LEAGUE ASSESSMENT

POINT-IN-TIME SNAPSHOT – 28 OCT 2026

WORLD CRICKETERS' ASSOCIATION

The Hundred Men

21 Jul – 16 Aug 2026 | 8 Teams | 27-day Competition | Approved cricket / ICC NOC

UPDATED 2026

74.9 / 100

OVERALL RATING

Updated WCA assessment

PLAYER PAY

33.9 / 50

Economic benchmarking

Average + minimum player payment

PLAYER PROTECTIONS

41.0 / 50

Treatment + protections

Contracts, representation, safety + rights

SUMMARY OVERVIEW

Strong overall protections and player compensation

- The Hundred benefits from strong player representation, with the PCA collectively negotiating key player agreements and protections, supporting high standards across payment reliability, security, dispute resolution and player rights.
- Significant commercial investment has driven a 45% increase in the men's player salary pool to £2.05m per team for 2026.
- Despite these strengths, unilateral termination provisions in contracts (1/5) and commercial rights arrangements (2/5) remain weaknesses against international best practice. As private investment reshapes the competition, the priority is ensuring player protections and collective representation keep pace with commercial growth.

CURRENT STRENGTHS

- **Reliable player payments and independent security review**
- **Organising rights, collective bargaining and disputes**
- **Strong player compensation model with best-in-class minimums**
- **High player / agent approval rating: 4.5 / 5**

GAPS / CONCERNS

- **One-sided termination / extension rights**
- **Broad commercial rights signed over through player agreements, with limited reciprocal protections**

ABOUT THE LEAGUES HUB

The Leagues hub was established in 2024 to evaluate each major league against a range of criteria identified by players, players' associations and agents as critical to professional standards and player welfare.

Other league assessments, including a league-by-league comparison table can be found at: theworldca.com/wca-leagues-hub

THE HUNDRED MEN — INDEX

SCORING ARCHITECTURE

PLAYER PAY	33.9 / 50	+	PLAYER PROTECTIONS	41.0 / 50	=	74.9 / 100

Published WCA metrics, with player / agent feedback revised to 4.5/5 using latest survey data.

PLAYER PAY - 50 POINTS

Economic benchmark is not a proxy for league professionalism

METRIC	SCORE	ASSESSMENT BASIS	MEN 2026 POSITION
Average player payment	28.9 / 45	HIGH CONFIDENCE	Official weekly player-pay score: 28.9/45 against highest comparative benchmark.
Minimum player payment	5.0 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	Official score 5/5; 2026 published minimum salary £31,000.

INTERPRETATION Based on available salary cap and minimum salary figures.

PLAYER PROTECTIONS - 50 POINTS

Contracts, representation, security, rights + player experience

METRIC	SCORE	ASSESSMENT BASIS	MEN 2026 POSITION
Player / agent feedback	4.5 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	Latest WCA player / agent feedback: 4.5/5.
Reliable player payment	5 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	No relevant recent player payment complaints reported.
Security review	5 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	Independent player security oversight / review available on request.
Right to organise	5 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	No opposition to players joining a players' association has been reported.
Collective bargaining	5 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	Player agreements collectively negotiated by players' association on players' behalf.
Dispute resolution	5 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	Disagreements can be resolved through an impartial and accessible procedure.
Unilateral clauses	1 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	Material concern: organiser unilateral rights to terminate / extend agreements
Other restrictions	5 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	No unreasonable restrictions reported.
Commercial rights	2 / 5	HIGH CONFIDENCE	Players retain some NIL control, but organiser / franchise rights are broad and signed over in player agreements with limited reciprocal protections.
Player share of revenue	3.4 / 5	ESTIMATED	Estimated player share around 34% against WCA benchmark of 50%.

HIGH CONFIDENCE – Reliable evidence provides a strong basis for assessment.

ESTIMATED – Reasoned estimate where the underlying position is not directly known.

PROVISIONAL – Temporary assessment pending evidence expected to become available.

RIGHT TO ORGANISE – INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS

Players should be free to form, join and be represented by an independent players' association, and to negotiate collectively, without interference, discrimination, threats or retaliation.

The International Labour Organization's 2026 Guidelines recognise these rights as fundamental and applicable to all professional athletes, including cricketers.

Sources: WCA Hundred-M.png scorecard (Mar 2026), updated WCA player / agent feedback (Oct 2026), ECB 2026 salary and auction information.