



PLAYER POINTS MANUAL: MEN'S THE



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3. BACKGROUND

KNCB has the intention to introduce the Player Points System to ensure that Dutch cricket continues to grow in a sustainable and balanced way. The system is not only about regulating teams **in the 50 over and T20 THE** compositions but also about shaping the future of the game in the Netherlands.

The main reasons behind the system are:

- Local Player Development—Encouraging clubs to invest in homegrown players and provide them with opportunities at the highest level.
- Reducing Dependence on Overseas Players—Balancing the use of international talent with the development of Dutch players, so clubs don't rely solely on overseas signings.

In short, the system is designed to reward clubs that develop Dutch talent while still allowing space for international players to contribute to the competition.

The main objective is to reduce the financial burden on clubs caused by relying on expensive overseas players. In the year 2026, no additional bonus points will be introduced, ensuring the system remains clear, workable, and sustainable. Potential bonus points (e.g., supplying umpires, having level 3 coaches) will be evaluated after 2026.

4. POINTS ALLOTMENT

For 2026, each team competing in either the 50 over or T20 THE (Topklasse, Hoofdklasse, and Eerste Klasse) shall be subject to a player points cap of twenty-eight (28) on match days for 2026.

This means that while a club's players on their squad list may contain players whose combined points exceed twenty-eight (28), the team nominated players to play a match must not exceed this limit.

The purpose of the points cap is to:

- Ensure fair competition by preventing an over-concentration of high-value players in a single match.
- Maintain opportunities for homegrown and locally developed players.
- Provide flexibility for clubs to select players on their squad list while still requiring balanced team selection on match days.

The initial cap has been set at twenty-eight (28) points to provide clubs with flexibility in adapting to the system. This value will be reviewed by the KNCB Board for future seasons.

Clubs are required to record the Player Points status of each player on the official team sheet, which must be handed to the umpires and the opposing captain at the toss.

5. DEFINITIONS

For this manual, the following definitions shall apply:

THE (Topklasse, Hoofdklasse, Eerste Klasse):

The collective term used to describe the three highest domestic competitions in the Netherlands that fall under the scope of this Player Points System.

Homegrown Player:

A player who has been registered and active with the same club since his sixteenth birthday (16) or earlier.

Late Starting Player:

A player who never played cricket and becomes a member of a club after his 16th birthday.

Transition Player:

A player who played cricket for another club in the Netherlands has transferred to a new club.

Expat Player:

A player residing in the Netherlands for reasons other than cricket (e.g. full-time employment or full-time study). Proof of employment or study must be provided upon request by the KNCB. For students, continuation beyond the first academic year requires evidence of achieving at least seventy percent (70%) of study credits.

A player can only play as an expat player at his first club in the Netherlands. When moving clubs he will be rated as every other player.

Club of Origin:

The club for which a player made their official debut in THE.

Current Player:

A player who has participated in THE within the past two (2) years, counting back from 1 April of the current season.

ICC Classification of Official Cricket:

- ICC classification will be followed
- Non-List Provincial cricketers and non-first-class provincial cricketers, who are playing provincial cricket in a country, are classified as Provincial A level.
- The Dutch Pro Series is classified as List A provincial cricket. A level.

ICC Eligibility Regulations:

A player eligible to play for the Netherlands according to the ICC regulations is for this Player Point System considered a Dutch passport holder.

Representative U19 Competitions:

- Players without a NL passport are classified as international.
- Players with a NL passport are classified as having played at Provincial A level.

6. RULES

4.1 Player Categorization

A player who changes clubs or plays for the first time in the THE and fits into more than one category shall be placed in the category that attracts the highest points value.

Players whose initial rating is one (1) shall retain that rating unless they change clubs.

For any new player joining before 1 April, the club must provide valid passport proof and, if applicable) residence permit or proof of residence, and/or a working/study permit to the KNCB for the player to be classified under the Player Points System.

