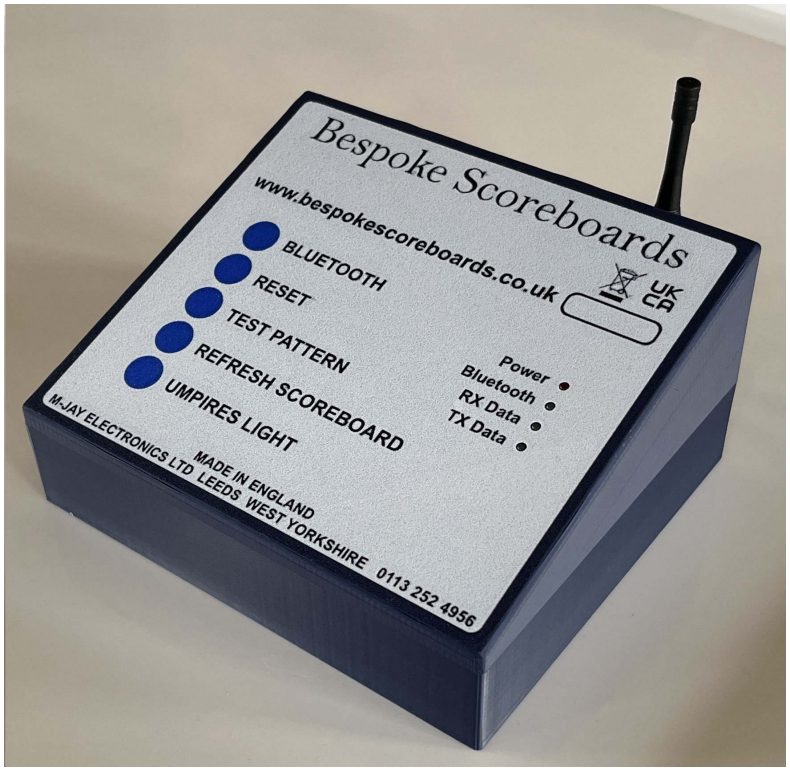
Bespoke Scoreboards

Play Cricket Scorer Pro
and
Play Cricket Scorer Interface



Set-up and Operating Instructions

July 2026

www.bespokescoreboard.co.uk

Bespoke Scoreboards

Table of Contents

Introduction . . . 3
Play cricket scorer interface equipment . . . 3

PCS Pro Interface Instructions (PC Version) . . . 4

PCS Pro Software Installation . . . 4
USB to Serial Data Cable Installation . . . 4
PCS Pro Scoreboard Configuration Set Up . . . 5
PCS Pro Interface Operating Instructions . . . 7
Wireless operation . . . 7
Wired operation . . . 7
PCS Pro Interface LED's . . . 8
PCS Pro Interface Buttons . . . 8
Bluetooth . . . 8
Umpire's light . . . 8
Refresh Scoreboard . . . 8
Test Pattern Button . . . 9
Reset Button . . . 10
PCS Pro Set Up Fault Diagnosis . . . 10

PCS Interface Instructions (Phone/Tablet Version) . . . 11

PCS Software Installation . . . 11
PCS Interface Hardware Setup - Wireless Scoreboard Operation . . . 11
PCS Interface Hardware Setup - Wired Scoreboard Operation . . . 11
PCS Interface LED's . . . 12
PCS Interface Buttons . . . 12
Bluetooth . . . 12
Umpire's light . . . 12
Refresh Scoreboard . . . 12
Test Pattern Button . . . 13
Reset Button . . . 13
PCS Scoreboard Configuration Set Up . . . 13
PCS General Usage Notes . . . 14

Blanking the Scoreboard display . . . 15

Servicing . . . 16

Bespoke Scoreboards

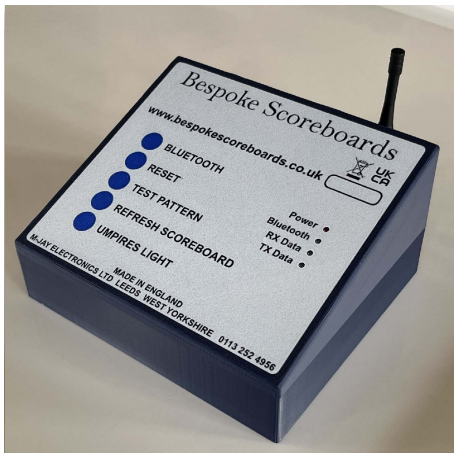
Introduction

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.

