Cheshire Cricket Board Disability and Inclusion Strategy 2024-2026



The Cheshire Cricket Board Disability and Inclusion Strategy underlines our commitment to supporting people with disabilities and using cricket as "the vehicle to make a positive difference to people's lives".

Working alongside a number of key partners and stakeholders, we have outlined a range of activities designed to engage and inspire those living with a disability so that every member of our Cheshire family can confidently say: "cricket is a game for me."

This Action Plan is divided into **five pillars**, each with associated tasks, aims and objectives. We have also identified some key performance indicators (KPIs) to enable us to measure progress and to refine and restructure our goals where appropriate.

The five pillars:

- 1. Participation creating opportunities for people to play
- 2. Pathway identifying and developing talented individuals
- 3. People supporting those who deliver our programmes
- 4. Places safe and accessible venues for disability cricket
- 5. Partnerships working together to achieve our objectives

The Disability and Inclusion Strategy is one of several development plans published by CCB and as such should not be read in isolation. All CCB plans are reviewed and updated on an annual basis and can be accessed via the Cheshire Cricket Board website.

Last Updated: October 2024



	PARTICIPATION: Creating Opportunities for People to Play				
Activity / Programme	Aims and Objectives	Who and when?	Success Measure (KPIs) Evidence		
	To deliver curricular and extra-curricular coaching at SEND specific schools and/or SEND units within mainstream settings	Disability Manager, DCOs / Coaching Officers Year Round	 Delivery hours based on annual funding from Lord's Taverners Children and staff have a positive experience of cricket and seek further opportunities to participate in the game 2024 update: 550 hours of 'in school' coaching in line with Lord's Taverners targets, survey sent to participating schools (testimonials on website) 		
	To promote and deliver a programme of Table Cricket competitions throughout Cheshire	Disability Manager, DCOs / Coaching Officers Year Round	 Number of Table Cricket competitions organised throughout the county Number of teams (and children) taking part in CCB-run events 2024 update: 4 competitions run countywide including 		
SEND Delivery (Lord's Taverners)	To promote and deliver a programme of Softball Cricket competitions throughout Cheshire (including skills festivals, games festivals and Dynamos Schools)	Disability Manager Year Round	 County final. 26 teams with 151 participants taking part Number of competitions organised throughout the county Number of teams (and children) taking part in CCB-run events 2024 update: 5 countywide competitions, with 32 teams and 246 participants taking part 		
	Together with our partners, to deliver a series of 'Ability Days' which aim to extend the reach of our SEND provision and promote other opportunities to participate in cricket (eg Super 1s)	Disability Manager Year Round	 Cross-county coverage of events (engaging local SGOs to support with delivery) Number of children progressing to other club or community offers 2024 update: 14 Events, 50 hours of delivery. With 15 young people progressing to our Super 1s Hubs 		

	To identify venues for and promote a number of Super 1s hubs at venues throughout Cheshire	Disability Manager Year Round	 Number of active hubs (minimum of 6) Delivery partners (schools, local authority etc) support promotion and marketing of hubs 2024 update: 6 hubs run throughout Cheshire. Birkenhead, Chester, Warrington, Winsford, Macclesfield & Stockport
Super 1s	To deliver inclusive and inspiring weekly coaching sessions (term time) for participants with a disability aged 8-25	Disability Manager Coaching Officers Year Round	 Number of young people attending each hub Participants complete LT registration form and attend on a regular basis Participants develop skills and confidence within sessions 2024 update: 44 participants throughout the year
	To create opportunities for all participants to attend Super1s Competitions and Festivals, both intra and inter	Disability Manager Year Round	 Number of competitions delivered within County Number of Cheshire hubs (and participants) competing in regional / organised events 2024 update: During the year we ran two events and attended 2 Lancashire events which all participants were given the opportunity to attend.
	To help develop the 'whole person' through a series of CPD workshops within the weekly coaching sessions	Disability Manager Coaching Officers Year Round	 Workshops delivered in line with Lord's Taverners funding (minimum 15 per year) Participants grow in confidence as a result of these sessions 2024 update: Each of the 4 established hubs had 3 Workshops, 12 delivered in all

