



## Female Playing Structure

During the 2013/14 playing season the female playing structure was reviewed in consultation with the Women’s Coordinators. The point of the review was to establish whether the current playing pathway was aligned with Auckland Cricket’s vision, “More females playing”, the philosophy for female cricket and was one that allowed for long term growth.

Auckland Cricket’s philosophy for females is “The female pathway, competition formats and playing conditions encourage maximum participation, recruitment and retention across all grades. Thus creating a fast, fun enjoyable game”.

It was concluded that change in the club pathway needed to occur to achieve the above philosophy. Below outlines the old and new pathways.

Old Pathway		New Pathway	
Premier	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Premier	Social T20
↑		Emerging Hearts Div 1	
U17 Emerging Hearts		Emerging Hearts Div 2 (U19)	
↑		U14 Future Hearts	
U15 Future Hearts		U12 Junior Hearts	
↑	U10 Mini Hearts	U10 Mini Hearts	

### Grade format explanation

Old Grade	Format	New Grade	Format
Premier	50 over and T20	Premier	50 over and T20
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	40 over and T20	Social T20	T20
Premier Youth	35 over and T20	Emerging Hearts Div 1	40 over and T20
		Emerging Hearts Div 2	35 over and T20
U15 Future Hearts	28 overs	U14 Future Hearts	28 overs
U12 Junior Hearts	25 overs	U12 Junior Hearts	25 overs
	Quikhit – 20 overs		Quikhit – 20 overs
U10 Mini Hearts	Quikhit – 16 overs	U10 Mini Hearts	Quikhit – 16 overs

The expected benefits due to the change in pathway are:

- Girls stay in the game longer as now don't have to play Premier Cricket once they are older than U17.
- Emerging Hearts Div 1 acts as a feeder grade to Premier for those coming back from injury or from being dropped.
- Social T20 Grade was struggling for numbers. Only have 1 x T20 grade a day would allow teams to find fill in players easier
- Social T20 caters for females who don't want to play longer formats after leaving school.
- The new pathway caters from growth and won't have to be changed year after year depending on where the 'growth bubble' is.