

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

### **Your responsibilities**

1. The first requirement is that all players should be fully paid up members of the club. Subs are already due. Once you have played 3 games for the club, it is expected that you will become a paid up member. Fully paid up members will be given priority for selection over those that have not paid.
2. If you wish to be considered for selection you **must** ensure that you have signed up on Teamo by the **Saturday night** of the week before the game. If you sign up **after** this time we cannot guarantee you a slot on a team, even if you are a regular player. This is because people need to make plans and we need to get selection out as soon as possible so people know where they stand.

If you do become available later in the week then, by all means, please still let us know because it might be that there is space available on a team for you. We just cannot guarantee it, and it may mean you play for a different team than your usual one that week.

### **Selection: Time Frames and Process**

1. Captains will work together to select their teams in this order:
  - Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> XI will select their team (and subs when available)
  - Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> XI will select their team (and subs when available)
  - Ladies 3<sup>rd</sup> XI will select their team (and subs when available)

Substitutes will only be selected once each team has a full XI – again team rank order will apply.

***Please note that Captains will also be selecting in consultation with one another in case teams have specific requirements for a particular week. For example: it may be availability is low for a particular team and players need to drop down or push up to help make sure we get three full teams out.***

Over the coming weeks Captains will be putting together 'Squads' (more on this later). However, we also want everyone to think of themselves as a club player, and this will sometimes mean that we need players to help other teams out. So far the response to this has been fantastic, and we really appreciate it.

2. The selection discussion will begin on **Monday Morning**. This is because it gives Captains time to have a rest after all their hard work on a Saturday, which is much deserved. The aim is to have selection decisions made by **Tuesday night**. With Teamo selection notifications being sent out on **Wednesday morning**.
3. Once Teamo selections have been made we will aim to not change the teams around after this point. However, occasionally things come up (like illnesses) and it may be the odd tweaks have to be made. Of course we will not expect people to keep their availability open after a Wednesday for other teams.

### **Selection: How Decisions Are Made**

1. **Selection is based primarily on perceived playing ability for a given position within the team.** This is the first thing Captains will consider when selecting (after the subs payment criteria has been met).

2. After this, Captains will also take into account these secondary considerations (this is in no particular order)
  - Attendance at training (though we understand some people have valid reasons for not being able to attend training and are sympathetic to these).
  - Availability and flexibility (ability and willingness to play away games, willingness to play for different teams if needed, general level of availability)
  - Future potential and the need to develop players.
  - Club involvement – e.g. coaching or committee positions
  - Willingness to umpire other games
3. Once squads are more settled, if you are not available to play for your regular team, you will not automatically get to play for another team (at a time you can play) unless there is room / need for you in that team.
4. Players with irregular availability should expect to be selected only as required.

### **“Squads”**

1. Captains are currently working together to come up with squads of players from which they will select their team each week. Given the number of players we currently have in the club (which is wonderful!), it may be, however, that availability through the rest of the squad/club means that you are asked to play for a higher or lower team than you normally do. This is, sadly, unavoidable. But we hope that the prospect of playing for any Abingdon team will fill your hearts with gladness. I do, understand, however, it can be frustrating. So, once squads are fully settled, we shall try to rotate those dropping down where possible.
2. If you find yourself in the position of floating between two teams but would prefer not to – then it might be possible to drop into the lower squad permanently so that you have a more regular team if that’s your preference, but this would need to be discussed with myself and the captains.
3. We shouldn’t forget that we have also only played three games so far and Captains are still trying to figure out where some people fit, especially given a few people have been away and are only just now coming back. Hopefully this settle down fairly quickly.
4. At the moment we have some rough squads. I will email you in the next week or so to let you know which ‘Squad’ you are currently in. However, these are subject to change – but any changes in your regular squad will be communicated to you, by me, after consultation with the captains.

### **Non-Selection / Selection not for my squad?**

Because of the sheer volume of players this year, two things are inevitable:

- 1) not everyone will be selected every week. We will do our best to get you a game when we can, but there are simply too many players each week to take everyone.
- 2) We also have too many players of the right ability for each squad. This is a really fortunate position to be in as a club, but from a player’s perspective, it means that some weeks, some people will have to play below their ability level. This is inevitable. However, what it means is that we can work towards promotion for all ladies teams and hopefully next season this will be less of an issue. Please do talk to me or your Captains if you are concerned about this and we will address the issue as best we can.

*In event of either of these situations you can expect an email from me explaining selection decisions. But please also get in touch if you want to chat.*

**Any Questions?**

If you have any questions or concerns about any of this then I am here to answer them. I am happy to chat / email and discuss any issues arising.

Looking forward to getting to know you all better,

Jen Sugden  
Ladies Club Captain