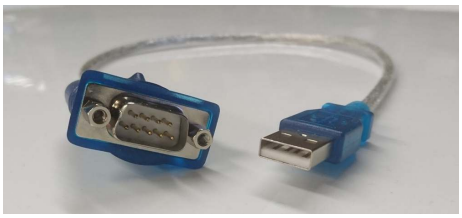
Play cricket scorer interface equipment

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.

Bespoke Scoreboards

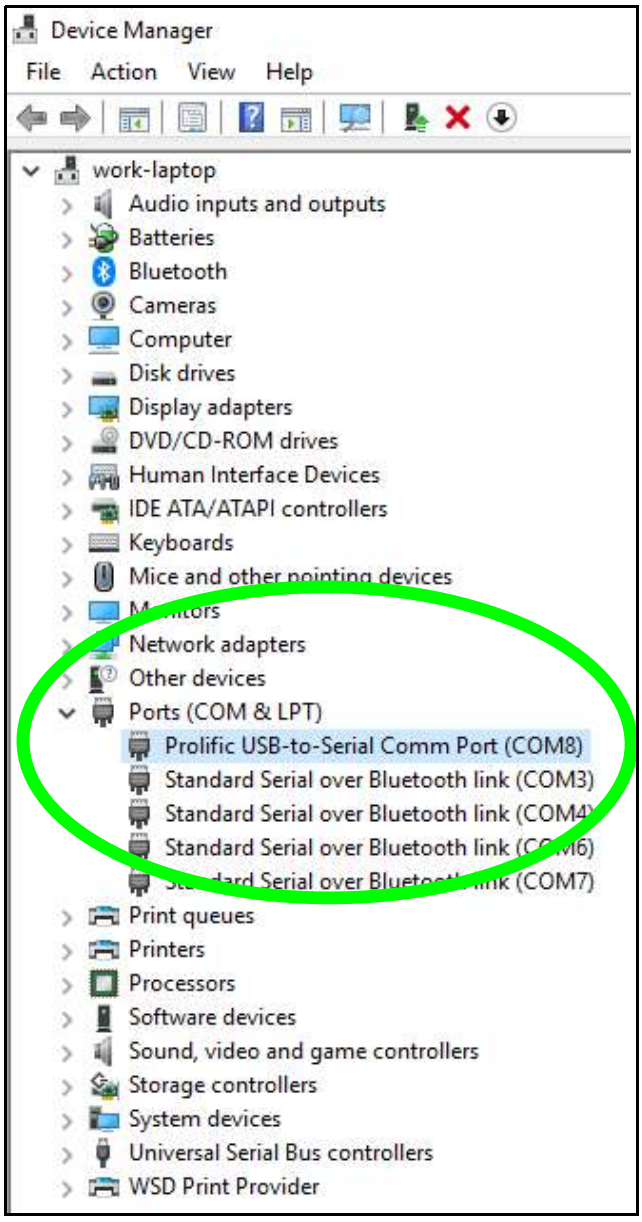
PCS Pro Interface Instructions (PC Version)

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.prolific.com.tw/en/portfolio-item/pl2303gt/

