

# Clubs Matter

*Developing Cricket Clubs and District Development Groups within Derbyshire*

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## Player Pathway in Derbyshire: Nominations, Talent Identification and Assessment

Player Pathways in any sport are essential to develop players for the future. Cricket Player Pathways consist of Talent Identification, Assessment, Selection / Confirmation and combines the different levels of cricket within the county (Club, District and County). The aim of this 'Clubs Matter' newsletter is to educate the Club, Parent and Player on the strategic and operational process which makes up the Player Pathway within Derbyshire. One of the most frequently asked questions is '**what are you looking for in a young cricketer?**' below is the Talent Identification Model that DCB Coaches use during Assessment and Trial Days.

### Batting:

Hand/Eye Coordination, Consistency of strike, Basic ability to play forward and back with correct techniques, Demonstration of correct grip, stance and back-swing, Ability to be focussed at the right times and Attitude.



### Bowling:

Has a repeatable action and understanding of it. Whole body, run up, action, follow through – all going towards target, Ability to spin / swing the ball. Basic understanding of appropriate line / length and Attitude



### Fielding:

Hand/Eye Coordination, Enthusiasm, Speed, Basic sound technique – catching and ground fielding Courage, Attitude

### WK:

Enthusiasm, Head in line, Good footwork, Hands in line and open, Courage and Attitude

### General:

Obvious ability and skill, Good athletic movements, willing to learn

Techniques that will 'hold up' over time, Good attitude together with signs of really wanting to 'do it'



Player Pathways are sometimes complex and from a parent or club point of view it's hard to know where the players are within the 'system'. The following section explains the Derbyshire Player Pathway at different ages.

### **Under 10s and 11s**

Players at this age group are nominated via Clubs and Schools, all nominations are received at the DCB Office during July. The DCB organise outdoor trials at Denby Cricket Club during early September. All U10s and 11s players are invited to attend one of the trial days. During the 2 hour trial players are assessed on Batting, Bowling and Fielding. To make the trial fair and reliable; each of the drills are based on 'closed skills' therefore each player has full control over the skill. Batting for example is assessed via 'Drop Feeds' or hitting balls off batting Tee's, this allows coaches to observe the players performing the skills over and over again. After the Under 10s and 11s Trials are complete a letter is sent to all players who attended the trials informing them if they are successful or not. If the player is successful players are invited to attend pre Christmas training sessions with the County. At the first training session the Performance Manager and County Age Group Manager talks to players and parents about the County U10 and U11 programme so everyone is fully aware of the process and content of the programme.

### **Under 12s-15s**

Players are nominated via Clubs and Schools, all nominations are sent to the DCB Office. The DCB Office creates a Player Database, when the database is complete the information is sent to the 7 District Development Groups. Pre Christmas all 7 District Development Groups perform their own selection process based upon guidelines from the DCB. At the beginning of the year (January) the District Development Group Head Coach(s) select a Core District Squad and nominate player's to County Trials pending on their performances. During January current County Players maybe asked to re-trial along side the nominated district players. These trials are conducted

indoors mainly in a net environment. When the trials are complete a letter is sent to all players (District and County) informing them if they are successful or not.

### **Under 16s and Under 17s**

Due to the size of Derbyshire compared to other counties such as Yorkshire the DCB have chosen to combine Under 16s and 17s age groups to improve the quality of players at county level. Similar to the Under 10's and 11's all nominations are sent to the DCB Office. Trials for the Under 16's and 17's start in January; indoors at the County Ground over a weekend. If successful the player is invited to attend the Under 17's DCB Squad Training Sessions during January—April. Compared to other age group squads the Under 17's have a larger squad number due to the fact that some players are playing for the DCCC Academy or 2nd Team Cricket.

### **Mini Academy and Emerging Players Programme**

Mini Academy and Emerging Players Programme is open to all county players between the ages of 12-15. The aim of the Mini Academy and Emerging Players Programme is to select and train the most talented players within the Derbyshire Squads. Selection of players starts during the summer by DCB Coaches and Managers. Talent Selection for the Mini Academy and Emerging Players Programme is results based; therefore if a player is performing well at their age group DCB Coaches may nominate that player for selection. At the end of the season all DCB Coaches and Managers complete a 'Player Development Recommendations Form'.

## Frequently asked questions by

### Parents and Clubs?

#### ***What are you looking for in a young cricketer?***

Five Main Areas:

Technical, Tactical, Lifestyle, Physical, Mind Set / Attitude

#### ***How many players do you select for the final county squad?***

Under 10-15 between 14-16

Under 17 approximately 25

#### ***Who nominates players?***

Affiliated Clubs to the DCB and Derbyshire Schools are able to nominate players.

#### ***Who is eligible to play for Derbyshire?***

A player has to live in Derbyshire, go to school in Derbyshire or play Cricket within Derbyshire.

#### ***Is there a County Girls Team?***

Yes, Derbyshire have a well organised and successful Girls Winter and Summer Programme. If you are interested or know a player who wants to start playing cricket contact the DCB Office. (01332 388111)

#### ***The Club sent nominations weeks ago, when will we receive a letter?***

For 2008-09 the DCB has received 645 New Player Nominations. Within the 645 players 455 players are registered and sent to the 7 District Development Groups (Ages 12-15). District Development Groups conduct their trial process at different times between September and December. Some Districts choose to adopt an outdoor selection day and others conduct their trials indoors. If you are unsure or concerned that you have not been sent a letter or have received no communication

contact the DCB Office.

#### ***Where can I find out more information?***

You can find out more information from your District Development Group Chairman or District Coaches. The DCB also have a website and has a section on 'Player Development'. [www.dcbcricket.com](http://www.dcbcricket.com)

### Cover Point

#### **Workforce Development:**

Both Coach Development Workshops and UKCC 1 and 2 Course Dates are on the DCB Website

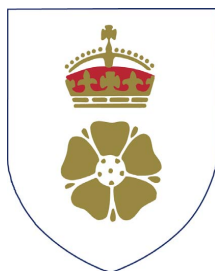
Groundsman's Courses In Derbyshire visit [www.dcbcricket.com](http://www.dcbcricket.com) for more details

Register with NatWest CricketForce 2009 (April 3,4 and 5) [natwestcricketforce.play-cricket.com](http://natwestcricketforce.play-cricket.com)

#### **Player Development:**

All Player Nominations have been registered and sent to the District Development Groups. Under 10's and 11's Trials are to commence mid September at Denby Cricket Club.

U13 Best of District Squad Vs County U13's at Denby Cricket Club (14<sup>th</sup> September 2008 1.00pm Start)



### Derbyshire Cricket Board

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[www.dcbcricket.com](http://www.dcbcricket.com)