ECB Champion Clubs	Promote the ECB Champion Club initiative to all affiliated Cheshire Clubs	Disability Manager Development and Coaching Officers Year Round	Number of ECB Champion Clubs in Cheshire Number of Champion Clubs retained each year 2024 update: 8 Champion Clubs including 3 new clubs: Oulton Park, Chester BH & Birkenhead Park
	Support clubs to establish and sustain a Champion Club programme, including CPD opportunities for volunteers	Disability Manager DCOs Year Round	 Clubs operate successful disability sessions Club coaches attend CPD sessions to further their knowledge 2024 update: Online CPD delivered for Champion Clubs and other clubs
	Identify suitable venues/spaces to set up weekly/fortnightly walking cricket hubs.	Disability Manager Year Round	➤ Identify at least 3 Walking Cricket venues ➤ Share details on CCB website/social media 2024 update: One club up and running with 2 venues being considered. Promotional video made and added to website and socials
Walking Cricket	Once established, support club and community venues to deliver fun, inclusive sessions	Disability Manager Year Round	 Participant numbers increase across all sites CCB support the delivery of some sessions 2024 update: 10-16 attending consistently
	To facilitate and support the running of Walking Cricket competitions within Cheshire and across County borders	Disability Manager Year Round	 Number of fixtures played by each venue Number of participants engaged in each competition 2024 update: 2 fixtures played across borders with Lancashire hub

	PATHWAY – Identifying and developing talented individuals				
Activity / Programme	Tasks	Who and when?	Success Measure (KPIs) Evidence		
	To promote and deliver a softball coaching (training) programme for talented disabled cricketers who wish to play representative	Disability Manager County Head Coach Year Round	 Countywide promotion of opportunities Number of unique participants engaged in Super 9s training 		
	cricket		2024 update: Continued social media campaign, website and promotion through Super 1s Hubs and our clubs. 31 players trained over the course of the year		
Super 9s	To organise an annual match programme for Cheshire's softball (Super 9s) cricketers, to include friendly and competitive matches with other County Boards	Disability Manager County Head Coach	 Annual fixture programme including relevant ECB competitions Number of unique participants representing Cheshire each season County teams are competitive at all levels 		
		April to September	2024 update: 2x S9s squads playing in ECB North Regional League (Cougars & Leopards) 33 Players have represented; 8 wins (Cougars 5, Leopards 3)		
	Where appropriate, to support the transition	Disability Manager	 Number of players transitioning to hard ball Players feel supported in the their journey (identify via surveys) 		
	of softball cricketers into the Cheshire hard- ball (D40) squads, allowing them to reach their full potential	County Head Coach Ongoing	2024 update: 5 Players playing D40 for the first time this year and all 5 played in County Final vs Middlesex; Chris met with 6 players in a 121 basis to discuss future progress and development		

	To promote and deliver a hardball coaching (training) programme for talented disabled cricketers who wish to play representative cricket	Disability Manager County Head Coach Year Round	 Countywide promotion of opportunities Number of unique participants engaged in D40 training 2024 update: 20 players involved in D40 training sessions with Cheshire this year.
D40	To organise an annual match programme for Cheshire's hardball (D40) cricketers, to include friendly and competitive matches with other County Boards	Disability Manager County Head Coach April to September	 ➤ Annual fixture programme including relevant ECB competitions ➤ Number of unique participants representing Cheshire each season ➤ County teams are competitive at all levels ✓ 2024 update: D40 performance squad playing in ECBD40 North Pursuit 1; Development squad (mix of D40/S9s) played 5 friendlies; 19 players played in 2024 Played 8 won 8 - Beating Middlesex in National Play-off
	Where appropriate, to support the transition of D40 cricketers into ECB DPL programme and National squads, allowing them to reach their full potential	Disability Manager County Head Coach Ongoing	 Number of players transitioning to DPL Players feel supported in their journey (identify via surveys) – Player welfare meetings 2024 Update: 3 Nominated, 1 player successful (Zagham Farhan); Head Coach Chris Edwards met with 6 players one a one-to-one basis to discuss future progress and development

