

# MIDDLESEX CRICKET

# YOUTH PLAYER PATHWAY

handbook for clubs, coaches, schools & parents



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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# WELCOME



DEAR MIDDLESEX CLUB, SCHOOLS, PLAYERS AND PARENTS,

The purpose of the booklet is twofold; firstly to provide an overview of the pathway and secondly, to explain the ethos and objectives behind the Middlesex Cricket Pathway.

Since the pathway's relaunch in 2012, there has been a significant increase in the number of players who are able to access cricket above club level. This allows talented young players to test their skills against peers of a similar ability from across the county, creating a platform for them to improve their games. Through this player pathway, Middlesex Cricket aims to create healthy competition for places at every level, across a number of age groups, and helps to identify, nurture and grow cricketers in the future.

The Middlesex Cricket Player Pathway has three main objectives;

- Player Development - above all else, the pathway exists for players to challenge themselves with and against players of a similar ability. To develop their current level of cricket, through quality match play and training.
- Talent ID - A fluid process where identified players are selected to move onto the next level. Players get to see the standard and aspire to the next level.
- First association with Middlesex Cricket - to develop a wider, positive connection with Middlesex Cricket, all Middlesex players have London on their postcode.

It is important that all players, parents, coaches and managers involved in the Middlesex Pathway are aware of:

## **Pride – The Middlesex Cricket DNA**

Angus Fraser Middlesex Cricket Managing Director of Cricket, created the Pride document following lengthy discussion with influential people associated with Middlesex Cricket across a 30-year period. As someone who is associated with the Club through the Player Pathway in the roles listed above, we ask you to read through each of these points carefully and at all times see yourself as an ambassador of Middlesex Cricket, and act in a way that shows you have Pride in the Club, Yourself and the Game of Cricket. Being involved in the pathway means that you are an ambassador for Middlesex Cricket, and we expect standards of conduct and behaviour that reflect these values.

**We hope that every player who plays, Borough/Regional or County Youth Cricket enjoys and learns from the experience, embraces the challenge, and continues to strive to improve their game.**



## THE CLUB

1. Pride in the history of Middlesex CCC and Lord's Ground
2. Pride in Wearing the Cap
3. Pride in putting Middlesex CCC first

We want you to:

1. Have a knowledge and understanding of the history of Middlesex CCC, its players, its success and Lord's Ground
2. Have an awareness of the quality standards required to earn your County Cap
3. Realise the priority for your actions are:
  - Middlesex CCC
  - The Middlesex team you play for
  - How it affects you directly

Examples are:

1. Watch the Middlesex CCC DVD and go on a tour to Lord's
2. Play hard but fair, winning and performing is very important but it is not everything. Poor behaviour reflects badly on the Club and what it stands for. Keep your principles – leave a legacy
3. Happily bat out of position or bowl at the wrong end if it is in the best interests of Middlesex CCC



## YOURSELF

1. Show honesty and integrity
2. Show character
3. Show self discipline and professionalism

We want you to:

1. Don't just talk a good game, play one and take personal responsibility for your actions
2. Rise to the challenges presented to you and lead by example on and off the field of play
3. Make sacrifices that are required, pay attention to detail and be prepared to work hard

Examples are:

1. Read Middlesex CCC's 'Standards and Values' chart
2. Do not settle for being a good Middlesex cricketer, aim to become a great one – a legend
3. Do not snack, go for a run. Practice at match intensity



