

Sussex County Youth Coaching Academy

Administrators

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Academy Changes

As part of the evolution of the Youth Academy the following changes have been made. The age range has been extended to cover 8 to 25 which was always the plan, to make it the main vehicle for getting representative recognition up to Under 25 level. The original format of seven badge levels is reduced to four (Red, Green, Blue and Purple). The levels of Bronze, Silver and Gold have been considered as not only difficult to achieve but also detrimental to the progress of the older members of the Academy. These have therefore been replaced with competitive game situations which will provide training for those who have passed Purple level with a view to selection for a new Under 18 Area Shield which will be played for between the East and West Academies, details of which will follow. This competition will be used to find those ready to be considered for Under 25 selection at a future date and will be very much a 'feeder' competition.

Future Academy sessions will consist, for the younger bowlers, of the normal testing for badge levels in the first half of the time available and the second half will be a competitive game such as 'last man standing' or similar.

For those who have achieved Purple level or above both sessions will be in a competitive situation covering either of the following areas and establishing each players best playing position by changing places during the games.

Singles Play (Question and answer sessions on the tactics required to be a good Singles player followed by playing a game to put what's learnt into practice).

Head Reading (Understanding all the things that need to be taken into account when deciding which shot should be played and may incorporate a 'Phantom 4' game or Australian Pairs).

As outdoor Under 25 Manager I shall have a vested interest in ensuring that the Academy provides the best means for the County youngsters to progress and not get overlooked. In conjunction with the indoor Under 25 Manager I shall be trying to ensure that there is a continuity between both indoor and outdoor selections and we will try our best to produce settled fours who play well together, which should give us the best chance of showing what the County can do at representative level.

For your diary, the bookings made for future Academy sessions (2014/15) are as follows:-

Worthing Pavilion – Mar. 29th

Eastbourne – Apr. 12th

Peter Blanks