



# **RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION**

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**PLAYER REGISTRATION FORM**  
**EDITION 18 - VALID FROM JULY 2007**

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# GUIDANCE NOTES FOR PLAYER REGISTRATION FORM

PLAYER DETAILS	SECTION 1	Name of Club for which player is applying for registration.
	SECTION 2	Player's details, including playing position.
	SECTION 3	Player's contact details.
	SECTION 4	Where the player's country of birth is not the UK and he is registering for a club at Level 1-4 (incl) or he is a contracted non-UK born player at any level, a photocopy of the passport (identity page with photograph) and valid visa, must be submitted.
PLAYING DETAILS	SECTION 5	Applications for registration at a Club at Levels 1 to 4 (incl), where the player last played in another union, must be accompanied by IRB international clearance from that union. Players wishing to register for a Club at Level 5 and below are not required to obtain IRB international clearance. For full details, see the RFU Registration of Players Regulations and Operating Procedures in the RFU Handbook. (Blank forms are obtainable from the Tournaments and Competitions Department. Tel: 020 8831 7993; email: nickycook@rfu.com)
	SECTION 6	Player's previous Clubs.
	SECTION 7	Where a player holds Effective Registration with another Club, a copy of the Notification of Transfer Form informing that Club that the player intends to seek Effective Registration with the applicant Club must be submitted. Where any Club wishes to register a player under the expedited registration regulation and that player holds Effective Registration with another Club, the agreement of the player's current Club to the player's registration with the applicant Club must be given in writing.
	SECTION 8	Evidence that the player's contract has expired or that the other party to it consents to the application for registration with the applicant Club or other evidence satisfactory to the RFU that the player may be registered with the applicant Club, must be submitted.
NON-EC PASSPORT HOLDERS	SECTION 10	Overseas player's arrival date in the UK, his town of residence and visa expiry date must be submitted. <b>Levels 1-4 (incl):</b> Where a player's country of birth is not the UK, a photocopy of the passport (identity page with photograph) and valid visa must be submitted. <b>Levels 5 &amp; below:</b> Where a player's country of birth is not the UK and he is an amateur (see Section 12 below), neither a photocopy of the passport nor visa need to be submitted. If the player is not an amateur, a photocopy of the passport (identity page with photograph) and valid visa must be submitted.
	SECTION 11	Where a Club wishes to enter into a contract with a player, it must submit a copy of the registration form fully completed with the 'contract approval form' to the RFU for approval.  Where a Club wishes to enter into a contract with a foreign player it must, in addition, submit to the registrar the work permit or other permit required by law or such evidence satisfactory to the Registrar that such work permit or other consent is not required.  Both contract approval forms and copies of RFU model contracts, can be obtained from the RFU website, rfu.com.
	SECTION 12	<b>NOTES FOR AMATEUR PLAYER - CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING AMATEUR STATUS</b> For the purposes of playing Rugby Union in England, the following will be classed as material benefit, which if given to the player, will remove his amateur status: 1. Payment either directly or indirectly which is conditional on playing for the Club 2. Free accommodation/house of any kind from the Club or Sponsor 3. Air fare to and from UK was paid for by the Club or Sponsor 4. A complimentary car from the Club or Sponsor. <b>Note:</b> In the event that any amateur status information is not correct, and if the player is not an EU/UK citizen, you will be in breach of the UK Immigration Law and the player may be deported, or if the player is an EU/UK citizen and is receiving illegal payments, you will be in breach of UK Law and may be reported by the Inland Revenue. The Rugby Football Union, in the case of incorrect information, may suspend your Player Registration.
	SECTION 13	Player's declaration to be signed and dated by the player.
	SECTION 14	Club declaration to be signed and dated by a Club official.
GENERAL	I.	<b>IRB Regulation 8. Eligibility to play for National Representative Teams. (England)</b> <b>8.1</b> Subject to Regulation 8.2, a player may only play for the senior fifteen-a-side National Representative Team, the next senior fifteen-a-side National Representative Team and the senior National Representative Sevens Team of the union of the country in which: a) he was born; or b) one parent or grandparent was born; or c) he has completed thirty six consecutive months of residence immediately preceding the time of playing.  <b>8.2</b> A player who has played for the senior fifteen-a-side National Representative Team or the next senior fifteen-a-side National Representative Team or the senior National Representative Sevens Team of a union is not eligible to play for the senior fifteen-a-side National Representative Team or the next senior fifteen-a-side National Representative Team or the senior National Representative Sevens Team of another union.
	II.	If the player is not a UK/EC passport holder and is at Levels 1-4 (incl) or is contracted at any level, the following must accompany the registration: (a) main passport number (together with photocopy of the identity page and photograph of the passport), (b) player's arrival date and (c) a completed clearance form from the last union. Copies of the player's work permit / visa must also be sent. <b>For the definition of type of visa issued by UK immigration (A, B, C, D, E, F &amp; G), see Foreign Players Guidance Notes.</b>
	III.	The Club is responsible for obtaining, if required, a work permit. For further details, please contact Work Permits UK (tel: 0114 2743303, fax: 0114 2743003, email: ents.workpermits@ind.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk). If the player has parents or grandparents who have retained British citizenship, the player will be entitled to an ancestry visa. In this case he will not require a work permit, but will be designated a foreign player. This will be removed if/when he plays for England, England Saxons, England U21 or the England Sevens team (see note ii, Foreign Players Guidance Notes).

