

England Kabaddi Federation (UK)

Governing Body Endorsement Requirements

This guidance is to be used for all International Sportsperson governing body endorsement requests made on or after the 30 August 2023.

Please note: Updates to the application forms at Annex A and the dispute handling procedures at Section 3 were made on 31 May 2024.

Section 1: Overview of governing body endorsements for the International Sportsperson route of the points-based system

This page provides a brief explanation of what endorsement requirements apply in respect of the International Sportsperson route of the points-based system. The Immigration Rules for the International Sportsperson route can be found at [Appendix International Sportsperson](#).

The International Sportsperson route is for elite sportspeople and coaches who:

- are internationally established and whose employment will make a significant contribution to the development of their sport at the highest level in the UK
- who will base themselves in the UK
- will be filling a post that cannot be filled by a suitable British citizen or person who has a right to enter or stay in the UK without restriction.

The application process explained: migrants applying to come to the UK under the International Sportsperson route need to be sponsored by an organisation that has an International Sportsperson sponsor licence.

If you wish to sponsor such migrants, you must have a sponsor licence. Before you apply to the Home Office for a licence you must be endorsed by the **approved governing body** for your sport. This endorsement confirms to the Home Office that the application for a licence is from a genuine sports club (or equivalent) that has a legitimate requirement to bring migrants to the UK as sportspeople. Once licensed, you can assign certificates of sponsorship to a sportsperson or coach with a job offer that allows them to apply for entry clearance or permission to stay in the UK. Each individual must also have a personal endorsement from the **approved governing body** for their sport before you assign the certificate of sponsorship.

An **approved governing body** is one specified in [Appendix Sports Governing Bodies](#) of the Immigration Rules. Such a governing body must be recognised by one of the home country sports councils such as Sport England, and will have been approved by the Home Office before being included in [Appendix Sports Governing Bodies](#) of the Immigration Rules.

Approved governing bodies will work within the Home Office’s [‘Code of practice for sports governing bodies’](#) and must comply with any immigration regulations, UK legislation and the principles of the points-based system as detailed on the [GOV.UK](#) website.

Length of endorsement

Governing body endorsements should be issued for a period appropriate to the period of approval for sponsorship, that is:

Type of application	Length of endorsement
Sponsor	4 years from date of issue.
Migrant	For an initial maximum period of 3 years, with a further extension of a maximum period of 3 years. If the contract is for fewer than 3 years, it will be issued for the length of the contract.

Change of employment

If a migrant is intending to change employer, their new employer must request a new governing body endorsement. The endorsement can be issued for the length of the contract or to the maximum period permitted within the route, whichever is the shorter. The new employer must assign a new certificate of sponsorship to the migrant to allow them to apply to the Home Office for new permission to stay. Permission to stay must be granted before the migrant can start work with the new employer.

Salary

The salary should be agreed as part of the contract between the migrant and the sponsor. This and the other conditions of employment should be at least equal to those normally given to a resident worker for the type of work undertaken.

Supplementary employment

International Sportsperson migrants are eligible to undertake supplementary employment under the Home Office supplementary employment regulations. The ‘Supplementary employment’ section [Workers and Temporary Workers: guidance for sponsors - Sponsor an International Sportsperson guidance](#) has more information on this.

Compliance with the [Code of Practice for Sports Governing Bodies](#)

In reviewing this criteria, England Kabaddi Federation confirm we have reread the Code and agree to our roles and responsibilities as set out within. We confirm we have acted in full compliance with the principles of the Code during this annual review.

Section 2: Requirements

This page explains the England Kabaddi Federation (EKF) requirements for the International Sportsperson route for the 2023 and 2024 season. This criteria is effective from 30 August 2023.

Only the roles listed are eligible for endorsement.

These requirements apply to England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Consultation

The following requirements have been agreed by the Home Office following consultation with the England Kabaddi Federation (UK) and all other known organisations.

Prior to contacting the Home Office during the annual review of this criteria, England Kabaddi Federation (UK) confirm that full consultation has been carried out, this includes any organisation that could be interpreted as an interested party, such as clubs, bodies, or player associations related to kabaddi in the UK.

Review

The requirements will be reviewed annually. The next review will be in August 2024.

Length of season

The playing season in the UK generally runs from May to August of each year. This may vary slightly from season to season depending on the arrangement of the first and last matches.

Requirements

The table below shows the endorsement requirements for sponsors and migrants.

