

Maldon Cricket Club Selection Policy

This policy has been created as a result of an increased number of members over the past two to three years. Due to a successful colt set up, Maldon Cricket Club regularly fields players that are, or have been, colts. This highlights the success of Maldon's colt set up.

Moving on from the 2021 season and beyond, Maldon Cricket Club predicts that these numbers will only increase and add to the number of members already playing open age cricket for Maldon Cricket Club. The club therefore needs to run further teams to maximise the playing time of all members, both for adults and colts. For 2021 the club reinstated a Sunday team and a T20 side for midweek games. The club also entered a 5th team into the Mid Essex League. These extra sides will allow club members of all ages to play regular open age cricket throughout the season.

For younger player development, it is critical that all colts have consistency in selection and a consistent role within the team that is reviewed over a time period specified by the club, the team captain, the player and their parents. This player pathway will support our younger players but also develop a further love of the game and playing for Maldon Cricket Club.

It is important that the cricket club regularly reviews its core purpose and aims. With the 2020 season being disrupted due to COVID-19 the start of the 2021 season is a good time to do this. With this in mind the following aims have been reviewed and approved by the Maldon Cricket Club Committee.

- To establish ourselves as a strong Division 1 club in the Two Counties League
- For all players to enjoy their cricket within a safe environment that encourages and supports the development of their key cricket skills
- For colt age players to progress to open age cricket within Maldon Cricket Club
- For an increasing number of Maldon CC colt players to represent the central district and county.

In order to achieve these aims we need to ensure that the strongest playing members available are selected for the first eleven team. It is vital that playing members across the club are selected based on how well they are performing over a period of time and not in one off games. It is also important that playing members appreciate that they may not always be, for example, selected for the first team if they are not performing at the level expected. This allows for movement within the four Saturday teams and gives playing members the opportunity to see a pathway to the first team. Playing members who perform well at training sessions and in fixtures must be provided with the opportunity to play at the highest level linked to their ability.

The first team's core aim is to finish as high in Division 1 as possible with the club's strongest performing playing members. The members selected must be regular players for the club and their selection reviewed regularly based on performance. Where performance is deemed not to be strong enough for the first team then the club will look at the second team playing members that are performing well and select those performing well to play for the first team for a consistent period of time. If U18 playing members (up to school year group 13) are selected for the first team then they will do so for a consistent period of time and will play a consistent role within the side each week.

The second team's core aim and purpose is to develop future talent for the first team. Playing members being selected for the second team will have aspirations to play for the first team. If U18 playing members (up to school year group 13) are selected for the second team then they will do so for a consistent period of time and will play a consistent role within the side each week. Where

performance is deemed not to be strong enough for the second team then the club will look at the third team playing members that are performing well and select those performing well to play for the second team for a consistent period of time and will play a consistent role within the side each week.

The Third, fourth and fifth teams' aim is to develop cricket at all age groups in the club. Whilst winning every cricket match is the goal, equal importance is placed on cricket development, whatever the playing member's age. The third, fourth and fifth teams will select, if available, four to five colt age players, each week. This means that the teams will select between six and seven non-colt players each week. Playing members will be selected on ability and availability. If U18 playing members (up to school year group 13) are selected for the third and fourth team then they will do so for a consistent period of time. This will be reviewed and the playing member may be selected for the team above or team below thereafter. It is vital that all players are playing regular cricket and the club may adopt a rotation system for its younger colt members.

The Sunday side will primarily be made up from playing members who cannot play on Saturdays and/or those who do not play regularly for the club. Colt age members may play for the Sunday side but will not do so without other colt age members playing. Adult playing members that are not selected for the Saturday fixtures will also be asked to play for the Sunday team.

Due to the numbers of players expected to be available each week, especially during May – July, it is unlikely that playing members will be asked to play two games a weekend and some playing members may also be asked to play on a Sunday rather than a Saturday.

There may be exceptions each week that are taken into consideration by the team captains when selecting players for the six weekend sides. For example, if a player is unavailable for a period of time they may not necessarily be selected if the previous week's team has been winning games.

The club will look to promote playing members that are performing well and the captains will be supported by senior playing members. Selection will be reviewed to ensure that this policy is being followed and that the selection process is transparent.

The aim of the selection process outlined above is to build a strong first team, with appropriate team selection throughout the club, where all playing members can enjoy their cricket and have an equal opportunity for playing at their highest level.

Approved: March 2022

Review Date: March 2023