TAMWORTH JUNIOR CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Website: http://www.tjca.nsw.cricket.com.au

President:
Chris Skilton
Tamworth NSW 2340
Mobile: 0402136206
tjca_2340@outlook.com

Secretary:
Kate Bennett
Tamworth NSW 2340
tjca.secretary@gmail.com

Tamworth Junior Cricket Association - Season Offerings

Competition	Age	Length	Time	Day	Commences	Last Pre-Christmas Round	Start Back	Semi Finals	Grand Final
Blast Skills Program		1hr long	8.00am	Saturday	17 October 2026	12 December 2026			
	Round-robin skill-based activities (not organised cricket games)								
Blast Games		14 overs 1.5hr long	9.30am	Saturday	17 October 2026	12 December 2026			
Early Stage 1	U9	20 overs 2hr long	8.30am	Saturday	17 October 2026	12 December 2026	30 January 2027	TBC	TBC
Stage 1	U10-U11	20 overs 2hr long	8.30am	Saturday	17 October 2026	12 December 2026	30 January 2027	TBC	TBC
Stage 2	U12-U13	20 overs 2hr long	4.00pm	Friday	16 October 2026	11 December 2026	29 January 2027	TBC	TBC
Stage 3	U14-U17	20 overs 2hr long	4.00pm	Friday	16 October 2026	11 December 2026	29 January 2027	TBC	TBC
	*Age group subject to change depending on registration numbers								

These offerings follow the Cricket Australia Junior Cricket Stages. More information is available via: Junior-Cricket-Pathway.pdf

Can girls play in these programs and competitions?
Absolutely! Girls are more than welcome to play in any of the programs or competitions and if desired, may play up to two age groups below their eligible age group, where applicable. We encourage girls to participate in the competition and will work to ensure they have an enjoyable experience.

What support is needed for these programs and competitions?
Excluding the Blast Skills program and Blast Games, each junior cricket team will need a coach/team manager, scorer and umpire.

Parents, coaches, and players will need to help set up the fields, mark the pitch length and boundaries prior to the commencement of each game.

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Cricket Blast - Blast Skills Program

Where is Cricket Blast located?
Riverside 1, Carter Street, Tamworth

What to wear or bring?
If your child has a cricket bat, please bring it along. Children can wear shorts and a t-shirt (or school t-shirt) with joggers and a hat, or their Woolworths Blast gear if they have it.

Are parents and carers involved?
Yes - we strongly encourage parents and carers to get involved. You'll really enjoy the experience!

When will my child receive their participant pack?
Packs are sent directly to your home by Cricket Australia, with information communicated via SMS or email. TJCA do not have any control over the participant packs, if there is a problem with your pack, please email cricketblast@cricket.com.au

How do I know if the Cricket Blast Program is cancelled (due to weather)?
Check the TJCA Facebook page for updates on wet weather and cancellations.
https://www.facebook.com/TamworthJuniorCricketAssociation/

We will also endeavour to email everyone to make sure the message is received.

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Blast Games

Where are the Blast Games located?
Riverside 1, Carter Street, Tamworth

What to wear or bring?
If your child has a cricket bat, please bring it along. Children can wear shorts and a t-shirt (or school t-shirt) with joggers and a hat. Some clubs may choose to provide a club shirt for this program. Please consult with your club for further information.

Are parents and carers involved?
Yes - we strongly encourage parents and carers to get involved. This may involve umpiring, scoring or simply supporting your young cricketers. You'll really enjoy the experience!

Does my child receive a Woolworths Cricket Participant Pack?
No – this is only available to Cricket Blast - Blast Skills Program participants, not Blast Games participants. Some clubs may choose to provide club merchandise for this program, please consult with your club for more information.

How do I know if the Blast Games are cancelled (due to weather)?
Check the TJCA Facebook page for updates on wet weather and cancellations.
https://www.facebook.com/TamworthJuniorCricketAssociation/

We will also endeavour to email everyone to make sure the message is received.

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Blast Games vs Early Stage 1

Blast Games is for children who are new to cricket and developing their skills. Games are played on the outfield (generally at Riverside 1) using soft balls, a shorter pitch, and a smaller outfield - a structured environment for new and learning cricketers. The games are played without cricket safety equipment and are not formally scored.

The Early Stage 1 (U9) competition offers a next step for children who may have played Cricket Blast and Blast Games for a few years and are ready for cricket suited to their progressing skill level. It is a Stage 1 competition - a modified format where cricketers can still bat for a number of balls without the pressure of getting out - but played on a proper synthetic pitch (length shortened to suit age group) with a harder ball. The games are scored.

As a result, children in the Stage 1 (U9) competition need to be able to:

- Bowl with a straight arm over a 14m pitch
- Hit a moving ball
- Wear appropriate cricket safety equipment (e.g., pads and helmet) for the game

Please discuss which option suits your child with your club.