## THE GAME

1. Play with passion
2. Show respect
3. Be a custodian

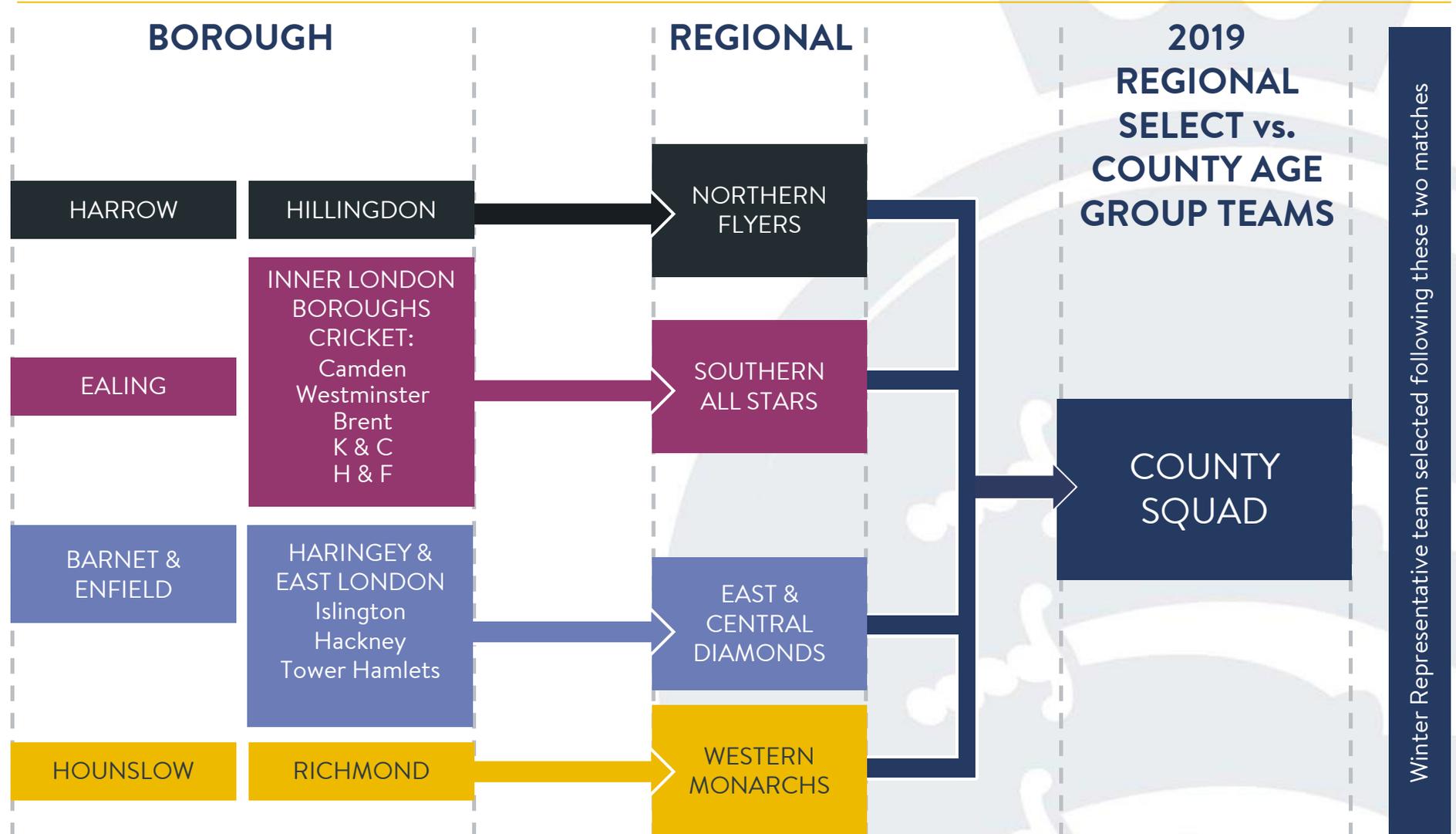
We want you to:

1. Love the game and enjoy playing it
2. Respect the game, its history, Lord's Ground, your opponents, match officials and the facilities you are presented with
3. Make a difference. Do your best to ensure cricket remains a great game for future generations

Examples are:

1. Never forget why you began playing cricket in the first place. Keep those emotions as long as you can
2. Read and abide by the MCC's 'Spirit of Cricket'
3. Think before you react to adversity or success by bringing credit to the game – your status will rise and you will be remembered e.g. Andrew Flintoff with Brett Lee at Edgbaston 2005

# THE ROUTE FOR BOYS COUNTY ASSESSMENT



PLEASE NOTE: This pathway is the only route for boys county assessment

# DATES: BOYS UP TO U14



## BOROUGH: Up to u14

MCA clubs nominate to boroughs Nov/Dec 2018

U10 East Division	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> and Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
U10 West Division	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May and Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> June
U12 Both Divisions	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> , Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May and Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> June
U14 Both Divisions	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> , Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May and Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> June

