

Bespoke Scoreboards

Play Cricket Scorer Pro
and
Play Cricket Scorer
Interface



Set-up and operating instructions

February 2025

www.bespokescoreboard.co.uk

Bespoke Scoreboards

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Bespoke Scoreboards

Introduction

These instructions cover the operation of our PCS interface with both variants of the ECB's scoring software, Play Cricket Scorer Pro for Windows devices and Play Cricket Scorer for Android and Apple IOS devices.

Play cricket scorer interface equipment

The Play cricket scorer interface comes with the following parts;

PCS Pro interface



USB to Serial data cable



If you have a wireless version, you will also have;

12 volt plug top power supply.....



If you have a wired version, you will need to use your existing data cable to power the PCS Pro interface from your scoreboard.

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PCS Pro interface instructions (PC version)

PCS Pro software installation

PCS Pro is available to download for free at www.play-cricket.com You should be using the current version. Ideally install PCS Pro to the default locations on your computer.

There is a wealth of information on how to operate PCS Pro at <https://play-cricket.ecb.co.uk/hc/en-us/categories/360000012789-Play-Cricket-Scorer-Pro-Laptop->

USB to Serial data cable installation

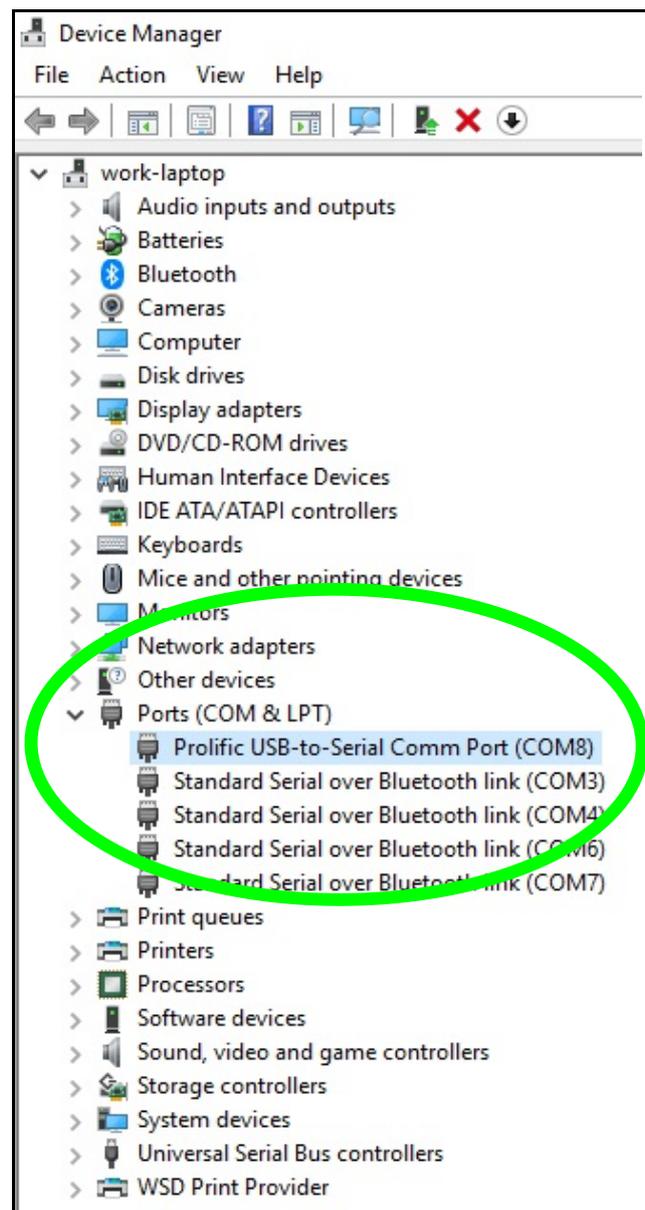
Insert the supplied USB to Serial cable into an available USB socket on your computer. Windows should automatically install drivers for the cable. For PCS Pro to interface with your Bespoke Scoreboard you will need to know which COM port the cable has been allocated to.

