

REGULATIONS FOR THE APPROVAL OF DOMESTIC CRICKET

FLOWCHART AND APPLICATION FORM



Effective Date: January 1, 2023

(Revised date: January 25th, 2023)

ARTICLE 1: INTRODUCTION, SCOPE, AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 Like most sports, cricket depends for its effective organization, administration, and development on a pyramid regulatory structure, with national cricket federations exercising control over cricket in their respective territories, and the International Cricket Council (**the ICC**) addressing global issues where its members consider that collective action is required.
- 1.2 This pyramid governance structure is vital to the regulatory integrity of the sport, enabling the ICC and its members to ensure the uniform application of rules protecting the sport and its stakeholders throughout the sport, wherever it is played, and to hold all participants accountable under those rules in a fair and transparent fashion.
- 1.3 Through its Regulations on Sanctioning Events (**the ICC's Regulations**), the ICC has put in place regulations that govern how domestic cricket matches and events are to be sanctioned (i.e. approved) around the world and the principles that should be followed by its members when sanctioning such matches and events in their territories and by participants when they are considering whether or not to play in any such match or event.
- 1.4 The ICC's Regulations outline that the starting position is that, subject to some exceptions, it is the exclusive right and responsibility of USA Cricket to retain control over cricket matches and events played within the USA (**Domestic Cricket**), and therefore to determine whether or not such Domestic Cricket should be approved or not.
- 1.5 USA Cricket has adopted these regulations (which apply to both men's and women's cricket) in accordance with the ICC's Regulations to establish a mechanism by which Domestic Cricket played in the USA is to be officially approved.

ARTICLE 2: DEEMED APPROVAL OF DOMESTIC CRICKET

- 2.1 To minimize the administrative burden of reviewing and approving the large volume of domestic cricket played across the country, USA Cricket grants to all leagues who are members of USA Cricket the right to stage Domestic Cricket that is automatically deemed to be 'approved cricket' provided that such Domestic Cricket complies with the provisions of this Article 2.
- 2.2 For Domestic Cricket to qualify to be automatically deemed to be 'approved cricket' under these regulations, each of the following criteria must be met:
 - 2.2.1 The cricket match or event must be organized by, or affiliated to, a league which is a current registered league member of USA Cricket, and in good standing with USA Cricket.

2.2.2 The clubs/teams/Players that are scheduled to compete in the cricket match or event must each be current registered club/ Individual player members of USA Cricket, and in good standing with USA Cricket, with the exception of Foreign International players participating in the tournament

2.2.3 The cricket match (or matches within the event) must meet one of the following minimum criteria:

(a) To be automatically deemed as approved '**Senior or Junior Domestic Cricket**', the match must comply with all of the following:

- use a hard leather cricket ball;
- be played outdoors;
- involve a minimum of six players per side; and
- involve ten or more overs per side.

(b) To be automatically deemed as approved '**Modified Domestic Cricket**', the match must not comply with all of the criteria set out in 2.2.4, but instead must comply with all of the following:

- use a hard leather cricket ball or a softball (e.g. tennis ball, tape-ball, or other modified ball);
- be played outdoors or indoors;
- involve a minimum of six players per side; and
- involve five or more overs per side.

2.2.4 The cricket match or event must not involve any of the following criteria (the '**Article 3 Threshold Criteria**'):

- where there are more than four players scheduled to play in any one match or event who currently play for any national representative team of an ICC Full Member or Associate Member with ODI status; or
- where there are more than four players scheduled to play in any one match or event who currently play for the USA Cricket national team; or
- where the matches are to be live broadcast or streamed; or
- where the overall match or event budget forecasts the generation of more than \$25,000 in total commercial income to be generated.

(Where any of the Article 3 Threshold Criteria are present, the approval process described in Article 3 must be followed.)

