Regulations (the "**Regulations**"), unless otherwise specified, defined terms shall have the meanings as set out in the Regional Partner Registration Regulations (as defined below).

"**Girls' CAG Programme**" means the training and match play programme for girls aged 10 to 18 years, to provide learning and development opportunities. For the purposes of these Regulations, unless otherwise specified in a particular Regulation, any reference to a Girls' CAG Programme will include any participants aged under 10 or over 18 where their participation has been permitted in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 1.1.

"**Girls' CAG Player**" means a cricketer enrolled in a County's Girls' CAG Programme.

"**CCB**" means a County Cricket Board.

"**Current County**" means the County a Girls' CAG Player is currently enrolled with.

"**FCC**" means First-Class County Cricket Club.

"**Guest Participation Form**" means the form to be submitted to the ECB notifying the relevant ECB Competitions Officer that agreement has been reached for a Girls' CAG Player to play for a Team other than the Team of their Current County during the term of their enrolment in a Girls' CAG Programme.



“Regional Partner Emerging Player Programme” means the programme of support to players aged predominantly 13 to 18 years to develop basic foundations of future performance through an individualised programme of development. The Regional Partner Emerging Player Programme is a female only programme.

“Regional Partner Academy Programme” means the training and development programme run for young players by Regional Partners, providing an environment that offers high quality individualised development opportunities and experiences to develop players.

“Regional Partner Registration Regulations” means the Regulations Relating to the Qualification and Registration of Cricketers for the Regional Partner Competitions, as amended and/or succeeded and in force from time to time.

“Regional Partner” means the Regional Partner a County is associated with in accordance with the Regional Structure.

“Talent Pathway Lead” means the person employed by the County to lead and be responsible for the Girls’ CAG Programme.

“Team” means any Regional Partner senior team, or any team formed as part of a Regional Partner Academy Programme, Regional Partner Emerging Player Programme or Girls’ CAG Programme.

1. ELIGIBILITY

1.1. Subject to the annually agreed exemption for overaged players, which is agreed in the ECB’s sole discretion, cricketers seeking to participate in the Girls’ CAG Programme must be aged between 10 and 17 (inclusive) at midnight on the 31 August immediately prior to enrolment. If a cricketer aged (i) 9 or under or (ii) 18 or over wishes to enrol in a Girls’ CAG Programme, the County must be satisfied that the cricketer is of an appropriate level of skill and maturity to participate and, if so, the County must adhere to these Regulations in relation to that cricketer.

1.2. Cricketers will be enrolled in a particular age category within the Girls’ CAG Programme.

1.3. If a cricketer wishes to participate in fixtures in a different age category, the following rules shall apply:

- a) If a cricketer is seeking to “play up”, the County must be satisfied that the cricketer is of an appropriate level of skill and maturity to participate at that level; and
- b) If a cricketer is seeking to “play down”, prior agreement must be reached by the County Pathway Leads for both participating Counties in the relevant fixture.



In each case, the cricketer's participation in the fixture must be permitted under any applicable competition regulations.

- 1.4. Subject to the overriding discretion of the ECB, a cricketer shall be eligible to participate in training and match play as part of a Girls' CAG Programme if:
 - a) the cricketer is resident within the County of the Girls' CAG Programme in which they seek to participate (whether through being permanently resident in that County or otherwise residing in that County for the duration of the season); or
 - b) the cricketer was born within that County; or
 - c) the cricketer is attending an educational establishment within that County (other than as a temporary exchange student); or
 - d) the cricketer has been a playing member of a club within the County of the Girls' CAG Programme in which they seek to participate for at least one prior full season; or
 - e) the cricketer has participated in that Girls' CAG programme during a previous season; or
 - f) the provisions of Regulation 1.5 apply.

- 1.5. Where a cricketer does not meet the requirements prescribed by Regulation 1.4(a) to (e) above, the cricketer may still be permitted to enrol on a Girls' CAG Programme other than one they are eligible for under Regulation 1.4(a) to (e), where there is agreement between the cricketer, their parent/carer and the relevant Counties, that it is in the cricketer's interests for them to enrol and participate in a Girls' CAG Programme run by another County. For the purposes of this agreement, the relevant Counties will be the County (or Counties) the cricketer would otherwise be eligible for, in accordance with Regulation 1.4 and the County running the Girls' CAG Programme that the cricketer is seeking to enrol in. Such agreement must not be unreasonably withheld, but any ongoing disagreement will be determined by the ECB in accordance with Regulation 5.

- 1.6. The provisions of the ECB Trans Playing Policy will apply to these Regulations and the Girls' CAG Programme is classified as female-only.

2. ENROLMENT PROCESS

- 2.1. Each County may enrol an unlimited number of CAG Players on their Girls' CAG Programme in each age group from under 11 to under 18, including any CAG Players aged 9 or under where the County is satisfied that the cricketer is of an appropriate level of skill and maturity to participate. The County must adhere to these Regulations in relation to all such cricketers.



