



*We Are Blackburn!*

## Junior Program – The way we play the game

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Blackburn Cricket Club (BCC) was first formed in the 1880s and has provided a continuous opportunity to play community cricket since 1902. We are community and family-based club run by volunteers.

BCC was among the first clubs in the district to introduce a Junior Program in the 1950s. Its primary aim is to provide local girls and boys the opportunity to play cricket. We strive to strike a balance between participation and competitiveness where the priority is for players, coaches, team managers and families to have an enjoyable and rewarding cricketing experience.

We believe in participation, development, friendships and fun. With a focus on these core values, our aim is to encourage every player to grow their love of cricket and continue to play the game for many years to come.

We encourage families to get involved in the club, and if your young cricketer is showing potential we encourage and support you to pursue representative pathways. The evidence reveals kids who enjoy their cricket, will attend more training sessions, thereby increasing the chance they will perform at their best. We encourage every player to play at the highest level their potential allows, thereby enhancing their love of the game.

At training and in match play, we promote a culture of support for teammates, and learning to play as a team.

As part of the participation and development, we work with your child to improve their batting, bowling, fielding and understanding the rules of the game and teach them game sense and strategies.

We support the inclusive culture of the broader club and recognise the effort put in by those who keep the club moving forward.

We apply a holistic team/club approach where decisions made should benefit the playing group as a whole rather than an individual. In priority order the BCC values are:

<b>Culture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging and inclusive</li> <li>• Humility in success and failure</li> <li>• Respect each other, opposition and umpires</li> <li>• Fair play in the spirit of the game</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunity &amp; Participation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Platform to participate in cricket</li> <li>• Movement between sides during the season is limited as we promote a team culture</li> <li>• Team selection considers many factors: Strength of Association, strength of grade, team balance, friendships</li> <li>• Representative cricket</li> <li>• Parents to be Team Coach, Assistant Coach or Team Manager</li> </ul>
<b>Fun</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy the company of friends</li> <li>• Having a laugh</li> <li>• Not treating the game or result too seriously</li> </ul>
<b>Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve cricketing skills</li> <li>• Game sense and awareness</li> <li>• Leadership skills</li> <li>• Learn umpiring and scoring – players and parents</li> </ul>
<b>Competitiveness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn how to win and lose graciously</li> <li>• Game strategy and tactics</li> <li>• Poor sportsmanship and sledging not tolerated</li> <li>• Team numbers capped</li> </ul>

Cricket is a sport that fosters lifelong friendships and connections. Many of the senior players at Blackburn were also junior cricketers at the club. Due to our size and involvement with representative level cricket, we are able to provide advice and support on cricketing pathways. More broadly, cricket at Blackburn provides wonderful lifelong connections and, in many instances, has helped players with their careers off the field. At Blackburn, we value community spirit.

### **Celebrate diversity**

Cricket Victoria's (CV) Harmony in Cricket philosophy celebrates the message that cricket is a **game for everyone**. We proudly acknowledge that Blackburn Cricket Club is a place where everybody, regardless of his, her or they cultural background, religion, gender, age or ability feels welcome.



## Junior Program – Participation Guidelines

	Participation	Competitiveness	Description	Team Numbers Capped at
<b>Girls</b>	100%	0%	<b>Bowling</b> – All players bowl in every match <b>Batting</b> - All players bat in every match <b>Fielding</b> – Players will receive equal fielding & wicketkeeping time	N/A
<b>Super 7's</b>	100%	0%	<b>Bowling</b> – All players bowl in every match <b>Batting</b> - All players bat in every match <b>Fielding</b> – Players will receive equal fielding & wicketkeeping time	9
<b>Fast 9's</b>	100%	0%	<b>Bowling</b> – All players bowl in every match <b>Batting</b> - All players bat in every match <b>Fielding</b> – Players will receive equal fielding & wicketkeeping time	11
<b>Under 12 A</b>	70%	30%	<b>Bowling</b> – All players bowl in every match <b>Batting</b> - All players bat in every match <b>Fielding</b> – Players will receive equal fielding time	13
<b>Under 12 B</b>	80%	20%	<b>Bowling</b> – All players bowl in every match <b>Batting</b> - All players bat in every match <b>Fielding</b> – Players will receive equal fielding time	13
<b>Under 14 A</b>	60%	40%	<b>Batting &amp; Bowling</b> –All players will either bat or bowl in every match <b>Fielding</b> – Players will receive equal fielding time	13
<b>Under 14 B</b>	70%	30%	<b>Bowling</b> – All players bowl in every match <b>Batting</b> - All players bat in every match <b>Fielding</b> – Players will receive equal fielding time	13
<b>Under 16</b>	30%	70%	<b>Batting &amp; Bowling</b> –All players will either bat or bowl in every match <b>Fielding</b> – Players will receive equal fielding time	13

