



The Chichester Way

Information for Parents

March 2021

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INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

INTRODUCTION

As a junior section in an amateur cricket club, we have 3 main purposes:

1. To be a fair, inclusive and transparent club who gives everyone a go with equal opportunities
2. To help each player reach their full potential
3. To help nurture a love of the game of cricket and its values of sportsmanship and fairness

OBJECTIVES U5 - U8 JUNIOR CRICKET

In the U5 - U8 age groups the main emphasis is providing children with a fun and active involvement in cricket. We are an ECB All Stars Centre and our training programme reflects the All Stars framework.

As children progress through these age groups, they will become more equipped to start playing cricket matches, but in their more formative cricket years they will mainly take part in coaching activities that help develop batting, bowling and fielding skills.

By the end of this period, they should have the building blocks necessary to start playing more competitive matches.

OBJECTIVES U9 - U11 JUNIOR CRICKET

The Club's role in U9 - U11 cricket is to inspire this age group to love the game of cricket, to enjoy both training and learning and to begin to understand the values/benefits of playing competitive cricket at a club such as Chichester.

We want to build a supportive and social environment that gives equal opportunities for young players to learn the skills of learning, to develop their cricket-specific technical skills and to have a set of foundation skills that enable them to play matches. During this period, their cricket moves from soft-ball to hard-ball.

The skills they learn at this stage will help prepare them for when the game gets faster, harder and more competitive, to participate in healthy sporting activities and to build friendships with players within the club.

All matches in these age groups are "Pairs" matches which means every child gets an equal opportunity to bat and to bowl. In Sussex there are no competitive leagues for these age groups, so whilst matches can be won and lost, the purpose of the matches is participation and enjoyment and not points and trophies.

OBJECTIVES U12 - U15 JUNIOR CRICKET

Generally, by 12-15 years of age children will generally start to focus on a smaller number of sports that they take more seriously. The development of the children remains paramount, but the competitive nature of the games will increase and there are more likely to be competitions. However, there will be competitions where all abilities will compete.

The main aim within these age groups will be development. If players are thought to be ready to play above their age level, then this will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Some of our more advanced juniors will also taste competitive adult cricket and we will try to ensure that their cricket and personal development needs are managed in a safe and nurturing environment.

OBJECTIVES U16 – U18 JUNIOR CRICKET

Most of our juniors at this age will be playing adult cricket and some will be representing our highest teams. We will not forget that they remain children and sympathetic consideration will be given to their performance levels and development needs. We also recognise that children of this age want to continue to play in matches of their own age group and this will be actively encouraged.

OUR OUTLOOK ON MATCH PLAY

Our main objective in playing games is in development and learning. Children will naturally play with a winning attitude; however, we want to ensure they play to win with an understanding, and within a supportive, encouraging and learning environment. Winning is naturally important to the players, but it is not the be all and end all.

We value effort, performance and sportsmanship over winning.

We will try and involve as many children in matches as possible, but we cannot guarantee involvement. More parental assistance will mean more matches and more involvement, so please assist where possible.

OUR APPROACH TO SELECTION

We will try to select an appropriately competitive and balanced team where possible, but we will also balance that with giving boys and girls throughout the age group match exposure.

Your Age Group Manager (AGM) is working hard to ensure that everyone, including the opposition, get a good game and is tested appropriately. We want as many players as possible to get a good amount of match exposure at the right level. Please trust and help your AGM to manage this process.

There are lots of different types of matches - League matches, Cup matches, Festival matches and Friendlies.

Your AGM will try to ensure that less able players are not exposed at an inappropriate level. However, they will attempt to push your child's learning by getting them to play at a level that challenges them.

Children develop at different speeds and levels of competence in basic skills need to be considered.

Please respect the AGM because it is not an easy job and they are volunteers who are doing their best by the children playing in the team. If you have an issue, please speak to them respectfully so you can work together to come to a resolution which benefits the cricket development of your child.

BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER MATCHES

Matches are a fantastic experience, both for the children themselves and for their parents (and other relatives!). Your children will undoubtedly want to share what happened and discuss events in the match with you. It is a fantastic opportunity for a shared family experience and learning for your

child. Please therefore make every effort to attend the match yourself and to stay around to support your child and the other adults running the match. Our expectation is for our youngest age groups that a parent or family member is present throughout.

Chichester Priory Park Cricket Club appreciates that everyone has busy lives, but we would hope you are able to stay and support your child. Every child needs a responsible parent present at the game, so if this cannot be you then please arrange with another parent that knows your child and let your AGM know.