The COM Port is the communication port allocated to the USB to serial cable. This can be found by opening the **Device Manager** on your computer, and clicking on **Ports (COM and LPT)**. This will expand the sub menu to show all available COM ports. You are looking for **Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port**. Note down the allocated COM port on your computer as you will require it later, in my case, it's COM8. It is important to note that if you plug the cable into a different USB port on your computer, then the COM port allocation will probably change.

If Windows did not automatically install the drivers for the USB to Serial Cable then they can be downloaded at:

<https://www.startech.com/support>

Use the search bar to find the specific driver. The product number for your cable will be on the packaging, and will be similar to 'ICUSB232'

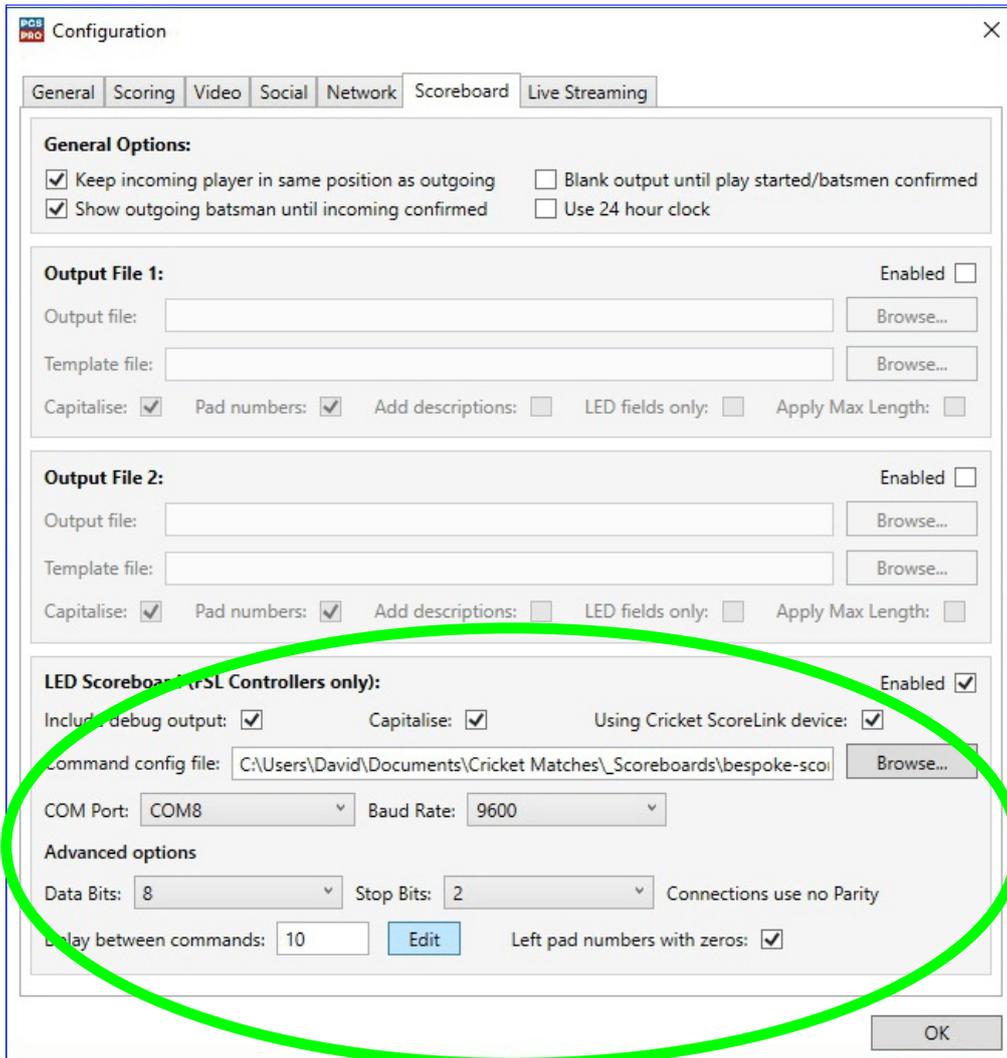


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PCS Pro scoreboard configuration set up

Once PCS Pro is installed and open on your PC, click on **Tools** from the menu bar at the top, then select **Configuration** from the drop down menu.

