

Proposed ADG U16 combined team festival 2022 - Discussion paper.

This paper has been produced to gather all WDJCU clubs' thoughts and opinions on the matter of an ADG U16 Festival of Cricket 2022. To secure quick and purposeful responses from which a consensus can be drawn, and an action plan produced so that we can have an inaugural festival this season.

It must however be remembered that this would be our first year at attempting such an endeavour and very much an opportunity to gain experiential learning from such an undertaking!

During some casual discussions over recent times there have been recurring comments regarding the effects of lockdown on cricket and in particular on certain age groups, that some teams find it difficult to place certain age groups into matches that meet their needs, that some clubs have difficulty putting out post J2 teams, and, that the lockdown related age dispensation last season had created a bit of an anomaly.

Considering the role and purpose of ADGs it seemed they could be the ideal vehicle to do something about these issues and at a recent WDJCU committee meeting many of the above concerns were raised and a decision to investigate this further and if possible, create some 'bones' to build a proposal upon was taken. The broad outline of which was presented at the WDJCU Club Forum, 21.02.22. The idea was accepted as something to pursue further.

Outline Proposal.

ADGs to arrange internal matches for U16s providing the opportunity for those who are unable to access cricket matches on a regular basis that accommodate their playing ability. The object of these games will be to allow the ADG to prepare for and participate in a Round Robin Festival to be held in mid-July.

There would be an entry deadline (to be arranged) and for this inaugural year WDJCU should look to limit the festival to a maximum of eight teams from across the 6 ADGs and where an ADG could upon request enter two teams.

Teams.

Festival teams will include players representing all clubs within an ADG that wishes to participate. Teams should have a maximum squad of fifteen players with eleven players on the pitch at any one time.

The Players.

Teams representing an ADG at the festival must: -

be made up of players that are registered players with a member club
be under 16 years of age

and must not be involved in any way with a regional or national squad.

While representing their ADG players will wear their own club colours.

Matches.

Matches will be played to J3 WDJCU rules, be of thirty overs and officiated by members from the coaching staffs belonging to participating clubs.

All matches will be competitive combined with a developmental edge while played 'In the Spirit of Cricket.'

Officials:

We will request neutral umpires from CSMOA. One senior and one junior to assist in match official development.

The Festival.

This should be seen and promoted as a wonderful opportunity to bring the whole of the WDJCU together through ADG activity, to promote the "Spirit of Cricket" and advance a collegiate approach, the profile of cricket in our region while developing our young players skills and love of our game.

The Festival should be a family day for all to enjoy. Although the primary focus will be on delivering an exciting and entertaining event on the field of play, there should be appropriate facilities to meet the needs of a wide and numerous body of people off the field.

The Festival should be concluded with an awards ceremony where the achievements and participation of all should be recognised.

Festival Format.

This will depend on participation, but it is envisaged that there will need to be means of identifying four 'finalists' to compete against each other in the final activity of the event.

Funding.

It is anticipated that such a development initiative would attract financial support from a development fund already set aside by WDCU, that activities undertaken at the festival would supplement this.

In this way costs incurred by ADGs preparing for and the undertaking of the festival will be met and hopefully by establishing this development stream continued funding will be available for future ADG activities that target specific player groups within our clubs.

Please give this paper your consideration and provide feedback by Monday 28th March 2022.

WDJCU Committee.