Category	Requirement	
Sponsor	Governing body endorsements for sponsors will be issued to clubs who are an affiliated member of the England Kabaddi Federation (UK) or any other such body that is engaged in promotion and enhancement of the game of Kabaddi at the highest level in UK.	
Migrant	Player	Initial and extension applications: Governing body endorsements will be available for a player if the player: 1. Has represented their club at the Circle Style Global Kabaddi League, endorsed by the

Category	Requirement
	<p>Government of Punjab, India, within the last 2 years and has played in at least 80% of the matches played by their team in that season; OR</p> <p>2. Is a returning player who played 80% of games during at least one season in the last five years whilst in the UK; OR</p> <p>3. Has played in at least 50% of the matches played by his/her team at the annual Kabaddi Championships held at the Sikh Holly Festival of Holla Mohalla at Anandpur Sahib as organised by England Kabaddi Federation (UK) within the previous two years from date of application; OR</p> <p>In addition to the above, the club must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a written contract of employment with the player and provide evidence of the same to the EKF • provide on letter headed paper a guarantee duly signed by the senior officials of the club confirming that they will ensure that the player concerned will leave the UK before their current entry clearance or leave to remain expires
<p>Injuries, Absences and Suspensions</p> <p>Games for which the player was unavailable for selection are to be excluded when calculating the player's appearance percentage. Unavailable for selection means the player's was not available to participate due to injury or suspension and written evidence supporting this, setting out the games missed and the reason(s), must be provided by the player's National Association or club doctor to the England Kabaddi Federation for consideration. (Consideration will be given to injury, a period of maternity or paternity leave and any other legitimate medical reasons).</p> <p>Consideration will be given to the following when applying the criteria: injury; a period of maternity or paternity leave; serious illness or any legitimate medical reasons; suspension; international duty; bereavement; or family crisis.</p> <p>In order to obtain the governing body endorsement, the individual must not be subject to a provisional suspension or any unexpired period of ineligibility from playing and/or</p>	

Category	Requirement
	coaching activities in any jurisdiction as a result of being charged with or found guilty of a corruption offence and/or a doping offence and/or another misconduct offence.

Further information

This information is available on the [EKF](http://www.kabaddiuk.co.uk) website at www.kabaddiuk.co.uk

For any queries regarding these criteria or to discuss the application process for Kabaddi players please contact:

England Kabaddi Federation (UK)
C/O: Surinder Singh Manak LL.B (Hons) – General Secretary
Manak Solicitors
265 High Street
Orpington
Kent
BR6 0NW
Telephone: 01689 870769

Email: ssm@manaksolicitors.co.uk

Section 3: Dispute handling procedures

Where an application for a Governing Body Endorsement (GBE) by a Kabaddi Club to acquire a Sponsorship Licence or by a Kabaddi Club to Sponsor a Migrant as an International Sports Person as defined by the Home Office is covered by the requirements of governing body endorsement criteria and it has been refused by the EKF on the grounds that the Club or the Migrant fails to meet the published requirements, the Applicant (as defined in the GBE Application Forms) may seek a review of the EKF's decision. The Applicant will have 28 days to request a review. In these cases, EKF will refer the Applicant's evidence to an independent Review Panel as set out below.

Where possible the Applicant's supporting evidence will be sent to the Review Panel in advance for their consideration in order to allow an informed decision. Applicants should note that, in respect of any application, there will only be one Review Panel available and the decision of the Review Panel is final (subject to final appeal). Applicants should therefore ensure all evidence it wishes to present in support of its application is presented to the Review Panel. If the Applicant has previously made an application that was unsuccessful at Review Panel a further Review Panel cannot be requested for the same Club/Migrant within 12 months of the original decision of the EKF unless their status changes and they meet the requirements whereby a new application can be submitted.

If the initial review is refused, the Applicant may request a final appeal as set out at point **d** below.

a) The Review

The request for a review may only be made by the Applicant to whom the GBE has been initially rejected by the EKF.

A review shall be commenced by the Applicant submitting a written notice of appeal within 28 days of the initial decision to the EKF. The notice of appeal shall:

1. set out details of the decision appealed against and, if the whole of the decision is not appealed against, identify that part of it which is appealed against; and
2. set out in full the grounds of appeal and an appellant shall not be entitled to rely in any ground of appeal not set out in the notice of appeal; and
3. be accompanied by a deposit of £100. The Review Panel shall have discretion as to whether the deposit is returned.

The procedure for appeal will be in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations and the Review Panel shall be comprised as detailed below.

b. The Review Panel

The Review Panel shall consist of at least 3 members and must be made up of the following:-

1. an independent Chairman; and
2. a representative of the EKF as nominated by the president of the EKF provided however that the said representative cannot be someone who was involved in the original decision; and
3. a representative of the Applicant as nominated by the Applicant.

For the purposes of this clause the EKF and the Applicant will agree a mutually acceptable person to act as the independent Chairman of the Review Panel and if they fail to do so within 30 days of the application being submitted, either party may use the link below to find an appropriate solicitor to act as the Chairman. The Chairman's decision shall be final and binding on the parties and the fees of the appointed Chairman shall be borne equally by the parties: <https://solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk/>

c. Refusal at Review

An endorsement request at review may be refused if the Club/Migrant does not meet the relevant criteria set out in this document or fails to provide the mandatory documents.

EKF will notify the Applicant in writing of any endorsement request which is refused at review stage, setting out the reasons for refusal.

d. Final Appeal

The Applicant will have 7 days from the date of the written refusal at review stage to submit a final appeal in writing to the EKF.