## REGIONAL

Borough leads nominate their best players to regional head coaches

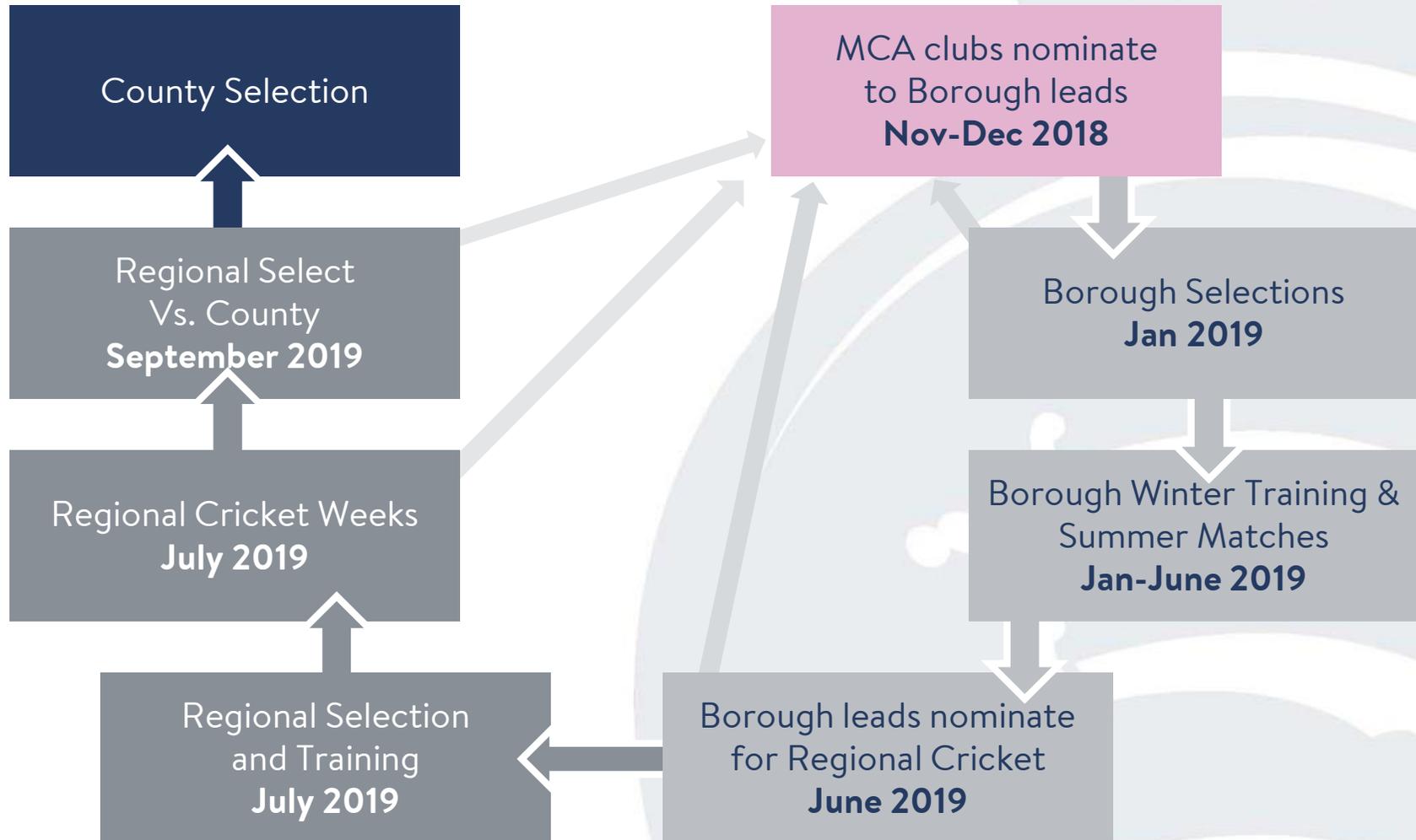
U9 Regional Cricket:	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July
U10 Regional Cricket:	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> July
U12 Regional Cricket:	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> , Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> July
U14 Regional Cricket:	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> July, Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> and Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August

## 2019 REGIONAL SELECT vs. COUNTY AGE GROUP TEAMS U11-U14

Best players from regional cricket selected at u11, u12, u13 and u14 to play against current county squad

Training Day	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> August
Match 1	Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> August
Match 2	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> September

