

Club Forums | February 2026

TOPICS FOR THIS EVENING

[Suffolk Cricket 2026...](#)

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[ECB National Youth Programmes](#)

[Listening to Young People | Young Cricket Collective](#)

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What you will see from Suffolk Cricket

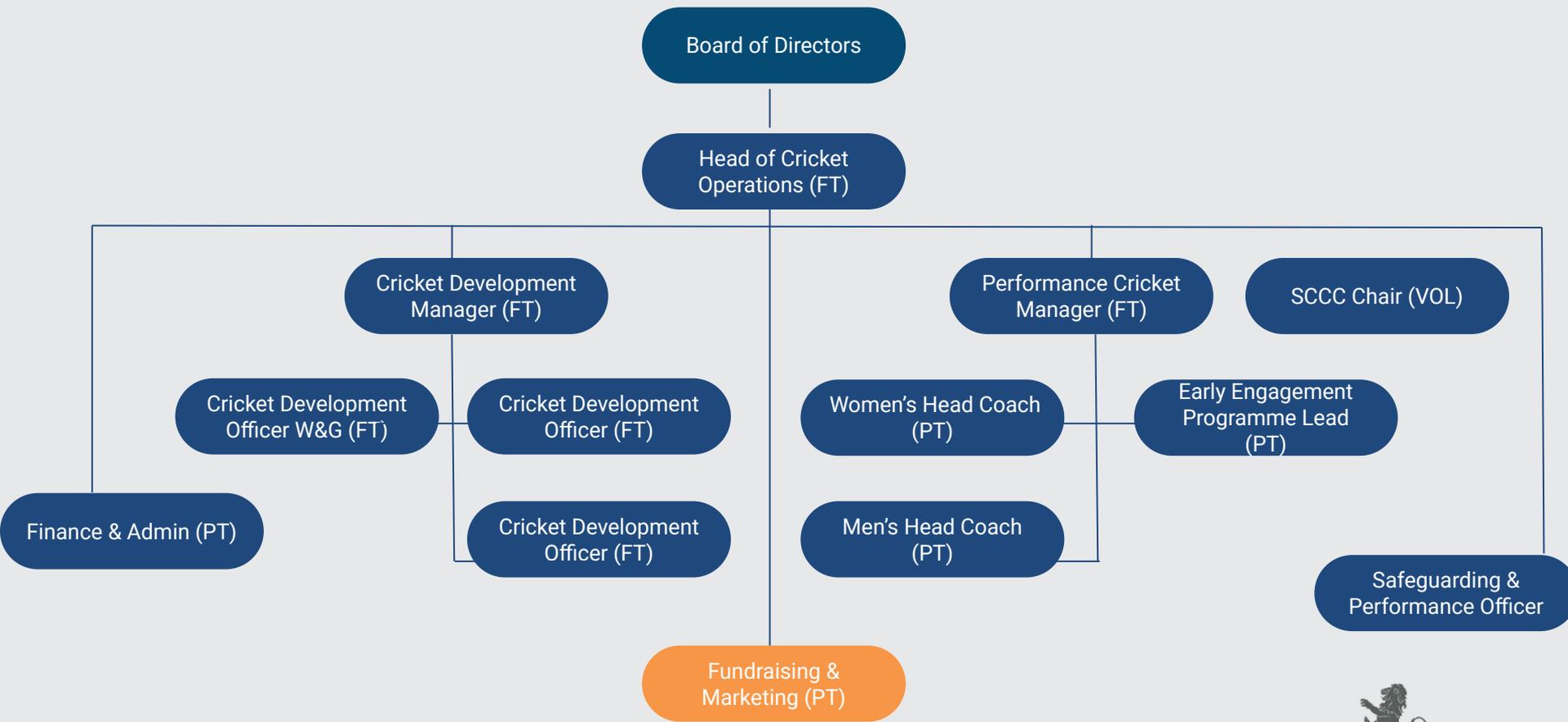
- Retain and grow participation
- Focus on the Women's and Girl's game utilising the World Cup to promote Cricket
- Support the Cricket workforce
- Utilise facility grants to address needs in priority areas
- Celebrate success



Behind the scenes

- Addressing organisational efficiencies
- A greater focus on collaborative working
- Refreshing the long term strategy
- Ensure robust measures and targets are tracked
- Challenging ourselves for improvement





Safeguarding



If in Doubt – Report

Logging concerns helps identify patterns, support safeguarding decisions, and maintain consistent standards. Better to record early than regret later.



