

OBWCC MEN'S CRICKET SELECTION POLICY
May 2022

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Selection Committee consists of the four Saturday Men's Captains and the appointed Club Coach. The Selection Committee reports to the Club Committee and is responsible for the day-to-day organisation of the playing of cricket by all club teams and members.
- 1.2 The Selection Committee does not specifically consider Sunday matches or Midweek T20 matches regardless of whether these are league, cup, or friendly fixtures - however the relevant captains will be required to apply the relevant areas of the policy as detailed below.
- 1.3 In addition, the Selection Committee may seek advice from, or to advise, captains of the Sunday or Midweek T20 teams in order to ensure all parties have the best available information and are able to make decisions that are consistent, fair, and in the best interests of the club as a whole.

2. Principles of selection

The process of selecting players for our four mens' Saturday teams is designed to ensure that all of the principles of selection below are being considered:

- 2.1 all players available for selection have a fair opportunity of being selected;
- 2.2 Eligible Club Members (as defined below) can expect to be selected into a team appropriate for their playing ability and aspirations and can expect to play a fair number of games;
- 2.3 each team being fielded by the club shall be capable of competing in its respective league with each player within each team capable of making a positive contribution for that team.
- 2.4 the best interests of the club shall be considered in making selection decisions – for example in promoting youth players through the senior teams, or if a team is pushing for promotion or seeking to avoid relegation.

3. Selection criteria

The criteria below shall be applied consistently by the Selection Committee throughout the season and in accordance with the above principles of selection.

- 3.1 Teams are selected in the following order: 1st XI – 2nd XI – 3rd XI – 4th XI.
- 3.2 The 1st XI will not field less than 11 players.
- 3.3 Eligible Club Members shall be given priority in the event of the club having fewer playing spots available than individuals available to play.
- 3.4 Teams are selected based on individual playing merit. In the event of a 'close call' between two or more individuals, the balance of the team being selected and those teams below shall be considered.

- 3.5 Selection shall have a view for the future of the club as well as the next game. Selection will consider promoting younger players to give them experience of playing at an appropriate standard.
- 3.6 Should lack of availability not allow four full teams to be selected consideration will be given to all teams to provide an equitable allocation of playing numbers based upon the playing standard of those available (without prejudice to the criterion specified at 3.2 above). However, we recognise that league rules require us to fulfil our higher fixtures and in doing so this may require players stepping up to play in a team that may be above their normal playing standard.
- 3.7 League rules as regards selection shall always be applied and may require the club to override one or more of these criteria.

Note for members - The club does not operate a squad system for each team and individual playing members are considered as being available for the whole club. Any player who, without very good reason, refuses to play for any team at the club having made themselves available will be prejudiced in future selection in a manner as deemed appropriate by the Selection Committee in conjunction with the full Club Committee.

4. **Selection process**

- 4.1 Availability of all Eligible Club Members and others wishing to be considered for selection shall be communicated via Spond by no later than midday each Thursday. We would request that members do this as early as possible each week please.
- 4.2 Captains to be in contact with the full Selection Committee throughout the week to discuss potential selection options and agree selection for any team(s) where appropriate.
- 4.3 Captains, if necessary, to meet after practice on a Thursday evening or at any point earlier in a given week as deemed appropriate by the Selection Committee, to discuss and finalise selection decisions for all teams.
- 4.4 Captains to contact all selected players to confirm selection details by the end of Thursday. This may happen earlier in the week for some teams provided the full Selection Committee has discussed any potential issues and agreed to finalise selection for that team.
- 4.5 The Selection Committee shall work together to ensure the best club representation at all levels and ensure that the principles of selection are considered at all times.
- 4.6 To the extent that any selection is discussed by Selection Committee and agreement cannot be reached, the relevant selection shall be put to a vote (a simple majority of votes being sufficient to carry the relevant proposal), with the Club Coach having a deciding vote only if Captains' votes are equally split.

5. **Captains' responsibilities**

- 5.1 Captains are responsible for explaining selection to club members who have any concerns either individual or club related.

- 5.2 Captains shall ensure that players who have previously been selected in a higher team on multiple occasions and who aspire to return to that higher team are given a reasonable opportunity to display their skills in order to make their case.
- 5.3 In the event of late changes due to change of availability, Captains may replace players from lower teams or other available players, whilst taking into consideration the principles of selection and selection criteria set out above.
- 5.4 All changes must be discussed with other affected Captains.

6. **Members' responsibilities**

- 6.1 To ensure their availability has been communicated via Spond as early as possible each week and no later than midday each Thursday;
- 6.2 To communicate with one or more Captains if there is any doubt over their availability so that the reasons for that uncertainty can be considered by the Selection Committee where necessary;
- 6.3 To be available to play for whichever team they are selected in.

7. **Definitions**

For the purposes of this selection policy:

"Eligible Club Members" means:

- (A) all players who have paid their annual subs and are up-to-date on payment of match fees;
- (B) all players who are up to date on agreed instalment payments for annual subs and are up to date on payment of match fees;
- (C) all players who have had their annual subs and/or match fees formally waived by the full Club Committee, and;
- (D) All players new to the club who have played fewer than 6 matches and therefore may not have been asked by the Club Committee for payment of their annual subs.