

**PERFORMANCE
PATHWAY
SELECTION
CRITERIA**



Welcome

The **Performance Pathway Selection Criteria** is a set of considerations used by coaches when selecting players for the Performance Pathway.

This document is complemented by the **Talent Development Framework**, which details the tactical, technical, mental and physical skills expected at different ages within the Performance Pathway.

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About Us

DEVON CRICKET

Who We Are

“Developing a fun and enabling environment in which more people in Devon play and are involved in cricket.”

We are responsible for all recreational cricket in Devon.

What We Do

Devon Cricket promotes and develops cricket at all levels in the county of Devon, distributes grants from the ECB to member clubs and organisations, and provides a variety of additional support and advice to member clubs and organisations.

The Performance Pathway

The Performance Pathway is Devon Cricket’s elite talent development programme. The Performance Pathway is designed to develop the potential of Devon’s finest young cricketers with the aim of progressing to elite senior cricket.



Performance Pathway



*Values at Emerging Player Programme, Academy and beyond may differ at Western Storm.

The diagram on *Page 3* illustrates the progression route through the Performance Pathway.

The below table explains the different levels within the Performance Pathway in ascending order. Existing age groups at each level are highlighted in bold. These are correct as of the 2023 season.

<h2>Youth Development Cricket</h2> <p>YDC</p> <p>Youth Development Cricket provides a level of cricket between Club and County Age Group Cricket, and aims to identify talented players within a structured environment.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Boys</th> <th>Girls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10s 11s</td> <td>10s 11s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12s 13s</td> <td>12s 13s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14s 15s</td> <td>14s 15s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16s 17s</td> <td>16s 17s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18s</td> <td>18s</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Boys	Girls	10s 11s	10s 11s	12s 13s	12s 13s	14s 15s	14s 15s	16s 17s	16s 17s	18s	18s
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<h2>County Age Group</h2> <p>CAG</p> <p>County Age Group Cricket is the second level within the Performance Pathway, and aims to further develop talented players identified within the pathway.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Boys</th> <th>Girls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10s 11s</td> <td>10s 11s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12s 13s</td> <td>12s 13s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14s 15s</td> <td>14s 15s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16s 17s</td> <td>16s 17s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18s</td> <td>18s</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Boys	Girls	10s 11s	10s 11s	12s 13s	12s 13s	14s 15s	14s 15s	16s 17s	16s 17s	18s	18s
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<h2>Emerging Player Programme</h2> <p>EPP</p> <p>The aim of the Emerging Player Programme is to identify and develop cricketers who have the potential to play National Counties cricket, join a County Academy or a First Class County.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Boys</th> <th>Girls*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10s 11s</td> <td>10s 11s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12s 13s</td> <td>12s 13s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14s 15s</td> <td>14s 15s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16s 17s</td> <td>16s 17s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18s</td> <td>18s</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Boys	Girls*	10s 11s	10s 11s	12s 13s	12s 13s	14s 15s	14s 15s	16s 17s	16s 17s	18s	18s
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**Girls Emerging Player Programme and Academy provision is run by Western Storm.*

Pathway Philosophy

The primary aim of the Performance Pathway is to **IDENTIFY, DEVELOP** and **INSPIRE** high-potential young cricketers across Devon.

U9s - U12s

ENJOYMENT | AWARENESS

- › To encourage enjoyment, participation and gaining awareness of the different facets of the game.
- › Players to stay in their own YDC or CAG age groups, unless specific role opportunities dictate otherwise.
- › Players to be given as equal an opportunity as possible in a season. Rotation of players offering different match scenario roles will be the norm.
- › Aim to play various formats of cricket.
- › Aiding the transition of players along the Devon Cricket Performance Pathway in a smooth and transparent manner.

U13s - U15s

ENJOYMENT | AWARENESS | DEVELOPMENT

- › Begin the process of identifying (where appropriate) high potential and high performance players in the YDC and CAG squads.
- › Continue to provide as equal an opportunity as possible, for all YDC and CAG players through an adequate quantity of YDC and CAG training sessions and matches.
- › Continue to offer variation of roles in a team in the summer season. Begin to identify individuals for certain roles. Players to stay in their own age groups, unless specific opportunities dictate otherwise.
- › Aim to play various formats of cricket, including multi-day.
- › Aiding the transition of players along the Devon Cricket Performance Pathway in a smooth and transparent manner.

U16s - U18s

ENJOYMENT | AWARENESS | DEVELOPMENT | DEMONSTRATE

- › Designed for players that have genuine potential or to perform to a high level in a competitive environment.
- › Enable players (who may end up developing later) to stay in the system for longer.
- › Encourages players to play the highest level of competitive cricket available to them.
- › Begin to identify and execute primary roles within an age group and varying formats of cricket.
- › Aim to play various formats of cricket, including multi-day.
- › Aiding the transition of players along the Devon Cricket Performance Pathway and beyond in a smooth and transparent manner.