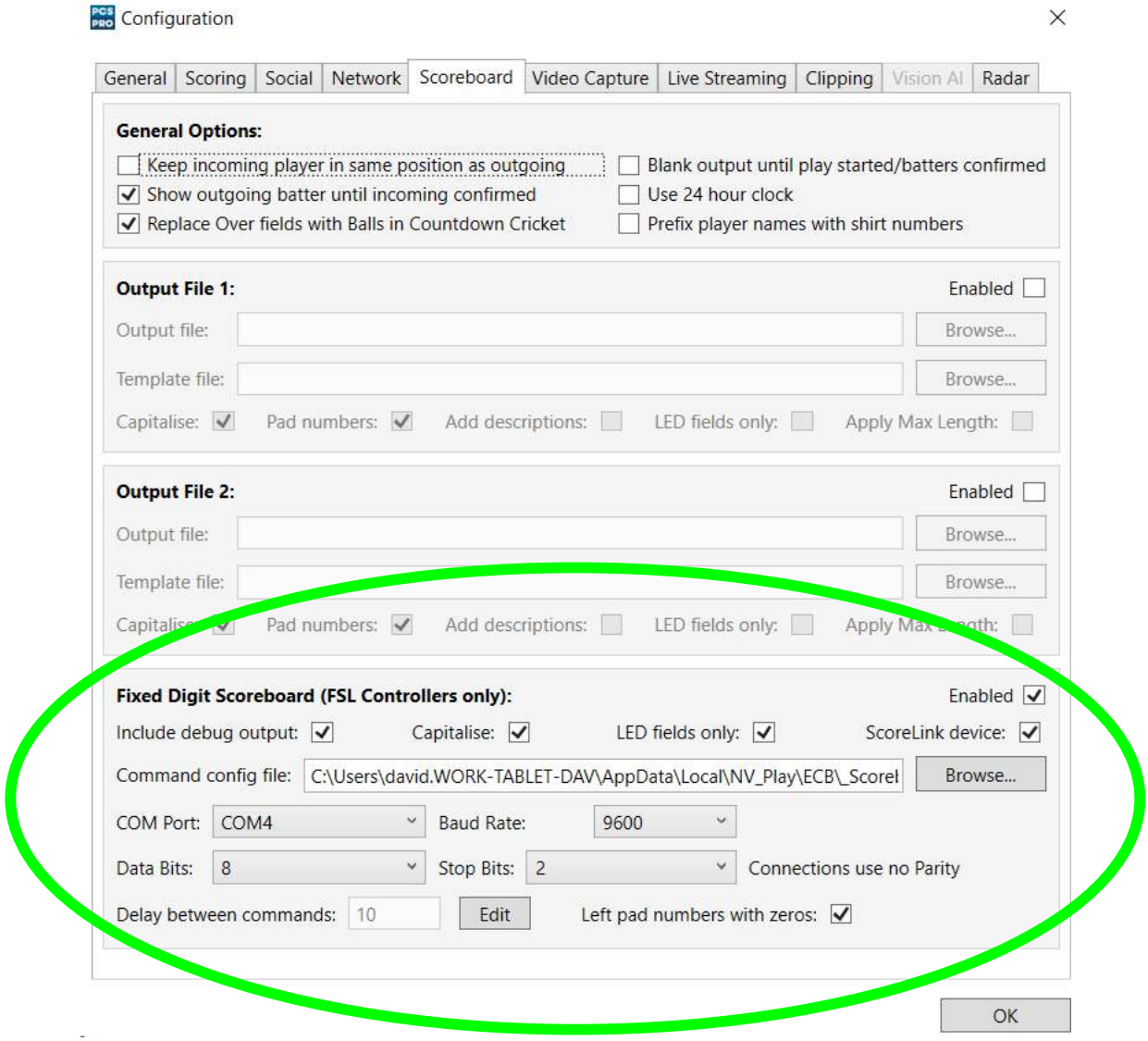
At the time of writing, the current installer version is 4.9.0.0. This application will then install the appropriate driver for your prolific cable and version of Windows.

Bespoke Scoreboards

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.