- 2.3 Prior to the start of each playing season, all league members of USA Cricket must provide USA Cricket with a full list of all Domestic Cricket (in a format to be provided by USA Cricket) that they believe fall within the criteria set out in Article 2.2; and they must update USA Cricket throughout the playing season of any new Domestic Cricket that subsequently meets the same criteria.
- 2.4 USA Cricket will endeavor to publish on its website all Domestic Cricket that has been effectively deemed as 'approved cricket' in accordance with these regulations.
- 2.5 USA Cricket reserves the right to: (a) notify a league member where it does not believe that any proposed Domestic Cricket meets the criteria set out in Article 2.2 and to require that league member to provide suitable evidence to support its position; and (b) to determine (at its absolute discretion) that any proposed Domestic Cricket does not meet the criteria set out in Article 2.2 and should not therefore be deemed to be 'approved cricket'.

ARTICLE 3: DOMESTIC CRICKET THAT REQUIRES FORMAL APPROVAL BY USA CRICKET

- 3.1 Organizers (whether they are members of USA Cricket or not) of all cricket matches or events played in the USA which do not meet all of the criteria set out in Article 2 for such matches or events to be deemed to be approved must seek prior written approval from USA Cricket.
- 3.2 In determining whether a match or event should be approved, USA Cricket will consider its responsibilities as the custodian of the sport in the USA and shall comply with all applicable laws relating to the proper exercise of its regulatory authority.
- 3.3 The following (non-exhaustive) factors will be considered in deciding whether or not to sanction a match or event:
 - 3.3.1 The extent to which the proposed match or event may be accommodated within the existing domestic and international playing calendar without conflict or compromising USA Cricket's ability to create a fair and equitable calendar, balancing collective and individual interests of stakeholders and formats in a manner that serves the best long-term interests of the sport.

***Explanatory Note:** It is common for a sport's commercial partners to require certain commitments to protect their respective investments in the sport. To the extent that transpires, USA Cricket should not put itself in breach of its commitments to any such commercial partners, as this would threaten the generation of commercial income for distribution throughout the sport.*
 - 3.3.2 The extent to which the proposed match or event would help to promote and develop the sport in the territory in question in accordance with strategic objectives of USA Cricket, or would advance any charitable or benevolent purpose.

- 3.3.3 The maintenance and promotion of the health and welfare of all participants in the proposed match or event, including but not limited to the extent of any protocols, safeguards and plans to mitigate against risks arising in respect of COVID-19.
- 3.3.4 The safety and suitability of the proposed venue(s).
- 3.3.5 Whether the organiser of the proposed match or event is willing to make a binding, unqualified and unconditional commitment to stage the match or event in accordance with and subject to all applicable ICC and/or USA Cricket regulations; and whether that commitment would be enforceable in practice.
- 3.3.6 The extent to which the matches would be covered by appropriate anti-corruption and anti-doping services sufficient to ensure the practical implementation and enforcement of the relevant regulatory requirements.

3.4 Approval by USA Cricket of such matches or events may be granted on a conditional basis. For example (but without limitation), USA Cricket may provide its approval of the event or match but with some (or all or more) of the following conditions:

- 3.4.1 particular matches or events must be played in accordance with and subject to codes of conduct, anti-corruption rules, anti-doping rules, and/or other rules, regulations, practices, or procedures that are consistent with the rules, regulations, practices, and/or procedures of USA Cricket;
- 3.4.2 no person who has been banned from participation in the sport for a period that covers the match or event may participate, directly or indirectly (e.g., through an interest in any participating team or franchise) in that match or event;
- 3.4.3 no person who has previously been suspended for a period of at least twelve months from 'approved cricket' by the ICC or one of its members may be involved in any way in the organization of the match or event in question;
- 3.4.4 all foreign players must obtain a valid No Objection Certificate ('**NOC**') from their respective member board prior to participating in the match or event;
- 3.4.5 adequate safety and security arrangements must be put in place, including to satisfactorily address the risks associated with COVID-19;
- 3.4.6 the organizer must be responsible for ensuring compliance by players, venue owners, and commercial partners with all relevant requirements, rules, regulations, and conditions governing the staging of the match, and this should be reflected in all contracts with relevant third parties;

