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COUNTY CRICKET

Anderson, Cook among England players available for County matches

Cricbuzz Staff • Last updated on Fri, 24 Mar, 2017, 06:56 PM





Anderson and Cook will play against each other when Lancashire take on Essex at the Cloudfm County Ground in Chelmsford © Getty

With the Champions Trophy the focus of early season, Test specialists such as Alastair Cook, James Anderson and Haseeb Hameed will be available for their county's matches.

In the Championship, Cook is set to face Anderson in the first round as newly-promoted Essex take on Lancashire at the Cloudfm County Ground in Chelmsford. Hameed, fresh from a Test debut on the tour to India, is also available for that match.

All other England players who are not involved in the Indian Premier League will be available for at least one Championship match in the opening three rounds. England's new Test captain Joe Root, Moeen Ali, Jonny Bairstow and Jake Ball will miss their opening Championship matches after a heavy winter workload.

In preparation for the Champions Trophy, all centrally contracted players will be available for the opening three rounds of the Royal London One-Day Cup, a competition which has this year been brought forward to early season.

Those at the IPL - Sam Billings, Jos Buttler, Chris Jordan, Tymal Mills, Eoin Morgan, Jason Roy, Ben Stokes and Chris Woakes - will miss the start of the county season as a result of their commitments in India. Those involved in the One-Day International squad will be back in time to complete England's preparations ahead of the Champions Trophy.

England player availability

Anderson (Lancashire) - Specsavers County Championship match against Essex (7-10 April) and Somerset (21-24 April); Royal London One-Day Cup matches against Leicestershire Foxes (28 April) & Yorkshire Vikings (1 May).

Stuart Broad (Nottinghamshire) - SCC v Leicestershire (7-10 April) & Sussex (21-24 April); RLODC v Worcestershire Rapids (27 April), Yorkshire Vikings (29 April) & Derbyshire Falcons (2 May).

Jake Ball - (Nottinghamshire) - SCC v Durham (14-17 April) & Sussex (21-24 April); RLODC v Worcestershire Rapids (27 April), Yorkshire Vikings (29 April) & Derbyshire Falcons (2 May).

Moeen Ali (Worcestershire) - SCC v Northamptonshire (21-24 April); RLODC v Notts Outlaws (27 April), Leicestershire Foxes (30 April) and Northants Steelbacks (3 May).

Jonny Bairstow (Yorkshire) - SCC v Hampshire (21-24 April); RLODC v Notts Outlaws (29 April), Lancashire Lightning (1 May) and Durham (3 May).

Joe Root (Yorkshire) - same as Bairstow.

Adil Rashid (Yorkshire) - SCC v Warwickshire (14-17 April) & Hampshire (21-24 April); RLODC v Notts Outlaws (29 April), Lancashire Lightning (1 May) and Durham (3 May).

Keaton Jennings, Mark Wood (both Durham), Alastair Cook (Essex), Liam Dawson, James Vince (both Hampshire), Haseeb Hameed (Lancashire), Steven Finn (Middlesex), Ben Duckett (Northamptonshire), Alex Hales (Nottinghamshire), Gary Ballance, Liam Plunkett, David Willey (all Yorkshire) - available for all matches.

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