

## GIRLS Cricket Pathway Nominations 2026/2027 - NEW PLAYERS

Dear Cricket Clubs, School Representatives & Parents/Guardians

The Sussex Girls Pathway nominations for the 2026/2027 season are now open! Nominations will close on **9.00 am on MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JULY 2026**

Please note this link is for **new players only**. Players who are currently in one of our U10 – U18 squads will be contacted separately.

Please note that all players need a helmet that has stem guards as per ECB and Sussex Cricket guidelines.

### **LINK TO APPLY:**

<https://forms.gle/sMMm8a7VrgkRZpXt6>

Please see attached the Girls County Pathway Structure for the 2026/2027 season where there are some small changes, which are detailed below and attached.

The Girls County System will have two separate programmes, our Early Engagement Programme (EEP) which is our U10 – U12 entry level phase and our County Age Group (CAG) which is the start of the County Pathway programme, U13s – U18s.

The Early Engagement Programme (EEP) at U10s, U11s and U12s is to create more and fairer access and opportunities for more children to play cricket.

Our pathway has changed and therefore begins at Under 13 and we will have squads at U13, U14, U16 and U18 (which was changed by the ECB in 2025). We will also have an Under 15 squad who will play friendly's against other Counties in the summer, as we are aware girls can develop later with their cricket and we want to give girls more opportunities to train and play at a high standard.

Our Early Engagement will be run in areas, with the U10s looking to be run out of three areas (North, West and South/East) and the U11s and U12s out of four areas (West, South, North and East). Please note the number of areas for Early Engagement could change, dependent on the number of nominations.

The girls will train in areas that are closest to them or have the best access for them to attend. We will have one area run out of Bognor Regis/Worthing, one at Hove/Brighton, one at Eastbourne and one either Crawley or Mid Sussex.

The U13s – U18s, will be based either at Hove or BACA during the winter and summer training will be based at BACA for these age groups.

We are currently working on days of training but likely to be Sunday's and some Saturday's during the winter

Attached is the structure of how we see the whole pathway running in Sussex from U10 – Sussex Women.

Also attached are further details on the Early Engagement Programme and County Age Group Pathway U13s – U18s for your information.

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The Early Engagement U10s – U11s will have winter practice and summer match play against all areas, playing different formats.

The U10s will practice and play matches with a soft ball. U11s and U12s will start training with soft ball but will move to hard ball and play hard ball matches.

At U10- U12 they do not need hard ball experience at time of nomination. We will do soft ball assessments at all age groups and depending upon experience will do hard ball and soft ball at U12.

The County Pathway, U13s – U18s will have winter practice, summer practice and summer match play against other counties.

Players nominated for the County Pathway at U13 – U18 must have hard ball experience and assessments will be hard ball.

To qualify to be nominated, girls must either:

- Live in Sussex
- Have been born in Sussex
- Go to School in Sussex
- Play for a club in Sussex
- As per UK Home Office rules all players must be in possession of a British passport or a Leave to Remain Visa as under their regulations all players, regardless of age would be considered as a professional sportsperson due to them being registered to a professional or semi-professional sports team.

A player cannot play or trial for another county that they do not qualify for. If there is a player from another county wanted to be assessed discussions must be had with the pathway leads before assessments.

Please also note that being on the Sussex Pathway, there is a route for all players to go on and play at a current Tier 1 county and become a professional cricketer in the future. Girls do not need to go to a Tier 1 county just to be seen for the future to become a professional cricketer, there is a pathway at Sussex that allows you to go through our pathway and still become a professional cricketer.

All players will need to go through the assessment process which will take place at the end of August/September, to be selected for the 2026/2027 season.

Registrations must be completed by parents and to register your daughter/ward please click on the link above and please note all nominations need to be submitted by **9.00 am on MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JULY 2026**

After this date & time the form will be closed, and no further nominations will be accepted.

Kind Regards

Women & Girls Pathway Team