18s and over

**ENJOYMENT | AWARENESS | DEVELOPMENT
DEMONSTRATE | EVIDENCE**

- › For players that have genuine potential or to perform to a high level in a competitive environment.
- › Enable players (who may end up developing later) to stay in the system for longer.
- › Encourages players to play the highest level of competitive cricket available to them.
- › Begin to identify and execute primary roles within varying formats of cricket.
- › Aim to play various formats of cricket, including multi-day.
- › Aiding the transition of players beyond the Devon Cricket Performance Pathway in a smooth and transparent manner.

Coaches' Judgement

Coaches' judgement consists of many things, including:

OPINION | KNOWLEDGE | EXPERIENCE

EVIDENCE | STATS

- › Observation of the player over a period of time.
- › A coach's experience, using previous knowledge of Pathway Players.
- › Whether a coach believes a player has the potential, skill and mindset to perform in Pathway Cricket.

INSTINCT

- › A coach may see a snapshot, something the player does in a moment that the coach believes may be a sign they have the potential to be a Pathway Cricketer.



Other Considerations



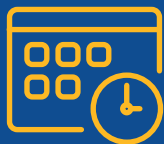
ATTRIBUTES

- › Tactical, Technical, Mental and Physical.*
- › Genetics.



THRESHOLD & DIFFERENTIATORS

- › Pathway Coaches' opinion on the ceiling of a player's potential ability.
- › The outstanding attributes a player possesses that differentiates them from their peers.



RELATIVE AGE EFFECT

- › What month a player is born in and its effect on development compared to their peers.



LEVEL OF MATURATION

- › The biological maturity of a player and its effect on performance compared to their peers.
- › A player's Peak Height Velocity.



GROWTH MINDSET

- › The ability to respond to tough situations, challenge and adversity in a positive manner.
- › A willingness to grow as a player and a person.



FAST ADAPTERS

- › A player's ability to adapt quickly to changes in circumstance or situation.[†]

**Please read the Talent Development Framework for further details.*

[†]Often not discovered until it has been attempted.

Other Considerations



COACHABILITY

- › The willingness for a player to take advice and implement suggestions to improve their game.



EXPOSURE TO CRICKET

- › The level of exposure a player has had outside the Performance Pathway compared to their peers.



COPING UNDER PRESSURE

- › Whether the player can perform and deliver when they are under pressure.



OTHERS' INPUT

- › Using other experts to help formulate a view on players.



CHARACTER

- › When selecting players, character traits will also be considered. Examples of desirable character traits include, but not limited to:
 - ◇ Motivation
 - ◇ Self-discipline
 - ◇ Resilience
 - ◇ Tenacity
 - ◇ Clarity of thought
 - ◇ Acceptance of criticism
 - ◇ Humility
 - ◇ Respect
 - ◇ Passion
 - ◇ Punctual
 - ◇ Supportive
 - ◇ Competitiveness



PERFORMANCE STATISTICS

- › Player statistics will form part of selection.
- › The younger the player, the less statistics will be used as a selection tool.
- › The older the player, the greater the significance of statistics and performance.

The coaches engaged in the selection of squads and teams will work through the considerations above and use them as their definitive guide to shape their choices of players.

Squads and teams are not selected by individuals but by groups of coaches and the decisions made are underpinned by many and lengthy discussions between them.

Coaches have the overarching responsibility for their team and, as such, their decisions are – and have to be – final in terms of selection.

Player Responsibilities and Expectations

COMMITMENT TO DEVON CRICKET

- › An expectation for players to attend a high percentage of training sessions and fixtures, and to prioritise Pathway cricket above lower level activities.
- › Pride to represent the County, i.e.: wearing Devon branded training and playing kit.
- › Commitment to better oneself, as a cricketer, both within and away from Pathway programmes.

OUTSTANDING COMMUNICATION

- › Providing Devon Cricket coaches/officials with early, accurate and ongoing correspondence throughout the yearly cycle.

Performance Pathway Team



Sandy Allen
Pathway Manager

Oversees player development and talent identification between the ages of 10 and 18 in the Performance Pathway.

Sandy is the main point of contact for the Performance Pathway at County Age Group level and above.

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01392 262509 / 07951 127199



Paul Heard
Assistant Pathway Coach

Assists player development and talent identification between the ages of 10 and 18 in the Performance Pathway.

Paul is the main point of contact for the Performance pathway at Youth Development Cricket level.

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01392 262509 / 07376 250987

Thank You



Thank You

Thank you for taking the time to read the Devon Cricket's **Selection Criteria**.

You will now hopefully have a better understanding of the technical, mental and physical skills the **Performance Pathway Team** expect to see at different ages from young cricketers.

For any further information, please contact our **Performance Pathway Team** (see previous page).

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