



*“Collaboration is needed between organisations at local, regional and national level to ensure athlete’s needs are always put first. What is best for the athlete in the long run must drive all decisions regarding their development”*

‘Shaping the Future’ - Sport NZ

### Aims

- To provide a centralized philosophy and guiding principles for everyone working with junior and youth players, male and female
- To build character and self-leadership in our players
- To ensure clear and consistent messages and language across the player pathway
- To shape and guide decisions on match formats, playing conditions, selections (both player and coach) and coaching programs
- To provide a level of accountability

### Central Philosophy

**“CREATING GREAT COACHING & LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS”**

### Guiding Principles

Focus points to guide your approach and inform decision making;

- ◆ **Enhance** performance through supporting, guiding & challenging the players
- ◆ **Create** a positive athlete-centred environment that players want to be part of
- ◆ **Ensure** continuous learning through shared knowledge & resources (working together)
- ◆ **Embrace** innovation, technology & uniqueness to create a point of difference
- ◆ **Develop** the person so that the player may reach their goals in cricket and in life

Coaching can be challenging. Having clarity on **‘why’** you are coaching and **‘how’** you will coach is essential. By having a clear philosophy, you are able to make appropriate ethical decisions and coach more effectively and consistently.



## Tournament Philosophy

While cricket is inherently competitive, the aim is for all players to have opportunities to **develop**, **learn** and **perform** at their best in a challenging but supportive environment.

This is the primary focus and should not be compromised for the sake of the result.

There is a balance between player development and winning. Providing players with a quality cricket experience and focusing on the **process of learning** takes precedence over the outcome of the match/tournament.

When on the field, the emphasis is on performing at the players best in an effort to win, but not by limiting experiences to only a select few players. These players are often the early maturer's who are naturally stronger at that particular point in time. Late developers often end up achieving greater long-term success in the game as they spend longer acquiring and developing skills (Technical, Tactical, Mental) before developing physically.

Every ball in a match presents an opportunity for learning and those experiences shouldn't be limited to the few as childhood success is **NOT** a reliable predictor of future success.

## Player Experience Checklist

Re-define what **success** means to you by looking at your training/game day performance through the eyes of the player(s). Can they put a 'tick' against the following...

- ✓ I had the opportunity to **perform** my skills
- ✓ I felt **challenged** and **engaged**
- ✓ I learnt something new
- ✓ I understood my **role** and the teams game plan
- ✓ I had the chance to **problem-solve** and ask questions
- ✓ I'm looking forward to my next game
- ✓ I had **FUN!!**

## Playing Style

Playing approach and key attributes/behaviours to be encouraged and developed:

- ✓ Character traits displaying self-leadership and a growth mindset
- ✓ Players who want the ball in key moments
- ✓ Team first mentality
- ✓ Courage to make decisions and learn quickly from mistakes
- ✓ Express yourself by retaining uniqueness and individual flair
- ✓ Play the game in a positive manner, taking the game to the opposition
- ✓ Be adaptive, resilient, and hard-working
- ✓ Play within the 'Spirit of Cricket' and honour the traditions of the game
- ✓ Pride in the Canterbury Crest

## Reflective Questions

Your coaching philosophy guides how you operate and is reflected by your personal values and beliefs. It covers your purpose as a coach and how you will approach *player development and winning*.

- ♦ Why do you coach?
- ♦ Who do you coach?
- ♦ What kind of coach do you want to be?
- ♦ How do you define success?
- ♦ How would your players describe your coaching?
- ♦ Would you pay to go to your own coaching session?

## Coaches Toolbox

Practical applications to consider in your approach:

- ✓ Praise for effort not results
- ✓ Reward commitment with commitment
- ✓ Understand the person to develop the player
- ✓ Training drills set at the right intensity (20-30% error rate)
- ✓ Identify early, average, and late developers in your team(s)
- ✓ Be an active listener and guide self-discovery
- ✓ Player-led debrief
- ✓ Close the coaching loop

## What We Know

- ♦ Childhood success is **NOT** a reliable predictor of future success
- ♦ Over-competition & under-training results in a lack of basic fundamental skills
- ♦ Cricket is a late specialisation sport
- ♦ Even the greatest cricketers fail more than they succeed
- ♦ Players gain valuable transferable skills by playing other sports

Not all participants develop at the same rate and our pathways need to reflect this.

A quality experience should be extended to as many individuals as possible, with a focus on development and getting better.