This opens the configuration window. Click on **Scoreboard** from the menu bar at the top and it should look like the image below.



The screenshot shows the 'PCS Pro Configuration' window with the 'Scoreboard' tab selected. The 'LED Scoreboard (FSL Controllers only)' section is highlighted with a green circle. This section includes the following settings:

- Enabled:**
- Include debug output:**
- Capitalise:**
- Using Cricket ScoreLink device:**
- Command config file:** C:\Users\David\Documents\Cricket Matches_Scoreboards\bespoke-scoi (with a 'Browse...' button)
- COM Port:** COM8
- Baud Rate:** 9600
- Advanced options:**
 - Data Bits:** 8
 - Stop Bits:** 2
 - Connections use no Parity:**
 - Delay between commands:** 10 (with an 'Edit' button)
 - Left pad numbers with zeros:**

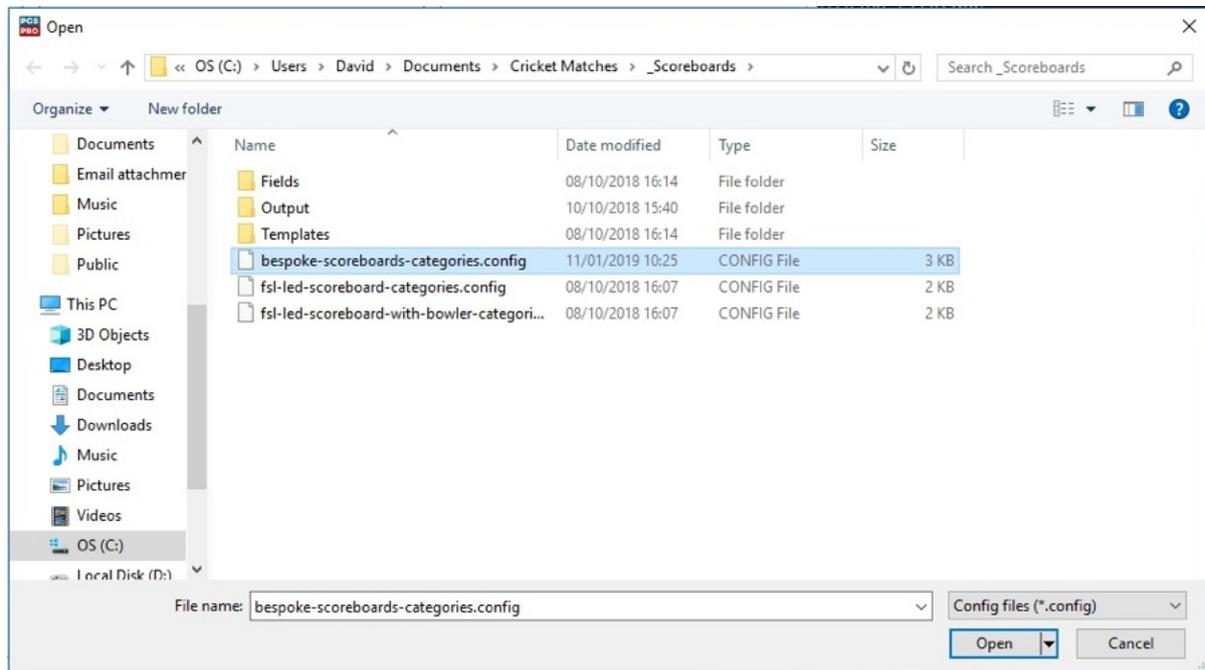
The bottom box titled **LED scoreboard (FSL Controllers only)** requires setting up.

Click the **Enabled** box on the right so that it shows a tick. Also click **Include debug output**, **Capitalise** and **using Cricket Scorelink device**, so that they all show a tick.

You now need to find the **Command config file**. For our scoreboards you require **bespoke-scoreboards-categories.config**. Click the browse button (opens the window in the next image), and assuming you installed PCS Pro using the default locations, you will find the file in Documents\Cricket Matches_Scoreboards.