- 3.4.7 a 'sanctioning fee' may be imposed on the event organizer which appropriately reflects the commercial value of staging the match or event in the territory of the USA, the global profile of the match or event, and the commercial model applied, the time secured for such match or event within the USA Cricket domestic playing calendar and the administrative costs of processing any such application (see Article 6); and
- 3.4.8 securing suitable third-party and general public liability insurance.
- 3.4.9 Indemnification of USA Cricket and its officers and staff from any liability related to the tournament and to hold them harmless
- 3.5 Any application for approval of a cricket match or event under this Article 3 must be made by completing the "Application for Approval by USA Cricket of a Domestic Cricket Event" document (attached in Appendix 1) and submitting it to USA Cricket as early as possible and not less than ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled start of the match or event.
- 3.6 All applications should be addressed to:
- FAO: USA Cricket Operations*
Email: operations@usacricket.org
- 3.7 No match or event may take place unless formal approval has been granted by USA Cricket and any conditions associated with such approval have been fully complied with.
- 3.98 To ensure clarity, all decisions by USA Cricket to sanction a match or event pursuant to this Article 3 shall be confirmed in writing. An application for sanction may not be deemed approved unless and until such written confirmation is issued.

ARTICLE 4: DISAPPROVED CRICKET

- 4.1 If a domestic cricket match or event has not been deemed to be approved in accordance with Article 2 nor formally approved by USA Cricket pursuant to Article 3, then it will be 'disapproved cricket' for the purposes of these regulations.
- 4.2 No individual, club/team or league member of USA Cricket may participate in any way in any 'disapproved cricket' at any time. It is the responsibility of each party person to establish that a particular match or event constitutes 'approved cricket' under these regulations and not 'disapproved cricket' before participating in it.

- 4.3 Where any individual, club/team or league member of USA Cricket participates in 'disapproved cricket', then the matter shall be referred to the USA Cricket Disciplinary Committee who will consider the case and make a ruling as to whether to exclude such third party from the benefit of participating in 'approved cricket' for an appropriate period in accordance with the principles outlined in the ICC's Regulations.
- 4.4 USA Cricket acknowledges that the implementation of these regulations creates a significant change to the manner in which domestic cricket in the USA is currently regulated and therefore carries risks of inadvertent non-compliance with Article 4.2. USA Cricket will therefore establish an appropriate transitional period following the Effective Date (see Article 5.2, below) during which time these regulations will be widely circulated and explained and assistance will be provided to leagues seeking to become members of USA Cricket members. During such transitional period, USA Cricket will not seek to take punitive action in respect of genuine cases of inadvertent non-compliance with Article 4.2.

ARTICLE 5: DISPUTES, AMENDMENT, AND EFFECTIVE DATE

- 5.1 These regulations shall be governed by and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the state of California; and any challenge to any decision made pursuant to these regulations shall be brought in accordance with USA Cricket's dispute resolution processes.
- 5.2 USA Cricket will assign a Tournament observer to the event to guide the event organizer with USA Cricket guidelines. Organizers should provide access to the officials, material, and facilities as needed. Organizers must not pay any fee directly to the Tournament Observer.
- 5.3 These regulations shall come into force and effect on January 1, 2023 ('**the Effective Date**').
- 5.4 These regulations may be amended and/or supplemented from time to time by USA Cricket, with such amendments coming into effect on the date specified by USA Cricket.

ARTICLE 6: SANCTIONING FEES & PAYMENT TERMS

USA Cricket will impose standard and additional sanctioning fees to approved Domestic events as per the Article 3 of this document, The Fee structure listed below is in effect from January 1st, 2023 until further notified by USA Cricket.

For players coming from outside the US, their Visa status needs to be submitted for participation in the tournament.