# ASSESSMENT PROCESS: BOYS



THIS PATHWAY IS THE ONLY ROUTE FOR COUNTY ASSESSMENT

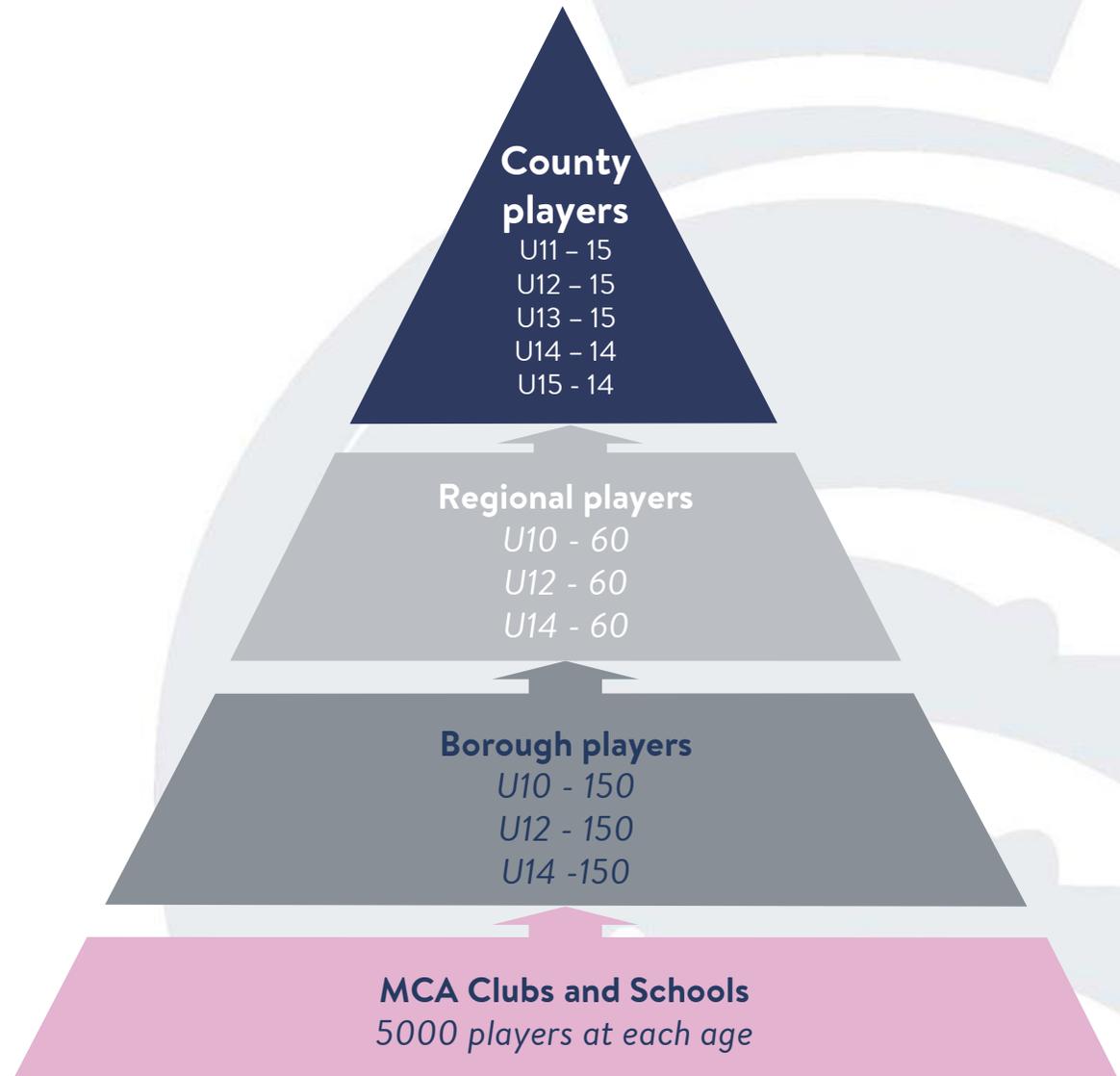
# APPROXIMATE NUMBERS: BOYS

## SELECTION:

Selection in to any elite pathway will always be an area that divides opinion, and will include a subjective decision covering a number of different areas. These could include the players potential to improve, current performance, athleticism, ability to learn and be coached, ability to fulfil a number of roles in the game and work ethic.

The biggest challenge we face is the huge numbers of cricketers across the County. To put this in perspective, there are roughly 3,000 people at every age group playing competitive cricket, selection into one of the ten Borough Squads will mean being in the top 150 players two age groups. The next tier in the Pathway the numbers drop down to four regions, meaning a drop down to 60 across two age groups across the County.