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Junior Cricket Age Groups

Can my child play up an age group?
Yes, registered players can play up age groups. For example, if your child is eligible for the Stage 1 (U10-U11) competition but wants to play with friends in the Stage 2 (U12-U13) competition, they can request to play up.

Please discuss this scenario further with your club.

Can my child play down an age group?
Yes, registered players can play down age groups following consultation.
For example, if there is concern about your child playing in a certain age group due to ability or any other reasonable reason, then it is possible for your child to play down an age group.

Please keep in mind that TJCA has a duty of care to ensure the safety and well-being of all children involved in the competition, so this decision will need to be made in consultation with TJCA.

Please discuss this scenario further with your club, who will need to raise the concern with TJCA to seek dispensation for this to occur.

Can my child play in multiple age groups?
Yes. For example, a child who routinely plays in the Stage 1 competition on Saturday morning could also play up an age group into the Stage 2 competition on a Friday night.

Please discuss this with your club.

Stage 3 (U14-U17)

Why has the U15s competition changed to Stage 3 (U14-U17)?
TJCA exists to provide cricket opportunities for all young people who want to play.

With several players ageing out of the traditional U15 competition and some over-age players already participating last season, the move to Stage 3 (U14-U17) is primarily a change in name that allows the competition to remain inclusive. It provides a pathway for players who wish to continue playing junior cricket and may not yet feel ready to transition fully into senior grade cricket.

A strong junior pathway through the older age groups helps players develop at an appropriate pace, stay connected with their teammates and club, and continue enjoying cricket in a familiar, supportive and age-appropriate environment. It also gives players the flexibility to continue playing junior cricket with their friends while gradually taking steps into senior cricket if they choose.

Note: Given competing demands and other cricket offerings this may not be suitable for kids playing higher level representative or senior grade cricket. Please discuss this with your club.

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What will the competition look like?

The final competition structure will depend on registration numbers.

TJCA retains responsibility for competition structures and player placements and will continue to review the best format once registrations are received.

If participant numbers allow, separate age-based competitions may be created. For example, dedicated U15 and U17 competitions could be established. Alternatively, other age group combinations may be used if they best meet the needs of registered players.

What is the long-term vision for Stage 3?

A key objective of the expanded Stage 3 competition is to build sufficient player numbers to support dedicated competitions for older age groups in the future, including a sustainable Under 17s competition.

At present, these players need a place to play, and keeping them engaged within the junior pathway is critical to building the numbers required to make standalone competitions a reality.

As the competition continues to evolve, TJCA is relying on clubs, players, and families to participate in good faith and support the long-term development of junior cricket.

What should players and families do?

The most important thing is to register.

We encourage all eligible players who want to play cricket this season to sign up with confidence, knowing that TJCA will work with clubs to create the most appropriate competition structure possible.

The more players who register, the greater the opportunity to provide dedicated competitions that meet the needs of each age group, both this season and into the future.

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Junior Cricket Uniforms & Equipment

Uniforms
All junior cricket players wear long pants (cricket whites) and a club shirt.

For shirt sizing and sourcing your uniform, please consult your club.

Equipment
TJCA has provided clubs with a limited amount of basic cricket kits, including helmets and pads, so that equipment is available for all children to take part.

If you have concerns about access to equipment, please discuss this with your club.

Balls
TJCA supplies the cricket balls used by clubs. Each game uses only one new ball, used across both innings. The team that wins the toss chooses whether to bowl or bat with the new ball.

Scoring
TJCA encourages live scoring for all games, with clubs expected to provide a scorebook as a backup. Live scoring training is available via: eScoring Reference Guides & Demo on the Play Cricket Support site.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the association or your club.

Kind regards,

Chris Skilton

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Registration Links:

Cricket Blast
Each club only has one registration point as per the links below:

West Tamworth Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/4c8928
South Tamworth Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/05861f
Old Boys (Stars) Cricket Club Tamworth	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/0ad0e3
North Tamworth Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/c19bf5
City United Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/9c603b
Bective-East Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/6a625a

Blast Games
Each club only has one registration point as per the links below:

West Tamworth Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/c282cb
South Tamworth Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/926e7b
Old Boys (Stars) Cricket Club Tamworth	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/eb1f2e
North Tamworth Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/cc15e2
City United Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/b91ed1
Bective-East Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/0e15ed

Junior Cricket
Early Stage 1 (U9), Stage 1 (U10-U11), Stage 2 (U12-U13) and Stage 3 (U14-U17)
Each club only has one registration point as per the links below:

West Tamworth Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/4539d1
South Tamworth Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/ab80e2
Old Boys (Stars) Cricket Club Tamworth	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/fb3b27
North Tamworth Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/826219
City United Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/e94b7d
Bective-East Cricket Club	https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/b132a3