

## **Memorandum of Understanding between the Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League and the Pontefract & District Cricket League**

The Yorkshire Cricket Pyramid is a progression pathway to enable cricket clubs to play at the highest level within the county of Yorkshire. The Pontefract & District Cricket League (P&DCL) feeds into the Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League (YCSPL), which represents the South Yorkshire pyramid.

### **1 Objectives of the Yorkshire pyramid**

- i. The overarching objective of the cricket pyramid in Yorkshire cricket is to promote a more competitive structure, whereby the best players play against each other on a regular basis, and in a system where progressive and ambitious clubs, players and umpires can reach the pinnacle of Yorkshire cricket.
- ii. Leagues will work together to achieve a 'Collective Responsibility, Holistic Achievement' ethos between the Yorkshire Cricket Premier League Management Board (YCPLMB), the Premier Leagues, and the partner leagues.

### **2 Working together as partner leagues**

The YCSPL and P&DCL will:

- i. maintain positive and constructive working relationships at management level
- ii. work together closely to develop league cricket in South Yorkshire and the surrounding area to help and support clubs to achieve their aspirations
- iii. support clubs to progress by helping them achieve Clubmark, or its equivalent, and other ground and facilities criteria where appropriate
- iv. work together to generate the leagues' fixture lists
- v. hold twice-yearly liaison meetings in February and October, alternately hosted by the two leagues

### **3 Promotion and relegation between the YCSPL and P&DCL**

- i. The P&DCL Premier Division Champions will have the automatic right to be promoted to the YCSPL Senior Section Division 1 if they meet all the criteria required by the YCSPL. The team will not be compelled to be promoted should they prefer to remain in the P&DCL, in which case the place will be offered to the team that finishes in second place, if they meet all the relevant criteria.
- ii. Should a club be promoted to the YCSPL, its second and subsequent teams will remain in the P&DCL.
- iii. No P&DCL team will be relegated into the division below the first division of the YCSPL. Except in exceptional circumstances, teams relegated from Division 1 of the YCSPL shall return to their original feeder divisions, ie, YCSPL teams will return to YCSPL Division 2 and P&DCL teams will return to P&DCL. Any deviation from this arrangement must be agreed by both the YCSPL and the P&DCL.

#### 4 Procedures

- i. Teams in the Premier Division of the P&DCL must notify their wish to be promoted to the YCSPL, should they meet the necessary criteria, in writing to the Head of the Senior Section of the YCSPL by the 2<sup>nd</sup> June. This notification should include any such information as is required by the YCSPL for new applicants. Clubs will be required to:
  - have Clubmark, or equivalent, by the end of that same season
  - make its ground available for inspection by the YCSPL within 14 days of the 2<sup>nd</sup> June deadline
  - have an umpire who is an ACO member with a minimum Stage 2 qualification and is a member of the South Yorkshire Cricket Umpires Association
- ii. The YCSPL will confirm whether a club is eligible no later than 30<sup>th</sup> June.
- iii. It is the responsibility of P&DCL clubs to make themselves aware of the playing conditions and ground requirements of the YCSPL, which should be publicised on the websites of both leagues.
- iv. When teams move between the YCSPL and the P&DCL, the relevant league management committee will decide on consequential restructuring within their own League.
- v. A club whose first team moves into the YCSPL will remain a P&DCL club.
- vi. A team from a P&DCL club playing in the YCSPL may return to the P&DCL at the conclusion of any season, if they so wish, but not at any other time. They must inform the Head of the Senior Section of the YCSPL and the secretary of the P&DCL of their wish to return before 2<sup>nd</sup> June for the following season.
- vii. Teams must always abide by the constitution and playing conditions of the league in which they are playing.

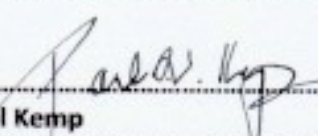
#### 5 Other movements of clubs between leagues

- i. Other movements of clubs between the two leagues, or other leagues in the Yorkshire Pyramid structure, must be in accordance with the YCPLMB constitution, para 2.12.1 *et seq* – attached.
- ii. Any application to join the YCSPL must be made by 31<sup>st</sup> March for the following year; after that date a club may still apply to move, but will not be accepted by the YCSPL for a further year.
- iii. The P&DCL will notify the YCSPL of any club for whom they have signed off any club transfer requests to join the YCSPL by copying them into the confirmation notification to the club.
- iv. Clubs that are to be admitted to the YCSPL will be required to notify umpire nominations to the YCSPL by 30<sup>th</sup> June, and the YCSPL will advise the P&DCL accordingly.
- v. Any club that moves into the YCSPL outwith the promotion and relegation arrangements in para 3 may not have any team placed that league any higher than YCSPL Division 2.

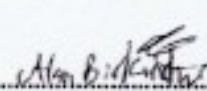
Signed: .....

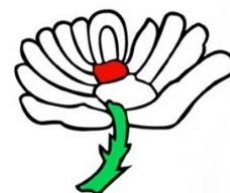
  
David Ward  
Chairman, Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

Signed: .....

  
Paul Kemp  
Chairman, Pontefract & District Cricket League

Signed: .....

  
Alan Birkinshaw  
Chairman, Yorkshire Cricket Premier Leagues Management Board



## Club Migration Appeals

- 2.12.1 Clubs can move within the 'Yorkshire Cricket Pyramid Structure' only if they meet the following requirements. All appeals will be heard by a panel of three 'non-conflicted persons appointed by the Chairman & Secretary with panel expenses charged to individual clubs.
- 2.12.2 No team should gain a competitive advantage by moving outside of the promotion system.
- 2.12.3 No team can move directly into an ECB Premier Division and must be allocated into a division which is 'at least a division below that which could be achieved through promotion within the 'pyramid'.
- 2.12.4 No club should be allowed to move to another league at a higher level unless it is via the promotion/relegation agreement between the two leagues involved.
- 2.12.5 An individual League can only withhold permission to negotiate, where a club has unspent club disciplinary issues or owes a League money.
- 2.12.6 Where a club requests permission to negotiate, the existing League must respond within 14 days.
- 2.12.7 The latest day that a club may apply to negotiate with another league is 2nd June.
- 2.12.8 Where a club has permission to negotiate, they must confirm their intention to remain or leave the existing League within 14 days or by 30 June, whichever is sooner.
- 2.12.9 If a club fails to complete its negotiations (with the intended league) within the given 14 days they will not be given extra time and will not be able to move leagues that year.
- 2.12.10 Clubs cannot move leagues within the 'pyramid' structure without the knowledge and authorisation of the YCPLMB.
- 2.12.11 The YCPLMB will decide which league structure a club is able to move to in order to retain some geographical integrity taking into consideration the existing member clubs of the proposed receiving league.
- 2.12.12 Unless dispensation is given by the receiving League, clubs must meet the criteria for entry of the League they wish to enter.
- 2.12.13 Clubs may only make one transfer request in any calendar year.
- 2.12.14 All leagues must adopt/include this amendment within their MoUs.