

# International Sportsperson Endorsement Requirements

This guidance is to be used for all International Sportsperson governing body endorsement requests made on or after 29 July 2022

## **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.

Please note: The International Sportsperson route replaces T2 Sportsperson and the sporting section of the T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting Worker route. The onus is on the applicant to ensure they are compliant with the Immigration Rules in force when they apply for a visa.

**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.

**International Sportsperson (long term)** is defined as an application for a period of stay exceeding 12 months.

**International Sportsperson (short term)** is defined as an application for a period of stay of 12 months or less.

### **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 sportscotland or 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
<b>Sponsor</b>	4 years from date of issue.
<b>Migrant</b>	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.

## **Section 2: Requirements**

This section explains the Badminton Scotland requirements for the 2022 to 2023 season. The requirements are effective from 29 July 2022.

Only the roles listed as part of this criteria are eligible for endorsement.

These requirements apply to Scotland only.

### **Consultation**

The following requirements have been agreed by the Home Office following consultation between the Badminton Scotland Board member/partner organisation.

### **Review**

The requirements will be reviewed annually. The next review will be in March 2023.

### **Length of season**

The season for badminton runs from August to July.

### **Requirements**

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

<b>Category</b>	<b>Requirement</b>	
<b>Sponsor</b>  International Sportsperson	Governing body endorsements for sponsors will be issued for the following bodies recognised by Badminton Scotland: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Badminton Scotland Accredited Performance Centre</li><li>▪ Badminton Scotland Accredited High Performance Centre</li><li>▪ Badminton Scotland</li></ul>	
<b>Migrant</b>  International Sportsperson	<b>Sparring Partner</b>	Governing body endorsements will be available for migrants who are seeking employment in member/partner organisations as a sparring partner. If individuals meet the following requirements:  During the 48 months immediately prior to the date of the governing body endorsement application the sparring partner must have been part of a national squad in a playing nation ranked in the top 8 in the world for a minimum of 6 months collectively during the period as measured by the badminton World Federation (BWF) Team Rankings or who is currently ranked in the top 20 in the world as measured by the BWF Player Rankings (Senior).
	<b>Full Time Coach</b>	Governing body endorsement will be available to full-time coaches if they meet the following requirements:  <b>International Sportsperson (short term)</b>

Category	Requirement
	<p>The individual is either qualified to UK Coaching Certificate (UKCC) Level 3 standard or holds a non-UK qualification that is at least equivalent to the UKCC Level 3 standard coaching qualification as confirmed by Badminton Scotland or has a proven track record of working with elite players in delivering World, Olympic and or Super Series medals.</p> <p><b>International Sportsperson (long term)</b></p> <p>The individual is either qualified to UK Coaching Certificate (UKCC) Level 3 standard or holds a non-UK qualification that is at least equivalent to the UKCC Level 3 standard coaching qualification as confirmed by Badminton Scotland or has at least 3 years experience working with a national squad ranked in the top 12 in the world as measured by the BWF Team Rankings (Senior) or has a proven track record working with elite players at World, Olympic and or BWF Super Series medals.</p> <p><b>International Sportsperson</b></p> <p>There are no suitable resident workers who are qualified to UKCC Level 3 or equivalent with appropriate proven experience available to do the job. The sponsor will need to provide evidence that the job has been advertised in the most appropriate medium which provides the best way of reaching suitably qualified resident workers.</p> <p>It is expected that full time coaches will be employed by the member/partner organisation who are unlikely to appoint someone with no, or limited, coaching experience.</p>

### **Injuries, Absences and Suspensions**

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.

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 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.

This information is available on the [Badminton Scotland](https://www.badminton-scotland.org.uk) website.

For any queries relating to the requirements or the endorsement process please contact:

Badminton Scotland Governing Body Endorsements

The Cockburn Centre

40 Bogmoor Place

Glasgow G51 4TQ

Telephone: 0141 445 1218

Email: [finance@badmintonscotland.org.uk](mailto:finance@badmintonscotland.org.uk)

Information on visas and immigration is available on the [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) website.

## Dispute handling procedures

Any appeal by a member/partner organisation against the decision of **Badminton Scotland** not to provide a governing body endorsement for either an individual migrant or for a sponsor license will be dealt with by the independent dispute resolution service for sport 'Sport Resolutions'.

If a member/partner organisation wishes to instigate an appeal pursuant to this Procedure, the member/partner organisation must submit to the Chief Executive of **Badminton Scotland** a written request for an appeal ('the Appeal') containing all the following details:

- a. the name and address of the member/partner organisation and of the nominated body representative
- b. a brief statement stating the grounds that the member/partner organisation wish to use to appeal the **Badminton Scotland** decision

The applicable grounds for appeal are limited to a 'strong arguable case' that either:

- relevant information was ignored or not considered by Badminton Scotland
- the endorsement application process was tainted by unreasonable bias or conflict of interests
- the provisions of the Badminton Scotland governing body endorsement procedure were not adhered to
- Badminton Scotland exceeded its jurisdiction
- the findings of Badminton Scotland were irrational or otherwise exhibited an error of general law

This request for appeal must be submitted within 14 days of the notification of the original **Badminton Scotland** decision not to provide a governing body endorsement and include the relevant Appeal Fee of £125, cheque made payable to Sport Resolutions.

