

ICC MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA: APPLICATION PROCESS, RE-CLASSIFICATION AND RETENTION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Article 2.7 of the ICC Articles of Association provides that there are two classes of membership of the ICC, Full Membership and Associate Membership.
- 1.2 This document sets out the following:
- (i) the Membership Criteria that bodies seeking membership of the ICC (“Applicants”) must satisfy in order to become an Associate Member of the ICC; and
 - (ii) a clear pathway for those Associate Members who develop an established cricket culture within their Cricket Playing Country and who satisfy the Full Membership Criteria to seek re-classification of their membership to become a Full Member of the ICC.
- 1.3 In addition, this document provides details and guidance on the application process that must be followed by Applicants seeking ICC membership, or re-classification of membership.

2. ICC Membership

- 2.1 To be considered eligible for membership as a Full Member of the ICC, the Associate Member must satisfy the following membership criteria:
- (a) General**
 - (i) Have the appropriate status, structure, recognition, membership and competence to be recognized by the ICC (at its absolute discretion) as the primary governing body responsible for the administration, management and development of cricket (men’s and women’s) in its country¹.
 - (b) Governance, administration and finance**
 - (i) Have in place a detailed governance system that (i) is fit for purpose (ii) includes, as a minimum (a) a detailed written constitution containing provisions covering membership, AGMs and voting rights, and (b) adequate integrity related rules and regulations covering anti-corruption, anti-doping and ethics; and (iii) is consistently applied;
 - (ii) Have in place an executive, administrative and corporate structure which is fit for purpose and which will enable the Applicant to exercise all the duties and responsibilities placed on it by its constitution and to meet its strategic plan;

¹ This criteria may be demonstrated by way of a letter of recognition and support from the relevant national government agency/department responsible for sport in the relevant country as well as any other relevant information which demonstrates that the Applicant has (among other things) the appropriate status, structure, recognition, membership and competence to be recognised by the ICC (at its absolute discretion) as the primary governing body responsible for the administration, management and development of cricket in the country.

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- (iii) Provide fully audited accounts for the previous four (4) years which do not contain any 'material' qualification;
- (iv) Generate a minimum of 10% of its own total revenues, i.e. other than all forms of direct or indirect ICC funding, in each of the previous four (4) years;
- (v) A debt/equity ratio of not more than 2:1 in each of the previous four (4) years²; and
- (vi) Positive current assets as against current liabilities in at least three (3) of the previous four (4) years.

(c) Performance

- (i) Either feature on the ICC's official ODI rankings table and/or have finished first or second in at least one edition of the ICC Intercontinental Cup over the previous eight (8) years;
- (ii) Have participated in at least three ICC Cricket World Cups and/or ICC World T20 events in the previous eight (8) years;
- (iii) Have registered victories over at least: (a) one (1) Full Member team (who was ranked in the top ten of the official ICC ODI or T20I rankings (as applicable) at the time of relevant victory) in the ICC Cricket World Cup, the ICC CWC Qualifier, the ICC World T20 and/or the ICC World T20 Qualifier; and (b) four (4) victories against two (2) or more Full Member teams (who were ranked in the top ten of the official ICC ODI or T20I rankings (as applicable) at the time of relevant victory) in bilateral ODI and/or T20I cricket; in both cases over the previous eight (8) years;
- (iv) Have either (a) participated in at least one (1) ICC Women's Cricket World Cup or ICC Women's World T20 over the previous four (4) years or (b) currently feature on the ICC's official women's rankings table; and
- (v) Have participated in at least two (2) editions of the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup in the last eight (8) years.

(d) Participation and domestic structures

- (i) Have in place domestic participation structures which include:
 - a. National 50-over tournament structures, which comprise at least three (3) teams, with List A status;
 - b. National 20-over tournament structures, which comprise at least three (3) teams, with List A Twenty20 status;
- (ii) Have satisfactory junior pathway structures in place;
- (iii) Have satisfactory women's pathway structures in place;
- (iv) Have a sustained and sufficient pool of players to support strong and consistent national level selection across the senior men's, U19 and women's teams; and
- (v) Have strong domestic participation levels in the sport and evidence of significant growth over the previous eight (8) years.

² This ratio is calculated by dividing the Applicant's long-term liabilities by its equity.

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(e) Infrastructure

- (i) Have access to at least two (2) ODI venues accredited by the ICC for Full Member matches; and
- (ii) Have appropriate venues and facilities to support and sustain the domestic tournament structures including those described in (d)(i) above.

(f) Development programme

- (i) Have implemented over the previous four (4) years a co-ordinated and developed general coaching and talent identification programme which has as its primary aim the increase of the level of awareness and enjoyment of cricket by participation of all ages; and
- (ii) Have implemented over the previous four (4) years a co-ordinated and developed programme to train coaches, umpires, curators and scorers.

2.2 To be considered eligible for membership as an Associate Member of the ICC, the Applicant must satisfy the following criteria:

(a) General

- (i) Have the appropriate status, structure, recognition, membership and competence to be recognized by the ICC (at its absolute discretion) as the primary governing body responsible for the administration, management and development of cricket (men's and women's) in its country³.

