

Cranbourne CC

Modified cricket suitable for all abilities

Cranbourne CC developed their own version of cricket called “Ozzie Cricket” which can be played by anyone regardless of age or skill level.

The game is a shortened version of traditional one day cricket with modifications to suit the ability of all players.

In “Ozzie Cricket” a softer ball is used which allows all players to bat and bowl, although batters still wear pads, helmets, gloves, etc.

Other modified rules include:

- Each side is made up of 8 players
- Each side receives a maximum of 16 overs
- All players bat in pairs for 4 overs, then both batters retire
- Bowlers are restricted to 2 overs each maximum
- Team scores begin with 200 runs
- For each wicket lost, 5 runs are deducted
- Fielders must field at least 10 metres away from the batter for safety

The motivation for developing “Ozzie Cricket” arose when the Club’s Milo HAG program attracted several youngsters with disabilities and it was recognised then that their continued involvement in cricket would require a transitional form of the game.

Indicative of the Club’s commitment to encouraging children with a disability to participate in “Ozzie Cricket”, several Club senior players undertook special training and education courses during the off-season:

- ‘Opening Doors’ training provided by the Local Council
- ‘Coaching Athletes with Disabilities’ training
- Visits to local special schools to encourage more children to participate in cricket

Overall, the “Ozzie Cricket” initiative has helped create a family-oriented Club environment by attracting interested participants from a broad cross-section of people.