



ECB **Disability** Pathway Booklet



ADAPT. DIVERSE. OPPORTUNITY



Introduction

- The purpose of this booklet is to outline the increasingly diverse range of opportunities that the sport of cricket offers to people with a disability.
- Perhaps more than any other sport cricket is adaptable in ways that make it inclusive for everyone yet still providing the thrill of stumps being hit and smashing a ball for four or six.
- This booklet will explain the opportunities available, introduce the key people involved at ECB and our delivery partners and we hope it will inspire you to say that **Cricket is a game for me.**



01 Ian Martin

Head of Disability Cricket



- Ian has been involved in disability sport for over 20 years and has been at ECB since 2007 and led over 20 overseas tours and home series to date.
- He oversees the Performance program and reports into the Managing Director of England Men's Cricket. Ian provides leadership, strategic direction and support to all members of the disability team at ECB.
- He is a trustee at our partners The Lord's Taverners and at the Neuromuscular Centre in Cheshire.
- Ian lists his cricketing heroes as Sir Vivian Richards, Sir Alastair Cook and Andy Flower.

02 Edgar Herridge

National Disabilities Manager



- Edgar's involvement in disability cricket started over twelve years ago with the Somerset Disabled Cricket Club.
- For the past three years Edgar has led the recreational disability cricket programme for the ECB. Focused on growing the number of opportunities for disabled people to access the game.
- Edgar holds a Trustee position at the charity Planet Earth Games and is Chairman of his local cricket club.

03 Richard Hill MBE - Disability Cricket Competitions Manager



- With over 25 years experience in disability cricket, Richard has worked across the whole pathway from grass-roots to performance level cricket.
- Overseeing the development, growth and management of ECB's national disabled cricket competitions.
- Awarded the MBE in the 2019 new years honours list for services to disability cricket.
- Vice-President of Hertfordshire Cricket Limited.
- Trustee for Power2Inspire Charity working with disabled and nondisabled young people empowering through sport.
- Watching players like David Gower, Viv Richards and Imran Khan were a continual source of inspiration.

04 Neil Bradshaw - England Disability Cricket Operations Manager



- Neil has been involved in Disability cricket for almost 20 years, undertaking a wide variety of roles and has been at ECB since 2018 working with all of the National Disability Squads.
- He operates within the England Cricket Performance program and reports into Ian Martin, the Head of Disability Cricket. Neil provides logistical support to all of the National Squads and has experience of over 10 International tours both at home and overseas.
- Neil also works closely with the England Cricket kit Executive to ensure all of our National squads are fully covered when it comes to kit and has helped design some bespoke kit for various competitions.

05 Ben Davies - Disability & Pathway Sports Science & Medicine Lead



- Ben has worked across both professional cricket and football over the past twelve years.
- He has recently taken on a newly formed dual role within the ECB across both Disability cricket and the Men's Pathway.
- Having been fortunate enough to tour with England Lions and the Test side, Ben brings experience of touring with national sides.
- The goals and outcomes of this role are to bring World Leading Science and Medicine, underpinned by Duty of Care and Safety to the Disability pathway.

06 **Hannah Jowitt** - England Pathways & Disability Performance Analyst



- Hannah has been part of the ECB since 2015, and in the last year has begun working with the disability squads.
- As the performance analyst with the four disability squads, Hannah analyses both team and individual player's performances during matches and series.

07 **Stuart Murphy** - Disability Safeguarding & Player Development Manager



- Stuart has worked for the ECB on a part time basis for 5 years. During this time, he has been responsible for player development and wellbeing.
- His background is in Social Care Management.
- He is a qualified athlete lifestyle advisor and anti-doping advisor.
- During his spare time, he volunteers for Oxfordshire Cricket as a County Safeguarding Officer.
- Sporting heroes include Graham Thorpe, Gary Ablett Jnr and Justin Herbert.

Blind Cricket England and Wales

- Blind Cricket England & Wales (BCEW) were formed in 2008 and have developed and managed the domestic VI cricket programme.
- Visually Impaired (VI) domestic cricket is played by over 25 county teams during the summer.
- A county league, development league, 20 over cup competition and a national knock out competition are competed for each year.
- Players who take part in the competitions undergo a sight test to determine the level of sight loss. Players can range from total blindness (B1) and across varying levels of partial sight (B2 to B5).
- International VI cricket is played with a smaller ball than domestic VI cricket in the UK.