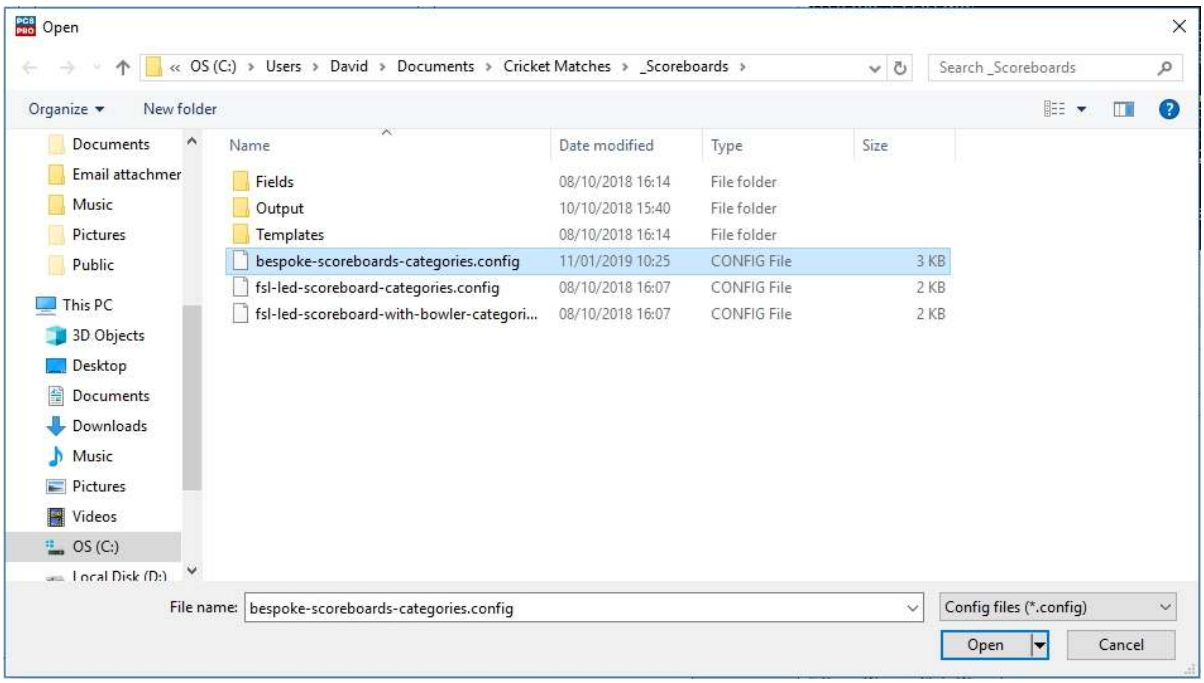
This opens the configuration window. Click on Scoreboard from the menu bar at the top and it should look like the image below.



The 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, LED fields only, Scorelink device and Left pad numbers with zeros, 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 C:\Users*username*\AppData\Local\NV_Play\ECB_Scoreboards

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 striking batter indicator lights, or you count your overs down (overs remaining), or need to display the current over, 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, and 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.

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.

If your scoreboard is persistently not up to data while scoring on PCS Pro, a solution maybe to change the delay between commands from 10 to 1600. This will slow down updating the whole scoreboard, but should result in the scoreboard being correct for the majority of the time.

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 9 pin 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. Alternatively, there is also a USB C socket that allows for the PCS interface to be powered via this socket, allowing you to power the PCS interface using a USB power bank. Please note this USB socket is not wired for any data transfer, so when using PCS Pro you still need to use the USB to Serial cable. When powered, 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.

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

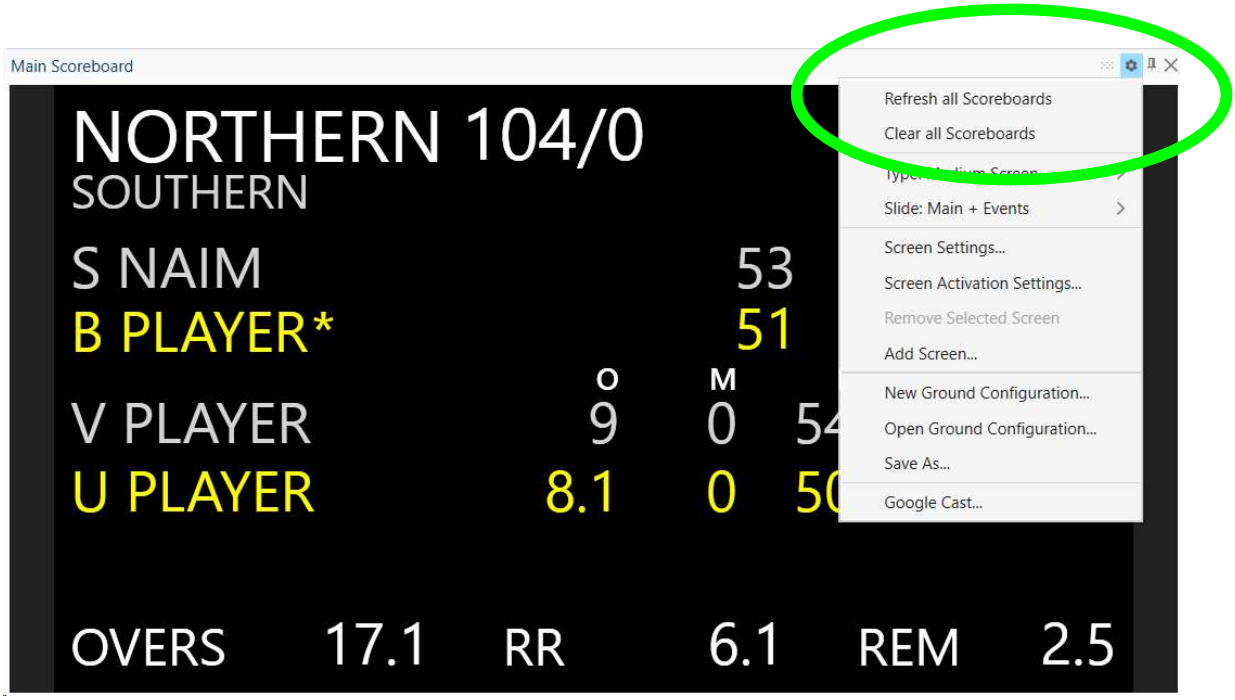
Our standard scoreboard controllers transmit all the score data to our scoreboards on a continual loop to ensure that the scoreboard is always up to date.