PLEASE NOTE: The Applicant may only submit a Final Appeal on the basis that EKF have not applied the endorsement criteria correctly.

EKF shall consider the final appeal and any evidence submitted in support and shall, within 7 working days of the receipt of the final appeal, notify the Applicant of its decision.

e. The Decision

EKF will make a decision using the above criteria which shall be final and binding. There are no other grounds of appeal.

Annex A: Process for applying for an endorsement

How to apply for governing body endorsements for the International Sportsperson route

The governing body endorsement criteria, together with the appropriate application form should be used when applying for endorsement.

Organisations should apply for a GBE using the form at:

- Annex A1 when applying for a sponsor licence GBE.
- Annex A2 when applying for a migrant GBE.

Evidence must be submitted alongside each application to show the club/migrant/sponsor meets the GBE criteria set out above.

All applications for GBEs will be responded to by EKF with a full decision 28 days after the date the GBE application was submitted.

Where an application has been refused, please refer to Section 3 above.

There is an administration fee of £100.00 for each governing body endorsement. Cheques must be included with applications, made payable to England Kabaddi Federation (UK).

Annex A1: International Sportsperson sponsor licence governing body endorsement application form

This form should be used to apply to England Kabaddi Federation (UK) for a governing body endorsement of an application for a sponsor licence under the International Sportsperson route.

Please complete all sections of the form below unless otherwise indicated:

Required start date of sponsor endorsement application	
Name of organisation which for the purposes of the Dispute Handling Process shall be considered as the Applicant	
Address	
Name of Proposed Licence Holder	
Address	
Name of the person making this application.	
Position in the organisation of the person making this application	
Telephone Number	
Fax Number	
Email	
Date of Application	

I hereby apply to the England Kabaddi Federation (EKF) for Governing Body Endorsement (GBE) for the above named Kabaddi Club.

I confirm that I am duly authorised by the Club to make this Application and to give the below undertakings which I confirm will be binding on me and the Club.

I hereby declare that the Player for whom this application is being made meets the GBE criteria and the application submitted does not contain false representations, documents or information.

I understand that the information on this form may be disclosed to the Home Office in the event that they investigate England Kabaddi Federation (UK) processes and procedures.

I have enclosed with this application the following:-

1. Evidence that the Club meets the requirement set out in England Kabaddi Federation (UK) GBE Issuing Criteria.
2. Copy of my passport or another such document confirming I have permission to reside in UK.
3. Up to date proof of my address.
4. A cheque for £100.00 made payable to England Kabaddi Federation (UK)

Signed:

Dated:

Please send this form to:

England Kabaddi Federation (UK)

C/O: S S Manak

Manak Solicitors

265 High St

Orpington

Kent

BR6 0NW

Ref: ssm/kabaddi/1587

The information on this form may be disclosed to the Home Office in the event that they investigate England Kabaddi Federation (UK) processes and procedures.

Annex A2: International Sportsperson governing body endorsement application form – Migrant

This form should be used to apply to England Kabaddi Federation (UK) for a Governing Body Endorsement of an application for a migrant International Sportsperson route.

The form at Annex A1 should be used for Migrant GBE applications.

Please complete all sections of the form below unless otherwise indicated:

Full name of migrant	
Date of birth of migrant	
Nationality of migrant	
Current address of migrant	
Employment start date of migrant	
Employment end date of migrant	
Migrant's proposed employment address	
Migrant's Job title	
Migrant's Salary	
Name of organisation making this application which for the purposes of the Dispute Handling Process shall be considered as the Applicant.	
Name of the person making this application.	
Position in the organisation of the person making this application.	
Telephone number	
Fax number	
Date of application	

I hereby apply to the England Kabaddi Federation (EKF) for Governing Body Endorsement (GBE) for the above named Kabaddi Players under the International Sportsperson route.

I confirm that I am duly authorised by the Player and the Club to make this Application and to give the below undertakings which I confirm will be binding on me and the Club.

I hereby declare that the Player for whom this application is being made meets the GBE criteria and the application submitted does not contain false representations, documents or information.

I understand that the information on this form may be disclosed to the Home Office in the event that they investigate England Kabaddi Federation (UK) processes and procedures.

I have enclosed with this application the following:-

1. Evidence that the individual meets the requirement set out in England Kabaddi Federation (UK) GBE Criteria.
2. Signed contract of employment
3. Copy of my passport or another such document confirming I have permission to reside in UK.
4. Up to date proof of my address.
5. A cheque for £100.00 made payable to England Kabaddi Federation (UK).

Signed:

Dated:

Please send this form to:

England Kabaddi Federation (UK)
C/O: S S Manak
Manak Solicitors
265 High St
Orpington
Kent
BR6 0NW
Ref: ssm/kabaddi/1587

The information on this form may be disclosed to the Home Office in the event that they investigate England Kabaddi Federation (UK) processes and procedures.