



School Cricket:

SOMERSET GIRLS CRICKET PATHWAY

- Primary/Prep Schools are invited to enter Girls U11 teams or mixed sides in the ECB 8-a-side Kwik Cricket Competitions.
- Secondary/Senior Schools are invited to enter Girls 8-a-side U13 and U15 teams in to Lady Taverers Indoor and Chance to Compete Outdoor softball competitions.
- Further matches take place between schools and within schools in softball and hardball formats.
- Chance to Shine Programmes provide girls cricket coaching in schools through local clubs and other projects including delivery by SCB Community Coaches.

Club Cricket:

- Cricket Clubs with junior sections provide girls with training and playing opportunities in mixed or girls-only teams. Girls can play in boys' teams for 2 years beyond their age cut-off.
- Girls-only teams compete in a variety of formats such as informal matches, boys' leagues and Lady Taverers knockout competitions.
- SCB Community Coaches also makes coaching visits to support clubs.

District Cricket:

- The district programme is aimed at developing players from schools and clubs and runs pre Christmas.
- Winter coaching will involve a variety of softball drills, hard ball nets and indoor games to improve the standard of girls' cricket at the tier below county level.
- Nominations are accepted on the SCB website and all girls with *any* previous cricket experience are invited to add their details to our database and receive the booking form for district coaching.
- The booking form will be shared by email in September to all contacts on our database (this automatically includes girls who have previously participated).
- Existing county players can attend district coaching by invitation only. Such invitations provide the option of further coaching to help raise their standard as well as facilitate the selection process for Winter County Development Squads.
- Places are limited for each district coaching group to achieve beneficial coach to player ratio and so early booking is recommended.
- District coaching provides access to our county age group coaches with two agendas, firstly to help enthuse and improve school and club players, and secondly to enhance the county selection process.
- North Somerset district coaching will be delivered at Bath Cricket Club for girls across age groups U13 & U15/U17
- South Somerset district coaching will be delivered a Wellington, for two age groups U13 & U15/U17. A summer match programme will consist of North v South hard ball matches at U13, U15 & U17 age groups and will include players from the Winter County Development Squads to facilitate Summer County Squad Selection and Preparation.
- All remaining district players will be invited to a summer festival day of small-sided hardball matches later in the summer.



County Cricket:

- Winter County Development Squads will attend a coaching programme from January to March. Squads will consist of 16 players at ECB Competition Age Group – U13, U15 & U17.
- Players will be selected by county age group coaches to achieve a balanced squad ready for an elite coaching programme that aims to develop individuals and produce competitive teams for ECB competitions.
- Selections for Winter County Development Squads happens in two phases; firstly, at the end of the season when existing county players and identified talent may achieve automatic selection based on their performances during that season; and secondly, the squads are finalised in December following the District Coaching Programme. For this reason, a number of winter squad places will always remain available until December to allow for comparisons of players in their new age groups and to give new players further opportunity for county selection during the winter.
- The winter coaching programme for county squads will consist of six 3-hour sessions, four of which will be at Taunton County Ground and involve a 1:2 coaching net for one hour and whole squad training with four coaches for another hour. The other two sessions will be in the North for whole squad training for 2 hours.
- Winter County Development Squad players will be involved alongside district players in the North v South District Matches early in the season to continue their development as well as facilitating team preparation for ECB competitions. Summer County Squads of 16 players will be finalised after this series of District Matches. This provides a third window of opportunity for new players to be selected in to the county set-up.
- Somerset currently compete in ECB Regional Age Group Performance Divisions which consist of 35 over league matches for U13s, 40 over league matches for U15 and 45 over league matches for U17. This is in addition to ECB County Twenty20 competitions at U15 and U17 age groups. Friendly matches including festival cricket is also provided for each age group.
- SCB also creates playing opportunities for U19 girls to represent Somerset through player-funded entry in to festivals. The reduced opportunity at all non-ECB Competition age groups reflects the lack of ECB funding and structure, yet avenues are being explored to be able to increase the number of matches on offer, potentially for a Somerset Development Side.
- The ECB Talent Recruitment Process exists to identify, detect, select and confirm talent for the England Women's Development Programmes, England Women's Academy and England Women. Identification starts with county coaches nominating players for the ECB Talent ID List. ECB Scouts then observe performances in county matches to generate player reports for those listed players. Furthermore, the demonstration of key performance attributes and/or outstanding performances from other players can gain the attention of ECB Scouts.



Excel Programme:

- The Excel Programme has been expanded in to two regional groups for additional elite coaching sessions. Both North and South Excel groups will receive six winter sessions
- This programme is funded by Somerset Cricket Board for selected county players.
- Such players will be identified as having the potential to perform key roles in county age

group competition. They may also have the potential to get on to Somerset EPP and the potential to be submitted for ECB Talent Identification.

- This programme is specifically about developing our best players who can raise levels of county age group team performances as well as increase the number of players Somerset produces for England Women's Development Programmes.

Emerging Player Programme:

- This is the highest elite cricket coaching programme for girls in Somerset and involves individualised coaching, strength and conditioning support as well as performance workshops.
- The highest potential players in Somerset are invited on to EPP so that we can produce more players for England Women's Development Programmes.
- Winter EPP sessions will run from November to March and are funded by Somerset Cricket Board. The programme currently consists of three group sessions and seven 1:1 sessions.
- EPP players will also be involved in their respected North or South Excel group sessions.

Somerset Cricket Board Key Contacts:

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