The BCC (Junior Program) makes every attempt to follow these guidelines. However, sometimes the game or weather conditions prevent that from happening. For example, during a one-day match or where each kid bats their maximum allocated number of balls, there may not be enough balls remaining for other kids to have a bat.

BCC (Junior Program) endeavours to field teams in a wide range of age groups and gradings to help maximise the opportunities for every junior player.

Other clubs may have different priorities and approaches, but this has no influence on the way junior cricket is played at Blackburn.

The club greatly values the involvement and support of parents in upholding these values, and the club encourages parents to acknowledge the achievements of opposition players as well as our own.

## Blackburn Cricket Club - Junior Cricket Skill Progressions

	SUPER 7S	FAST 9s & STAGE 1 GIRLS	UNDER 12B	UNDER 12A	UNDER 14B & STAGE 2 GIRLS	UNDER 14A	UNDER 16A	GRADUATING JUNIOR to SENIORS
<b>BATTING</b>	Hit a straight drive off a cone with a high elbow and good foot position	Effectively defend straight bowling	Effectively defend straight bowling off a variety of different paced deliveries	Confidently defend straight bowling off faster, slower and spin bowling	Confidently defend and leave good bowling off faster, slower, swing and spin bowling.	Confidently defend and leave good bowling off faster, slower, swing and spin bowling.	Confidently defend and leave good bowling off faster, slower, swing and spin bowling consistently.	Confidently defend and leave tough bowling off faster, slower, swing and spin bowling consistently.
	Hit a moving ball on at least one side of the wicket	Hit moving ball on both sides of the wicket	Hit moving ball on both sides of the wicket with both horizontal and vertical bat shots	Hit moving ball on both sides of the wicket with both horizontal and vertical bat shots off a range off different bowling	Hit moving ball on both sides of the wicket with both horizontal and vertical bat shots off a range of bowling on both the front and back foot	Respond to pace and spin bowlers off front and back foot. Hitting ball into space to score runs	Respond to pace and spin bowlers off front and back foot. Hitting ball into space to score runs and plan an innings	Respond to pace and spin bowlers off front and back foot. Hitting ball into space to score runs and plan an innings
	Run between the wickets with some calling and judgement	Run between the wickets with confident calling and judgement	Run between the wickets with clear calling and confident judgement	Run between the wickets with clear calling and confident judgement	Run between the wickets with clear calling and confident judgement with consideration to match situations	Assess game situation and determine where and when runs can be scored	Assess game situation and determine where and when runs can be scored and change tempo when required	Assess game situation and determine where and when runs can be scored and change tempo when required
<b>BOWLING</b>	Bowl with a straight arm	Bowl with a straight arm	Bowl with a straight arm with a consistent run-up set	Bowl with a straight arm and have a clear and consistent run up	Bowlers have understanding of their bowling type(fast, swing, spin) and have a planned and consistent run up	Bowlers have understanding of their bowling type(fast, swing, spin) and have a planned and consistent run up	Execute chosen bowling types (pace, spin, swing, seam) with good control of line and length	Execute chosen bowling types (pace, spin, swing, seam) with good control of line and length. Clear understanding of role in the team
	Bowl over a 16 meter pitch reaching the batsman in one bounce	Bowl over a 16 meter pitch reaching the batsman in one bounce	Bowl over a 18 meter pitch reaching the batsman in one bounce consistently	Bowl over a 18 meter pitch reaching the batsman in one bounce more consistently	Bowl over a 20 meter pitch reaching the batsman in one bounce consistently	Bowl with pace/spin/swing with control of line and length over 20 meter pitch	Ability to change bowling lines and lengths to suit tactics and match situations	Ability to change bowling lines and lengths to suit tactics and match situations
	Bowl within the batsmans reach	Bowl within the batsmans reach at least 4 out of 6 balls per over	Bowl within the batsmans reach at least 4 out of 6 (av.) balls per over	Consistently bowl within the batsmans reach and limit the amount of wides and no balls	Consistently bowl to the target/stumps and limit the amount of wides and no balls	Limit wides and no balls to occasional	wides and no balls to be very rare	wides and no balls to be very rare
<b>FIELDING</b>	Catch a modified ball from close	Catch a modified ball from close and	Catch a cricket ball from close and	Catch a cricket ball from close and middle range	Catch and field a cricket ball hit from at least 15 meters,	Confidently field and catch the ball in most positions on the field.	Field and catch balls hit both hard and soft in	Field and catch balls hit both hard and soft in all