**Badminton Scotland** will acknowledge the Appeal in writing with the request that full written evidence in support of the Appeal must be submitted to Sport Resolutions within 10 days for the Appeal to proceed.

The Appeal will be undertaken by a sole arbitrator, based on written submissions only, and will be final and binding on **Badminton Scotland** and the club who sought the Appeal.

## Section 3: Process for applying for an endorsement

Member/partner organisations eligible for an International Sportsperson sponsor licence governing body endorsement should use the relevant application form selected from Annex A, B or C.

All potential sponsors should note that the purpose of an endorsement for a prospective sponsor is to confirm to the Home Office officials processing sponsor applications that the application is from a bona fide sports club or equivalent that has a legitimate requirement to bring migrants to the UK as sportspeople.

The Home Office has additional criteria for sponsors that must be met in order for a member/partner organisation to be granted a sponsor licence. It is not Badminton Scotland who will grant a sponsor licence.

There is an administration fee of £100 for each governing body endorsement for a sponsor licence. Cheques must be included with applications, made payable to Badminton Scotland.

Once a member/partner organisation has obtained its sponsor license from the Home Office, the sponsor will be able to apply for certificates of sponsorship, which it will allocate to migrants coming here to work for the member/partner organisation.

Each migrant that a member/partner organisation wishes to employ needs to be assigned a certificate of sponsorship. However, before a member/partner organisation can assign a certificate of sponsorship to a sportsperson, they will also have to obtain an endorsement from Badminton Scotland for all applications made for individual sportspeople and coaches.

**Annex A: Sponsor licence: Governing body endorsement application**

This form should be used to apply to **Badminton Scotland** for a governing body endorsement of an application for a sponsor licence under the International Sportsperson category of the Home Office points-based system.

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

Name of member/partner organisation: .....

Address: .....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Contact name and position: .....

Telephone number: .....

Email: .....

Signature: .....

Date of application: .....

**Supporting Evidence Required:**

- None
- ☐ enclosed cheque for £100 made payable to ‘**Badminton Scotland**’

Please send this form together with your cheque to:

Badminton Scotland Governing Body Endorsements  
The Cockburn Centre  
40 Bogmoor Place  
Glasgow  
G51 4TQ

The information on this form may be disclosed to the Home Office in the event that they investigate the **Badminton Scotland** processes and procedures.

**Annex B: Governing body endorsement application form – International Sports person: sparring partner**

This form should be used to apply to **Badminton Scotland** for a governing body endorsement of an application for a migrant the Sports person: Sparring Partner category of the Home Office points-based system.

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

Full name of sparring partner: .....

Address: .....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Name of member/partner organisation: .....

**Badminton Scotland** sponsor licence number: .....

Member/partner organisation contact name and position: .....  
.....

Telephone number: .....

Email: .....

I confirm that during the **48 months immediately prior to the date of the governing body endorsement application** the sparring partner was part of a National Squad in a playing nation ranked in the Top 8 in the world during the period.

Please state nation: .....

Signature: .....

Date of application: .....

Please send this form together with your cheque for £100 to:

Badminton Scotland Governing Body Endorsements  
The Cockburn Centre  
40 Bogmoor Place  
Glasgow  
G51 4TQ

The information on this form may be disclosed to the Home Office in the event that they investigate the **Badminton Scotland** processes and procedures.



**Annex C: Governing body endorsement application – International Sportsperson: Full Time Coach only**

This form should be used to apply to **Badminton Scotland** for a governing body endorsement of an application for a migrant under the Sportsperson: Full time Coach category of the Home Office points-based system.

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

Full name of coach: .....

Address: .....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Name of member/partner organisation: .....

**Badminton Scotland** sponsor licence number: .....

Member/partner organisation contact name and position: .....

Telephone number: .....

Email: .....

Please provide evidence as stated below to meet the criteria, either of a:

- ☐ UKCC 3: please provide evidence of date & details of course and copy of certificate
- ☐ non-UK coaching qualification and written confirmation from **Badminton Scotland** that this qualification is of an equivalent or higher standard to **Badminton Scotland** UKCC 3: please provide evidence of date & details of course and copy of certificate
- ☐ curriculum vitae, outlining coaching roles held and relevant experience, to include appropriate references, at least one from a person within a recognised National Badminton Organisation

**And**

- ☐ evidence that the job has been advertised in the most appropriate medium

**And**

- ☐ **Badminton Scotland** Coaches vetting paperwork including **Badminton Scotland** non-UK vetting form
- ☐ enclosed cheque for £100 made payable to '**Badminton Scotland**'

Signature.....

Date of application.....

**Please send this form to:**

Badminton Scotland Governing Body Endorsements  
The Cockburn Centre  
40 Bogmoor Place  
Glasgow G51 4TQ

The information on this form may be disclosed to the Home Office in the event that they investigate the **Badminton Scotland** processes and procedures.