4.2 Calculation of Player Points

Clubs must insert the Player Points of each registered player on the squad list for every season.

The squad list must be finalized by 1 April of the current season.

For new players, substantiation of their Player Points classification must be submitted to the Competition Leader and for the 2026 season this need to be done for all players on the squad list.

- Record the year the player joined the club (start of membership).
- Verify the player's passport.
- Assess the player's playing level over the past 3 years before April 1st of the year joining (use the flow chart) and make the deductions if the player is longtime at the club.
- Determine if the player qualifies under the Expat category.

Allocate the highest number of points based on the above criteria.

4.3 Special Circumstances and Appeals

If clubs believe there are special circumstances regarding a player's classification, they must submit these for consideration along with the substantiation.

The Competition Leader shall review all submissions before the start of the season.

A special committee will be appointed to handle appeals and support the clubs with the classification of the players.

4.4 Current Players

A current player with a points allocation of three (3) or more shall have their allocation reduced by one (1) point on 1 April, provided that they played a minimum

amount of matches in the THE competition of the two (2) past seasons, and will be reduced by a further point in subsequent years. This deduction continues in subsequent years until the player reaches a minimum of 1 point for Dutch passport holders or a minimum of 2 points for non-Dutch passport holders.

For the 50 over THE competition this minimum amount of matches is 10. And for the T20 THE competition this minimum amount is 6. With the changes in the competitions these minimum amounts will be yearly reviewed.

4.5 Annual Review

On 31st October of each year, the KNCB Board shall communicate the maximum number of Player Points to be applied for the following season.

4.6 Breach of Points Cap

A club exceeding the Player Points cap shall be dealt with in accordance with [article 29](#) in the Competition Regulations. See the regulations.

4.7 Match-Day Requirements

Clubs are responsible for ensuring the correct Player Points status of each player selected in THE matches.

This status must be clearly registered on the team sheet, which shall be handed to the umpires and the opposing captain at the toss.

When the umpires check the official team sheet before the start of a match, if a team is found to have selected players exceeding the twenty-eight (28) points cap:

- The team must immediately adjust its lineup to comply with the twenty-eight (28) points cap, even if this results in starting the match with fewer than eleven (11) players.
- If the team fails or refuses to make the necessary adjustments, it will be handled in accordance with Article 12 in the Competition Regulations.

4.8 Returning Players

Players from a club newly selected from the Pro Series shall retain the same point allocation for this current club as they had before the selection.

Players from a club newly selected for international duties shall retain the same point allocation for this current club as they had before the selection.

A player who transfers back to his former club will be classified the same points allocation as he was allocated in the last year playing for that club.

6.9 Transition players

A player with a Dutch passport who transfers to a new club and is not falling in a higher category will initially be classified as a Transition Player (2 points). If the

player has played more than thirty (30) matches in THE, the higher allocation of 3 points shall apply.

