



Carlow Cricket Club

Team Selection Policy

(Open Competitions)

2024

Purpose of Team Selection Policy

Team selection within sporting clubs is frequently a major source of controversy and division. It is expected that there will be a diverse set of opinions regarding the composition of each team.

As an organisation, we are fortunate to have many cricketers who want to play for our club. This requires that a playing XI is chosen to play each match. Therefore, it will not be possible to satisfy all players at all times.

The purpose of the policy is to provide a description of the process by which our club teams are selected for matches in the Cricket Leinster Open Competitions. The policy aims to provide the foundation for a clear, fair and consistent approach to team selection, and to enhance co-operation and understanding within our club.

This Team Selection Policy has been approved by the Club Committee following engagement with a representative group of players, as agreed at our club's EGM in late 2023.

The development of this Team Selection Policy has been the responsibility of the Team Selection Working Group and the Club Committee. However, **the implementation of this Team Selection Policy is the responsibility of each and every player, along with the Selection Committee.**

Club Values

The Club Committee is charged with the responsibility of preserving the health and integrity of our club, and that of the game of cricket. In developing the criteria for team selection, the Club Committee is mindful of the need to balance the following values:

- Player behaviour/actions and its effect on our club

- Competitiveness of teams
- Player participation
- Importance of developing young players

The issue of ‘**players’ behaviour and actions**’ applies equally to players of all teams in our club, at all times. Players are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects well on our club. Failure to comply with this standard will result in action being taken that may impact a player's selection. (See Disciplinary Policy and Complaints Policy). Conversely, player behaviour which reflects positively on our club will increase the likelihood of player selection.

The remaining 3 of these values (**competitiveness, participation and development of your players**) apply to all teams, however it is appropriate that the weighting placed on these values may differ between teams.

The 1st and 2nd teams do play at a more competitive level, resulting in a greater weighting being applied for competitiveness than would apply for 3rd and 4th. However, there is still a place to consider giving talented younger players a chance to play in 1st and 2nd, against strong opposition.

The 3rd and 4th teams are likely to give greater emphasis to player participation and development of younger players. However, it is also important to recognise that players starred as 1.1 are more restricted in the number of games they are eligible to play. This is in contrast to players with lower starrings who are eligible for to play in many more matches, and often get many more games in a season.

Failure to ensure that all players get good value from their club membership, risks the possibility of players losing interest with the result that our club suffers a contraction in membership.

Selection Criteria

The Club Committee supports an open and fair process for the selection of teams. Selection will never be based on a player’s personal characteristics or attributes (eg race, religion, sexuality). Selection will be based on the following criteria that are communicated with all players prior to the season commencing.

Behaviour

Constructive behaviour

- Good sportsmanship
- Taking instruction from captain
- Correct team uniform
- Setting up for matches
- Tidying up after matches
- Scoring (see Appendix)
- Umpiring/Coaching
- Providing transport
- Assisting captain in his/her role

- Punctuality (arriving 45 mins prior to away gam, 60 mins prior to home game)
- Attendance at training

Negative behaviour

- Criticising performance of teammates
- Showing dissent to umpiring decisions
- Interfering in role of captain eg engagement with umpire/opposing captain
- Not wearing correct team uniform
- Refusing to play for a lower club team
- Refusing to act as a scorer
- Pressurising Selection Committee
- Cheating
- Bringing the game of cricket into disrepute
- A player will be ineligible to play any matches if currently under a match ban imposed by the club using the Disciplinary Policy

Competitiveness

- Starring restrictions can limit players playing in a lower ranked team (However, starring status does not guarantee selection)
- Team balance (batting, bowling, fielding assessment)²
- Individual performance and ability (available statistics)
- 1st team must have a designated scorer which cannot be a match participant
- Matches scheduled for other teams within our club. (Usually it would be the case that higher teams will include better players. However, for some critical matches it may be more strategic to select better players in lower teams, if starrings permit).
- No player should make any assumptions on which team they will play in the next match based on previous selections. The general exception to this is that a captain will generally be first player selected for a team, unless their performance is well below par, or their behaviour warrants de-selection.

Player Participation

- Player eligibility (Cricket Leinster and Carlow CC membership completed including fees paid)
- Player availability, which is communicated by the player responding to the captain by the deadline using the WhatsApp poll function
- Number of games already played this season
- Player injury/illness (ordinarily return to lower team initially)
- Player may be precluded from selection if there is a concern about their ability to compete safely
- Ordinarily, players should not be selected to play more than 1 game/weekend (unless for same IX, or unless the team is short of players)

Developing Young Players

- The nature of monthly starrings should consider how to facilitate players to play down, so as to enable a young player to play up, where appropriate.
- A player's desire to play with their friends is understandable. In such circumstances, it is acceptable for a player to be selected to play in a lower team (starrings permitting) than would otherwise be expected, but is not an acceptable for any player to remain in a higher team than would otherwise be expected.