- 2.2. A Girls' CAG Player may only be enrolled in one County's Girls' CAG Programme at any given time and must not play for any Girls' CAG Team other than the Team of their Current County unless the requirements of Regulation 2.3 are met.
- 2.3. Agreement may be reached for a Girls' CAG Player to play for another Team in addition to the Girls' CAG Team of their Current County during the term of their enrolment provided that:
- a) the two relevant Counties participate in different divisions of the player's age category, or the CAG Player is seeking to play in a different age category available with another County;
 - b) the CAG Player's Current County gives permission, which must not be unreasonably withheld;
 - c) the ECB, the two relevant Counties, the CAG Player and the CAG Player's parent/carer are all satisfied that it would be in the CAG Player's best interests;
 - d) the two relevant Counties have agreed how the player's participation in both Girls' CAG Programmes will be managed through the season; and
 - e) the ECB has been notified of the agreement via submission of the Guest Participation Form to the ECB Competitions Officer responsible for the Girls' CAG Competitions.
- 2.4. A Girls' CAG Player's enrolment on a Girls' CAG Programme will last for one season only and will therefore expire on 31 October unless it is terminated earlier in accordance with Regulation 3.

3. TERMINATION OF ENROLMENT

- 3.1. The enrolment of a Girls' CAG Player pursuant to these Regulations may be terminated as follows:
- 3.1.1 At any time, by the Girls' CAG Player providing written notice to the County's Talent Pathway Lead that the Girls' CAG Player will no longer be participating in that County's Girls' CAG Programme. If termination is being requested during the "competition phase" (April to September), the Girls' CAG Player should take all reasonable steps to notify the County 14 days in advance of the Girls' CAG Player ceasing to train with and/or play for their Current County. The County must notify the ECB when the Girls' CAG Player's enrolment has terminated.
 - 3.1.2 At any time, by the County providing written notice to the Girls' CAG Player and notifying the ECB of the termination. In such circumstances, the Girls' CAG Player's enrolment with



their Current County will terminate immediately (or an alternative later date agreed between the County and the Girls' CAG Player).

- 3.2 In all instances, the Girls' CAG Player and their parent/carer should be encouraged to have discussions with the Current County to discuss why the enrolment is being terminated and/or the Girls' CAG Player's participation in the Girls' CAG Programme has ended.
- 3.3 Once a Girls' CAG Player's enrolment with a County has been terminated in accordance with this Regulation 3, that Girls' CAG Player shall be entitled to enrol with another County (or Regional Partner, as applicable).

4. PLAYER MOVEMENT AND APPROACHES

- 4.1 No County or Regional Partner (except the Current County's Regional Partner) should approach, or otherwise be involved in discussions with, any enrolled Girls' CAG Player (or any person acting on a Girls' CAG Player's behalf) with a view to offering that Girls' CAG Player a trial or registering, enrolling or engaging them in any capacity, on their Girls' CAG Programme, Regional Partner Emerging Player Programme or Regional Partner Academy Programme save in relation to any agreement reached in accordance with Regulation 2.3 or as otherwise permitted by Regulation 4.2.
- 4.2 A Girls' CAG Player (or any person acting on a Girls' CAG Player's behalf) may approach, or engage in discussions with, a County or Regional Partner they are not currently enrolled with about that other County or Regional Partner offering the Girls' CAG Player a trial or registering, enrolling or engaging them in any capacity, on their Girls' CAG Programme, Regional Partner Emerging Player Programme or Regional Partner Academy Programme only where:
 - 4.2.1 the Girls' CAG Player has first notified their Current County of their intention to approach another County or Regional Partner (as applicable). In such circumstance the Girls' CAG Player may make an approach to another County or Regional Partner and that body may enter into discussions, but must not make the initial approach; or
 - 4.2.2 the Girls' CAG Player or their Current County has provided a termination notice in accordance with Regulations 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 (as applicable).
- 4.3 If a County or Regional Partner wishes to approach any player it must check the enrolment status of the player with the previous County or Regional Partner the player was enrolled with,



if known, and ensure that they comply with Regulation 4.1. For the avoidance of doubt, any approach to a player under the age of 18 permitted under this Regulation 4 must be made to the parent/carer of the player.

5. DISPUTES

Any unresolved dispute concerning player eligibility and/or enrolment shall be referred to a panel of three members of the ECB's Performance Cricket Committee ("**PCC**"), or those persons to whom the PCC has delegated responsibility for the purposes of this Regulation 5, whose decision shall be final and binding on the parties to the dispute (the "**Panel**"). The Panel may follow such procedure as it considers appropriate and shall not be bound by rules governing the admissibility of evidence in judicial or other proceedings. The National Talent Managers shall not sit on the Panel.