What is a Low-Level Concern?

Behaviour that does not meet the harm threshold but is inconsistent with club values, safeguarding standards, or codes of conduct.

This may include:

- Poor judgement or blurred boundaries
- Behaviour causing unease or a “nagging doubt”
- Actions that feel inappropriate even if not immediately harmful

Low-level does NOT mean insignificant.



Culture Matters

If behaviour that breaches the code of conduct isn't challenged:

- Standards weaken over time
- Poor behaviour can become normalised
- Individuals may believe rules are optional
- People may feel less safe speaking up

Consistent loggers allows:

- Learning conversations
- Clearer expectations
- Continuous improvement across the club



Education Opportunity

Logging concerns are not always about blame.

Sometimes behaviour happens because of:

- Lack of knowledge or awareness
- Unclear expectations
- Insufficient due care or attention

Recording concerns allows:

- Learning conversations
- Clearer expectations
- Continuous improvement across the club



Why Logging Matters

Prevents Bigger Issues

- Small concerns can reveal patterns over time
- Early action helps prevent escalation

Supports Safeguarding

- Provides a full picture for safeguarding leads
- Helps protect participants, staff, and volunteers

Promotes Transparency & Trust

- Encourages openness and accountability
- Builds confidence that concerns are taken seriously

Protects Everyone

- Creates clarity if questions arise later
- Self-reporting can prevent misunderstandings



ECB Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)



What is an ECB DBS Check?

A DBS check helps ensure people working or volunteering in cricket, especially with children, are safe and suitable for their role. You cannot use a DBS you have with another organisation. An ECB DBS is required for cricket roles



Roles Requiring an ECB DBS Check

- 1 Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Activators
- 2 Team Managers, Captains, Junior Supervisors
- 3 Safeguarding Officers and Volunteer Coordinators
- 4 Umpires and Talent Scouts
- 5 Medical, education and player support staff
- 6 Any role involving responsibility for children



How to Apply

- 1 Contact your Club Safeguarding Officer to start your application.
- 2 You'll receive an email with online instructions (no paper forms).
- 3 Complete the application online.
- 4 Your DBS certificate will be posted to you once complete.



Cost

- 1 Volunteers - FREE
- 2 Paid roles - £49.50 (paid to DBS)
- 3 Update Service - Free for volunteers / £16 per year for paid roles



Annual DBS Recheck - Important

ECB requires DBS clearance to be checked every 12 months.

You will receive TWO emails each year:

- One from ECB to confirm your role and details,
- One from the Government DBS Update Service.

You must complete BOTH. If either is missed, your DBS clearance will expire and a new application may be required.



If Your DBS Shows Information

Reviewed confidentially by the ECB Vetting Officer. Additional information may be requested if needed. Having convictions does not automatically prevent involvement – decisions are made case-by-case.



Confidentiality

- DBS information is:
- Seen only by the Cricket Regulator Safeguarding Team.
 - Kept confidential under data protection law.
 - Shared only if necessary to protect children.



Living Abroad?

If you've lived overseas in the last 5 years, you may need a local police check or certificate of good conduct.

