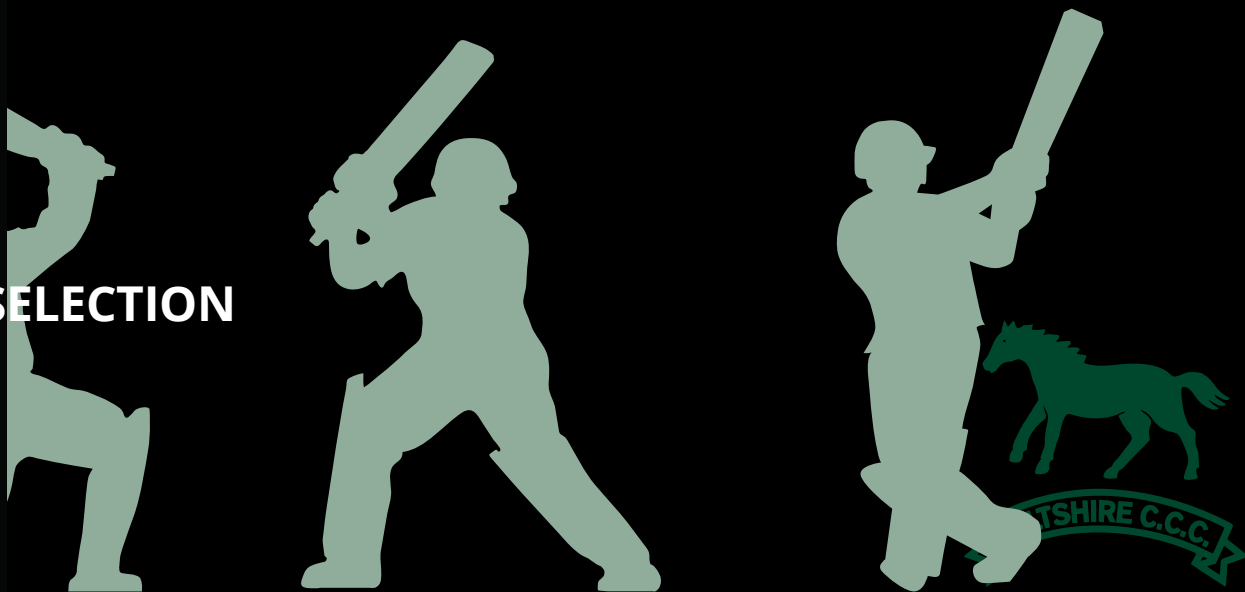




# WILTSHIRE CRICKET

TALENT IDENTIFICATION & PLAYER SELECTION



# TALENT IDENTIFICATION



**How does Wiltshire Cricket identify talent and make selection decisions?**



## SKILLS FRAMEWORKS

How many technical, tactical, physical and mental points within the skills framework are already achieved?

## MANY EYES – MANY TIMES

What are the opinions of other trusted coaches? School, club, opposition coaches, regional talent scouts etc.

## LEVEL ADAPTABILITY

How does the player react when challenged at a level they've never played at previously?

## COACHABILITY

Does the player have an energy & passion for the game and can balance this with an ability to listen, learn and retain information?

## GROWTH MINDSET

Does the player have a mindset that is open to potential areas of improvement and a willingness to fail in pursuing growth?

## RELATIVE AGE EFFECT

There can be a big difference in a players maturation from those born in September to those born in August.

## PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES

What are the players general movements and athleticism like?

What is the player's genetics like? The parent's height is very relevant for fast bowlers, for example.

## COACH CONTACT TIME

Two players might be at the same level but had very different levels of support.

## STATISTICS

Whilst we value individual performances, there is no guarantee leading wicket takers or run scorers will get selected. Looking at statistics over many seasons combined with other factors previously identified is a much better indicator in predicting long-term potential.



