

### National Programme Webinar - FAQ's

#### **General Questions**

### What is the deadline for clubs signing up as a centre?

There is no deadline on when clubs need to sign up as a centre, however, when participant registration has gone live if a club is not setup, a participant will not be able to find your centre. For that reason, we recommend that centres setup their courses as soon as they know which date they would like to run the programme.

### What does the 'flexible pricing' comment for community clubs refer to?

Whilst the recommended retail price for both programmes is £40, centres have the ability to charge a price that is appropriate for their local community.

### What if children are ready to play 'proper cricket'?

Whilst we believe that 'proper cricket' is any form of cricket that gets kids picking up a bat and ball, in regard to hard-ball cricket, if children are ready for hard-ball and want to play hard-ball, they should be encouraged to do so. Dynamos Cricket is aimed at complementing the existing club cricket offer.

In our research and design of Dynamos Cricket, we looked at the key motivations for why children play sport, and no surprises, fun is at the top of the list. However, fun means different things to different kids. In rough terms, a third of kids are competitively motivated, they want to play hardball cricket, they don't mind getting out and make up a large percentage of our existing cricketers. However, another third of children are more socially motivated and are interested on equal opportunities to bat, bowl and field, simplified rules and are focused as much on making friends as much as skill development; it is for this third of kids that Dynamos Cricket is so important. Without an appropriate offer for these children, they may either leave the game for lack of 'fun' or they may not sign up in the first place as the offer is not for them.

## How strict are the age ranges?

Whilst All Stars is aimed at 5–8-year-olds and Dynamos at 8–11-year-olds, we recognise that participants outside of these age groups may be interested in signing up for a variety of different reasons. Participants outside of these age ranges can sign up for either programme, however they should contact the club to explain their individual situation and see if the specific club is ok with it. It is worth noting that the programme equipment and equipment packs are based on general sizes for these age group so children significantly outside of these ages may find that the equipment is not size appropriate.

#### Are clubs able to host All Stars and Dynamos sessions on the same day and at the same time?

Yes, we would encourage centres to host sessions at times that suit their needs. As long as you have the volunteer support to cover both sessions at the same time, it could be a fantastic example of the progression on offer for children at your club.

## How long will a typical Dynamos Cricket session last?

The sessions are designed to last for 60-90 minutes at the discretion of the centre.

## Will Activators be able to use the Dynamos Cricket app, so that we know what the kids are getting?

Yes, this can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play and is currently live.

Can Dynamos Cricket sessions be organised for girls only? Will there be appropriate 'Girls Only' marketing material?



Yes, it is possible to setup girls only programmes and for customers to filter their search for 'girls only' programmes. Likewise, there will be appropriate focused marketing materials.

The national marketing campaign will be promoting this programme to all children so it would be worth considering how you could accommodate all interested children in the programme.

# As a PE teacher I would be interested to hear how you plan to launch National Programmes in schools. How do we get involved?

It is possible for schools to run Dynamos Cricket and / or All Stars Cricket on your school site after school hours – it is worth contacting your local County Cricket Board for support in setting this up.

### Is there any financial support for families with children from low-income households?

The ECB doesn't offer specific support for low-income households; however, clubs and organisations can apply for support through <u>#Funds4Runs</u> if they meet the criteria which may help children in your area.

Additionally, the option to reduce the minimum price for both programmes may help increase access to children from low-income households.

### Will the ECB be offering support to help with our Stripe account?

We realise that with a change in financial regulations, Stripe has updated its policy which has had a large impact on many clubs. We have worked with many clubs to find a solution and have distributed advice via email in 2020.

That being said, we understand many clubs have still struggled and we are working closely with Stripe to find an easier solution. Over the course of the coming weeks, we will be sharing additional advice with you to help.

## **Participant Questions**

What plans are there for kids on programmes starting late summer to get the Money Can't Buy rewards? They start early so may be nothing left for Summer Holiday programmes. We have an incredible summer of cricket ahead with The Hundred in July and August, England Men vs India running through to September and England Women's fixtures still to be announced, there will be plenty of opportunities across the duration of the summer.

# How do clubs who are not located close to a The Hundred team anywhere near them i.e., In the North East, sell the Money Can't Buy Experiences to Dynamos participants?

Money Can't Buy Experiences, when linked to England Cricket, have previously taken place at key grounds around England and Wales and we have historically found that clubs, parents and children have been happy to travel if they are successful in winning an Experience. We hope that, if we're able to complete Money Can't Buy Experiences in person at The Hundred games that winners will be able to travel to their nearest ground.

Additionally, participants will have access to digital experiences with players that will reach the length of the country.