Club Affiliation



Club Affiliation - 2026

Priority 1

- Support clubs to understand and accept the conditions of affiliation and fundamental standards
- New online system for capturing T&Cs signatures

Priority 2

- Prepare clubs for 2027 affiliation requirements
- Promote and utilise Club Affiliation Toolkit
- Explore delivery of various types of support (Training/Workshops)



Club Affiliation Toolkit



Comprehensive
affiliation and T&Cs
guide for clubs



Quick, visual and
easy to read T&Cs
summary sheet



Printable affiliation
poster to display in
clubhouses



Affiliated club
membership book
insert template



AGM Guide



Committee Meetings
Guide



Club governance
checklist



Financial controls
checklist



Role descriptor
templates – key
officials



Comprehensive
guide on club
insurance



Club constitution &
articles template



SUFFOLK
CRICKET

From Affiliation to Club Development



Creating a coherent club journey focused on long-term sustainability and supported development

Club Accreditation





Club Accreditation Pilot Programme

1. Provides a pathway for non-accredited clubs to gain accredited status, and the associated benefits, one year early
2. Enables clubs to receive official recognition for operating at a good standard in governance, safeguarding, and operations
3. Serves as a test phase to refine the accreditation programme and processes ahead of the full launch in 2027
4. Must be able to demonstrate the following:
 - a. Governance: Constitution, Structure Chart, AGM, Bank Account
 - b. Safeguarding: SHMS, CSO, Key Officials, DBS, Teams
 - c. Operations: Insurance and a minimum of one type of active playing offer
5. Up to 5 clubs in Suffolk to take part in Pilot programme in 2026

Thriving Clubs, Connected Communities:

Re-imagining clubs as thriving community hubs that nurture talent, foster belonging, and inspire lifelong engagement with the game.



Supporting clubs from Developing to Thriving

Set Clubs up for Success

Club Affiliation leading to ECB Accredited Club Status

The first step to becoming a **thriving club**.

Embedding **good governance** as a foundation for club development and **for club sustainability**, rather than to access benefits.

A **badge of trust**, demonstrating clubs are safe, inclusive, and welcoming for everyone..



Playing Offer



People



Places



Practices



Thriving Clubs, Connected Communities

Support Clubs to Deliver

Club Development Pathway **enabling clubs to define clear priorities and deliver with purpose**

Clear, purposeful plans that foster an inclusive culture where players, volunteers, and members feel valued, engaged, and inspired.

Understanding club priorities to provide targeted support, timely interventions, and collaboration among clubs to shared goals.

Recognise Club Progress

Celebrate progress and increase confidence through the **Club Development Pathway**

Celebrate what clubs are doing well, help them promote their achievements, and **open conversations about future opportunities**.

Focus on where clubs have made sustained progress or are operating at a high standard.

Looking to the future: 2027 and beyond

Tiered Accreditation Model

Clubs will be accredited at one of three levels based on:

- Breadth of playing offer (recorded on Play-Cricket from the previous completed season)
- Extent of governance and operational maturity

Level	Minimum Playing Offers	Additional Requirements
Level 1	One playing offer type	Foundation governance & safeguarding
Level 2	Two different playing offers	Enhanced planning & compliance
Level 3	Three+ different playing offers	Advanced community & facility engagement

Maximising the ICC Women's T20 World Cup



100,000
TICKETS
SOLD



Tickets purchased
from over

40

DIFFERENT
COUNTRIES



Tickets purchased for
every fixture, within
every category

17K

junior tickets sold



Limited seats remaining
at multiple fixtures

BUY NOW

FIXTURE SCHEDULE

ENGLAND

FRIDAY 12 JUNE | 18:30

ENG v SL

EDGBASTON

TUESDAY 16 JUNE | 18:30

ENG v QUAL

HAMPSHIRE BOWL

SATURDAY 20 JUNE | 18:30

ENG v QUAL

HEADINGLEY

WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE | 18:30

ENG v WI

LORD'S

SATURDAY 27 JUNE | 18:30

ENG v NZ

THE OVAL





Planned activity in Suffolk...

Watch a long parties, school engagement day and festivals!

Opening game – 12th June – Eng v SL, Walsham Le Willows CC

24th June – Eng v WI, Bardwell CC

27th June – Eng v NZ, Bardwell CC

5th July – Final, TBC

Competition – watch a long parties do not need to happen at a cricket club! If you host a party elsewhere, tag @SuffolkCricket on Instagram to be entered into our competition.