Visually Impaired (Cheshire Cobras)	To raise awareness and promote the activities of the County's visually impaired team (Cheshire cobras), including taster sessions within the community	Disability Manager Cobras Chairman/Secretary Ongoing	 All opportunities promoted to the cricket network via website and social media Number of people attending taster sessions / number of new enquiries 2024 Update: Training and match programme share on digital platforms and at club facing forums
	To identify and develop accessible venues for visually impaired cricketers to train and compete; to help the squad source additional fixtures with club teams	Disability Manager Facility Support Officer Ongoing	 Cheshire Cobras complete all planned fixtures Disability host venues receive investment via ECB funding (County Grants Scheme) 2024 Update: Cobras only completed one fixture (some games rained off); investment into several venues including Offerton CC (access)
	On request, to provide financial support to offset the costs of playing kit, equipment and other matchday expenses	Cheshire Clubs' Cricket Committee Cobras Chairman/Secretary On request	 Cost is not a barrier for people participating in VI activities Cheshire Cobras remain financially stable and can support their training/match programme 2024 Update: Cheshire Clubs' Cricket Committee (CCCC) have funded playing shirts for Cheshire Cobras
CCB Player Development Scheme	To ensure the CCB Development Scheme (Player Pathway) remains accessible to children of all abilities. Where appropriate, to signpost players to disability-specific playing offers such as Super 9s and D40.	Performance Manager Disability Cricket Manager Ongoing	 ▶ Reasonable adjustments are made to ensure all players can participate fully in sessions ▶ Where eligible to compete, players are signposted to County Disability squads 2024 Update: All CCB Pathway venues 'accessible' to all users (use of Indoor / Outdoor Facility Audit; staff monitor registers to identify those with impairments or additional needs

PEOPLE – Supporting those who deliver our disability programmes			
Activity / Programme	Tasks	Who and when?	Success Measure (KPIs) Evidence
	To create and develop a network of 'Young Leaders' who support SEND competitions (Table Cricket)	Disability Manager Coaching Officers Year round	 Engage and train a minimum number of Young Leaders in line with Lord's Taverners funding Young Leaders attend all events and contribute to an enjoyable experience 2024 update: 10 Young Leaders trained through Lords Taverners Table cricket programme
are	To ensure National Programmes Activators are aware of the STEP framework and can confidently differentiate sessions to support those with additional needs	Disability Manager Coaching Officers Year round	➤ Number of new Activators trained each year ➤ Activators attending additional CPD related to disability and inclusion 2024 update: We delivered 3 Activator Training sessions which encouraged the use of STEP framework and supported their understanding of the use of differentiation in their delivery
Disability Ambassadors	To appoint Disability Cricket Ambassadors (DCAs), creating 'heroes' for players in the disability (and mainstream) community to look up to.	Disability Manager DCAs Year round	 DCAs to carry out visits within school and community settings DCA activity is championed on the Cheshire Cricket Board website and social media pages 2024 update: Chris Edwards has spoken at competitions and events about his role with England and coaching

Volunteer workforce	Support our coaches, officials and volunteers to create more inclusive environments for disabled participants	Disability Manager Clubs Manager DCOs / COs Year round	 Number of CPD opportunities per year Number of club and community coaches attending CPD workshops 2024: 1 CPD training session for coaches, plus ongoing one to one club support
	Provide an appropriate reward and recognition programme for volunteers working in the disability field	Disability Manager Clubs Manager DCOs / COs Summer	 Number of volunteers on CCB 'shout out' page Number of volunteers nominated for an ECB Cricket Collective Award 2024 update: No overall winners but several coaches working at Champion clubs nominated for Cricket Collective awards
CCB workforce	To champion the development of disability cricket by investing in training opportunities for all CCB staff members.	Disability Manager DCOs / COs Year round	 Number of staff members attending CPD sessions each year CCB staff feel more confident to support the development of people with a disability 2024 update: Table Cricket and Disability training delivered for staff as well. Workshop delivered by SENSE for staff working with those with more complex needs
	To ensure adequate provision of staff time to deliver all programmes within our Participation and Pathway pillars	Disability Manager DCOs / COs Year round	 All scheduled sessions progress as planned All CCB staff have the opportunity to participate in disability and/or inclusion programmes 2024 update: All planed sessions took place cover was found with staffing numbers when main coach unavailable.