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will comprise 2 voting Selectors who have been appointed by the Club Committee prior to the commencement of each season. The Selection Committee will also include a non-voting Ex-Officio member of the Club Committee. The non-voting ex-officio member of the Selection Committee should be generally familiar with the majority of club members.

The role of the non-voting ex-officio member of the Selection Committee, is to provide oversight and advice to the voting selectors, with particular attention given to the overall health and well-being of the club.

The 2 voting Selectors will be supported by an Advisory Selection Group from the club, whose function will be to provide the Selectors with relevant information (see below), regarding weekly team selection.

The 2 Selectors cannot be chosen from any current players in our club teams that participate in the Cricket Leinster Open Competitions. This requirement will give the Selection Committee more independence, and will provide some protection to team captains from allegations of favouritism.

The role of the Selectors is as follows:

- Perform selection of monthly starring lists for our club teams that participate in the Cricket Leinster Open Competitions
- Perform selection of our club teams for weekly matches in Cricket Leinster Open Competitions

The Selectors may opt to delegate the role of team selection of the 4th team (Development team) to the Development team manager.

In selecting the 1st team and 2nd team, the Selectors should name the designated scorer (see Selection Process).

The Selectors may receive written representations from the Selection Advisory Group to assist with their selection decisions. This group will include the following officials:

- 1st team captain
- 2nd team captain
- 3rd team captain
- Club statistician

- Registration Officer
- Club Committee Chairperson (regarding match bans)
- Any Club Committee member (regarding observed behaviour issues)

Selectors are required to select teams based on the criteria outlined above. The decision of the Selection Committee is final. Players may provide feedback to the Selection Committee by submitting a completed 'Selection Committee Feedback' form.

Captains will be responsible for all team decisions once team selection has been made.

Selection Process

Match Selection

For matches to be played on Saturday, Sunday or bank holiday Monday, by 8 am on the previous Monday captains are to send an invite (via WhatsApp) to all players asking them to declare their availability for the following weekend's match(es).

All players are to advise the captain of their availability by 8 pm that same Monday. Captains are to forward a list of available players to the Selectors by 9 pm that same Monday. (Monday prior to the match).

The Selection Advisory Group have a deadline of 9 am Tuesday prior to the match to make representations to the Selectors. The 1st and 2nd team captains can in their representation, the name of the designated scorer for the upcoming match.

The Selectors will assess the available information and make their team selections. They will notify each of the team captains of their selection by 7 pm Wednesday prior to the match. The Selectors are encouraged to inform the team captains of any reasoning behind a deselection or demotion of a particular player.

Team captains have until 8pm Wednesday prior to the match to alert the Selectors to any glaring errors or oversight. The team captains will notify administrator of the Club WhatsApp group by 9pm Wednesday, at which point the weekend teams will then be published on the Club WhatsApp.

Starrings Selection

The deadline for submitting starrings is 10.30 pm on the first Tuesday of each month during the season.

In the week prior to the starrings being submitted, in addition to deciding team selection for the upcoming match, the Selectors should also perform starring selections. The Selection Advisory Group may also make representations to the Selectors with respect to starrings.

Contingencies

Where the 2 voting Selectors cannot agree upon the selection between two alternatives, the non-voting ex-officio member of the Selection Committee will be given the deciding vote.

Where a voting Selector has a conflict of interest (eg selection of a family member), they will remove themselves from voting upon that matter, and the non-voting ex-officio member of the Selection Committee will assume the role of a voting Selector.

Where a voting Selector is unable to perform their role as Selector, the non-voting ex-officio member of the Selection Committee will assume the role of a voting Selector.

Player Responsibility

It is the players' responsibility to inform their captain of their availability for a match before the deadline of 8 pm on the Monday prior to a match.

Please inform your captain if you are in a position to provide transport for others, or if you need transport.

Please make yourself familiar with the selection criteria.

Please respect the role of your captain. Your captain may make suggestions to the Selection Committee on your behalf. However your captain does not have the power to make selection decisions.

Please respect the role of the Selectors. It is not an easy job to select a team as there are many things to consider in selecting a team. There is no perfect solution to team selection.

Ensure you are aware of which team for whom you have been selected.

Remember: Cricket is a team sport. Carlow CC is your club. Support your team. Support your club, even when you are not playing.

Be the best you can be as a person, and as a member of Carlow Cricket Club

Selection Feedback

It is accepted that the decisions of the Selection Committee, will not be to the satisfaction of individual players from time to time. It is only fair and appropriate, that players are able to air their views. However, it is important that this exchange of views is kept respectful and polite.