# Is a mobile app really inclusive? Not sure all children of that age group should be expected to have a smart phone.

The app is available on both smartphones and tablets. From our research over 86% of all 8-11-year-olds own a device, with a large percentage of the remainder having access to one in their household.



Therefore, we think it is right to be meeting the demand and increasing use of digital with an offering to accompany the physical Dynamos Cricket programme.

## Is the Dynamos Cricket app free to the children or do they have to register straight away, just thinking might be a seller to the children/parents?

The Dynamos Cricket app is completely free, with no option to purchase add-ons or additional benefits. The app is available to all children whether signed up to Dynamos or not, the only difference is that non-Dynamos children will not receive the Cricket Attax cards and be able to scan them into their app.

## Is there an All Stars Cricket app as well?

We do not currently plan to create an app for All Stars as the phone usage and ownership for this age group is a lot lower than Dynamos Cricket. We will however continue to supply digital resources for parents, like the garden games and other activities within the booklet that children can do at home.

### How will the activator courses work? Will they be done virtually?

For the 2021 season it is expected that every Activator, new or old, completes the eLearning and online Safeguarding Young Cricketers course. In addition to this, new Activators undertake an online induction session, which will be a session run by a local tutor virtually, and a face-to-face session where the practical elements will be delivered. If Covid-19 restrictions are still in place, we will pivot to virtual/online delivery of these elements. Wherever possible we would always like to see activators deliver to other activators in a face-to-face setting.

## Is there a way of linking training into the ECB coaching pathway? Do volunteers need to hold coaching qualifications?

Volunteers do not need to hold coaching qualifications to deliver National Programmes. The philosophy and approach of National Programmes is that it is the first step into cricket for kids and adults, as such delivering it sits somewhere between casual volunteering and coaching. We want the entry requirements to be easy and the training commitment is lower than it might be for a more formalised coaching qualification.

#### Will icoachcricket have a section for Dynamos as it does for All Stars?

Yes, this will be going live at the beginning of April giving volunteers around a month to see the activities and plan for delivery.

### Is the online induction national? Or county led?

This will be a locally led session by your local County Cricket Board. We think it's important that Activators can connect locally, engaging with those supporting them and the localised approach will include lots of relevant examples of best practice from other clubs.

### If you already have a Safeguarding Young Cricketers certificate, do we need to do it again?

For this year only, as a stop gap measure, we would expect all Activators to undertake Safeguarding Young Cricketers as an extra module during the National Programmes eLearning. This decision was made based on many Activator's missing a year of delivery and in addition we are changing the process of SYC which will be integrated fully from 2022. We appreciate it might mean repetition for some but felt on balance that the opportunity to ensure everyone was up to speed on safeguarding issues took precedence.

## Is there a restriction on number of Activators per club?



No restrictions at all in terms of maximum numbers, the more the merrier. In terms of minimum requirements, clubs would need to have one qualified activator per 24 children and an adult supervision ration of 1:8 adults to children. For example, a group of 24 children would require one qualified Activator, and two additional adult supervisors (over 18 years of age).

## Do all activators need DBS or just the lead?

All Activators and anyone aged over 18 years of age that support sessions on a regular basis (more than three occasions) will require a DBS. Your Club Welfare Officer will be able to advise you on getting an online DBS check.

## What help will the ECB provide to Activators to deal and help children with disabilities who may sign up for ASC or DC?

Inclusive coaching and working with those children with disabilities or impairments is covered in the Activator eLearning course with some elements being covered on the face-to-face training. For those wishing to enhance their understanding, we are signposting volunteers to the Activity Alliance's "Inclusive Activity Programme" which runs as a free online workshop. Check out the link at the end of Module 2 of the eLearning for details.

### What age do you need to be to be an Activator?

To officially be qualified as a National Programmes Activator, a person must be over 18. We welcome under 18 club members helping at sessions and some counties run specific Junior Activator courses to support this (please contact your county board for details). Please remember if you do use junior club members to support activity then they impact the supervision ratios, l.e., for every 8 junior helpers you will require an additional volunteer aged 18 or over to oversee them.

#### How do you ensure children remain active when playing the game?

Fundamentally Dynamos Cricket should bridge the gap between All Stars and traditional junior cricket offers which involved more formalised Cricket game play and a 6 a side pairs format achieves this. We would like to see those not involved directly in the game helping to score, using the app, or working on pitch with activators to officiate games wherever possible. If you still feel that your participants aren't engaged, then we have 2 additional modified games (Bats and 6-person mini pairs) that will involve all kids at once PLUS we would always recommend that you adapt to suit your group.

If you have sufficient volunteers then running the Dynamos 6 a side format in groups of 8 children, each pair rotating in and out as the batters, would mean every child would always be on pitch.

