

## **32A**    **Domestic Cricket Events**

32A.1 For the purposes of this section 32A:

**“Associate Member”** means any Member recognised as such by the ICC from time to time.

**“Domestic Cricket Event”** means any cricket match, tournament, cup or league that is not Disapproved Cricket (as defined in section 32) and that does not qualify as International Cricket.

**“Foreign Player”** means a player who is not eligible to represent the National Representative Team of the Member under whose jurisdiction the Domestic Cricket Event in question is taking place.

**“Future Tours Programme”** means the programme defined at section 29 of the Operating Manual as agreed by the ICC Executive Board and amended from time to time by the ICC Chief Executives’ Committee.

**“ICC Event”** means any cricket event organised by or on behalf of the ICC from time to time.

**“International Cricket”** means any ICC Event or any match or event involving one or more National Representative Teams that is incorporated into the Future Tours Programme.

**“Member”** means any member board recognised as such by the ICC from time to time.

**“National Representative Team”** means a men’s cricket team selected to represent a country or group of countries, including at any age group from Under-19s up.

**“No-Objection Certificate”** means a document issued by the Relevant Member stating that the Relevant Member has no objection to a named Foreign Player participating in a named Domestic Cricket Event.

**“Relevant Member”** means the Member for whose National Representative Team the Foreign Player last played or (if he has not yet played for any National Representative Team) for whose National Representative Team he is eligible to play pursuant to section 35 of the Operating Manual.

***Explanatory note to 32A1:** If the Foreign Player is eligible to play for more than one National Representative Team but has not yet played for any of them, he must designate the Member of one of those National Representative Teams as the Relevant Member for purposes of this section 32A, and that will be the Member from whom a No-Objection*

*Certificate must be obtained to allow him to play in another Member's Domestic Cricket Event..*

32A.2 Participation in any form of International Cricket shall always take priority over participation in any other form of cricket, and therefore the release of players to play in International Cricket shall be mandatory, save only that the release of players to play in the National Representative Team of an Associate Member shall only be mandatory for the following matches:

ICC Cricket World Cup matches

ICC Champions Trophy matches

ICC World Twenty20 matches

ICC U19 Cricket World Cup matches

ICC World Cup Qualifiers

ICC World Twenty20 Qualifiers

ICC U19 Cricket World Cup Qualifiers

ICC Intercontinental Cup matches

All one day internationals and Twenty20 internationals against Full Members

32A.3 Each Member shall ensure, to the greatest extent permitted by applicable law (as determined in the reasonable opinion of the Member), that no Foreign Player participates in any Domestic Cricket Event under the jurisdiction of the Member unless such Foreign Player holds a valid No-Objection Certificate from the Relevant Member.

***Explanatory note to section 32A.3:*** *For the avoidance of any doubt, the Relevant Member is the only body capable of granting a No-Objection Certificate for a Foreign Player pursuant to this article 32A. Accordingly, all such applications must be made directly to the Relevant Member and not to any other third party.*

32A.4 In determining whether to issue a No-Objection Certificate, Members shall act in accordance with their obligations as custodians of the sport, and shall comply with all applicable laws relating to the proper exercise of regulatory powers by a sports governing body.

***Explanatory note to section 32A.4:*** *The Member issuing a No-Objection Certificate must ensure it is issued validly and appropriately, so as to enable its uniform application and enforcement.*

*The ICC and its Members recognise the overriding importance of international cricket as the lifeblood of the sport around the world. By providing a showcase for the sport to a wide international audience, by generating significant commercial revenues that can be invested in development work at every level throughout the sport, and by providing opportunities for Associate and Affiliate Members to improve their playing standards by competing against Full Members, international cricket plays a vital role in developing interest and participation in the sport both in established cricketing powers and in emerging nations, and therefore in broadening the competitive playing base and public*

*interest in the sport that are vital to the long-term future health of the sport. International cricket therefore has primacy over domestic cricket. Accordingly, it must be a condition of participation in a domestic match/event that all participating players from overseas hold valid No-Objection Certificates for the match or event as issued by their respective Members. A Member's right to object to the participation of its players in such an event extends beyond merely ensuring availability for International Matches to encompass issues relating to the player's form, fitness and upcoming international commitments (as well as other contractual obligations). It also extends to players who have recently retired from International Cricket, e.g. in the previous two years (in order to prevent players retiring from International Cricket simply in order to participate in a Domestic Cricket Event).*

*Accordingly, the following (non-exhaustive) factors can be considered relevant in determining whether or not to grant a No Objection Certificate:*

- a. whether the Foreign Player has been, or is likely to be, selected to play for the Relevant Member's National Representative Team at or around the same time as the Domestic Cricket Event in question;*
- b. whether the Foreign Player's form, fitness and/or upcoming commitments to the Relevant Member's National Representative Team might be compromised by his participation in the Domestic Cricket Event in question;*
- c. whether the Foreign Player announced his retirement from playing for the Relevant Member's National Representative Team during the two years previous to the Domestic Cricket Event in question; and/or*
- d. whether participation by the Foreign Player in the Domestic Cricket Event will in any way compromise the ability of the Foreign Player to comply with any contractual obligations owed by that Foreign Player, including such obligations owed to the Relevant Member.*

32A.5 The ICC may require that specified Domestic Cricket Events are played subject to ICC-compliant codes of conduct, anti-corruption rules, and/or anti-doping rules. It shall be the responsibility of the Member within whose territory a specified Domestic Cricket Event is played to ensure compliance with that requirement.

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