For more information: www.bcew.co.uk





England Cricket Association for the Deaf

- The England Cricket Association for the Deaf (ECAD) are a key charity partner for the ECB and help ensure that our playing offers are inclusive of individuals with hearing impairments. From expertise and guidance to deaf-only playing offers.
- The charity support players from a wide range of backgrounds and with a range of hearing impairments and communication needs. From British Sign Language to the use of Cochlear implants.
- Through ECAD's deaf-only domestic competitions; ECB's domestic pan-disability competitions and an elite player pathway that concludes at a national representative level, there are opportunities for every deaf or hearing-impaired individual to access the game and be supported throughout their journey.



For more information: www.ecad.org.uk

Disability Cricket Champion Clubs

- Launched in 2021, the Disability Cricket Champion Clubs programme sets out to support cricket clubs to open their doors to everyone in their community. In turn, creating exciting and inclusive new opportunities for disabled people to play cricket at their local club.
- Providing equipment, funding, training and ongoing support, the programme creates a supportive environment for clubs to flourish.
- With 100 clubs engaged in 2021 and hundreds more due in the coming years, this programme looks set to create thousands more playing opportunities for disabled people across England and Wales.





All Stars Cricket

- All Stars Cricket is the England & Wales Cricket Board's fully accessible programme providing children aged five to eight across England and Wales with a great first experience in the game.
- The programme is designed to introduce children to cricket, teaching them new skills, helping them make new friends and have a great time doing so.
- With over 2,200 clubs and centres running All Stars courses through the summer months, the nearest opportunity to get involved is never far away.
- Since launching in 2017, All Stars Cricket has provided an enjoyable introduction to cricket for an ever-increasing number of disabled children – with more than 1,900 engaged in the programme in 2021.

Dynamos Cricket

- Dynamos Cricket provides a fantastic next step for all those graduating from All Stars Cricket and the perfect introduction for eight to eleven year-olds new to the sport.
- Just like All Stars Cricket, Dynamos Cricket focuses on fun and the social aspects of cricket, whilst also developing the fundamental movement skills involved and applying them in an exciting game of Countdown Cricket.
- In 2021, Dynamos cricket engaged more than 1,200 disabled young people in the game.





The Lord's Taverners

- The Lord's Taverners are the UK's leading youth cricket and disability sports charity. They breakdown barriers and empower disadvantaged and disabled young people to fulfil their potential and build life skills.
- Founded in 1950 in the Tavern at Lord's Cricket Ground, the charity has always had cricket at its heart. And now, over 70-years on, the Lord's Taverners are a key charity partner of the ECB and their disability cricket programmes form a cornerstone of our playing offers.
- Through their various programmes they set-out to increase opportunities for regular participation; strengthen community and social cohesion; develop a network of volunteers, coaches and role models; and improve health, mental wellbeing and future prospects of all participants.
- Every year, the charity impacts upon the lives of tens of thousands of young people, here in the UK and overseas.

For more information:
www.lordstaverners.org/



**LORD'S
TAVERNERS**

Table Cricket

- Table cricket is an exciting, fast-paced version of the game that is played on a table tennis table and specially designed to give young people with a disability the chance to play and compete in the game of cricket.
- The Lord's Taverners work closely with the Cricket Board network to run a vibrant programme throughout the winter months in hundreds of SEND schools around the country. Each year this culminates in a superb National Finals Day at Lord's Cricket Ground.
- Annually the programme supports in excess of 10,000 participants as well as fantastic opportunities for young leaders to be involved in coaching and umpiring.





Super 1s

- Another Lord's Taverners run programme, Super 1s gives young people with a disability aged 12-25 the chance to play regular, competitive cricket.
- By creating community cricket hubs where young people can receive coaching, it gives participants the chance to compete against their peers and enjoy the benefits of playing sport.
- Through their various programmes they set-out to increase opportunities for regular participation; strengthen community and social cohesion; develop a network of volunteers, coaches and role models; and improve health, mental wellbeing and future prospects of all participants.
- Many of the young people who have been engaged in the programme now act as role models for the next group of participants, whether as a player, coach or volunteer. This is a crucial element of the programme, as it empowers the young people to realise what they can achieve.

Contact your county cricket board to get involved!

