Team selection is the most important and debatable issue, both on an individual- and a Club-level. Therefore, the purpose of this policy is to set out the objectives, structure, procedures and factors affecting selections, so as to provide a process that is transparent and accountable.

This policy has been developed in consultation with the Club’s Board, Operations Manager, Director of Cricket and various members of the leadership group.

The Club has decided to adopt this policy for the 2016-17 season.

**OBJECTIVES:**

Overall, the main objective of selections is to optimise the performance of the Club and its players. This policy will do so by:

1. Having a focus on winning the Club Championship by aiming to win every game of cricket that it competes in;
2. Selecting the strongest possible XI for each match in each Grade to maximise the chance of winning that particular game of cricket;
3. Focusing on present success by promoting and developing performances regardless of age/past experience;
4. Promoting the objective review of performances to allow a fair and consistent treatment of players;
5. Promoting the ideal that if you perform consistently, you will be rewarded with selection;
6. Recognising that team values play a critical role in team success, such as playing within the Spirit of the Game, attending trainings, general attitude and supporting the captain and teammates.
STRUCTURE:

The ‘Selection Committee’ will comprise the following members:

- A Chairman of Selectors’ whose role will be:
  - to chair selection meetings,
  - to ensure that the ‘Club Selection Policy’ is implemented,
  - to coordinate the availability of players from round to round,
  - to coordinate the communication of selections including ‘promotions’ and ‘demotions’ of players,
  - cast the deciding vote in the situation of a split decision, and
  - to liaise with the Committee about any selection issues that may arise

- Captains of each Club side:
  - Five (5) Premier Grade captains
  - One (1) Metropolitan Cup captain
  - Poidevin-Gray and Green Shield coach or captain as required

- Director of Cricket in an advisory capacity only

PROCEDURES:

1. Meetings

   The selection committee will meet by the Tuesday evening prior to each round/match. Where possible, a physical meeting is preferred, however, where this is not possible, it may be done by either phone hook-up or email.

2. Availabilities

   Players must log any dates that they are unavailable into their ‘MyCricket’ profile.

   A register of unavailable players can be downloaded by the Chairman of Selectors at any point in time.

   The Chairman of Selectors will keep a register of player ‘unavailabilities’ and will present this to the committee at each meeting.
3. Communication
   a) Players’ availability

   It will be automatically assumed that all players are available for selection in
   the next round unless the Chairman of Selectors has been advised otherwise.

   The first, and preferred, method of advising of unavailability is to log the
   dates that the player is unavailable via the players’ ‘MyCricket’ profile.

   The second method is to contact the Chairman of Selectors via email asap.

   The final method is to advise Captain, in person, by phone, or email, asap.

   b) Team selection

   Team selections will be posted on the website at 8pm on the Thursday prior
   to each round/match by the Operations Manager (or his representative).

   The selected teams will also be emailed to each player via the Club’s
   MailChimp email database by 8pm on the Thursday prior to each
   round/match.

   In the event that teams are not able to be finalised by Thursday at 8pm, the
   sides will be announced as they are at that time, with ‘TBA’ to be included in
   place of players still to be confirmed. This is likely to occur in the event that
   representative players are likely to be affected.

   c) Promotion or demotion

   Any players that have been promoted or demoted MUST be individually
   contacted by the Captain of the higher of the two (2) sides involved.

   In the event a Captain is unable to contact the player, the Chairman of
   Selectors will contact the player on the Captains’ behalf.

   This message should be conveyed to individuals’ prior to team
   announcements’ on Thursday evening.
FACTORS AFFECTING SELECTION:

There are a wide range of factors that will affect the selection of teams and individuals, these include:

1. Membership, registration and fees
   The first factor considered when selecting teams will be a player's eligibility to participate in that competition. It is a non-negotiable requirement of SUCC, SUSF and SCA that a player be a registered and financial member of the Club. All required registration procedures (manual SCA form and Club’s online form via ‘MyCricket’) must be completed, and the full amount of the relevant fee must be paid prior to participation. Players may make an application to the Board under exceptional financial circumstances, however poor budgeting and planning will not be considered an exceptional circumstance. This requirement is crucial as players who have not completed this process will not be covered by Cricket Australia’s insurance policy.

2. Ability
   A player’s individual ability will be the most crucial factor in determining which side they are selected for.

3. Performance/Form
   Current performances and form will also play an integral role in determining selection. In this instance, it refers to a player’s performance over a period of matches, not a single performance. The Selection Committee will also consider the quality of the opposition in assessing a player’s performance.

4. Team balance
   Match specific variables will impact the team balance and the Selection Committee will consider the Captain’s recommendations for the structure of his side when making selection decisions.
5. Club and team values
Values such as training attendance, punctuality (both training and match) and general attitude will be taken into consideration when making selection decisions. It is expected that players attend a minimum of one training session per week, unless in exceptional circumstances discussed in advance with the captain and Director of Cricket. It is also expected that players arrive at matches one hour prior to the scheduled start time to ensure an effective preparation.

6. Development opportunities
In consideration of long-term success, opportunities may arise to provide a pathway for talented young players to aid in their development. Whilst current success will always remain the primary focus, long-term success will still be given appropriate consideration.

7. Absence/Unavailabilities
The Club expects each and every player to make themselves available for all matches for which they are eligible, except in exceptional circumstances to be approved in advance by the Board. A player who misses any match for an unacceptable reason should, upon his return, have no expectation of being selected in the same grade as he was playing before missing the match or matches. As a general rule, a holiday will not be considered an acceptable reason for missing a match.

Unexplained absences/unavailabilities will be treated harshly at the following selection meeting.

8. Code of conduct breaches
Any breach of the Club’s, SUSF’s or the SCA’s code of conduct policies will affect the selection of a player for subsequent matches as per any penalties handed down by the relevant organisation.