Any player who wishes to question their de-selection or demotion can complete a 'Team Selection Feedback' form which will be available from the non-voting ex-officio member of the Selection Committee (by email or text).

The completed form should be returned to a member of the non-voting ex-officio member of the Selection Committee to be forwarded on to the voting members of the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will consider the player's feedback and provide a written response.

Declaration

I, _____ accept the Team Selection Policy of Carlow Cricket Club will abide by it as a member of Carlow Cricket Club.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Document Review Date: February 2025

Team Selection Feedback Form

Name:

DOB:

Address:

Selection Feedback

Specific match(es)

Date of match(es)

Match location

Role in team (batter/bowler/keeper/all ro2under)

Recent match performance

Please provide any other relevant information in relation to this matter

Signed:

Date:

Response of Selection Committee

Signed:

Date:

Scoring Policy

Background

It is a Cricket Leinster requirement that teams playing in Division 7 and above have a designated scorer for all games. This scorer cannot be a participating player in the match. It is also a requirement that teams in Division 7 and above have an updated version of DLS software and a computer (with ink, paper and a power supply) at all home games.

In recent years, there have been significant challenges in Carlow CC 1st team meeting these standards. Frequently, players indicate a strong enthusiasm to play matches, but an unwillingness to act as scorer. This unwillingness to score is often rationalised as being unavailable to attend matches, or a confession that they do not know how to score.

It is the opinion of Carlow Cricket Club Committee that players who wish to play 1st or 2nd must participate in scoring matches. The Committee sees scoring matches as a positive contribution by players to the life of our club.

It is anticipated that the new Team Selection Policy is likely to result in significant movement between the various teams during the season. Therefore, the Committee is committed to sharing the burden of scoring in a fair and even fashion throughout the season.

Principles

Scoring a cricket match is a necessary and worthwhile contribution to the life and well-being of our club.

It is the collective responsibility of those members who are likely to play in the 1sts during the season to organise a designated scorer for each match.

If a player is capable of playing 1st or 2nd, then they are also capable of scoring.

Players who feel that their skills of scoring a cricket match are inadequate, have a responsibility to improve their skills if they wish to play 1st or 2nd. This can be achieved by completing Cricket Leinster scoring courses, researching scoring training online, and shadowing competent scorers in any club matches (1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th).

All players who play 1st or 2nd are required to score 2 matches during the season. If this is not achieved, then players will not be eligible for selection until they have fulfilled this requirement. (At least one of these matches will have to be an away match).

Captains and vice-captains will not be required to score 2 matches during the season, owing to their heavy workload in organising their team. However, the captain and vice-captain will be responsible for ensuring that the match scoring has been carried out to a sufficient standard to allow for the uploading of scores onto the website.

The vice-captain of each team will be responsible for uploading scoresheets after each match. The vice-captains will be supported by an appointed player (Scoresheet Supporter) whose responsibility will be to assist the vice-captains in this regard and will supervise that this task

has been completed by the Cricket Leinster deadline. The Scoresheet Supporter will not be required to score any matches during the season in recognition of this important work.

Scoring of matches can be performed for either 1st or 2nd team, which should not interfere with a player's ability to play any particular match. If there is an excess of scorers for the season, scorers can be allocated to 3rd matches.

Players can indicate to their captain that they are available to score a match in response to the captain's invitation for player availability on the Monday prior to the weekend match. If no player makes himself available to score a match, the Selectors will determine the names of scorers for 1st and 2nd matches, from the list of available players.

Players and captains may strategically roster certain strong players to the role of scoring for matches against weaker teams. This can facilitate the introduction of talented younger players into the IX.

The Selectors will include the name of scorers for each 1st and 2nd matches when publicising the team list for the following weekend.

A record will be kept of all scorers for 1st and 2nd matches for the season to ensure that this Scoring Policy is followed.

As our club grows and gains new members, it is expected that each weekend the number of available players will exceed the number of places available in each team. This means that teams will have enough players to supply a scorer. It also means that the club will have no difficulty putting a team on the field and will not need to consider players who are not fulfilling their scoring obligations.

Failure to Score Appointed Match

A player who withdraws their availability for a match having been appointed as a scorer, or a player who fails to attend their appointed match as scorer, will not be eligible for selection until such time as they have scored a match to which they have been appointed.

Please note the following important data entry requirements for scoring:

1. Use of player names as per the team sheets
2. Signify which players have the role of captain and wicket keeper
3. Include the date and venue at which the match was played
4. Include the result of the 'toss'
5. Use names as per team sheets
6. For dismissals, the name of the bowler, catcher, fielder (run out) should be included.
7. Scorers should also register the 'fall or wicket', 'outgoing batter', 'not out batter'