BEFORE THE MATCH

- Please be clear about availability and respond to availability invitations from your AGM quickly.
- Please make every effort to meet on time. Standard meet time is 30 minutes before match start time.
- Please help the AGM set up the match.
- Please ensure your child is there in time to warm up with their team-mates.

DURING THE MATCH

- Encourage your child to watch the game they are playing in so they support their team and understand the situation they will be batting/bowling in.
- Do volunteer to score (it's not that hard!) or lend the AGM a hand - this may simply mean encouraging the kids to watch.
- For match kit we expect our youngest age groups U12 and below to wear their Chichester training top as their playing shirt with white cricket trousers. For U13s and above then white cricket shirts or designated coloured playing kit should be worn. Sussex pathway training tops should not be worn.
- For Softball matches then plastic bats are best, as they are light and easy to use. Wooden bats (especially those purchased to last a few years) are often too big, too heavy and actually prohibit stroke making.
- For Hardball matches, then full protective equipment is required. This means helmets, boxes, thigh guards and of course gloves and pads. Equipment is expensive but parents of older children often have kit they are happy to pass on, so ask around.

AFTER THE MATCH

- Please help clear the equipment away.
- Please do stay, socialise, have a drink, let the children play some more in an unstructured and free way. It's a great way for players and parents to develop new friendships.
- Please stay until the end of the game. Even if your child has finished their direct involvement in the game, please stay and support your team.
- Please pay match fees promptly through our Teamo App.

FESTIVAL MATCHES

One of the summer highlights is the Sussex Junior Cricket Festival matches. There are age groups matches for U11, U12, U13, U14, U16 and U18. Each week of the summer holidays an age group plays 4 scheduled afternoon matches of a longer length. The order of weeks is as follows:

- U12s and U18s
- U14s

- U13s
- U16s
- U11s

They normally start the last Monday in July and dates can be found at:

- <https://sussexjcf.play-cricket.com>

Festival weeks provide the opportunity for an incredibly positive experience for the children. Please try and avoid holidays for your child's age group so that they can participate. Please support the AGM in managing these games. Whilst the matches provide a great opportunity for the children to spend time with their friends and score their first 50s and bowl more than a couple of overs, the week can be stressful and tiring for the AGM who is probably giving up his/her holiday.

SUSSEX PATHWAY

Each year in September, Clubs and Schools are asked to nominate girls and boys for "Pathway" trials. Should we think that your daughter or son is of the standard for training within the Pathway we will contact you. Should you wish your child to be nominated then please contact your Age Group Manager or Head of Junior Cricket.

The Pathway is open for children between the ages of 8 and 18 and coaching is provided by Sussex coaches. From the children within the Pathway, Sussex will select County Squads for matches.

THE VALUE OF TRAINING

Cricket can be a technically difficult game. It is important to develop skills to ensure that the players are improving and able to perform the way they want to when they are 13-15 years old and to then install good habits in learning and technical efficiency to help players express themselves and to be able to excel in adult/older age teams too.

Also, due to the nature of cricket, batters may only face 10-15 balls in a game, and only bowl 12 balls in a 2-3 hour game. Compared to a 90 min training session where in a batting drill they may play in excess of 50 balls (in a net they only get to face approximately 25-30 balls every 10 mins) and they would get to bowl 20 to 30 deliveries with a focus and learning objective.

Although children understandably want to play games, please encourage them to train and develop their skills.

BEHAVIOUR

We expect our junior members and parents to behave respectfully to coaches, each other and to the opposition. Please be careful when posting comments on chat groups which could cause offence or unhelpful debate. Any concerns should also be raised privately with the AGM or the club's Safeguarding Officer.

We do not engage in sledging or intimidatory behaviour to batsmen of opposing teams, even when we may be provoked.

A few other general reminders:

- Encourage your child to learn the rules and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.

- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Publicly accept officials' judgements.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.

Please ensure that you have read the policies and procedures of the Club as detailed on our website <https://cppcc.co.uk/pages/policy>.

KEY CONTACTS

Role	Name	Email	Mobile
Head of Junior Cricket	James Mayne	james@marchwoodifa.co.uk	07973 155314
Club Coach	Sean Dobbs	seandobbscoaching@gmail.com	07971 824541
Safeguarding Officer	Lisa Rustell	safeguardingofficer@cppcc.co.uk	07816 644007
Chairman	Tim Gregory	Chairman@cppcc.co.uk	07469 187104

In the first instance your point of contact regarding your child is your Age Group Manager, but should you wish to discuss anything regarding their development please either speak to James or Sean.

Lisa, our Safeguarding Officer is there to ensure that the welfare of our children remains at the heart of what we do. Should you have any concerns then please contact Lisa.