Girl's Softball Festivals & Taster Days

12th June – Walsham Le Willows

27th June – Melton CC

24th July – Bury St Edmunds CC

More TBC including girl's taster days!

Planned activity in Suffolk...

Women's Festivals

Sunday 30th August – Women's T10 Day (hardball) @ Woolpit CC

Sunday 6th September – Women's Softball Celebration Day @ Bury St Edmunds CC TBC

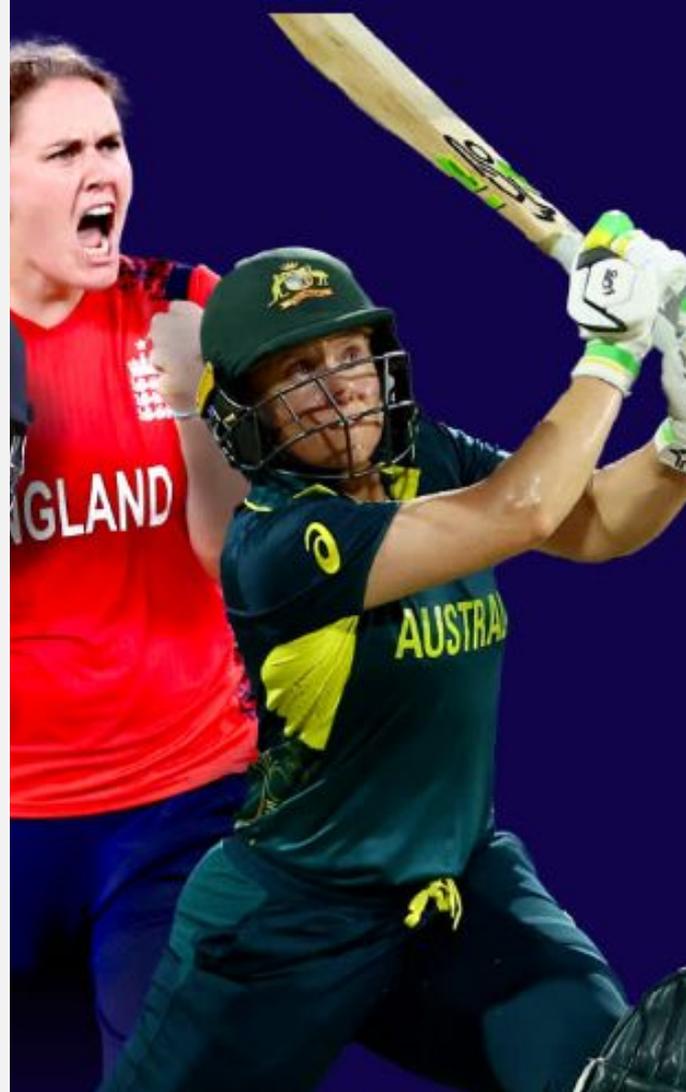
School Engagement Day – Thursday 23rd April

School cricket days including coaching sessions & classroom-based activities to take place in schools that have expressed an interest.

School Summer Events

Boys & girls summer competitions to be held in conjunction with the World Cup.

If your club is interested in hosting a watch a long party or any other event throughout the Women's World Cup, contact Amy Richford (arichford@suffolkricket.org)





How will your club take advantage of exposure of the ICC Women's World Cup?



SCHOOLS CRICKET DAY

APRIL 23 2026



**REGISTER
YOUR
INTEREST**



Girls Dynamos - Bursary Programme



Open to all clubs

- Multiple delivery options
 - Holiday Camp
 - Full programme
- Limited availability
- Training and delivery support from Suffolk Cricket
- FREE kit for clubs
- FREE for participants

For more information contact Andrew Blanchard |
ablanchard@suffolkcricket.org

DYNAMOS  **CRICKET**



2026 Launch Dates

Clubspark system now open for 2026 Checklists to be completed and Programmes to be created