Continued overleaf

# GUIDANCE NOTES FOR PLAYER REGISTRATION FORM

<b>ONLINE REGISTRATION</b>	<p>Online registration is available for those types of registrations for which it is suitable for those Clubs that wish to utilise it. In general terms, electronic registration can be simply effected for: players who, as at the date of registration, are not currently registered and there is no requirement to supply information additional to the Registration Form to the Registrar to effect registration and uncontracted players who are currently registered and there is no requirement to supply additional information.</p> <p>Clubs can find the relevant instructions and procedures to enable them to use the facility on the RFU website (<a href="http://www.rfu.com/clubs">www.rfu.com/clubs</a>) or can obtain such instructions and procedures in writing upon application to their Registrar.</p> <p>When making an electronic registration online, all documentation must be retained including the signed form by the player and club for at least 12 months and must be made available to the Registrar or RFU within 14 days of written request.</p>
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## FOREIGN PLAYERS GUIDANCE NOTES - JULY 2007 (VISAS/WORK PERMITS)

CATEGORY	STATUS	ENTRY CLEARANCE/ VISA TYPE REQUIRED (See Note)	WORK PERMIT	CRITERIA	FOREIGN PLAYER (See Note)
A	UK/EU/EEA National	None	No	None	No
B	Non-EU/EEA National married to EU/EEA National	Spouse	No	That he remains married	No
C	Non-EU/EEA National (who is a Commonwealth Citizen) with a UK-born grandparent who has retained their UK citizenship	Ancestry Visa (4 year visa) (See Note)	No	Grandparent must have retained UK citizenship	Yes
D	Non-EU/EEA National with Indefinite Right of Abode or in possession of UK Residency	Indefinite Leave to Remain	No	Confirmed on a case by case basis	Yes
E	Non-EU/EEA National wishing to play as a professional	Rugby Union Work Permit	Yes	Must have played international rugby within the last 15 months and meet other criteria	Yes
F	Non-EU/EEA National with restricted rights to work in the UK	1. Working Holiday 2. Student	No No	(For working conditions, please consult the Home Office)	Yes
G	Non-EU/EEA National visiting the UK	Visitor (6 months)	No	Not allowed to work (paid or unpaid) in the UK. Can play rugby as an amateur	Yes

FOREIGN PLAYERS: Limits as set out in the relevant competition regulations

**Note:**

Players granted UK Ancestry visas do not have entitlement to rights granted under Title III of the EC Treaty or the EEA Agreement. Foreign classification will be removed if a player plays for England U21, England Saxons, the full England XV or the England Sevens. For further clarification please refer to *Appendix C - Prevention of Illegal Working* issued by **The Home Office - Border & Immigration Agency**.

Copies can also be obtained from the **Tournaments and Competitions Department** (tel: 020 8831 7993, email: [nickycook@rfu.com](mailto:nickycook@rfu.com)).

For further details on Work Permits, please contact Border & Immigration Agency (tel: 0114 2743303, fax: 0114 2743003, email: [ents.workpermits@ind.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ents.workpermits@ind.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)).