Super 9s

- Super 9s cricket is an entry level cricket format for players taking part in county level disability cricket.
- Super 9s has a number of built-in options that allow teams to agree to alter the format to suit the two competing teams on the day.
- There are currently 29 teams across the county playing in regional competitions. Each regional competition culminates in a regional final and ultimately, a regional winner.
- The conventional option within Super 9s is based on a 30 overs per side game.
- Super 9s is played with a soft ball which offers a level of safety for players with limited mobility.
- As well as the regional competitions, Super 9s also offers periodic development festivals for new and emerging county teams.

Contact your county cricket board to get involved!



Super 9s

What the parents say:

- “Having the opportunity to play competitive County Cricket at a level that he can access has given our son Jack a real sense of achievement and clearly boosted his self-esteem. Jack’s younger brother plays Youth County Cricket, and it is magical that Jack can experience a feeling of coequality with his brother through the sport of cricket.” - **(Jack’s Mum)**
- “It has been really great to see Charlie be able to take part in a team sport. He has particularly enjoyed the training sessions, and this is the first time that he has really felt part of a team. Everyone, both teammates and coaches have been very encouraging and welcoming to Charlie and us as a family.” - **(Mother of Charlie)**
- “Having my boys play in the Super 9s gives them confidence and acceptance for who they are. Cricket is their world. Every waking moment is filled with talking about cricket, watching cricket and playing cricket. Last year with the cancellation of the league was devastating for them. This year, they are attempting to play as much as they can, and it is lovely to see them happy and with friends who also play and love the sport.” - **(Mum of two brothers who both play in the Super 9s team)**
- “Playing Super 9s cricket has really helped me as a person, it has taught me the values of teamwork, resilience and staying calm under pressure. I believe that everyone should have access to cricket, whether with a disabled or not. Cricket is a game for people of all backgrounds, ages, gender or disabilities. I want my children to grow up in a world where we can truly say ‘cricket is a game for me’. - **(The Players)**

Super 9s Past Winners

1999	Lancashire
2000	Lancashire
2001	Lancashire
2002	Wales
2003	Lancashire
2004	Lancashire
2005	Warwickshire
2006	Somerset
2007	Cheshire
2008	Wales
2009	Somerset
2010	Somerset
2011	Lancashire
2012	Lancashire
2013	No Competition
2014	No Competition
2015	Derbyshire Merlins
2016	Derbyshire Merlins
2017	Essex
2018	Essex
2019	Derbyshire Merlins
2020	No Competition





D40

- The D40 format of disability cricket is played with a conventional hard cricket ball – although a pink colour ball is used.
- The D40 competition is the premium offer of domestic county level disability cricket.
- Players taking part in the D40 competitions have to undergo an independent disability sport classification assessment to ensure their eligibility.
- The D40 competition has a national division one where membership can include teams from right across England & Wales .
- Below the national division are two further divisions that are structured geographically.
- The D40 competition includes player with either a learning disability, physical disability or have hearing loss.

Want to get involved? – contact us: disabilitycricket@ecb.co.uk

D40 Past Winners

2006	Isle of Wight
2007	Lancashire
2008	Cheshire
2009	Cheshire
2010	Cheshire
2011	Lancashire
2012	Hampshire
2013	No Competition
2014	No Competition
2015	Lancashire
2016	Hampshire
2017	Hampshire
2018	Hampshire
2019	Essex
2020	No Competition



Disability Premier League

- Aims to showcase the diversity of our game in a flagship, world leading disability cricket competition.
- The Disability Premier League is a new concept that was piloted in 2021.
- Squads are made up of players from our England National Physical Disability, Learning Disability and Deaf squads as well as those players who would have been in the Lions set up for those impairment groups.
- Those players are joined by the best performing players in the domestic competitions to provide opportunity for those players to test themselves against the best in the country.

- It is an exciting concept and a world first for disability cricket by bringing players from 3 different impairment groups together to play in a best v best competition.
- The aim is to introduce a broader group of players to performance level disability cricket and the expertise offered by high level coaches, Sports Science and Medicine support and Performance Analysis.
- National Squad Head Coaches across the three impairment groups see their best players in action in an annual competition which provides an increase in competitive disability cricket in years when their impairment group does not have international tournaments or series.
- It provides a level of competition to be aspired to for those players within our domestic structure who have the ambition to play for England.
- Entry into the DPL is by invitation/selection only.