#### Will there be new games this year for All Stars Cricket?

We haven't updated the All Stars Cricket curriculum this year as clubs have reported the activities are fit for purpose and age appropriate. With Dynamos launching we now believe there is a clear progression for kids that feel they have grown out of All Stars Cricket and might want to do different types of activities. We were planning on doing a review of All Stars in 2020, until Covid-19 intervened, and we will now conduct that review this summer and refresh some of the activities and curriculum elements accordingly.

### Covid-19

## Will there be any steering for clubs on group sizes & restricting bookings on ClubSpark due to possible group size limitations on ClubSpark?

With changing guidance around Covid-19 and the varying nature of club facilities and volunteer support as well as variation in tier systems across the country, at this stage it is impossible to have one set of procedures that fits for over 2000 clubs. What we will do is keep clubs up to date on the



guidance from government and advise on group sizes and appropriate Covid-19 procedures, cricket club requirements, and general advice on adhering to the rules, whilst also delivering a fun and safe session. We would ask that clubs assess their own situation based on that guidance and, with the support of your local county board, identify what your safe limit is. Your club status can be set to "hidden" on ClubSpark, this means people cannot sign up to your programme and would prevent your club going above a level of recruitment that you are unable to manage.

## If we are having to run sessions with restrictions again this year (due to Covid-19) can there be more games (and game cards) adapted to be Covid-19 safe?

Due to the changing nature of the Covid-19 situation, the varying tier system around the country and the timescales it takes to produce resources we will not be able to give specific Covid-19 safe recommendations for all activities across all potential tiers. We will, however, communicate Covid-19 guidance and tips on how to adapt activities as well as address specific issues such as space between activities and group sizes as and when they change. Our advice will always be government led and should there be a more nationwide approach to the return to sport following lockdown we will endeavour to give you as much specific information as we possibly can.

#### Kit & Equipment

## When will we be able to order our centre equipment? Does the £5 shop All Stars Cricket credit per sign up replace the top-up centre pack for existing clubs?

The shop and centre order process will open for both programmes from April. The 'key club contact' from each club will receive an email from the customer shop to activate their account and order their equipment. For both programmes, each club will receive an email from the shop to activate your account and redeem your credit or kit. Equipment ordered through the shop will arrive in April 2021.

We have moved to a £5 credit process for All Stars Cricket. This is a result of feedback from centres suggesting they wanted a more flexible offer for refreshing their equipment, as appose to being forced into a pre-determined top up kit each year. We believe this will enable clubs to have a lot more freedom of choice, but also ensure they have enough equipment for the number of children they have registered on their course.

New All Stars Centres will receive additional equipment as well as their credit to ensure they have sufficient to begin delivering the course. The amount of credit in your account will reflect the number of children you have signed up for your All Stars Cricket programme (it will update every 24 hours).

For Dynamos Cricket, your key club contact will be able to redeem equipment and apparel based on the number of participants booked onto your centre.

### How do we get Activator kit? Will activators receive any apparel or discounts?

When a new centre signs up for All Stars or Dynamos, they will receive 4 x Activator t-shirts in each centre pack. Additional items can be purchased through the shop with cash or using the clubs All Stars Cricket credit voucher.

For Dynamos Cricket, you will receive additional activator t-shirts (along with club kits) at each milestone (see below).

Activators will also receive a 20% discount at New Balance.

When will the centres receive the Cricket Attax cards? What if we get lots of last-minute signups?



The Cricket Attax cards will arrive with the Dynamos Cricket centre packs. If you have more participants register, you will be eligible for more centre equipment which will come with the additional Cricket Attax cards required.

Is there a minimum sign-up number for both programmes before you get the centre kit? For NEW All Stars Cricket Centres, 10 registrations are required before you are eligible for the centre kit. For All Stars Cricket, you will then also receive a £5 credit in the shop for every participant that signs up.

For NEW Dynamos Cricket, 10 registrations are required before you are eligible for a centre kit. For Dynamos Cricket, clubs will be eligible for additional centre equipment when they reach sign-up milestones e.g., 36 participants, 72 participants, 108 participants, etc

## **Marketing & Communication**

Can you assist in sending representatives into schools to takes some classes and assemblies? County Cricket Boards, along with Chance to Shine, work with schools as a key part of their work. Your local CCB National Programmes team will have a plan around school engagement, and you should contact them to discuss options in your area.

When will the Resource Hub be updated with the new digital assets and where can I find it? If you don't currently have access to the Resource Hub you can access it here: <a href="https://resourcehub.ecb.co.uk/login/">https://resourcehub.ecb.co.uk/login/</a> and you will be able to register a new account, your application will then be approved by the ECB.

Once you are in the Resource Hub you will be able to search for All Stars and Dynamos assets that you can download. There are also some assets that are editable or leave space for you to be able to input your own course and club details.