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Click on **bespoke-scoreboards-categories.config** and it will appear in the **File name** box at the bottom of the window. Then click on **Open**, this window disappears and returns to the Configuration window where you should see the correct address for the config file.



If your scoreboard has batter indicator lights and/or you count your overs up, please contact us and we will email you a different configuration file that supports these features.

Select your **COM Port** from the drop down menu. If you don't know which COM Port your USB to Serial cable is allocated to, then please see the instructions on page 4 - 'USB to Serial data cable installation'.

The **Baud Rate** needs to be set at **9600** from the drop down menu.

In the advanced options set **Data Bits** to **8** and **Stop Bits** to **2**.

To set the **Delay between commands**, click on the **Edit** button. The default number of 2000 in the box becomes bolder and can now be edited. Change this number to **10** and click on the **Edit button** again and the 10 will return to being grayed out.

Click **Left pad numbers with zeros**, so that this too shows a tick.

Review the setting to ensure that they are correct then Click the **OK** box at the bottom of the Configuration window.

PCS Pro will now send data to your PCS Pro interface via the USB to serial cable every time there is a change to the score.

Bespoke Scoreboards

PCS Pro interface operating instructions

How to connect

If it isn't already plugged in, plug the USB end of the USB to Serial cable into the USB connector on your computer, ensuring you use the same USB socket you used when allocating a COM port to the cable.



USB to Serial data cable

Connect the Serial end of the cable to the serial socket at the rear of the PCS Pro interface, labelled 'Serial In'.

Wireless operation

Plug in the small round power connector from the supplied 12 volt plug top power supply into the socket on the back of the PCS Pro interface, and the other end into a mains power socket and turn it on. The power LED on the PCS Pro interface should be illuminated. After a 5 second delay, the PCS Pro interface will send data to reset your scoreboard display.

Ensure that the aerial on the back of the PCS Pro interface is vertically aligned (points straight up).

Please also make sure that your normal wireless Bespoke Scoreboard controller is turned off and not plugged into your scoreboard while you are using the PCS Pro interface, otherwise it will prevent the PCS Pro interface from working correctly.

Wired operation

If you are wanting to connect to your Bespoke Scoreboard using a wired connection, take the 4 pin XLR data cable supplied with your scoreboard that normally plugs in to your controller and instead plug it into the PCS Pro interface. With your scoreboard powered on, this cable will provide power from the scoreboard to the interface while also transmitting data back to the scoreboard. After a 5 second delay, the PCS Pro interface will send data to reset your scoreboard display.

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PCS Pro interface LED's

There are 4 LED's located on the face of the PCS Pro interface.

The Power LED illuminates to indicate that power is present and the interface is turned on.

The Bluetooth LED illuminates to indicate that the scoreboard is in Play cricket scorer mode and is only going to receive scoreboard data from the Play cricket scorer app via bluetooth. Therefore it **must not be illuminated** when scoring with Play cricket scorer pro.

The RX data LED flashes when the interface receives data from either PCS Pro or PCS.

The TX data LED flashes when the interface is sending data to your Bespoke Scoreboard.

PCS Pro interface buttons

There are 5 buttons located on the face of the PCS Pro interface. These are bluetooth, reset, test pattern, refresh scoreboard and umpire's light. During the match you should only need to use the umpire's light button.

Bluetooth

The bluetooth buttons essentially switches the interface between the Play cricket scorer pro and the Play cricket scorer versions of software.

Press and hold down the bluetooth button for around 4 seconds to switch between modes. The bluetooth LED will be off when in PCS Pro mode, and will be on when in PCS mode.

Umpire's light

PCS Pro does not currently have the ability to operate an umpires light on your scoreboard, therefore we have added an Umpire's light button to the PCS Pro interface.

Press the umpires light button to illuminate the umpire's light on your Bespoke Scoreboard. The umpire's light stays illuminated for as long as you press the button down.

Refresh Scoreboard

Our standard scoreboard controllers transmit all the score data to our scoreboards on a continual basis to ensure that the scoreboard is always up to date.