England Disability National Squads

- ECB support four national disability cricket squads.
- Blind, Deaf, Learning Disability (LD) and Physical Disability (PD).
- Each impairment group has their own strict eligibility criteria that each player must meet to be able to play international disability cricket.
- International Blind Cricket is played with different playing conditions and a smaller ball than domestic Blind Cricket.
- Each squad is supported by a Head Coach, Assistant Coaches, a Team Manager and a physio.
- Other support is also provided such as Performance Analysis, Strength and Conditioning and Player Development and Welfare.
- From 2022 players will be selected into the National Deaf, LD and PD squads based on their performances in the Disability Premier League (DPL).
- Players selected for the DPL and National Squads come from all forms of recreational cricket and not exclusively from the Disability Pathway.
- As with all performance level sport, having the talent and, in our case, an eligible disability, gets you through the door. Whether you get to stay in the environment depends on other qualities and behaviours.

- Being an England player is harder work than you might imagine. You will be challenged more than you will have been at any other level of cricket that you have played.
- But nothing beats the feeling of pulling on the shirt and representing England.
- National squad players are role models to younger disabled cricketers and represent those at all levels within our pathway.
- Many have won recognition for their performances and the example that they set for others to follow and for providing inspiration to the next generation of disabled cricketers.
- By definition, selection to the National Squads and to represent your country is a huge honour, but it comes with responsibility and accountability.
- In addition to cricketing talent, we are looking for people who take responsibility, can make decisions, can challenge themselves and others and who can thrive in the arena when under pressure.
- We want cricketers who are driven to improve and who can win games of cricket for England.



Performance Analysis

- Performance analysis support is offered to all four England disability squads.
- During matches, every single ball is videoed and analysed, tactically and technically.
- This match analysis can then be used to help individual players with their development, and also the team as a whole.
- Performance analysis is also used during training sessions, to help again with player and team development of skills, techniques and tactics.
- We also use performance analysis on a higher strategic level to identify key performance indicators for a team to achieve and to help them win.

Do you want to be a Coach?

Joining the coaching family

Whether you are taking your first steps into coaching, gaining a qualification or an ECB Coaches Association member icoachcricket offers a range of content and features to support your coaching and enhance player experience.

Create a free account today to get instant access to resources to help activate cricket and get people playing.

icoachcricket

<https://icoachcricket.ecb.co.uk>



ECB Foundation Coach

ECB Foundation I Coach is a blend of e-learning and face-to-face modules led by ECB Coach Developers will explore what coaching looks like, the impact you can have as an ECB Foundation I Coach, the skills you can help players to develop and how you can learn from your experiences.

By committing yourself to this programme and becoming a qualified coach you will become an important part of the ECB's coaching family that works together to help players improve, have fun, be safe and learn at every stage of their development.

Outcomes: This programme has been designed to give learners the knowledge, skills and confidence to coach cricket sessions that are purposeful, active, safe and enjoyable. An ECB Foundation I Coach will be qualified to lead coaching sessions independently and without supervision.

Who is it for? Anyone aged 17 and over wishing to become qualified to coach cricket, inspire players and make a difference to the game.

www.ecb.co.uk/foundation-coach

ECB Support Coach

ECB Support Coach is a new coach development programme consisting of e-learning and face-to-face modules that will help you take your first steps into coaching cricket.

Outcomes: This programme has been designed to give learners the knowledge, skills and confidence to support qualified coaches. An ECB Support Coach is not qualified to lead coaching sessions independently and therefore must be supervised by a qualified cricket coach.

Who is it for? Anyone aged 16 and over wishing to support qualified coaches, inspire players and make a difference to the game.

www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/coaching/coaching-courses/cricket-support-coach



Supporting Your Development

Bursaries

The new ECB Coach Development bursaries are an initiative designed to help more coaches from under-represented groups take their first step into coaching, gain a qualification or take the next step on their coach development journey.

The eligible groups are:

- Coaches that are female
- Coaches that are from ethnically diverse communities
- Coaches that have a disability

Counties are currently able to issue ECB Coach Development bursaries to eligible coaches attending the following programmes: ECB Support Coach, ECB Foundation I Coach, ECB Core Coach.

Supporting Your Development

Scholarships

If you can't see it then you can't be it!