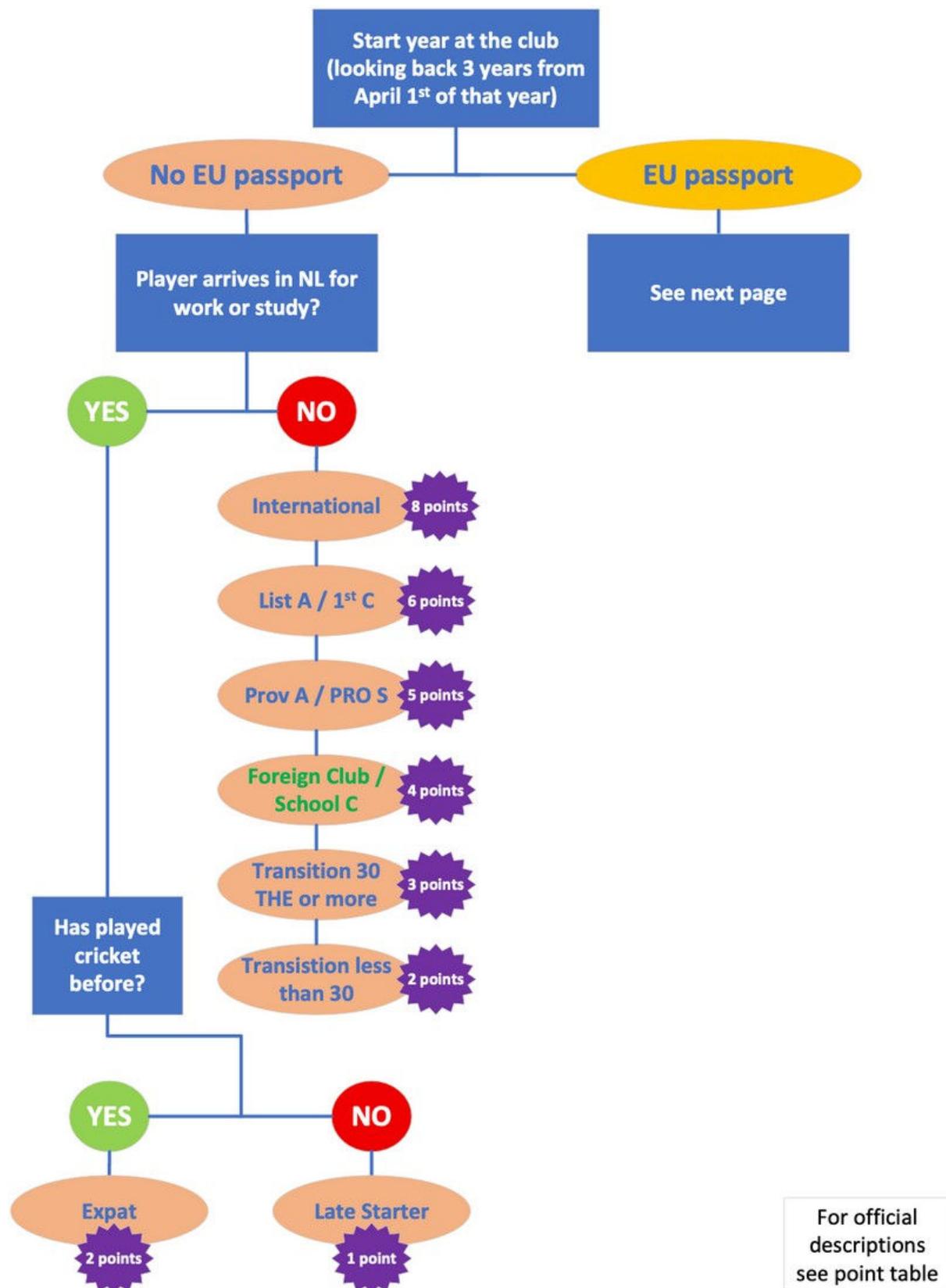
7. POINTS TABLE

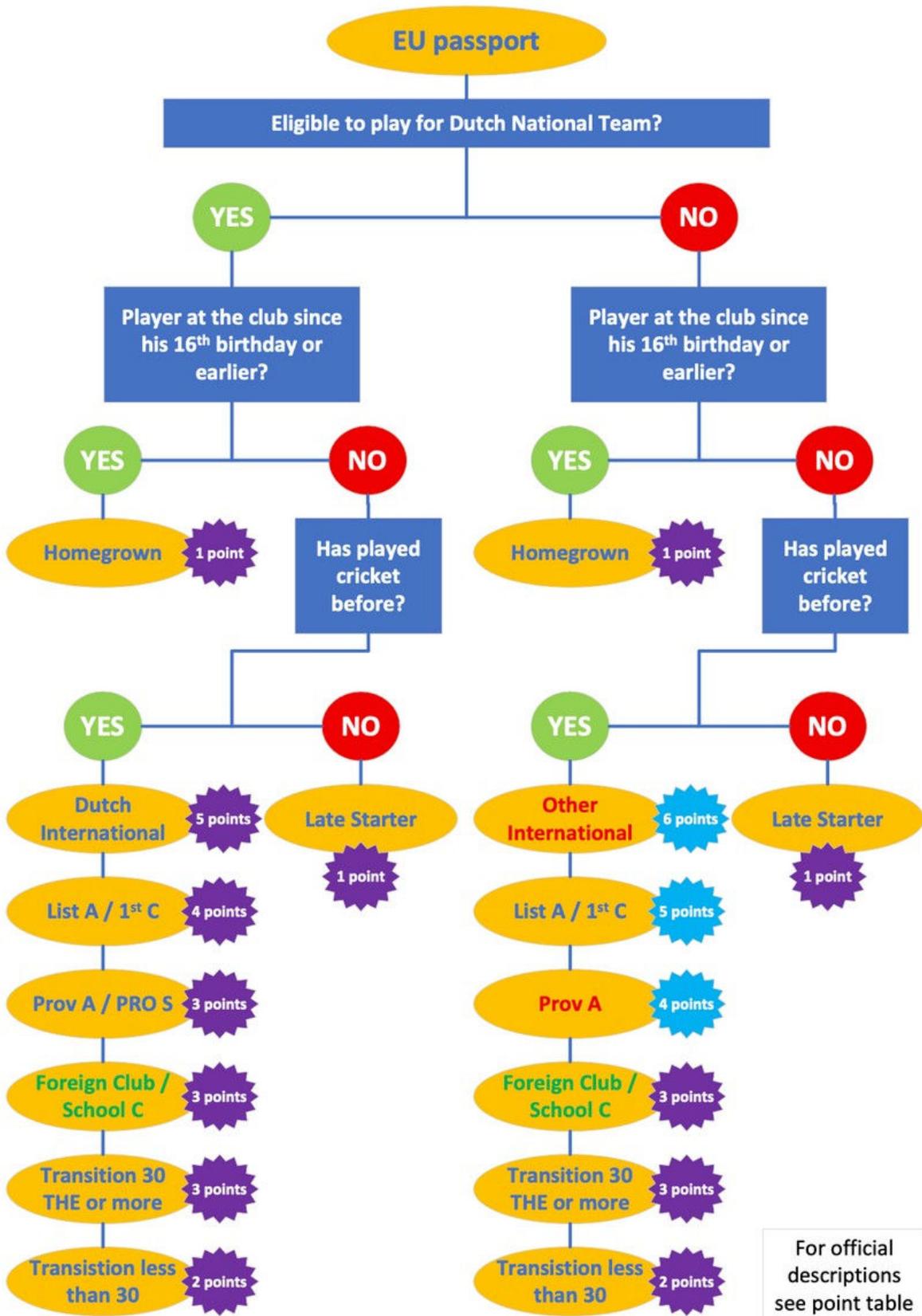
The following descriptions, except for the one-point category, refer to Players coming into a Club with that status:

PLAYERS				
Players without EU Passport		Players with EU Passport		
			Not eligible to play for Dutch National Team	Eligible to play for Dutch National Team
CATEGORY	PTS	CATEGORY	PTS	PTS
International (Test/ODI/T20I – Full Member & Ass Member ODI status)	8	International (Test/ODI/T20I – Full Member & Ass Member ODI status)	6	5
1 st Class & List A (Full Member)	6	1 st Class & List A (Full Member)	5	4
Provincial A level (Full Member / Ass Member non ODI (regardless of format played) / Pro Series	5	Provincial A level (Full Member / Ass Member non ODI (regardless of format played) / Pro Series	4	3
Foreign club cricket competition	4	Foreign club cricket competition	3	3
Transition player more than 30 THE matches	3	Transition player more than 30 THE matches	3	3
Transition player less than 30 THE matches	2	Transition player less than 30 THE matches	2	2
Expat Payer	2	Late starting player	1	1
Late starting player (including homegrown)	1	Homegrown player	1	1

For players who are eligible to play for the Dutch National team, the deduction rule can reduce their points allocation to a minimum of 1; for others, the minimum remains 2

8. KNCB PLAYER POINTS FLOW CHART





9. EXAMPLES

Example 1 – Expat Student Transfer

A player studying in the Netherlands transfers from one Dutch club to another.