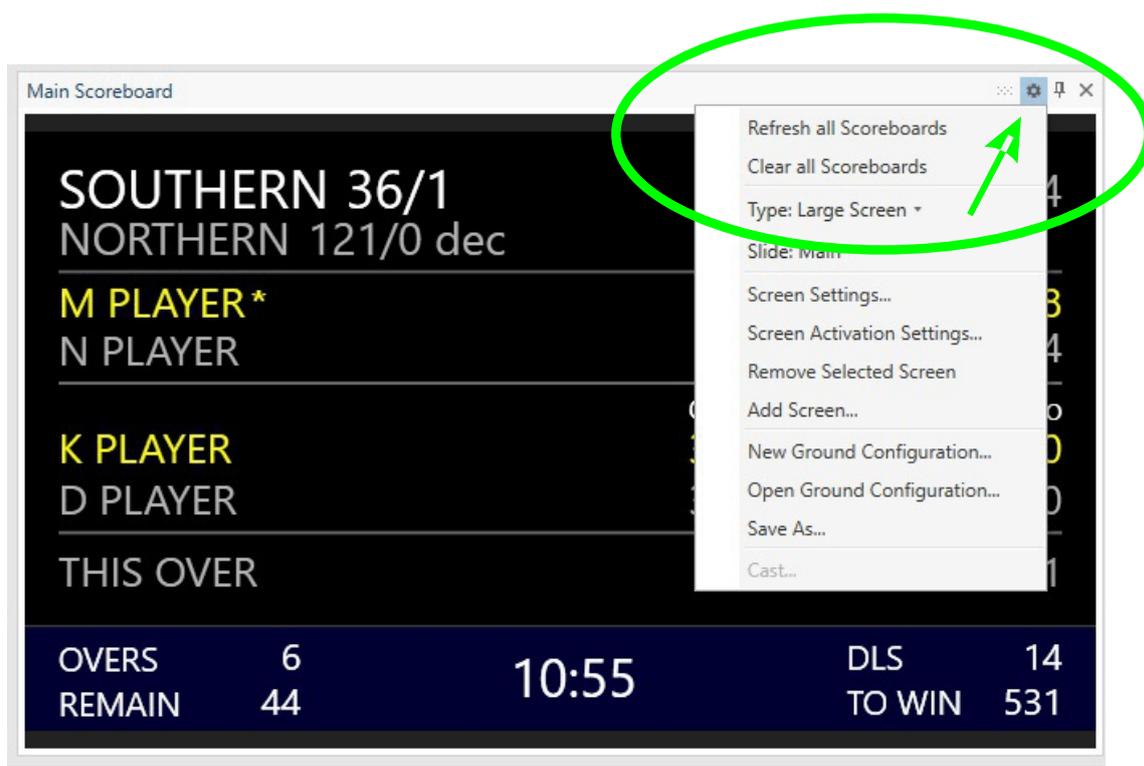
However, the PCS Pro software sends score data out of the computer only when the score is changed on the computer, it only sends the data that has just changed and only sends it once.

Bespoke Scoreboards

Therefore if the wireless signal sent from the PCS Pro interface to your scoreboard is corrupted (by radio interference), there is a chance that the scoreboard will not be updated with the current score.

To combat this, the PCS Pro interface stores a copy of all the data that should be shown on your scoreboard. Pressing the Refresh Scoreboard button, forces the PCS Pro interface to re-send all the data it has stored to your scoreboard. This will then update your scoreboard with the current scores.

You can also update your Bespoke Scoreboard from the PCS Pro software on your computer, shown below.



In the Main Scoreboard window, click on the settings icon (green arrow in the image above). From the drop down menu, select Refresh all Scoreboards. This will send a full set of scoreboard data out from the computer to the PCS Pro interface, and in turn to your scoreboard.

Test pattern button

The test pattern button sends data to your Bespoke Scoreboard to display 8's on all the digits on your scoreboard.

This button is largely for our benefit when servicing your scoreboard, but is useful to you when your PCS Pro setup is not working correctly and you are looking for assurance that the PCS Pro interface is communicating with your scoreboard.