# HOW WE GATHER INFORMATION



**REPORTING FROM REGIONAL TALENT  
SCOUTS**

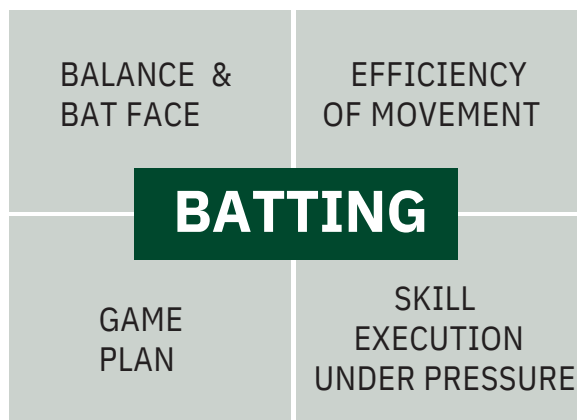
**PLAY-CRICKET.CO.UK**



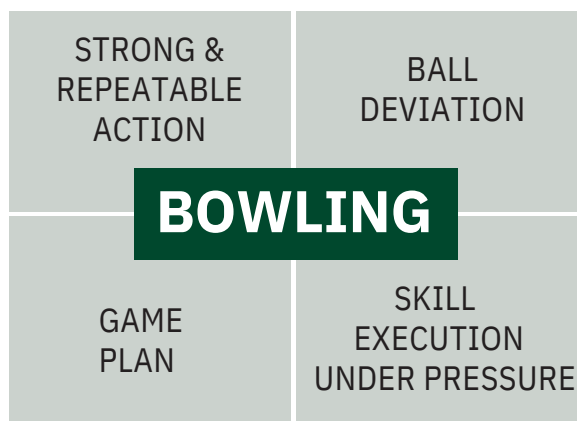
**TRIAL PROCESS**

**DURING THE TRIAL PROCESS,  
PARENTS CAN SHARE FOOTAGE OF  
THEIR SON PLAYING**

# BATTING/BOWLING/FIELDING FRAMEWORKS

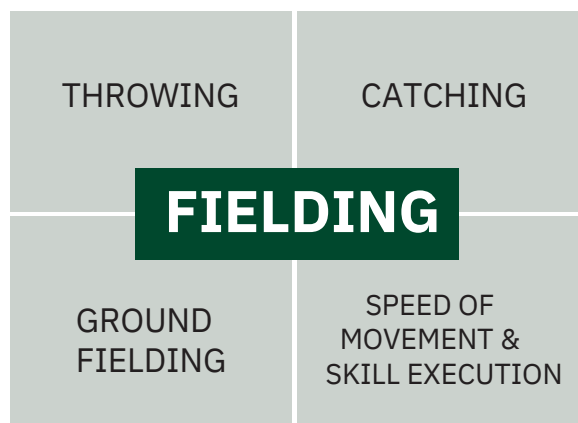


**Early** A grip that allows run-scoring on both sides of the wicket  
**Early** A backlift which is aligned to the timing of movement into the ball  
**Early** A still head and balanced body at the bowlers point of release  
**Early** Clear calling and aggressive running between the wickets  
**Basic** Transference of weight quickly forward & back at the crease  
**Basic** Development of crossed batted shots, sweeps, cuts & pulls  
**Basic** Meeting the ball with the full face of the bat, particularly in defense  
**Basic** Physically strong enough to move efficiently into shots and maintain a still position at ball contact  
**Enhanced** Consistently demonstrating effective decision making and skill execution under pressure  
**Enhanced** Physically fit enough to concentrate for longer periods (30+ overs)  
**Enhanced** A game plan against spin in different conditions  
**Enhanced** An understanding of how they would individually construct an innings, including the development of individual 'super strengths'  
**Enhanced** The skill and strategy to deal with short-pitched bowling



**Early** Achieving straight lines throughout delivery aligned to target  
**Early** A grip that allows the ball to spin, swing or seam depending on bowler type  
**Early** Safe and aligned action at a basic level  
**Early** Understanding of basic field positions  
**Basic** A balanced and rhythmical approach using front side and trailing leg to create energy towards the target  
**Basic** An understanding of strength and conditioning drills within their skills training to enable strong front and back foot contact and good use of the front arm in the delivery phase  
**Basic** Strong wrist position and control of grip through the delivery phase  
**Basic** Starting to demonstrate and understand stock ball control  
**Basic** Understanding of field placement for delivery type and different game phases  
**Enhanced** Strong, repeatable and safe action giving controlled and repeatable outcomes  
**Enhanced** Awareness of stock ball control and developing alternative deliveries  
**Enhanced** Tactically aware of game situations and batters strengths and weaknesses to develop game plans alongside the skill to execute