Elite levels of sport are not fair, and the programmes are not designed to be equal opportunities for all. Often players will be treated differently due to their perceived potential to improve, unlike many other areas of life that a young person will experience.



# THE ROUTE FOR GIRLS COUNTY ASSESSMENT

## MCA GIRLS SEAXE LEAGUE (CLUB CRICKET)

- U11, U13 and U15

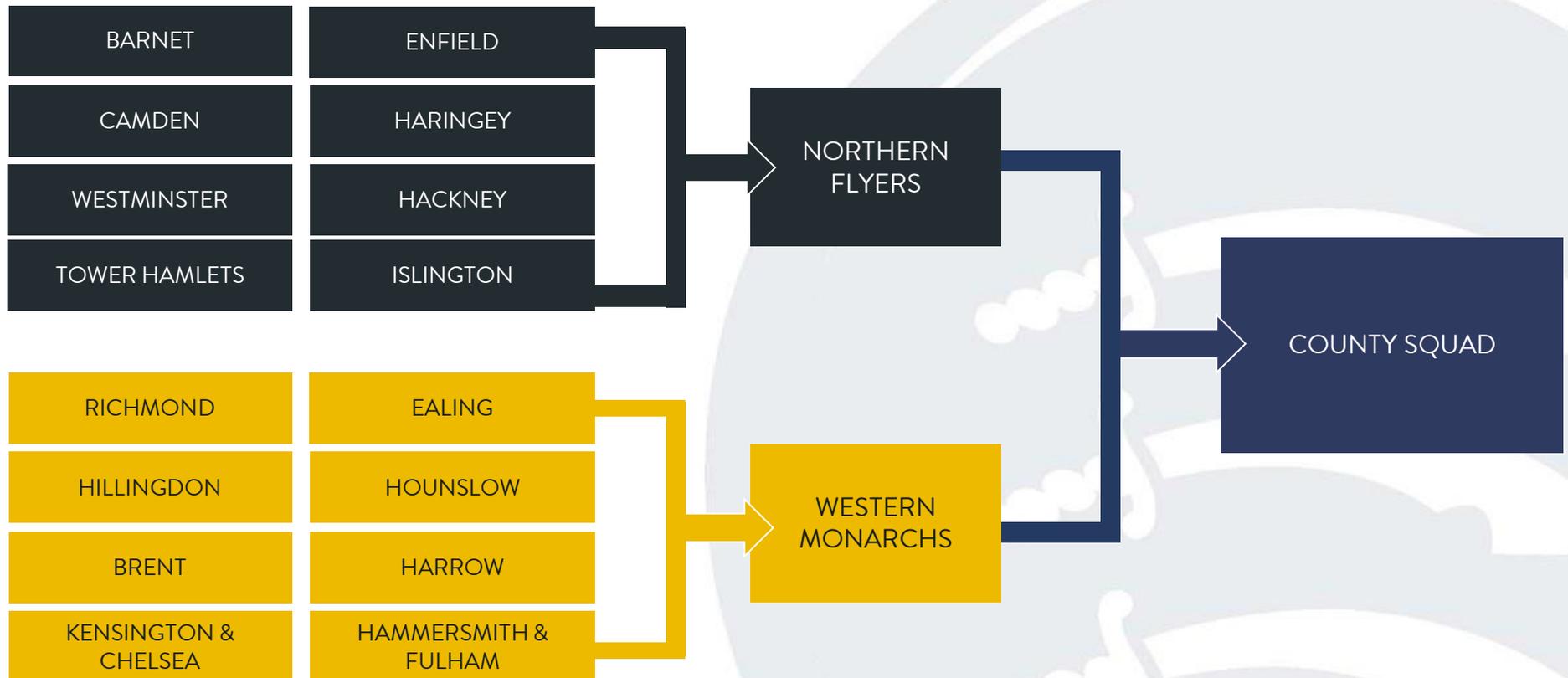
## REGIONAL CRICKET

Two regions:

- NORTH & WEST
- For 2019 age groups U10, U12, U14

## 2019 COUNTY TRIALS

- Best players from regional cricket selected into the girls county U11, U13 and U15 and senior women squads for 2019