Bespoke Scoreboards

Reset button

The reset button clears your Bespoke Scoreboard of all data and resets it with zeros (1 and 2 for the batsman's numbers) as if ready for the start of a match. Again, this is largely for our benefit when servicing your scoreboard, but can also be used in conjunction with the test pattern button to show that the PCS Pro interface is working with your Bespoke Scoreboard.

PCS Pro set up fault diagnosis

The Play cricket scorer pro system is more complex to set up than a stand alone Bespoke Scoreboard system. If you are having difficulties in getting it to work, it's important to diagnose where the fault lies. Is it the scoreboard, the PCS Pro interface, the cables, the computer or the PCS Pro software?

Follow these steps to diagnose where any faults are, moving onto the next step when the current step is satisfied.

1. Start with your scoreboard. Check the scoreboard has powered to it. Try the scoreboard with your Bespoke Scoreboard controller to confirm that it is working correctly. Make sure that you turn your Bespoke Scoreboard controller off and disconnect it from the scoreboard once you are finished with it, otherwise it will interfere with your PCS Pro interface.
2. Check that the PCS Pro interface has power. The power LED should be illuminated. After a 5 second delay, the PCS Pro interface will send data to reset your scoreboard display. The TX Data LED will illuminate when it does this.
3. Send data from the PCS Pro interface to your scoreboard using the Reset and Test pattern buttons. You should see the TX data LED illuminate while either of these buttons are pressed and your scoreboard should update with either 0's (1 and 2 for the batsman's numbers), or all 8's. If you tried to connect the PCS Pro interface to your scoreboard using the wireless link and this didn't work. Try again, but this time using the data cable supplied with your Bespoke Scoreboard to bypass the wireless system.
4. Check the USB to Serial Cable is connected correctly. Check the scoreboard configuration settings are correct and match the instruction on page 4 of this document.
5. From the main scoreboard window in the PCS Pro software, choose 'Refresh all scoreboards' (page 8). You should see both the RX data and TX data LED's flashing on the PCS Pro interface.
6. Unless the USB to Serial cable is damaged, the Bespoke scoreboard side of using PCS Pro appears to be working correctly. Therefore contact the ECB via their PCS Pro helpdesk at play.cricket@ecb.co.uk. This is a 7 days a week service during the cricket season.

If you have any problems with steps 1 to 5, contact us on 0113 252 4956 during normal office hours.

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PCS interface instructions (Phone/Tablet Version)

PCS software installation

The PCS app is available to download to an Android or Apple phone or tablet. It is available in either of the respective app store, by searching for Play Cricket Scorer.

Comprehensive instructions on how to use the app are available on the ECB's Play-Cricket Help Centre website, which at the time of writing is at <https://play-cricket.ecb.co.uk/hc/en-gb>

Your phone/tablet will only be able to communicate with a PCS interface if it supports Bluetooth 4.2 or later. If you have followed the instructions below and don't see 'BespokeScore####' when selecting the device, this could be why.

Another thing to note is that if you move away from the PCS interface with your scoring device (phone/tablet), the Bluetooth link will be lost and you will need to reconnect.

PCS hardware setup - Wireless scoreboard operation

Plug in the small round power connector from the supplied 12 volt plug top power supply into the socket on the back of the PCS interface, and the other end into a mains power socket and turn it on. The red power LED on the PCS interface should be illuminated. After a 5 second delay, the PCS interface will send data to reset your scoreboard display.

Press and hold down the Bluetooth on/off button until the Bluetooth LED lights up to turn on Bluetooth. This takes around 4 seconds

Ensure that the aerial on the back of the PCS Pro interface is vertically aligned (points straight up).

Please also make sure that your normal wireless Bespoke Scoreboard controller is turned off and not plugged into your scoreboard while you are using the PCS Pro interface, otherwise it will prevent the PCS Pro interface from working correctly.

PCS hardware setup - Wired scoreboard operation

If you are wanting to connect to your Bespoke Scoreboard using a wired connection, take the 4 pin XLR data cable supplied with your scoreboard that normally plugs in to your controller and instead plug it into the PCS Pro interface. With your scoreboard powered on, this cable will provide power from the scoreboard to the interface while also transmitting data back to the scoreboard. After a 5 second delay, the PCS Pro interface will send data to reset your scoreboard display.