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.

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. 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.

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 you need to contact the ECB's help desk. This can be done within PCS Pro by clicking on the 'Help' drop down menu and selecting 'Report an issue'.

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

Bespoke Scoreboards

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 stores, 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 Interface 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. Alternatively, there is also a USB C socket that allows for the PCS interface to be powered via (almost) any USB power supply. Please note this USB socket is not wired for any data transfer, so you still need to connect to the PCS interface using bluetooth. When powered 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) and 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 Interface 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.

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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.

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PCS 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 interface.

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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.

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

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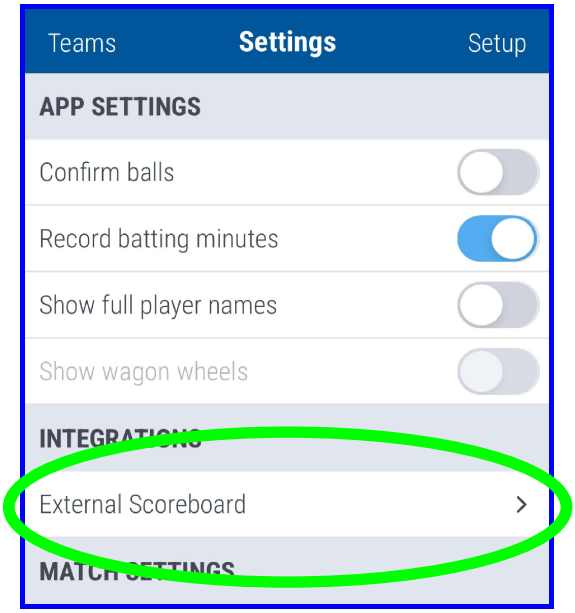
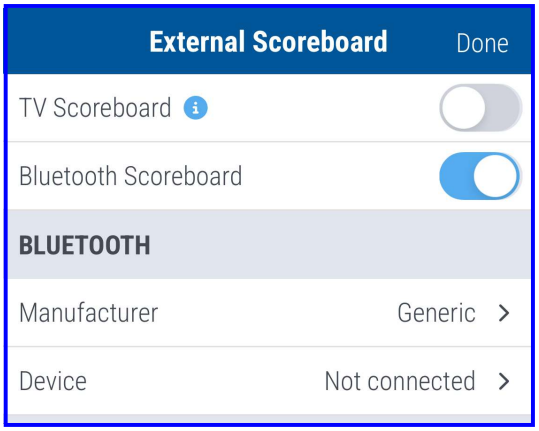


PCS Scoreboard Configuration Set Up

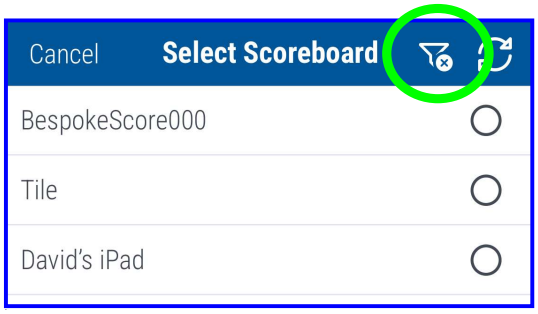
To configure the app to send the score data to your Bespoke Scoreboard, open the settings menu and select External Scoreboard. You can do this before or after your match is set up.

In the external scoreboard menu, tap on Manufacturer. Select Generic and tap Done. On the latest version (version 8) in order for this menu to show up, you first have to make sure Bluetooth Scoreboard is toggled on.



Tap on Device and select BespokeScore### (Where ### represents a 3 digit number).