29th Jan:
Club Kick-Off
Virtual Meeting

1st – 11th Mar:
Club-Led Priority
Window

19th Mar:
National
Launch

8th May:
Club Delivery
Commences



February:
Club Administration, Programme
Set-Up & Activator Compliance
RCBs Approve

12th – 18th Mar:
National Priority
Window

Supporting the Future Leaders of our game

Listening to Young People

A range of initiatives designed to give young people a voice in shaping the future of cricket in the county

Elements include:

- Delivery of the Young Cricket Collective Programme
- Creation of a youth advisory group to ensure the next generation of cricketers plays an active role in the games future
- Support clubs to create their own programmes
- Partnership with Active Suffolk to deliver a #DontComelf campaign



The future of cricket?

IT STARTS WITH YOU

YOUR GAME.

YOUR COMMUNITY.

YOUR FUTURE.

YOUNG Cricket Collective

AGED 14-18? JOIN TODAY

ecb.co.uk/YoungCricketCollective

Young Cricket Collective

A national programme for 14–18-year-olds who want to make a difference in their club and community.

As part of this programme, you will:

- Train as a Young Activator
- Official
- Club Leader

As part of the Young Cricket Collective:

- Build confidence and leadership skills
- Meet other young people who love cricket
- Receive unique kit, merchandise and certificates
- Start a journey that leads to qualifications and exciting opportunities

#DontComelf

A dedicated campaign to promote youth voice in order to help make cricket a safer, more inclusive space for young people

Clubs will be invited to host a bespoke promotional video that will be used to promote the values of #DontComelf

Full details of Young Cricket Collective and #DontComelf to be shared by 1st March





ICC WOMEN'S T20
WORLD CUP
ENGLAND & WALES 2026



**COUNTY
GRANTS
FUND**



**SUFFOLK
CRICKET**

ECB County Grant Fund 2026

The County Grants Fund aims to support ECB affiliated Cricket Clubs, which are actively engaged with women's cricket, girls' cricket and/or disability cricket, to create welcoming environments or to provide enhanced playing or changing facilities

Who can apply?

The scheme is open to all ECB affiliated cricket clubs in England and Wales.

Priority will be given to applications from Clubs with an established women's section, a girls' section, and/or offer disability cricket, or are participating in the following specific ECB programmes in 2025/2026:

- Girls' Only Dynamos Cricket
- Dynamos Cricket for Girls' Activation Clubs
- Disability Cricket Champion Clubs
- Disability Premier League Registered Hosts

What type of projects are eligible?

Creating Welcoming Environments:

- Social Space
- Female / Disabled Toilet Facilities
- Catering
- Arrival and Access
- Digitising

Enhanced Playing Facilities:

- ECB Approved Non-Turf Match Pitch (min 30m)
- ECB Approved Non-Turf Practice Facility (min 26m)

All Non-Turf Pitch projects, including refurbishments, must come with a full warranty from the supplier for a named ECB Approved NTP System

Enhanced Changing Facilities:

- Changing room refurbishment and/or extensions
- Individual shower spaces with drying areas
- Improved toilet provision – sanitaryware / vanity units / tiling / flooring
- Grooming points – mirrors / hand dryers / hair dryers
- Personal possession lockers

Guidelines

- Total budget for all projects £83,000
- Maximum award £15,000
 - Initially this will be limited at £12,000 for Suffolk clubs while EOIs are reviewed
- Additional partnership funding of up to 50% of project value encouraged
- **6th March** - deadline for clubs to submit EOI on <https://ims.ecb.co.uk/>
- **13th March** - Suffolk Cricket decision on submitted EOI and level of funding support



County Grants Fund 2026 - Guidance
Notes for Cricket Clubs



The
Cricket
Collective

**GET SET
WEEKEND**

powered by



TOYOTA

28-29 March 2026

REGISTRATIONS OPEN
REGISTER YOUR CLUB NOW
FOR RESOURCE PACKS & PRIZES



Looking to the future: 2027 and beyond

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Q&A



View tonight's presentation