More than 4 foreign players each additional player - \$ 1000(the fee collected from foreign player participation will be used in the development of cricket)

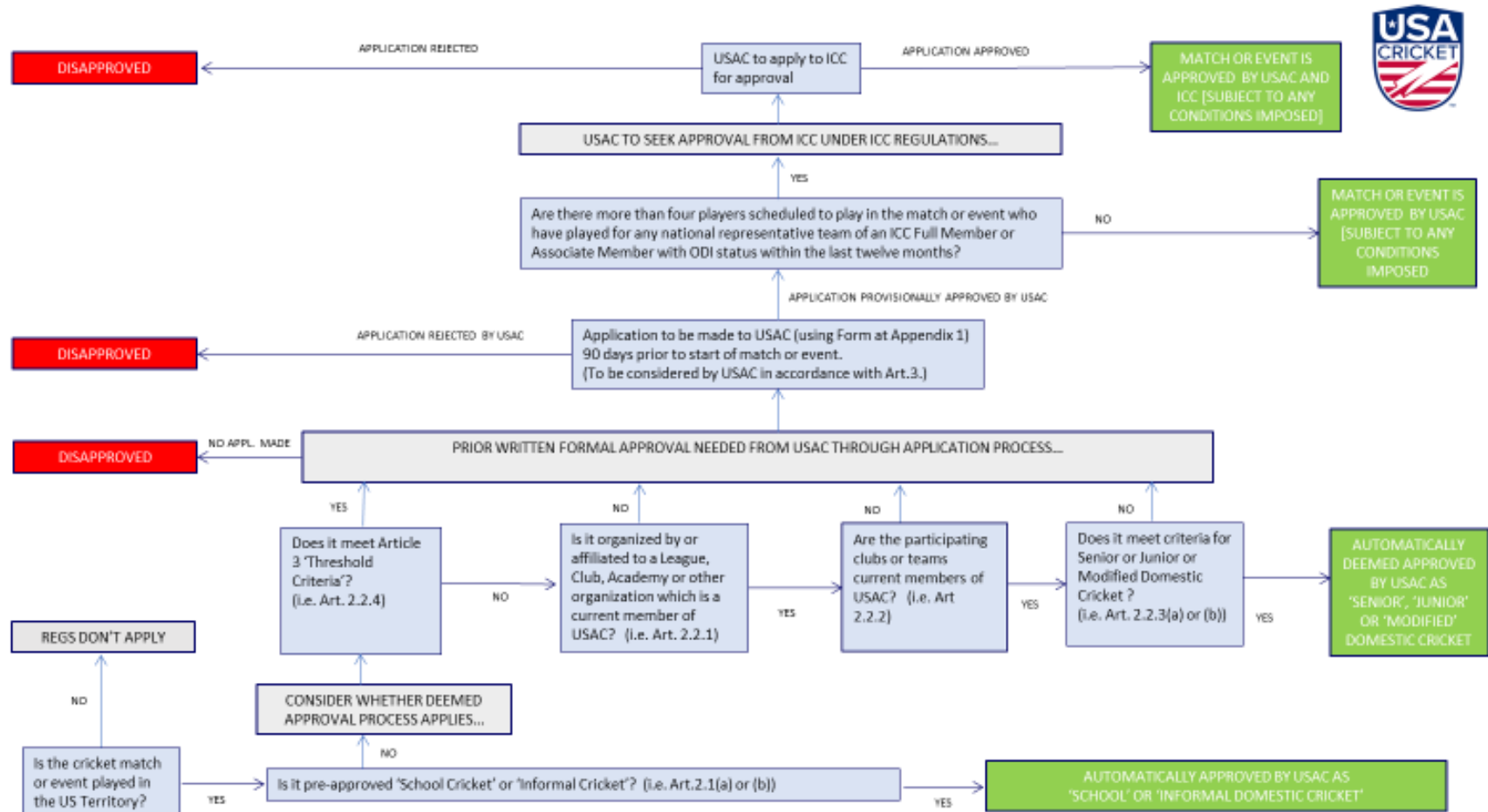
S.No	Type	Item	Fees	Comments	Payment Terms***
1	Men	Application Fee	\$2000	Non-refundable	Before the application is submitted (Please attach a remittance copy with the application)
		Base Fee*	10%	10% of the total tournament prize money OR 10 % of the total gross revenue	1 st installment of 75% - 15 days before the event (event's opening match) 2 nd installment of remaining (25%) – within 15 days of the end of the event (event's last match)
		Development Fee**	\$1000	For each additional foreign player	30 days before the event (event's opening match)
2	Women	Application Fee	\$500	Non-refundable	Before the application is submitted (Please attach a remittance copy with the application)
		Base Fee*	10%	10% of the total tournament prize money OR 10 % of the total gross revenue	1 st installment of 75% - 15 days before the event (event's opening match) 2 nd installment of remaining (25%) – within 15 days of the end of the event (event's last match)
		Development Fee**	\$500	For each additional foreign player	30 days before the event (event's opening match)

