

Brackenfell Cricket Club



Team selection policy

Introduction

Throughout the season, selection is one of the most important and contentious issues, both on an individual and Club-wide scale. Brackenfell Cricket Club (“the Club”) has adopted a written formal Selection Policy in order to make the selection process more transparent and understood by the players. An open communication policy regarding selections helps build understanding and a strong culture within Brackenfell Cricket Club.

Composition of Selection Committee

The selection committee shall be made up of a Convener of Selectors, the Captain of each team as well as the Coach for each team where applicable. Should a Captain not be available to attend a selection meeting, then they must ensure a Vice Captain deputizes for him. The Club may appoint a Selection Co-Ordinator to assist the Selection Committee with the process of selection and provide statistical information on players and teams. The Co-Ordinator is not a selector.

Convener of Selectors’ role will be:

- to chair selection meetings,
- to ensure that the ‘Selection Policy’ is implemented,
- to coordinate the availability of players from round to round,
- cast the deciding vote in the situation of a split decision,
- to liaise with the Club Management Committee about any selection issues that may arise
- to have the casting vote.

Before selecting teams, there should be an opportunity to review the previous weekend’s matches in terms of team results as well as opportunities offered to, and performances delivered by individual players.

The Selection Process

The selection committee will meet on a Tuesday evening at 19:00 to discuss player selections and performances between grades. The Club's 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th XI Team must be finalized by the Tuesday night preceding the game. Captains will communicate appropriate selection messages to players before sides are announced on the Club's WhatsApp groups. Dropped/Promoted players will receive communication from the relevant Captain informing them why they have been dropped/promoted and advice or targets they need achieve to do to be selected again. This is to ensure players are advised on the reasons behind a selection decision. This promotes transparency in the selection process.

Complaints & Grievance Procedure

The selection committee exists to help and provide support and will always be available to listen should players have any complaints, suggestions or constructive criticism regarding the selection process. All issues of this nature should initially be addressed to your regular Captain, Coach or Club Captain.

Eligibility for inclusion on the selection list

- All players shall pay their subscriptions to the Club or have made arrangements to pay them (e.g. Debit Order) in order to be considered for selection for league games.
- Players must not be under disciplinary action to be included in the selection list.
- Each player will receive the fixtures for the season from the Convener of Selectors before the season starts. It is expected that players study the fixtures and that each player will indicate his/her availability for games as far as possible before the season commences. It is understandable that unforeseen events rendering a player unavailable will occur and these will be managed on a per event basis. Player availability due to unforeseen events must be communicated to the Convener of Selectors before Tuesday evening 19:00 when selection will take place. This will enable the selection committee to better plan if a player is unavailable for selection.

Guiding principles for selection:

- Selection shall be governed by the relevant eligibility rules as mentioned above.
- Players are not guaranteed selection for all games for any team.
- Training - A player's attendance at, and attitude during, training are factors to consider in selection. However, this factor should not be applied blindly. For example, if a player cannot train twice a week due to work or family commitments but can train once a week, this may not affect selection. It must be recognized that the Club is not professional. Nevertheless, if a player

does have an issue regarding his training availability, he must inform his usual Captain or Coach

- Players on the selection list, who's availability for matches is high will be considered over players who is unavailable for selection on a regular basis.
- Selection may be influenced by knowledge of the opposition, knowledge of the ground conditions and the expected weather on the match day
- Selection shall ensure that the interests of the First XI are given priority however, the interests of the Second, Third's and 4th XI's and of individual players will be considered in selection.
- Under the same principle the interests of the Second XI will have priority over the Third XI and so on.
- Form and performance – It are important to note that form and performance encompasses a player's performances over a period of matches, and not just a single performance. Also, the selection committee is entitled to consider the quality of opposition in assessing a player's performance
- Future development/potential – The development of young players is a high priority for Brackenfell Cricket Club. The development and potential of young players shall be considered when selecting teams.
- Initial reason for promotion/demotion – If a player is promoted due to a series of good performances, he should be given more of an opportunity in an XI than a player who has been promoted to a team based on unavailability in that XI. Similarly, if a player is demoted for poor form, then he may be required to perform better in the lower XI to gain promotion than a player who has been dropped to a lower XI after, for example, returning from an injury.
- Team Balance – A Captain is entitled to have team balance, both in relation to the spread of batsmen and bowlers in his team, as well as the type of batsmen and bowlers in the team. Team balance may also vary between T20 and 1-day games.
- Should a player become unavailable to play in the week leading up to play for 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th IX due to injury, sickness or another extenuating personal circumstance, the Captains of these sides will be entitled to call up any player not currently engaged as a substitute to ensure the strength of these sides is not compromised.
- Players arriving at a game intoxicated, by the use of alcohol or drugs, or a combination of both shall be dealt with severely. Such a player might not be selected for games to follow. This guideline will be applied at the discretion of the Selection Committee and could result in disciplinary action by the Club Committee.

When there are more than sufficient players for a side, even after adhering to the general principles, priority for selection will be influenced by a player's:

- Regular attendance at training sessions (unless absence approved by the Coach).
- Regular availability to play.
- Recent form and contributions to the team.

Other miscellaneous important matters

- The selection policy may be amended where required during the off-season by the Club's Management Committee, or in the event of very special circumstances, during the season.
- Players who train and contribute to the Club will be looked at more favorable than people who don't.
- Any player taken up to a higher grade should be used in a similar capacity as they would in their normal grade. For example, a batsman promoted to a higher grade will be considered as a batsman and are expected to contribute in a batting capacity. The same applies to bowlers.
- No "available" players will be moved between teams after selection has been completed without approval of the Convener of Selectors and both Captains.