



St Helena Cricket Association

International Team – Selection Policy

Introduction

The St Helena Cricket Association has been invited to participate in two T20 competitions which will be held in Gaborone – Botswana during October and November 2018.

For this competition selection is one of the most important and contentious issues for the Association and also for individuals. It is always the source of much discussion. Because of this, it has been decided to develop and implement a written Selection Policy so that the selection process is more transparent and fully understood by all players.

Much of this policy will not be new but will simply confirm and clarify various informal practices that the Association has adopted over recent years.

Selection Objectives

The objectives of selection are to balance the following needs:

To select the strongest squad to represent St Helena

For the Association to have regard to its future by promoting and developing youth

To be fair and consistent in the treatment of players

It must be recognised that sometimes these objectives are not compatible with each other and that balancing them may be very difficult. The Selection Panel will not always be able to please everyone and all players must understand that the Associations interests and then the interests of the team will always come before their own.

No one is guaranteed a spot in any given side and given that the Selection Panel will have the full support of the Association Committee; all decisions made in accordance with this policy will be final.

The International team will initially be selected as a group of 22. This group will have no order of merit, but will include potential first team players and players who have the potential to develop over the course of the selection period. A second selection will take place in August 2018 to determine a squad of 16 players. Any changes to these numbers will be advised as soon as it becomes known.

Selection Criteria

The following factors will be considered by the Selection Panel when selecting the international team:

Ability

A player's ability is the most important factor in determining whether he is selected or not. No one benefits from a player playing in a team in which he is not able to contribute to the standard expected for the tournament.

Form

This is a critical factor but not the only one. A player's performance will be assessed over a number of matches, not just a single performance and the quality of opposition will also be taken into account. Each player's performances have been recorded in scorebooks over the past three years and these performances may also be taken into consideration.

Training

All players are required to attend training sessions scheduled by the Cricket Association. Standard sessions will be on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the period leading up to the tournament. If players are unable to attend training, it is their responsibility to advise their session coach of their unavailability. Lack of communication and poor attendance will be as detrimental to selection. On top of the training sessions organised by the Association, registered players are expected to participate in their own organised personal training to support this. Advice on types of training which would benefit them can be ascertained from the Physio.

Future Development Potential

Younger players who have the potential to play in an international tournament will be given equal consideration in selection. This does not mean however, that older players will automatically make way for younger players regardless of performance but rather in a situation where two players have similar claims for selection to the team, preference could be given to the development of younger players.

Team Balance

The international team captain is entitled to have team balance, both in relation to the spread of batsmen and bowlers in the team as well as the type of batsmen and bowlers. Team balance will be essential in this tournament.

Attitude & Work Ethic

It is expected that all players will approach training sessions in the same way that they would approach a game. Players are expected to work hard during training and support each other at all times. If this happens at training it will also happen in games. All players must dress appropriately for each training session.

Availability

Every player registering will be considered available for selection and ready to travel to the tournament. This means that once selected, they are available to play in every game of the tournament, unless the team captain determines otherwise. If for any reason, any player is unable to make themselves available then they must advise the Chairman of the Selection Panel as soon as they are aware of this. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, anything outside of this procedure is considered unacceptable.

Travel Documents

Each player registering is responsible for ensuring that all of their travel documents are in order. British Passports are mandatory and players must ensure that their passports have a minimum of 6 months validity from the anticipated time of travel. Where players do not have a British Passport, they should apply for one as soon as possible and no later than June 2018. Players must remember they also need proof of identity.

Behaviour

All players must conduct themselves at the highest standard at all times when representing the Association both on and off the field. Players bringing the Association or the game of cricket into disrepute will be dropped from the team and jeopardise their chances of future selection

Supporting the Team/Association

Cricket is a team sport and it is expected that players will work together at both training sessions and on match days to help set up and pack away equipment. In addition, players are expected to participate in all fundraising activities. Attendance at Association functions including end of season presentations is also considered important as this helps to build camaraderie and team spirit.

Drugs Testing

Drugs testing will be mandatory for every registered player. An initial drugs test will be done prior to the first selection and thereafter a drugs test will be undertaken monthly. Any player failing to be present for a drugs test, without any reasonable excuse, will automatically be dropped from the team.

Communication of Selection Decisions

Players are entitled to be individually notified that they have been selected or not and the reason for the decision.

This will take place, prior to the teams being announced and communication of this decision will be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Selection Panel or a delegate.

Under no circumstances is a player's position to be communicated to anyone before he has been advised.

The Selection Panel will also communicate to each player, during the training and selection process on their progress and/or development requirements.

Complaints & Grievance Procedure

The Selection Panel exists to help and provide support and will always be available to listen should players have any complaints, suggestions or constructive criticism regarding the selection process. All issues of this nature should initially be addressed to the Chairman.

Selection Panel Structure

The Selection Panel will consist of the following:

1. Chairman of Selectors
2. Senior Coach
3. Coach
4. Coach
5. Team Captain
6. Physio

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