



Raiders guidelines for Playing in Senior Cricket Matches and Training

This guidance applies to both girls and boys playing in open aged adult cricket. Put simply, the overall aim is to allow young players to develop in safety, but not to spoil the game for adults. For the avoidance of doubt, this guidance applies to training and nets as well as games, for men's and women's cricket, and for the indoor game.

- Juniors should be involved in all aspects of the game wherever possible i.e. socialising, team talks, practice, decision making and so on, so they feel part of the team
- Children will often feel more comfortable and able to perform if they have a family member or friend also playing in the side
- Remember, children's early experiences will remain with them always and will often determine whether they want to remain playing the game or give up and do something else
- Provide an opportunity for players to show their talents in an appropriate way. Children who are just used as fielders will not fully experience the game
- Be supportive, at all times, for all forms of effort even when children are not successful. Try and put them in situations where they will experience some success (however small) and ensure plenty of praise and encouragement
- The minimum age for Open Age cricket is the U 13 age group. Players must be in Year 8, and 12 years old on the 1st September of the preceding year.
- This applies to all club and district players who are not in a county or area squad (or region in Wales) . Written parental consent is required.
- Exceptionally, players who are selected in a County U12 squad (or Regional squad in Wales) in spring for a summer squad - are also eligible to play Open age cricket.*

In Addition to the above the senior club has a duty of care to the junior playing with them:

- Not to place a young player in a position that involves an unreasonable risk to that young player, taking account of the circumstances of the match and the relative skills of the player
- Not to create a situation that places members of the opposing side in a position whereby they cannot play cricket as they would normally do against adult players