PLEASE NOTE: This pathway is the only route for girls county assessment

# DATES: GIRLS UP TO U14

## REGIONAL TRAINING

Northern Flyers

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July & Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August

Western Monarch

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June, Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July & Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August

## 2019 REGIONAL SELECT vs. COUNTY AGE GROUP TEAMS

Regional leads nominate their best players to county head coaches

Regional Cricket Match 1:

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September

Regional Cricket Match 2:

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September

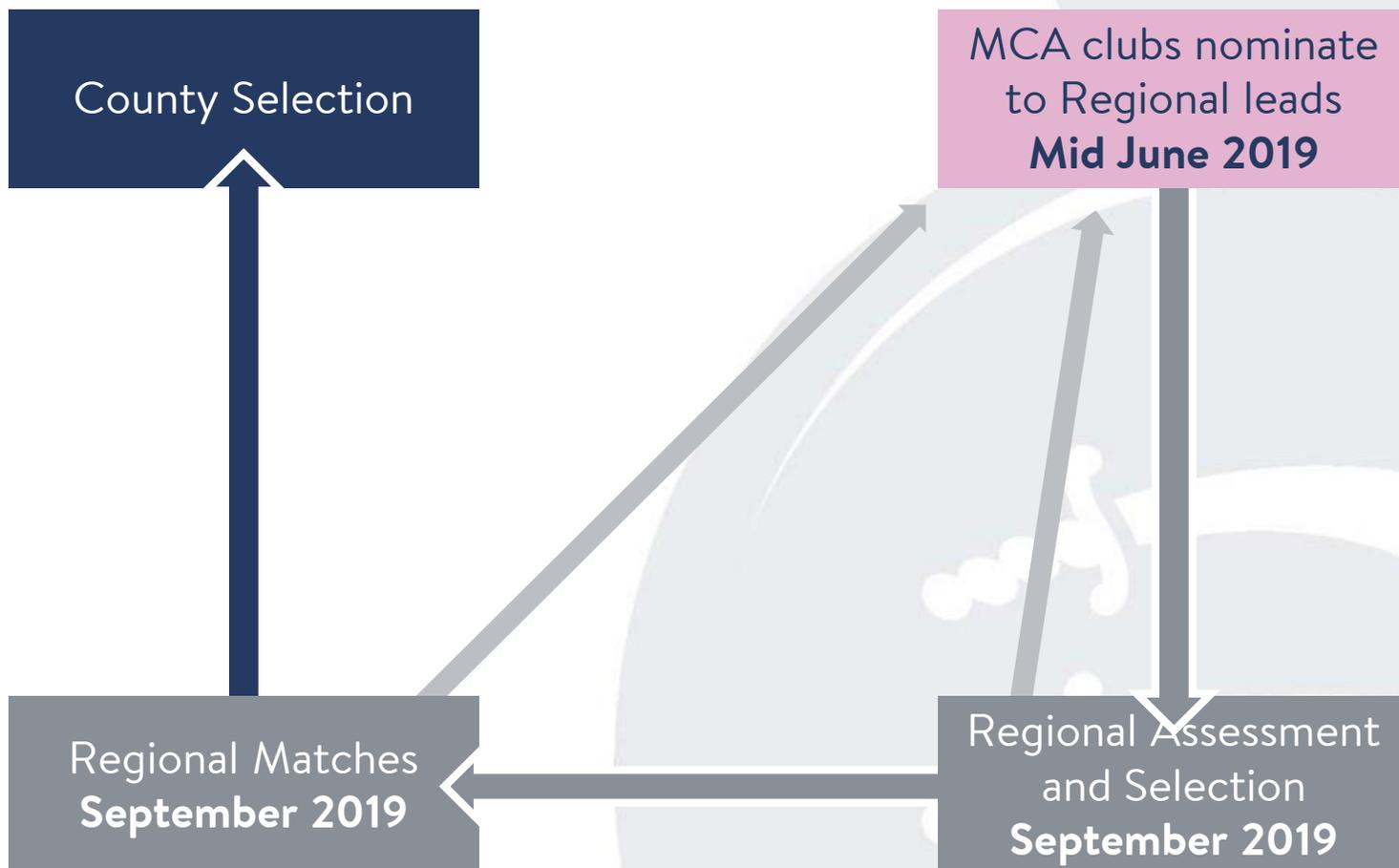
Regional Cricket Match 3:

