



Eildon Park Cricket Club Junior Selection Policy

Eildon Park Cricket Club (EPCC) has a Junior Selection Policy that seeks to provide, for all its registered players, the opportunity at full participation in an appropriately balanced team commensurate with their skill level.

In consideration of the fact teams from under 12's and upwards play competitively, this policy seeks to achieve a balance between equal participation and providing the team with its best opportunity to achieve success, in particular when playing finals.

For the non-competitive grades, the focus is solely on team participation, understanding the fundamentals of team cricket, and providing all players with an equal opportunity.

EPCC has ensured that all aspects of its Junior Selection Policy are in line with the rules and regulations for junior cricket as outlined by the Ferntree Gully District Cricket Association.

The full FTGDCA Junior Rule Book can be found here:

<http://www.ftgdca.com.au/rules-and-policies>

Team Selection Policy

Non-competitive teams

Under 10's & Under 11's

For under 10 (Soft ball) & under 11 (Hard ball), those in the Under 11 age group are given priority for the Hard ball team.

Under 10 players who wish to play Under 11's can be placed on a waiting or substitution list.

An eligible Under 10 player cannot be guaranteed a position in an Under 11 team until registrations have closed and there is a vacancy, or they are granted a position under the talented player's provision.

Similarly, priority is given to those eligible for the under 12 age group to play in that age group over Under 11's.

Under 11 players who wish to play Under 12's can be placed on a waiting or substitution list.

An eligible Under 11 player cannot be guaranteed a position in an Under 12 team until registrations have closed and there is a vacancy, or they are granted a position under the talented player's provision.

Wherever possible, teams will be compiled to cater for school/friendship groups.

Talented Players Provision

The Club, where it deems appropriate, will promote talented players that display the skills/attributes to lead the team the following year into higher graded teams or age groups.

The club will endeavour to give the best opportunity to talented young players to participate in higher level and representative cricket. This promotion will be subject to Committee approval and the consent of that child's parent.

Competitive teams

The Selection Policy for competitive teams takes into account the Selection & Grading policy contained within the FTGDCA Junior Rule Book:

Multiple Teams - Clubs with two sides in one group must play their strongest players in Section One and endeavour to field a full side in that section. **s2.4**

If the Club thinks it is appropriate and both teams can be competitive, and it is approved by the FTGDCA, it will field two teams in the first division.

Grading - Junior team grading will be based on aggregate performances over two years. If a club has two teams in any age group, their first team must be in the top grade. If a club has 3 teams or more in any age group their first team must be in the top grade and the second team in the second grade unless history has shown that second team to be more competitive than some teams in top grade whereby the Junior Executive has the power to grade the second team in the top grade and the 3rd team in the second grade. **s8.3**

In the under 12 to under 16 age groups, the players are selected according to their ability, though rotation and participation is still a key factor.

Second and subsequent elevens are highly focused on participation and regular rotation of batting and bowling.

Under 12s to Under 16's

The club will ordinarily field one side (the 1's) in First Division and one side (the 2's) in Second Division.

The 1's team is selected from all eligible players in that age group, and is selected based on a player's ability. There is an allowance to pick one or more appropriately skilled bottom age players to 'lead' the team in the following season.

The 1's team will be selected by the appointed 1's Coach, with assistance as required from the Junior Coordinator or his representative, President and others from time to time as deemed appropriate by the Committee.

Should the registered number of players support enough teams, the Club will field three teams in the First and Second Division's.

Two teams in the same division

This may include two teams in the first division and one in the second division, or one team in the first division and two teams in the second division.

In the event that two teams are to play in the same division, these teams will be selected based on school/friendship groups, with an aim to make these teams as even as possible.

The teams will not be selected as a 1's team and 2's team if there are two teams in first division, or as 2's team and a 3's team if there are two teams in second division.

Team Play Policy

EPCC encourages the following team play policies of the FTGDCA:

- 2.13** Under 11, Under 12 & Under 13 coaches are asked to be flexible with their batting and bowling orders, e.g., not use the same opening batsmen all the time, allow players to field in different positions each week and maybe rotate wicket keepers.
- 2.14** Under 11, Under 12 & Under 13 coaches should be encouraged to allow player to take turn at being captain and show his/her leadership qualities. Duties could include tossing the coin, and helping select the batting and bowling order.
- 3.9** Female players may compete in all junior grades, and may be two years older than their eligible age group.
- 3.18** The minimum age for a junior cricketer to be playing Under 14 is to be 12 years and the minimum age for a junior cricketer to be playing Under 16 is to be 13 years.

The requirement for a junior cricketer to play outside these guidelines must be submitted in writing (detailing rationale) to the FTGDCA Junior Administrator approval of the Executive Committee on the Wednesday before the match.
- 3.19** To be eligible to play in an age division, players must be under the nominated age prior to the 1 September in the year in which the season commences.

Filling in for a higher age group / team

Cricket representation at a higher level is deemed appropriate but must be discussed with the Coach and Committee and given approval.

If a player fills in for a higher age group, or a player from the second division team fills in for the first division team, (i.e. to make up a full team due to absences) then that player must be given a bat or bowl a minimum of 2 overs.

Dual Sports

Children who are playing more than one sport will not be given priority over children who are participating in cricket. Coaches are advised by the Committee to not penalise other team members by allowing a child to bat or bowl early so that they can leave the game to play another sport.

Finals Play Policy

The 'Team Play Policy' encourages participation and regular rotation of batting and bowling orders in all divisions in the regular season, the extent of which is determined by whether the team is playing in the first division or second division.

However, in finals, the coach in all competitive grades will select a batting and bowling line-up that they believe offers the team the best opportunity to win.

Whilst the coach will still consider the rotation of batting and bowling to the extent it is possible – depending on the state of play in the match – particular batsman may be batted higher in the order, and particular bowlers may be given more overs.

The focus in the finals is ultimately the overall success of the team.