* The 10% Base fee collected shall be calculated & accounted based on the higher of the two.

** The fee collected from foreign player participation will be used exclusively for the development of cricket.

*** USA Cricket may request engagements including an audit of financial statements, an audit of financial reporting, and a review of all but not limited to matters related to financial information.

Flowchart for Sanctioning by USA Cricket of a Domestic Cricket Event



Appendix 1:

Application for Sanctioning by USA Cricket of a Domestic Cricket Event

Applicants are requested to please complete the form below and submit the requested information to USA Cricket Operations, at the following email address: operations@usacricket.org.

Please include a copy of the general liability insurance and a certified letter of indemnification from USA Cricket with the below-completed application.

S. No	Particular	Details
1.	Event Organizer/Promoter	
2.	Proposed Event <i>Proposed name of event, structure, and proposed format, i.e., 50 overs, T20, etc.</i>	
3.	Proposed Date(s)	
4.	Proposed Venue(s)	
5.	Participating Teams <i>Team names and details of the owners of the teams</i>	

6.	<p>Participating players</p> <p><i>List the types of players participating, Foreign, USA National, Domestic (Senior, U23, U19)</i></p> <p><i>Note: Players residing in the USA but not eligible to play for the USA are considered foreign; see Appendix 2</i></p>	
7.	<p>Is the match/event being televised or live streamed?</p> <p><i>All relevant details including broadcast/stream provider details and in which countries.</i></p>	
8.	<p>How will USA Cricket benefit from staging this event, financially or otherwise?</p> <p><i>How will this event help USA Cricket to achieve its strategic objectives?</i></p>	
9.	<p>If a third party is involved in the organization/promotion of the event, how will the event benefit from its involvement?</p>	
10.	<p>What arrangements are in place and who is responsible for the following:</p> <p>10.1 - The payment of players and match officials?</p> <p><i>In particular, if and how are such payments guaranteed?</i></p>	

	<p>10.2 - Safety and security risks to participants</p> <p>10.3 - COVID-19 risks to participants</p> <p>10.4 - Anti-corruption rules and protocols that comply with ICC requirements</p> <p>10.5 - The appointment of Match Officials</p> <p>10.6 - Player Behavior (Code of Conduct)</p> <p>10.7 - Anti-doping rules and protocols that comply with ICC requirements</p>	
11.	<p>Details of how the event will be funded.</p> <p><i>Provide a detailed event budget and identify key companies and individuals who are funding the event and the amount they are providing.</i></p>	
12.	<p>Confirmation that no individual who is the subject of a suspension imposed by the ICC or any Member Board shall have any involvement in the organization, promotion, or staging of, and shall not participate in the event.</p>	
13.	<p>Any other comments to be considered in the assessment of the application?</p>	

Authorized Signature: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone No: _____

Submission Date: _____

Additional Notes/Comments: