

Lilleshall Cricket Club - Junior Selection Policy

Following changes to the type of cricket played by juniors (from pairs to 11 a side cricket) and in response to feedback from parents, we wanted to have a clear policy on selection of junior players for matches. It is always likely that we will have more juniors in a given age group than we have places in the team and so competition for places is inevitable.

The following sets out Lilleshall's approach when making decisions on team selection.

- The opportunity to represent the club in a competitive environment is an important principle at Lilleshall. Every junior player over the age of 10 that wants to play matches will be given the opportunity to represent the club at least once in a season and usually many more times than this.
- The club recognises that many juniors also do other sports and have other commitments and preferences. While the club will do what it can to work within individual constraints, the club does not take responsibility for juniors who cannot play matches through their own non-availability due to other commitments.
- No junior member will be forced to play competitive cricket if they do not wish to, however coaches will encourage them to play matches and explore any reluctance to do so.
- Under 10 selection will be based on ability, maturity and safety as well as the availability of competitive fixtures.
- Health and safety are of paramount importance to us, if we feel that your child should be excluded from matches on this basis we will talk to parents about this directly; such exclusions are extremely rare and unusual.
- Players selected for matches will have the opportunity to bat or bowl in a match as well as field, they may do both but should not expect to bat and bowl every time they are selected.
- We will rotate batting and bowling orders so that juniors are tested in a competitive environment on all aspects of their game (the same children will not always bat and bowl every week).
- Specialist positions (wicket keepers) will generally play most matches in a season.
- Captains should expect to play the majority of matches but will be rested for one or more games allowing the Vice Captain to skipper the side.
- Coaches will take into account effort, attendance and attitude at training when making selections. Non attendance at Monday coaching will normally rule a child out of selection for the Wednesday match other than where we have been notified of non-attendance in advance.
- Players at u13 and u15 selected for senior weekend games should still expect to be available for junior matches.
- Dissent, disruptive behaviour and a negative attitude at training will result in limited opportunities for matches. If behaviour is a continuing problem, parents will be advised.
- Any disciplinary action taken at coaching (such as a time out, formal warning or dismissal from the field) will result in automatic exclusion from the next match.