Our new scholarship initiative will seek to break down barriers to access and improve opportunities for coaches that are female, ethnically diverse or disabled. Over a four-year period, one hundred scholars will be selected on an annual basis.

What is the purpose of the scholarships?

The scholarships have been set up to improve diversity in the coaching family and create role models that others may aspire to, by providing designated mentoring and support.

By committing yourself to becoming a scholar, you will be an important part of the ECB's coaching family that works together to help players improve, have fun, be safe and learn.

Scholarships

What types of scholarship are available?

There are two types of scholarships available:

Programme related support for coaches committing to accessing and completing ECB Coach Development programmes whether beginning at ECB Support Coach or returning to progress to ECB Advanced Coach.

Development related support for coaches committed to developing their skill, experience and knowledge in their current environment as well as seeking opportunities to progress in other environments.

What types of scholarship are available?

Each scholar will design a personal development plan with the support of an ECB Coach Developer. The individualised plans will then determine the support offered, which may include:

- Mentoring support,
- Placement with an experienced coach in a relevant setting,
- Range of Coaching Skills 360 needs analysis,
- Complimentary conference tickets,
- Reduced fees on relevant ECB Coach Development programmes,
- Professional cricket experiences,
- Coaching kit and clothing,
- Hardship contributions,
- Travel and expenses support,
- ECB Coaches Association membership,
- Subscription UK Coaching's portal and access to workshops.

Supporting Your Development

Who is it for?

- Coaches that are female,
- Coaches that have a disability,
- Coaches that are from ethnically diverse communities,
- Coaches must be a resident in England or Wales.

Commitment

- The scholarships will run for four year,
- Scholars will work with an ECB Coach Developer to design an action plan for the year ahead,
- Each scholar will have an annual review; this will determine whether they will access the programme for another year.

Accessibility & Inclusivity

icoachcricket and ECB e-learning

Videos on icoachcricket are accompanied by text in the body of website, some of the videos recently created also have their own subtitles.

Where videos are included in e-learning modules they are accompanied by a transcript.

Recognised centres

Centres must select venues that are accessible and comply with legislation. Centres are also required to apply for 'reasonable adjustments' on the behalf learners who may need adaptations to the learning and assessment programme.

Association of Cricket Officials

Association

The Association of Cricket Officials is an organisation set up to represent and support cricket officials, especially umpires and scorers. It operates under the auspices of the England and Wales Cricket Board.

To start your journey in becoming an umpire or scorer, on-line courses for basic umpiring, basic scoring and Level 1 umpiring are available via the ECB ACO website: <https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/officials>

ECB ACO also run a number of face-to-face courses too. This includes the Young Officials courses for 13-18-year-olds.

The ECB and the ACO are working in partnership with third party agencies to develop and create courses that are more accessible for people with disabilities.

Start your journey into cricket officiating now, just email ecb.aco@ecb.co.uk

“The wonderful thing about owning one of these things is that you are immediately part of something that is bigger, better and more meaningful than yourself, it provides a link right back to 1877 to the many players that came before you and provides a link to the many hundreds that will come after you”

Michael Atherton (538, 108) cap presentation to Ben Duckett (672, 246)



England Disability Squads Role of Honour

2004	Blind Ashes Winners	Home
2005	Inaugural Learning Disability Tri - Series	Cape Town
2008	Blind Ashes Winners	Sydney
2009	Learning Disability Tri-Series Runners Up	Melbourne
2011	Learning Disability Tri Series Winners	Kimberley
2011	Deaf T20 Tri-Series Winners	Geelong
2012	Blind T20 World Cup Semi-Finalists	Bangalore
2013	Deaf undefeated 7 games V South Africa	Pretoria
2014	Blind ODI World Cup Semi Finalists	Cape Town
2015	Learning Disability Ashes Series Winners	Melbourne
2015	Inaugural Physical Disability World Series Winners	Dhaka
2016	Deaf Quadrangular Series Runners Up	Dubai
2016	Blind Ashes Winners	Adelaide
2016	Physical Disability Tri Series Runners Up	Dubai
2017	Blind T20 World Cup Semi-Finalists	India
2017	Learning Disability Tri Series Winners	Home
2018	Physical Disability Tri Series Runners Up	Home
2019	Physical Disability World Series Runners Up	Home
2019	Learning Disability Ashes Series Winners	Brisbane

Disability Cricket Pathway





