



## **Guidelines on Girls Playing in Boys CAG Teams**

Herefordshire Cricket Ltd (HCL) and the ECB wishes to encourage the development of female cricketers and as such, female cricketers may be able to participate in boys' cricket, however the preferred progression/development pathway for girls performing exceptionally in their own age group is to move them into higher female age group first. If further challenge is needed the following factors will be considered:

- There has been a recommendation from the Coaching Staff/ HCL Staff for consideration
- There has been an assessment of the age and stage of the player
- There has been an assessment of performances in girls cricket taking into account opposition/ pitch lengths / skills attributes and outcomes
- There is an agreement by the Cricket Performance Manager and lead Female Head Coach that there is a suitable opportunity and a need for the player to play for their personal development.
- The County Safeguarding Officer must be satisfied that the player is safe to do so.
- There will need to be constant monitoring of workloads to ensure progress.
- Girls would be needed to be selected for Boys' Teams on merit from Under 14 upwards. For U11-13s we could pick girls for their personal cricket development even if they may not get in the best XI but we need to bear in mind the opportunities available to the whole squad and our framework Selection Policy.

### **Leagues and Competitions**

- In ECB national competitions the age group requirements apply to all players regardless of their sex.
- In local Leagues, and other competitions, it is up to each League, or competition, to specify age group requirements. If girls who are older than the specified age group are allowed to play, the League must specify a maximum age for the girl players and confirm how many older girls can play in any team. The same regulations must apply to all clubs in that League or competition. Please note that if the League or competition acts as a qualifier for an ECB national competition, that League or competition may adopt their own guidelines relating to this.

- For the sake of clarity boys cannot play in girls Leagues or competitions unless explicit provision for this is included in the rules of that League or competition. Boys cannot play in the ECB girls' competitions.