

To the Parents and Players of Boys in the U18 Grade this 2015-16 Season

The Auckland University Cricket Club (AUCC) would like to set out the cricket playing options for boys in Year 11 up. Prima facie, the grade the boys are eligible for is the **U18 grade** (for boys under the age of 18 as at 1 September 2015).

Note the structure of the season is similar to the Year 9/10 grade in that there are three separate competitions over the season with various subscriptions applicable depending on what competitions you wish to play in the U18 grade. Refer to our website for the appropriate sub

<http://www.aucc.co.nz/categoriesandsubscriptions.php>

The competition formats and playing dates are:

1. Twenty20 competition

There are 4 rounds in this competition with one T20 game played on each Saturday. The dates are: 31 October and 7/14/21 November. These games will start at 3.15pm and run till about 6.30pm. This comp runs during the boy's study weeks and during the exam period, which is why the game format is the shortest available and is planned to be a welcome break from study for a few hours on Saturday afternoons.

2. Limited Over competition

This follows on from the T20 cricket competition and runs for four rounds. The dates are 28 November, 5/12/19 December and games will start at 12:30. (Note that College cricket is scheduled to finish on 21 November.)

Note, if your son wants to play in both the T20 and the Limited Over competitions, there is a 1st-half of year sub which covers both competitions. If he just wishes to play the Limited Over competition, after College cricket ends and when the majority of the NCEA exams have finished, then there is a sub for just the Limited Overs Competition.

3. Two-Day competition

This commences on Saturday 30th January 2015 (Anniversary weekend) and games are scheduled for Feb 6th – Waitangi weekend. Games are played on Saturday afternoons until 19th March. This competition is covered in the second half of the season sub.

Considerations

We have decided to give you as much relevant information now so parents and boys can consider what playing options they want to take up. With exams, college cricket and Club cricket and a new College year beginning in late Jan 2016, things can become very blurred which means that boys might miss out on taking up options. We want the boys to continue their sport but need to make the road map as clear as possible for parents and boys.

Here are things to consider:

Examinations – your son will be studying for exams during October /early November. This year NCEA exams (for Levels 1, 2 and 3) commence on Monday 9 November 2015 and finish on Friday 4

December 2015. You need to review your son's exam timetable and see when his exams are during this period. Most Level 1, 2 and 3 students won't start till Monday 9 November and the majority will finish by Friday 27 November. There are a few language and accounting exams in the following week. There are no exams in the weekend so he is potentially free to play cricket if not studying. Consider whether your son would like to play cricket on Saturday during the exam periods - refer to the NCEA 2015 examination schedule <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/qualifications-and-standards/qualifications/ncea/exam-timetable-2015.pdf>

College cricket – most college cricket is very short in term 4, 2015. Your son will more than likely be in the same school team as he was for the term 1. Auckland Cricket has advised us that the afternoon grades start on 17 October and finish 21 November. The morning grades play 17 Oct, no game 25 October (Labour weekend), 31 October, 7/14/21 November.

Options

1. For boys not playing cricket at their college, they may wish to register immediately their interest on our website to play Club cricket. If there are sufficient numbers of boys to form a team, we will enter them in the U18 T20 competition. This is a short game and should not take much time out of their study schedule! If there are insufficient numbers, our first preference is to contact another club(s) and enter a combined team into the T20 competition. Otherwise we will see if we can either accommodate boys in the Year 9/10 grade (the Club will need to seek and receive dispensation from Auckland Cricket due to boys being over age) or we will seek to accommodate boys in a suitable senior team if they are interested and capable, and if there are places available. Both the Year 9/10 and the senior grades will play Limited Over (32 or 50 overs) cricket rather than T20.
2. For boys who play College morning cricket, they may wish to play for their College and/or the Club. With the later start time of U18 T20 games, there is plenty of time to get from College morning cricket (finishing around 12 to 12:30pm) to Club T20 starting at 3:15pm. However, with exams on, boys or parents may wish to limit their exposure to one game on Saturdays.
3. For boys playing College afternoon cricket, the college and school games will clash College cricket finishes on 21 November and the club U18 Limited Overs Competition starts on 28th November.
4. Most boys should be free of exams and College cricket and be able to play in the Club Limited Over competition that begins on 28th November and finishes on 19th December. We would like to see as many present and past players register to play in this as possible. We encourage you to register your interest to play this on the website as soon as possible so we will have an idea how many teams we are looking at.
Note that if you cannot play or don't wish to play the Club T20 cricket, but do want to play in the Limited Over competition when most exams and college cricket is over, the sub is \$60. For those boys who play both the T20 and the Limited Over comps the sub is \$120 (which includes a team photo).
5. Finally, we will write to boys and parents in January 2016 asking for those interested in playing U18 2-day Club cricket in the 2nd-half. Again if there is enough interest for a team, we will register one. Otherwise we will explore the same playing options outlined in point 1 above. It is a more difficult decision for boys entering year 12 and 13 as those who played

morning college cricket and club in the afternoon in term 4 might be selected for College teams that play afternoon cricket in term 1 2016. This means they can only play College or Club. There is a separate sub for this post-Xmas 2-day competition - \$95.

We hope this helps you all better understand the playing options for the boys this season. As outlined, a player who doesn't play for the Club in November should consider registering their interest to play in the U18 Limited Over Club competition which starts after most exams and college cricket have finished. Not only will it provide an active interest in the lead up to Xmas, but it will give the players an opportunity to re-engage with their former club mates and to get some cricket in prior to any college trials at the end of January when they return to College in 2016. U18 practice will likely be combined with the Senior A and B squad practice at CMP nets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5.30 till 7.30pm.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact either Mark Robson (U18 Grade Convener) on 021-217-3962, or Richard Walker (Club Manager) on 528-7931.

Kind Regards,

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