	range from a soft hit	middle range hit with soft hands	middle range hits with good technique	hits, hit at different velocities	hit at slow and faster speeds		all positions with good judgement of when to attack the ball	positions with good judgement of when to attack the ball
	Throw at least 15-20 meters	Throw 15-25 meters	Throw 25-30 meters	Throw at least 30 meters consistently within close range to target	Throw at least 30 meters consistently within close range to target	Throw at least 35 meters consistently within close range to the target	Throw at least 45 meters consistently to the target. Able to direct get direct hits often	Throw at least 45 meters consistently to the target. Able to direct get direct hits often
	Catch a modified ball off a lobbed hit with good technique	Catch a modified ball off a high hit with soft hands	Catch a cricket ball from a lobbed hit with good technique	Catch a cricket ball from a high hit from at least 15 meters from the bat with good technique	Catch a cricket ball from a high hit from at least 20 meters from the bat with good technique	Catch sky balls confidently in various positions	Catch high balls with good judgement in both the infield and outfield	Catch high balls with good judgement in both the infield and outfield
<b>WICKETKEEPING</b>	All players to experience wicketkeeping	All players to experience wicketkeeping	All players to experience wicketkeeping, players can stop and catch balls after it bounces	Wicketkeepers can catch and stop bowling of different speeds	Wicketkeepers can catch and stop bowling of different speeds	Wicket-keeper to catch ball consistently form pace and spin deliveries limiting byes	Wicket-keeper to catch ball to save runs and take wickets off all bowling types	Wicket-keeper to catch ball to save runs and take wickets off all bowling types, able to stand up to stumps in certain match situations
<b>GAME SENSE</b>	Players to learn and know names of main fielding positions (square leg, cover, point etc.)	Players to learn and know the key fielding positions	Judge where runs can be scored and begin to select correct shots to different balls	Judge where and when runs can be scored, players can make good decisions on which shot to play to each ball	Judge where and when runs can be scored by noticing field placements and making good decisions on which shot to play to each ball	Judge where and when runs can be scored by noticing field placements and making good decisions on which shot to play to each ball	Judge where and when runs can be scored by noticing field placements and understanding of bowlers tactics making good decisions on which shot to play to each ball	Judge where and when runs can be scored by noticing field placements and understanding of bowlers tactics making good decisions on which shot to play to each ball
	Players to experience all fielding positions throughout the season	Players to experience all fielding positions throughout the season	Players experience all fielding positions and begin to understand different tactics at each position	Batsman and bowlers begin to adapt their strategy based upon game situations	Batsman and bowlers begin to adapt their strategy based upon game situations, players contribute and influence outcome of the game	Batsman and bowlers begin to adapt their strategy based upon game situations, players contribute and influence outcome of the game	Batsman and bowlers adapt their tactics and skills based upon game situations, players contribute and influence outcome of the game	Batsman and bowlers adapt their tactics and skills based upon game situations, players contribute and influence outcome of the game
	Players begin to think about tactics such as where can I score runs, where should I field	Players begin to think about tactics such as where can I score runs, where should I field	Players think about tactics such as where should my field be, should I move in or out etc.	Bowlers encouraged to begin to think about setting their own field with consideration for infielders and outfielders	Captains and players to make tactical decisions with guidance	Captains and players to make tactical decisions with guidance	Captains and players to make tactical decisions and lead the game in all areas	Ability to follow direction and execute different plans to suit match situations