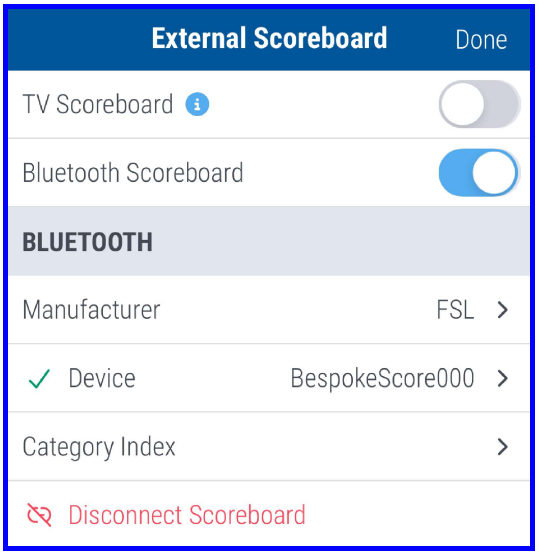
Likewise on the latest version, if the scoreboard is not showing, press the filter button (circled) in the top right corner.



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 press 'Done' to exit 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.

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, Required Run Rate, or Striking Batter's indicator lights then these displays will not function while scoring with the PCS app. Hopefully this will be supported in the future. Feel free to let the ECB's PCS help desk know that your club/league would like these features. https://play-cricket.ecb.co.uk/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_

By default, PCS will display the DLS Target on your scoreboard where it is labelled either D.L.S or DLS PAR. If that is the outcome you want, then you don't need to do anything.

However if you want the DLS Par score to be displayed at this location, then you need access the 'Category index' sub-menu in the external scoreboard menu as shown here on the right. Category 14 is the DLS output (you may need to scroll down to see it) and has a toggle switch. By toggling the switch to the right, DLS Par will now be sent to the scoreboard.

Some of our scoreboard have Target as a dedicated display on the scoreboard. If you have this and want the Target to be updated on your scoreboard, you need to have the toggle switched to the left, and also move 'Duckworth Lewis' from category 14 down to 15. To do this on Apple, you need to press on the 2 horizontal lines on the right side of the category, and drag it down to swop the positions of 14 and 15 around. On Android there are up and down arrows on the right side to allow you to move categories around.

Be very careful editing the category index, as a wrong move may mean that what is displayed on your scoreboard gets completely mixed up!

You may have notice that there is a sizable gap (2 seconds) between the different displays on your scoreboard updating. This is out of our hands and can only be reduced if the app developer and ECB reduces it.

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.

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.

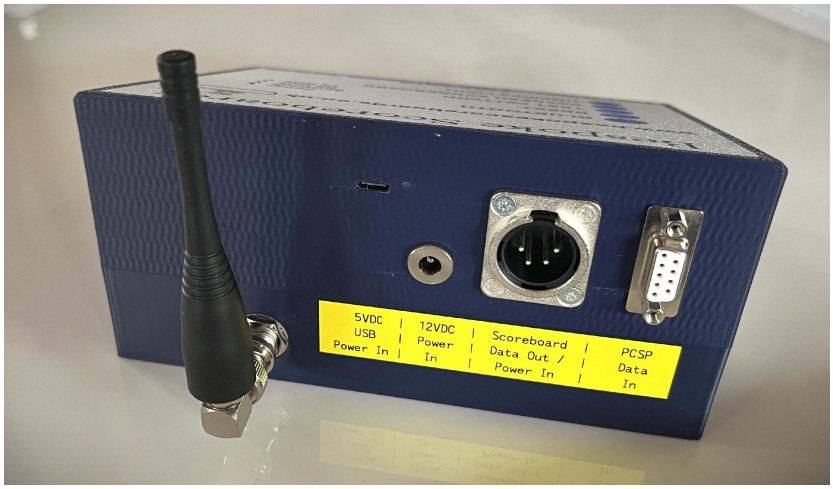
Please note that the scoreboard is still powered on, just in a low power state. This is therefore not a suitable way to 'turn off' your scoreboard if it is powered from a battery, without a solar panel.

Bespoke Scoreboards

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 design and manufacture products that last, and keen advocates of right to repair. Should anything go wrong in the future, we will be able to fix it, or help you to fix it yourselves.



Bespoke Scoreboards are designed and made in England by

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