# BATTING/BOWLING/FIELDING FRAMEWORKS



**Early** Can take a variety of different types of catches in different fielding positions and demonstrate a lack of fear for the hard ball

**Early** Introduction to throwing technique, which is both effective and safe

**Early** Fielding is used as a means to incorporate some fundamental movements patterns and beginner S&C type exercises

**Early** Players should have energy and enthusiasm towards fielding. The coaches regularly stress the importance of fielding

**Basic** Introduction to diving/landing fundamentals

**Basic** Expects and wants every ball to come to them, and shows pride in the outcome of their fielding efficiency

**Basic** Ground fielding and body positioning are taught to maximise the speed of release

**Basic** Can throw confidently into the keeper's gloves whilst fielding in the ring

**Basic** Skill execution is becoming more athletic and dynamic through participating in multiple sports and an introductions to more advanced S&C

**Basic** Players are starting to anticipate what the batter is trying to do

**Enhanced** Can perform different types of dives to be used for different types of fielding challenges

**Enhanced** A throwing arm that is both powerful and accurate

**Enhanced** Developing a specialist fielding position

**Enhanced** Hungry to impact the match with a game-changing piece of fielding

**Enhanced** Can concentrate for long periods (50+ over games) and be ready to perform in quieter periods of matches

**Enhanced** Players are open-minded to time-saving skill execution

# FAQs

## **Does it matter which club I am from?**

No, all clubs are sent information about trials and about how parents can register their child for a trial.

## **My school does not play cricket regularly, is that considered?**

You do not need to attend a cricket-playing school; We only send nomination information to clubs and will not ask for school information as part of registering for a trial.

## **Do I need a 1-2-1 coach outside of the talent pathway coaching to increase my chances of being selected?**

Each player develops in different ways, a 1-2-1 coach can be an effective way for a young player to see improvement, but this is not considered in the selection process.

## **Will playing adult cricket be considered in selection?**

Firstly, ECB directives state that children cannot play open age cricket until they are aged 12 and even then they require parental consent. For those children aged 12 and above, we will consider senior cricket involvement and performances. Playing adult cricket early can be a great way to fast-track development and is great for their long-term potential.

## **Will I receive personalised feedback following the trial process?**

Unfortunately, we have too many trialists to provide personalised feedback. Our coaches are approachable and are usually happy to respond to individual circumstances. We will also be asking our coaches to make selection decisions and provide feedback aligned to this document and our Talent Pathway framework.

# FAQs

## **I have an injury at the time of the trial, what shall I do?**

This is quite common; please make the lead coach of this age group aware. Also, if you / your child is experiencing some growth related issues please let us know. We have other processes in place to cover such circumstances.

## **I play another sport at a performance level. Do I need to choose which pathway to pursue?**

We will not ask any child to make this decision. Being a multi-sport child is embraced. Please communicate with the county age group coach, and we'll see how both schedules can be accommodated.

## **I have been in the pathway for several years. Does this mean a new coach will automatically select me?**

Previous seasons' performances will be considered, but involvement alone does not guarantee selection.

## **I have the ambition to play professional cricket. Can I achieve this through the Wiltshire Cricket Talent Pathway?**

Absolutely - Wiltshire Cricket has a great relationship with neighbouring First Class Counties in both our girls and boys pathways and we regularly work together to support players with high potential. The pathway through to 'Emerging Player Programmes' and 'Academy' programmes are identical in National Counties (I.e. Wiltshire) and First-Class Counties (I.e. Gloucestershire/Hampshire/Somerset).



[www.wiltshirecricket.co.uk](http://www.wiltshirecricket.co.uk)