Press and hold down the Bluetooth on/off button until the Bluetooth LED lights up to turn on Bluetooth. This takes around 4 seconds.

Bespoke Scoreboards

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The bluetooth buttons essentially switches the interface between the Play cricket scorer pro and the Play cricket scorer versions of software.

Press and hold down the bluetooth button for around 4 seconds to switch between modes. The bluetooth LED will be off when in PCS Pro mode, and will be on when in PCS mode.

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However, the PCS software sends score data out of the computer only when the score is changed in the app, it only sends the data that has just changed, and only sends it once.

Bespoke Scoreboards

Therefore if the wireless signal sent from the PCS interface to your scoreboard is corrupted (by radio interference), there is a chance that the scoreboard will not be updated with the current score.

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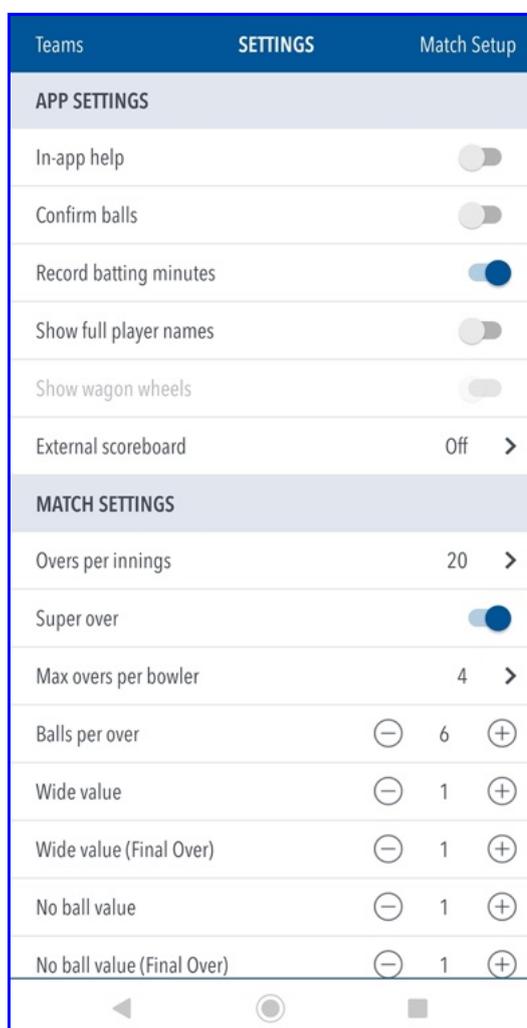
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Reset button

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PCS scoreboard configuration set up

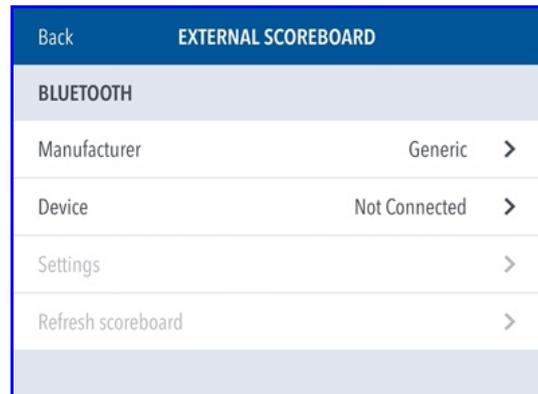
To configure the app to send the score data to your Bespoke Scoreboard, open the settings menu and select external scoreboard. You can do this before or after your match is set up.



Teams	SETTINGS	Match Setup
APP SETTINGS		
	In-app help	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Confirm balls	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Record batting minutes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Show full player names	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Show wagon wheels	<input type="checkbox"/>
	External scoreboard	Off >
MATCH SETTINGS		
	Overs per innings	20 >
	Super over	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Max overs per bowler	4 >
	Balls per over	⊖ 6 ⊕
	Wide value	⊖ 1 ⊕
	Wide value (Final Over)	⊖ 1 ⊕
	No ball value	⊖ 1 ⊕
	No ball value (Final Over)	⊖ 1 ⊕

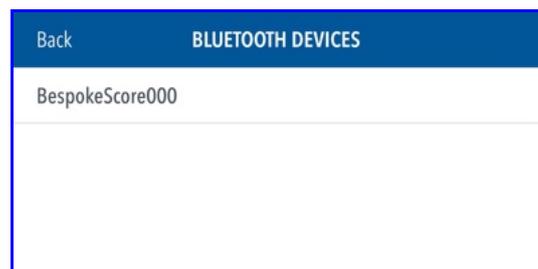
Bespoke Scoreboards

In the external scoreboard menu, tap on 'Manufacturer'. Select 'Generic' and tap 'Done'.