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September

Regional Cricket Match 4:

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September

# ASSESSMENT PROCESS: GIRLS



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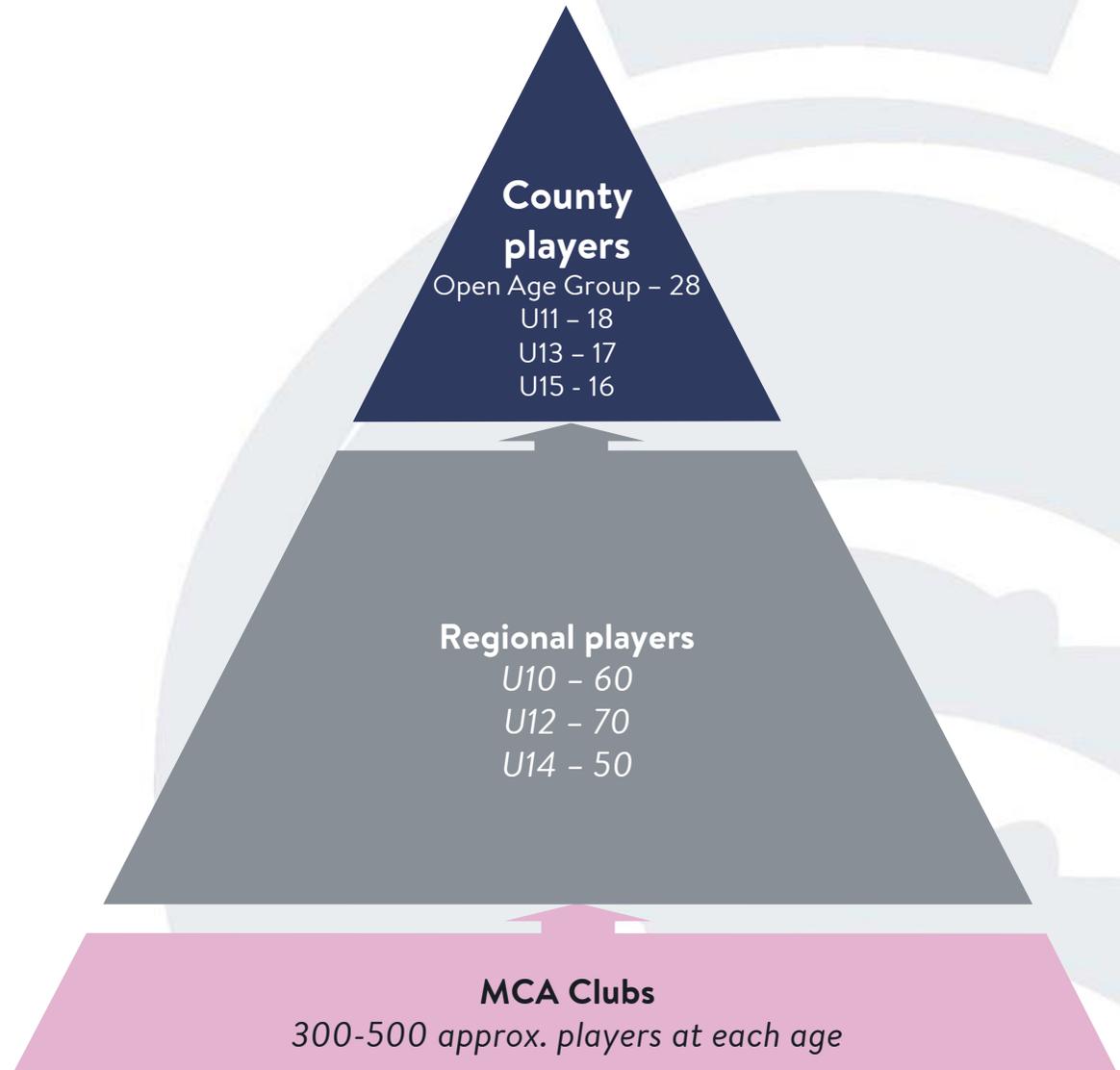
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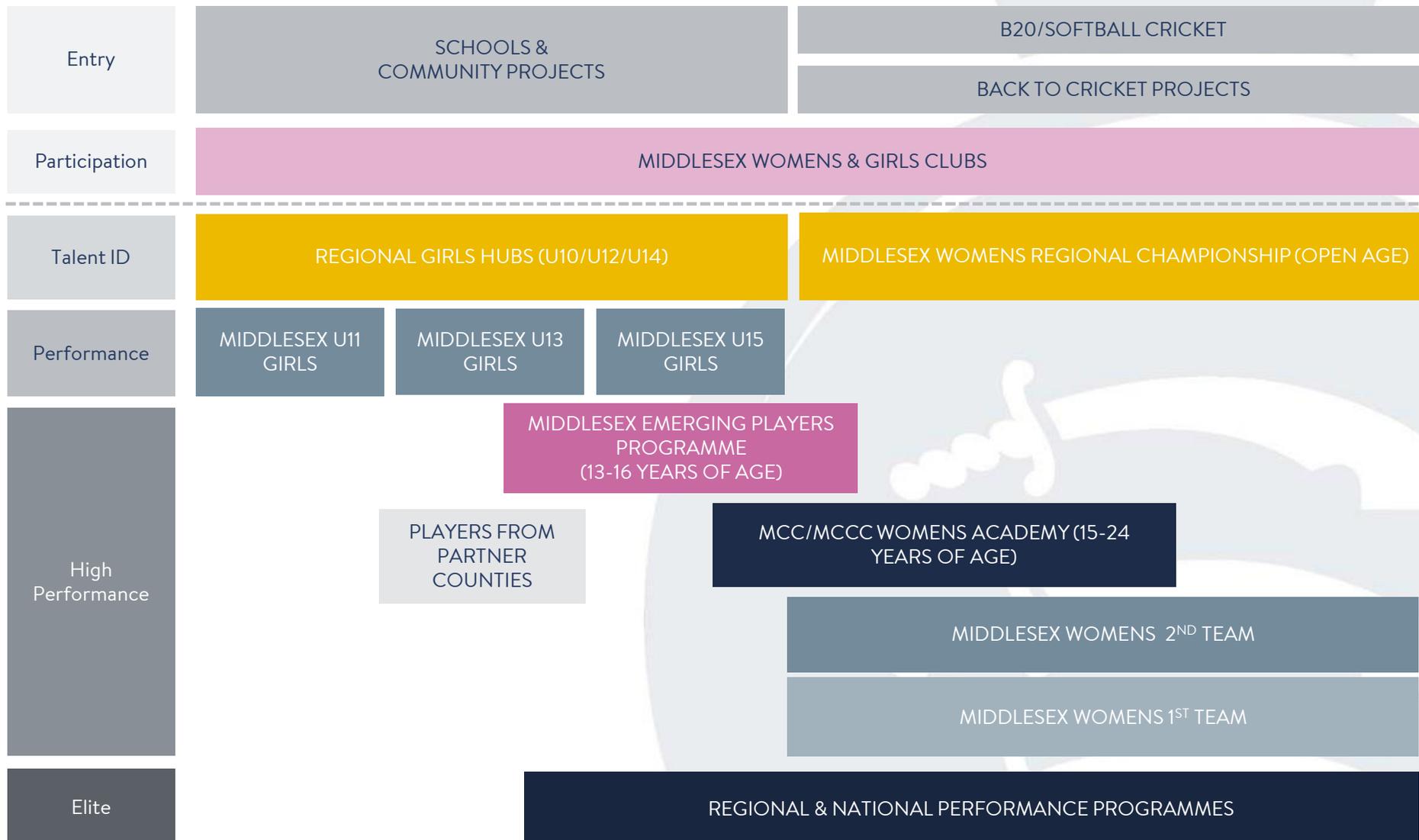
Selection in to any elite pathway will always be an area that divides opinion, and will include a subjective decision covering a number of different areas. These could include the players potential to improve, current performance, athleticism, ability to learn and be coached, ability to fulfil a number of roles in the game and work ethic.

The biggest challenge we face is the huge numbers of cricketers across the County. To put this in perspective, there are roughly 300-500 players at every age group playing competitive cricket. The next tier in the Pathway the numbers drop down to two regions, meaning a drop down to 50-70 across two age groups for County.

Elite levels of sport are not fair, and the programmes are not designed to be equal opportunities for all. Often players will be treated differently due to their perceived potential to improve, unlike many other areas of life that a young person will experience.



# WOMEN AND GIRLS' PATHWAY





MIDDLESEX  
CRICKET

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