(b) Governance, administration and finance

- (i) Have in place a detailed governance system that: (i) is fit for purpose; (ii) includes, as a minimum (a) a detailed written constitution containing provisions covering membership, AGMs and voting rights, and (b) adequate integrity related rules and regulations covering anti-corruption, anti-doping and ethics; and (iii) is consistently applied;
- (ii) Have in place an executive, administrative and corporate structure which is fit for purpose and which will enable the Applicant to exercise all the duties and responsibilities placed on it by its constitution and to meet its strategic plan;
- (iii) Annual accounts for the previous two (2) years, which, in circumstances where the Applicant receives more than US\$ 100,000 in ICC funding, are fully audited; and
- (iv) Generate a minimum of US\$ 2,500 of its own total revenues, i.e. other than all forms of direct or indirect ICC funding, in each of the previous two (2) years.

³ This criteria can be demonstrated by way of a letter of recognition and support from the relevant national government agency/department responsible for sport in the relevant country as well as any other information which demonstrates that the Applicant has (among other things) the appropriate status, structure, recognition, membership and competence to be recognised by the ICC (at its absolute discretion) as the primary governing body responsible for the administration, management and development of cricket in the country.

Full Council approved: 22 June 2017

(c) Participation and domestic structures

- (i) Have in place domestic participation structures which include a minimum of eight (8) senior teams playing in structured competitions with each team playing at least five (5) competition matches per season;
- (ii) Have satisfactory junior pathway structures in place; and
- (iii) Have satisfactory women's pathway structures in place.

(d) Infrastructure

- (i) Have access to at least two (2) cricket grounds on which competition matches are played,

(e) Development programme

- (i) Have in place a National Development Plan and an annual budget, in both cases covering at least the next three (3) years, which outlines the role, direction and objectives of the Applicant, including:
 - a. Junior development;
 - b. Senior competitions;
 - c. Women's cricket;
 - d. National team high performance plans;
 - e. Local/national/indigenous development strategies;
 - f. Education of coaches, umpires, administrators, scorers and curators (if applicable); and
 - g. Facility development.

3. Applications for Associate Membership or Re-classification as a Full Member

3.1 In accordance with Article 2.9 of the ICC Articles of Association, Applicants seeking membership of the ICC, or re-classification of membership from Associate Member to Full Member, shall deliver a written application (in English) to the Chief Executive, for referral to the Membership Committee, which contains the following information:

- (a) The full name and address of the Applicant;
- (b) The names and addresses of the officers of the Applicant;
- (c) Details of whether it is applying to become a Full Member or an Associate Member or whether it is seeking re-classification as a Full Member;
- (d) A copy of the Applicant's constitution;
- (e) Details of (and supporting documents evidencing) how the Applicant satisfies the relevant membership criteria listed above; and
- (f) Any other information that is considered to be relevant for the consideration of the Membership Committee.

Full Council approved: 22 June 2017

- 3.2 With effect from the end of the 2017 Annual General Meeting, any such application must be made no later than 31 December in a calendar year to allow the Membership Committee to consider and determine that application prior to the Annual General Meeting in the following calendar year. In other words, for membership applications which are to be considered by the Membership Committee in advance of the 2018 Annual General Meeting, such applications must be made no later than 31 December 2017.
- 3.3 Prior to a formal application being submitted to the Chief Executive in accordance with paragraph 5.1 above, the following process must be adhered to:
- (a) By 1 September, the Applicant is to serve notice to the ICC Chief Executive, in writing, that it intends to apply for Associate Membership of the ICC, or to be re-classified from Associate Member to Full Member. Such notice must include an outline of how the Applicant believes it meets the relevant Full or Associate Membership criteria (as applicable).
 - (b) In accordance with the directions of the Chief Executive, ICC management shall conduct a preliminary assessment of the Applicant's application against the relevant Membership Criteria, which may include a specific investigation visit, if deemed appropriate.
 - (c) In circumstances where ICC management's assessment is that the Applicant does not satisfy all the relevant criteria, the Applicant shall be so advised outlining the criteria that they do not meet and management will seek to work with the Applicant to try and resolve any areas of non-compliance in advance of a formal application being made.
 - (d) Following its assessment, ICC management will prepare a summary report containing its comments on the Applicant's application which shall be forwarded to the Membership Committee for its consideration at the same time as the application.
- 3.4 For the avoidance of doubt, there shall be no deadline by which applications for ICC membership should be submitted to the ICC in respect of applications to be considered at the 2017 Annual General Meeting and thus paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3 above will not apply to any application to be considered at the 2017 Annual General Meeting.
- 3.5 As part of its consideration of any application, the Membership Committee shall be entitled to seek further information from the Applicant as it deems necessary. In addition, where it considers it appropriate, the Membership Committee may conduct (or may send a delegation on its behalf to conduct) an inspection visit in the relevant country. The Applicant shall provide all necessary assistance to the Membership Committee as part of this process.
- 3.6 In its sole discretion, and where the Applicant is able to demonstrate exceptional circumstances justifying its inability to satisfy one or more of the applicable Membership Criteria, the Membership Committee may recommend the acceptance of the application notwithstanding the fact that the Applicant does not satisfy all of the relevant Membership Criteria.