Tap on 'Device' and select 'BespokeScore###'

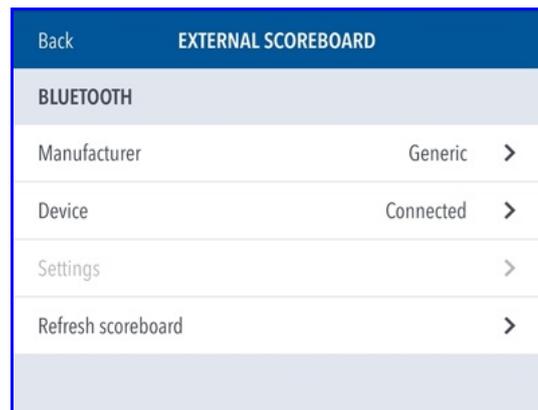
(Where ### represents a 3 digit number).



This will then return you to the external scoreboard menu and 'Device' will display 'Connected'.

Tap on 'Manufacturer' again, and this time select 'FSL' and tap 'Done'

At this point, if you have already set up your match, you can tap on 'Refresh scoreboard' to update your scoreboard with the current scores.



Looking at the Bespoke Scoreboards PCS interface, you should see the green RX data LED light up followed by the green TX data LED. The scoreboard will now start to update itself.

You can now 'Back' out of the External Scoreboard menu. As you score the match, data will be transmitted via Bluetooth to the PCS interface, which in turn will transmit the score data to your scoreboard.

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PCS General Usage Notes

At the time of writing these instructions, the Play Cricket Scorer app supports sending the following data fields to your scoreboard;

Total, Wickets, Overs, Batters scores, Batters numbers, Extras, Last batter, Last wicket, Last innings, Runs required, Overs remaining and either DLS Target or DLS Par.

If your scoreboard displays Partnership/Run Rate/Target/Batters indicator lights then these will not function while scoring with the PCS app. Hopefully this will be supported in the future. With DLS Target and DLS Par sharing the same data field output, this will be displayed on your scoreboard where DLS Par would normally be displayed if using your scoreboard controller or PCS Pro.

You may have notice that there is a sizable gap (2 seconds) between the different displays on your scoreboard updating. This delay can only be reduced if the app developer reduces it, please feel free to raise a ticket with the ECB's play cricket help desk to add weight to our requests.

A further quirk that you'll notice if your scoreboard displays the batters scores/batters numbers is that when a batter is out, the remaining batters score/number will move to the left of the scoreboard and the new batters score/number will be displayed on the right of the scoreboard.

I have made the ECB aware of these issues, but again please add weight to it by submitting a request at https://play-cricket.ecb.co.uk/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form

Blanking the Scoreboard display

You can put the scoreboard into a low power state by blanking the displays. With power removed from the PCS interface, hold down the reset button and put the power back on. After a short delay the scoreboard will blank the displays.

Please note that the scoreboard is still powered on, just in a low power state. This is therefore not a suitable way to 'turn off' your scoreboard if it is powered from a battery, without a solar panel.

Servicing

All our products come with a 12 month back to base warranty as standard, so please contact us if you have any issues during that time and we will get them resolved asap. We are proud to provide scoreboards that work.

We designed and manufactured your PCS Pro/PCS scoreboard interface, so should anything go wrong in the future, we will be able to fix it. Please call and discuss any issues you may have with your scoreboard. We will be able to guide you to test and diagnose any faults with your system.

Spares and prices are available on our website.

Bespoke Scoreboards



Bespoke Scoreboards are designed and made in England by

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