

# Neon Cricket Wiltshire County Cricket League

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## League Policy – New Clubs and New Teams Joining the WCCL.

This document is a guide to the league policy on new clubs and new teams joining the league. However, it should not be taken as definitive, and the league committee reserves the right to make decisions on a case-by-case basis.

### Entry Method and Deadline.

New clubs wishing to enter the league must do so by 30<sup>th</sup> September. They must complete a New Club Entry Form, which is available on request. Once they are accepted, they will then be invited to complete the league's online League Entry Form by 31<sup>st</sup> October.

New teams from existing WCCL clubs must enter by 31<sup>st</sup> October. They do so by including the new team on their online League Entry Form.

### Affiliation

All clubs must be affiliated to the ECB through their County Board. Clubs may apply to join the league on the basis that their affiliation has been initiated, and will be in place before the start of the season.

### Cricket Experience

All clubs must have sufficient experience of playing cricket before applying to join the league. The league committee reserves the right to make a decision on a case-by-case basis as to what is required, but generally, a season of playing in a Sunday league, a midweek league, or a season of playing friendlies, will be considered to be sufficient. Please note, the requirement to have sufficient experience applies to the club which is applying, not to the players who will be playing for the club.

### Home Venue

All teams must have a home ground organised before they can join the league. Home grounds must be within the league catchment area. The league catchment area is the county of Wiltshire and the Unitary Authority of Swindon, and within approximately three miles of the boundary thereof.

The ground must meet the league's facilities requirements unless it is already being used for WCCL cricket. The pitch must be of a quality such that it can be expected to make the minimum pitch mark for the division into which the team are entering.

### Entry Level

New teams and clubs can apply to join at the bottom of the league at any time before the entry deadline.

New teams and clubs who wish to enter at a higher level may request this, but they will only be accepted for immediate entry at a higher level if this can be achieved without disadvantaging any existing teams (see the Promotion and Relegation Policy for details).

New teams and clubs who wish to guarantee entry at a higher level must enter the league by the 31<sup>st</sup> January prior to entry deadline (so by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 for guaranteed entry at a higher level in 2025).

The league committee reserves the right to determine the level at which a new team enters, regardless of the level requested by the club.