Without EU passport (non-EU):

Classified as Expat (2 pts) and Transition (≥ 30 THE matches in last 3 yrs = 3 pts; < 30 = 2 pts).

Highest applies → Final: 2 or 3 pts.

If the player has ≥ 30 THE matches, award 3 pts (even if Expat is 2).

With EU passport (not Dutch-eligible):

Expat category doesn't apply. Player is Transition only → 2 or 3 pts (per THE-matches rule).

EU passport & Dutch-eligible:

Transition only → 2 or 3 pts. (Deduction rule may apply in future seasons; min floor = 1 for Dutch-eligible players.)

Example 2 – Dutch(-eligible) Passport International Player

A player with a Dutch-eligible EU passport has represented the national team and stays with the same club where he already counts as 1.

Stays at same club:

Retains existing points → Final: 1 pt.

If he moves to a new club:

Classified as International and Transition; highest applies.

EU & Dutch-eligible: International = 5 pts → Final: 5 pts.

(For comparison)

With EU passport (not Dutch-eligible): International = 6 pts → Final: 6 pts.

Without EU passport: International = 8 pts → Final: 8 pts.

Example 3 – Provincial A Experience, New Club

A player with Provincial A-level experience joins a new Dutch club (first registration with this club).

Without EU passport:

Provincial A = 5 pts → Final: 5 pts.

With EU passport (not Dutch-eligible):

Provincial A = 4 pts → Final: 4 pts.

EU passport & Dutch-eligible:

Provincial A = 3 pts → Final: 3 pts.

(Player is also a Transition Player, but the higher Provincial A category already applies in each case.)

Example 4 – Homegrown Player

A player who has been with the same club since youth:

EU passport & Dutch-eligible:

Homegrown = 1 pt → Final: 1 pt.

With EU passport (not Dutch-eligible):

Homegrown/Late Starter = 1 pts → Final: 1 pts.

Without EU passport:

Homegrown/Late Starter = 1 pts → Final: 1 pts.

Example 5 – International Player, First Entry to THE

A player joins THE for the first time as an International:

Without EU passport: 8 pts.

With EU passport (not Dutch-eligible): 6 pts.

EU passport & Dutch-eligible: 5 pts.

Example 6 – Foreign Club Competition Background

A player who has played in a foreign club competition joins a Dutch club:

Without EU passport: Foreign club competition = 4 pts → Final: 4 pts.

With EU passport (not Dutch-eligible): 3 pts → Final: 3 pts.

EU passport & Dutch-eligible: 3 pts → Final: 3 pts.

Example 07 – Transition Player (< 30 THE Matches)

A player transfers to a new club with 18 THE matches over 3 seasons.

All categories (Non-EU / EU / Dutch-eligible): Classified as Transition (<30 matches) → 2 pts.

Example 08 – Transition Player (≥ 30 THE Matches)

A player transfers to a new club with 42 THE matches over 3 seasons.

All categories (Non-EU / EU / Dutch-eligible): Classified as Transition (≥ 30 matches) \rightarrow 3 pts.

Example 09 – Dutch-Eligible Player with 30+ THE Matches, Transfers

A Dutch-eligible EU passport holder debuted for Excelsior in 2020. After playing 30+ THE matches, he transfers to Punjab CC.

At transfer: Classified as Transition (≥ 30 matches) \rightarrow 3 pts.

Over time, due to the deduction rule (as Dutch-eligible), points may reduce stepwise to minimum 1 pt.

(If he were EU but not Dutch-eligible and a Non EU player the point may reduce to a minimum of 2)