F	PLACES – Identifying safe and accessible places for people to enjoy cricket			
Activity / Programme	Aims and Objectives	Who and when?	Success Measure (KPIs) Evidence	
Indoor venues	Identify accessible indoor spaces for Super 1s hubs and other community sessions	Disability Manager DCOs / COs Year round	 Venue hire agreements secured for entirety of programme All venues meet minimum standards for disabled participants (accessibility, space etc) 2024 update: 6 indoor venues and 4 outdoor cricket club venues used throughout the year 	
	Provide high quality indoor training environments for players on the Cheshire Disability talent pathway	Disability Manager Disability Lead Coach Year round	 Secure venues with good transport links (road, rail, bus routes) Identify a venue in East Cheshire for Indoor County sessions Obtain bursaries from ECB and other stakeholders to reduce hire costs 2024 update: Sessions were delivered at Birkenhead park CC indoor centre pre Christmas and at The Grange school January - April 	
	Secure suitable venues for successful delivery of Table Cricket and other SEND competitions and Festivals	Disability Manager DCOs / COs Year round	 Sports halls of appropriate size secured for all CCB-led competitions Partners and key stakeholders provide venues free of charge for SEND delivery 2024 update: 5 school venues and 3 clubs venues used 	

	Support Cheshire's ECB Champion Clubs to create safe, welcoming environments that are accessible for all users	Disability Manager Facility Support Officer Year round	 Champion clubs deliver safe, inclusive sessions for their participants Clubs secure grant funding from ECB and other organisations to develop their facilities Champion Club venues are made available to Super 1s hubs and participants 2024 update: Offer one to one support to touch base whenever required.
Outdoor venues	Provide high quality outdoor training environments for players on the Cheshire Disability talent pathway	Disability Manager Facility Support Officer Year round	 Venues with appropriate on and off field facilities (inc accessible parking, toilets and good transport links) secured Host clubs secure grant funding from ECB and other organisations to develop their facilities 2024 update: Neston CC, Caldy, Chester BH & Oulton Park all used for training in 2024. All good access, some with limited transport links but support is offered to those who struggle.
	Secure suitable match venues for Cheshire's Disability County teams, including the VI team (Cheshire Cobras)	Disability Manager Facility Support Officer Year round	 Full Super 9s and D40 match programme completed Venues with appropriate on and off field facilities (inc accessible parking, toilets and good transport links) secured Cheshire Cobras secure appropriate venues for all home fixtures 2024 update: All Fixtures completed. Venues used: Irby, Neston, Chester BH, Barrow, Frodsham, Appleton & Macclesfield. Other grounds offered but no used due to access issues.
For more information on the above, please see the <u>CCB Facility Strategy</u>			

	PARTNERSHIPS - Working together to achieve our collective	e goals
Partner organisation	Nature of relationship	Link to Strategy
ECB Subject Matter Analysts (SMAs)	CCB work closely with the ECB SMAs to establish national and local priorities for disability cricket. Our contact is ECB National Disabilities Manager Edgar Herridge	 Resources and funding to support ECB Champion Clubs
Lord's Taverners	Lord's Taverners are a major funding partner for CCB, enabling us to employ staff members dedicated to the delivery of disability cricket programmes.	 Super 1s and SEND (including Table Cricket) delivery
School Games Organisers	The network of SGOs throughout Cheshire play a crucial role in creating opportunities for disabled participants. They support with booking of venues, hosting competitions and in some cases lead on delivery too. Work closely with Cheshire & Warrington Special School PE consortium. Wirral Inclusion Sport lead & Stockport Council	 Foster school-club links Sourcing of competition venues Lead on Ability Days
Local Authority Leisure Providers	CCB work alongside several local authority leisure providers including Active Tameside , Life Leisure (Stockport) and Livewire (Warrington). These organisations support with venues and (occasionally) staffing and some run community sessions of their own.	 Venue providers for community- based events including Super 1s Coaches deliver on some participation programmes
Community organisations and Foundations	There are several Community groups and Foundations in Cheshire that deliver sport to those with additional needs. CCB have engaged these organisations as delivery partners – current examples include Warrington Wolves Foundation and The Hive (Onside Youth Zone) based on the Wirral	 Supporting our Super 1s delivery and recruitment Signposting participants to other club and community offers
County Cricket Boards	CCB work closely with first class neighbours Lancashire Cricket Foundation, sharing ideas and resources to enhance the experience for disabled cricketers across the region. We will continue to play an active role in the Northern Counties Forum.	 Regional Table Cricket and Super 1s competitions and Festivals Sharing of best practice across all disability programmes
Charities	CCB continue to work with registered charities including SENSE to increase the knowledge and understanding of our staff and the wider volunteer coaching family.	 CPD for staff and volunteers at Disability Champion Clubs