

COUNTY TEAM SELECTION

Composition

The selection of players for County Representative sides and Inter-County matches shall be by a Selection Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee shall consist of two representatives not from the same Club elected at the AGM plus the current Captains of the Inter-County representative teams, excluding Junior teams plus a Chairman appointed by and from the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall when necessary, co-opt on a temporary basis, suitable people to the Selection Sub-Committee, to ensure that any vacancies are filled.

Initial Squad Selection

The Winter squads to be selected in July, the Summer squad in April. The Summer squad will be selected from any eligible players who have indicated a willingness to participate.

Appointment of Team Captain

Prior to the first game in each season nominations will be sought from members selected for the appropriate squad for the position of captain. Any member within the relevant squad may be nominated. Once the closing date for nominations has passed, if more than one valid nomination has been received the County Team Administrator will send voting slips to all members of that squad.

Team Selection Procedures

The Selection Committee shall meet to select teams for each fixture.

Dates of Selection meetings will be publicised prior to the start of the winter or summer season.

The selectors' prime objective shall be to maximise winning potential and to this end they shall make every effort to be aware of the current form of all players within the squad.

When selecting teams for each fixture they shall at all times seek to play what are considered to be the best available players for all positions -- whilst at the same time retaining the right to ensure compatibility of players within each discipline and within the team. The requirements of the Premier team will take precedence over those of the A team and the requirements of the A team over those of the B team.

To be eligible for selection for one of the Inter-County League Teams a player must meet the following criteria:

- (i) Must be registered with West Sussex County Short Mat Bowls Association and resident in West Sussex or currently playing in the Intra-County winter league;**
- (ii) Must have played in the Inter-County League in the previous season or have taken part in the Trials or were the winner of an individual County Championship (Champion of Champions, Singles, Pairs, Triples or Fours) in the previous season.**

Once the team has been selected it shall normally be notified to all relevant players within seven days of the selection meeting.

The players selected as Premier Team players should normally play in Premier Team matches but this is not an automatic right and the selectors shall reserve the right to leave any of these players out of the team if they consider they have justifiable grounds for doing so. Grounds shall include such matters as players suffering from a lack of form, lack of commitment or causing disruption within the team.

Where such actions are taken a note shall be made of the decision of that selection committee and may be referred to in cases of complaint or disputes.

Additional players may be invited into the squad but no player may be selected for the Premier team without normally having played for the A team. Similarly, no player may be selected for the A team without normally having played for the B team. The exception is a player with a proven record who moves into the County, joins a club and plays league games for that club. **A similar dispensation may be given to a winner of an individual County Championship (see above) in the previous season.** For these purposes the Inter County Championship Summer League will count as A team or B Team.

Under current Inter County Championship rules at the start of the season ten players will be nominated as Premier team bowlers and they will be unable to play for the A Team. Similar restrictions will apply to the Premier team bowlers when they have played three premier team games.

Players will be expected to put the needs of the County above those of their Club. Any player who declares themselves unavailable for a County team and plays instead in any fixture for their Club will not be considered for selection for the County for 12 months. The exception to this is for B team games where the player or the Club has obtained the prior approval of the Selection Committee.

Complaints

Any complaint about selection or procedures adopted, shall be made in the first instance in writing to the Selection Committee via the County Secretary or the Chairman of the Selection Committee.

If agreement cannot be reached the matter shall be considered by the County Management Committee whose decision will be final.

What is expected of a County Team member?

All members when elected to any County squad must accept certain responsibilities that go with representing the County at matches.

Specific responsibilities

A County player should:

- At all times act in the best interests of the County and undertake no action that is likely to bring the Association into disrepute.

- Treat all other players and the umpire with courtesy and respect at all times.

- Give of their best at all times.

- Show commitment to the team and to the ICC.

- Offer support and backing to their fellow bowlers at all fixtures at all times.

- Remain for the duration of all fixtures unless special dispensation is obtained from the squad captain to leave early in exceptional circumstances.

- Complete paperwork as forwarded to them and return at the earliest opportunity.

- Ensure unavailability for any game is notified to the County team administrator at the earliest possible opportunity.

- Be smartly dressed in the correct attire at all times when representing the County. No County player should wear trainers at any match.

Ensure that county stickers are used on all bowls when playing in any County fixture.

Ensure they are punctual for all fixtures or coaches for fixtures.

Assist other members in the preparation and packing up of the venue for home matches.

Discuss with the Captain or Chairman of Selectors any grievances that they may have.

Captain's specific duties and responsibilities

A captain should be aware of their player's strengths and weaknesses. This to be carefully considered when suggesting playing positions.

The captain shall discuss with the Chairman of Selectors any changes that are required to be made to the selected team between the selection meeting and the date of the fixture. The Chairman will consult with other selectors as necessary and agree the final changes. Any changes required on a match day are to be discussed with all other selectors present on the day and a consensus agreed.

Encourage players at all times and report on all performances to the selection committee.

Complete the necessary paperwork, especially when they are the Home team. Keep all score cards so that the selection committee could be informed of progress throughout a particular match. Ensure the match result from Home fixtures is phoned to the ESMBA ICC organizer within 48 hours and return the ESMBA result sheet to the ICC organiser by the Friday following the date the match is played.

Ensure that all selection committee members have a copy of the results sheet for each match.

Be responsible for the collection of match fees and any payments e.g. umpire that need to be made. Keep receipts for any payments made. Complete the appropriate form for the County treasurer.

Be responsible for the organisation of the raffle for home games.

County Team Administrator

The administrator is the link between the ESMBA and the County. Also between the County and players in the relevant squads. This person is responsible for booking umpires for Premier, A and B Team home matches through the county umpires' co-ordinator.

This person to be appointed by the Management Committee, if they are an elected selector or a captain of a squad then they are entitled to a vote.

The County Team Administrator shall have the responsibility of arranging B Team matches with other counties. The dates to be on the same day as the Premier and A team matches where possible.

They should keep up to date information of possible County players and their availabilities.

Selected teams are to be informed of selection as soon as possible after the selection meeting. Information sent to players to include a map of the venue for away matches and the selected team.

(Text in red amended 21 Jul 11)