



AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB

Information on grade Year 6 for the 2017-18 season from our Grade Convenor

This letter provides details about the format of Year 6 cricket for the coming season. Firstly some key dates:

- The season playing dates for the Y6 grades are:
 - Saturday 28th October to Saturday 16th December
 - Saturday 3th February (Waitangi weekend) to Saturday 24th March.
- The trials dates for Premier and 6A grades are:
 - Tuesday 19th, Friday 22nd and Tuesday 26th September
 - and the following Friday 29th if required

Note – there are no trials for players in the Year 6 Social grade

The format of Year 6 is quite different to Year 5. The key difference is that there are **two** Y6 grades available – **Year 6 Graded** and **Year 6 Social**. The players elect which grade to go in at registration time.

“Graded” means that players will attend trials and will subsequently be placed into a Premier team or an A team based on ability – and being in a team with mates becomes a secondary consideration. In the **“Social”** grade there are no trials and being in a team with mates remains the 1st priority. The game format is “bating-in-pairs” for a fixed number of overs, similar to last season’s Year 5 Pre-Xmas format. This grade will appeal to those Y5 players who did not enjoy the move to “out-is-out” in Y5 Post-Xmas.

Both Graded and Social will play in wider Auckland competitions which will likely include teams from Cornwall, Howick-Pakuranga, Suburbs-New Lynn, Waitakere and Ellerslie Clubs – in addition to the Eastern Districts Cricket Association clubs: University, Parnell and Grafton. All teams in the Year 6 grades play on Saturday mornings, 8:30am start.

Year 6 Social:

- Teams are 10-a-side
- Games are 25 overs per side
- Players bat in pairs for 5 overs – runs are deducted for loss of a wicket.

There are no trials for this grade.

Year 6 Graded:

- Players and teams are graded – Premier and A
- Teams are 11-a-side
- Games are 28 overs per side
- Premier and 6A competitions are separated into Major and Minor Championships, based on results, after initial grading rounds.

To play in the Premier grade, the players must be selected through a trial process. **Trials are scheduled for after school on Tuesday 19th, Friday 22nd and Tuesday 26th September** (and the following Friday 29th if required) at Colin Maiden Park - exact times will be communicated when we know how many players wish to trial. The Convenor of Selectors is our Junior Coaching Coordinator, Ben Lewis.

Premier Grade: This is the grade for the players of the highest ability in the grade; it will likely include last season’s Sunday Rep team players and those who were on the fringe of Rep selection. Those players who believe they are capable of playing Premier grade and wish to trial should **select “Yes”** to the question **“For players going into (Boys) grades Year 6 Graded, Year 7 and Year 8 - would you like to trial for the Premier Team(s)?”** when registering in our ClubHub system. Once the trials are completed, Ben may invite input from those who coached the Year 5 teams last season in deciding on final grading and the composition of



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teams. The desires of players wanting to be in a team together will be considered but the overriding factors will be the appropriate playing-level grade of the players, the balance of teams, the number of players in the grade, and the overall strength of the grade.

6A Grade: Players who want to play in the 6A grade should select “No” to the above question.

To check out the differences in the Playing Conditions for each grade, follow this link: <http://aucklandcricket.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Year-6-CEJL-Playing-Conditions.pdf> (there might be some minor changes for 2017-18, which ACA will publish in October).

Parents and players need to understand that it is important for the players to be placed in the grade and team in which they will enjoy and improve their cricket, rather than just being in a team with a friend; therefore those players wanting to play in the Premier grade rather than 6A need to be up to playing at this level. There is nothing more off-putting to a player than having his bowling smashed every weekend, not getting any runs, out of his depth, and the feeling that he is letting the team down. The first priority of the Club is to place players in grades that match their ability, which is the very reason we trial the players.

Because the number of players rarely matches the exact numbers required in teams, there might be some players who are capable of playing Premier who may be placed in a 6A team. Conversely a player who might ordinarily play in 6A may be asked to play in a Premier team. Because a player plays or chooses to play in the 6A grade, it does not mean that he will not be considered or selected to play in the Club Rep teams for our inter-club tournament fixtures on Sundays.

Likewise, all players playing Premier cricket are not guaranteed to play Rep cricket. Note that in past years, there have been players in the Rep teams who played in 6A. Some players' cricket and confidence will improve over the season by playing and dominating in 6A, whereas other players' cricket may prosper more from being challenged each week in the Premier grade.

What happens now? Register on-line (follow the links at www.aucc.co.nz) and indicate the grade you would like to be considered for during the registration process. Teams will be finalised after the trials.

Finally, please note that Club Policy is that players should play in the grade which aligns to their school year in 2017. Any Y5 players wishing to play in this grade this season will need to apply to me and will be assessed by a senior member of the junior coaching team prior to the trials. One of the guidelines is that the player will need to be capable of playing in the Y6 Premier grade. If dispensation is granted, the player will be required to repeat Year 6 in the 2018-19 season - Year 6 players are not permitted to play in the Year 7 grade.

If you have any questions about Year 6 cricket, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

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Year 6 Grade Convenor

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