

Ropley CC Women's and Girls Development Plan 2026 – 'Creating Our Future'.

5 Year Vision: What do we want people to be saying about our club in 5 year's time?

An inclusive club that provides opportunities to all levels of player meeting both physical and mental wellbeing.

Matches and training schedule that enables all players to improve, compete and enjoy the club environment.

A club that provides for the local community, supporting initiatives both on and off the field.

How do we communicate this to our supporters?

Through local community communication platforms and social media.

Hosting events and initiatives with clear and defined messaging.

Utilising trusted social media platforms, word of mouth and advertising through local publications and notice boards.

How do we communicate this to our players?

Utilise recognised Club communication platform (Teamo) and the localised team social media apps (WhatsApp / Instagram / FB).

How do we engage with our local community?

Utilise local community forums, media apps to promote the clubs initiatives with the local community and importantly involve the local community.

Key Player Facts:

	No. Players		No. Teams		No. Coaches
	M	F	M	F	
U9	NK	2	1	0	NA
U11	NK	7	1	1	1
U13	NK	13	1	1	2
U15	NK	16	1	1	2
U17	0	10	0	1	2
Senior	NK	19	4	4	2

Our Key Volunteers: Who are the key people in our club?

The committee
 Junior age group coaches
 Senior team coaches
 Age group managers
 Officials (Umpires & Scorers)
 Bar volunteers

Make 2026 a year to remember – for our club, our community, and the future of women's and girl's cricket.

Thriving clubs are built with clear purpose, strong leadership, and a shared vision for long-term success. The Club Development Pathway will support clubs to grow participation, develop inclusive cultures, and deliver great experiences for everyone.

Creating sustainable girls' cricket opportunities are a vital part of building future-ready clubs.

Launching ahead of the 2026 season, the Girls' Club Cricket Accelerator will provide tailored support to help clubs grow and sustain vibrant, inclusive girls' sections through:

Targeted guidance and resources
 Inclusive leadership and planning
 A clear pathway to retain and inspire girls

The ICC WT20WC is the ideal opportunity to accelerate our club's connection to our local community, and with so much attention focused on women's cricket, 2026 will be the time to set up that new programme, offer 'come and try' sessions, host ICC WT20WC themed festivals, and celebrate the tournament via the National Youth Programmes, building on our current structure, increasing opportunities and increasing the growth of our grass roots age groups – thus providing a positive boost to years 2 – 5.

What do we need to do to achieve our vision?

	Objectives	Actions	Who	When - (1/3/5 years)	What resources are needed?
Required	Continued recruitment of W&Gs players and volunteers of all abilities throughout all junior age groups and senior teams.	<p>Find routes to players in and around the community who may not be aware of the club;</p> <p>Schools – Primary / Junior and Senior.</p> <p>ECB Schools cricket day.</p> <p>Schools across England and Wales will come alive with cricket!</p> <p>The Schools Cricket Day is a nationwide celebration designed to bring barrier-free cricket experiences to children, embedding the</p>	<p>Ropley Junior School - due to proximity.</p> <p>Four Marks Junior School - next nearest and Ropley children attend the school.</p> <p>Sun Hill School Alresford - Potentially.</p> <p>Cheriton School – Via current parent relationship</p> <p>Older Age Groups - Perins School during Summer term, offer after school club (continuing a relationship built up since 2023).</p> <p>Current concern is no detail provided by ECB relating to this initiative and ‘cold calling’ to schools has not worked previously – Schools plan terms ahead for schedules so it’s</p>	<p>Winter 26 - Ongoing</p> <p>23 Apr 26</p>	<p>Qualified coaches willing to volunteer to go into schools.</p> <p>A ‘delivery’ pack, containing equipment enabling the delivery of fun cricket drills;</p> <p>Bag containing;</p> <p>Plastic bats of various sizes x 6</p> <p>Stack of coloured cones.</p> <p>3 sets of stumps.</p> <p>Tennis ball x 20 Rubber balls x 20</p> <p>Signed up to the ECB ‘Club Interest’ portal. Awaiting further details of resources available.</p>

		<p>excitement of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup into classrooms and playgrounds. ECB are inviting clubs to be the heartbeat of this day – whether it's leading a cricket-themed assembly, serving up a classic cricket tea, or supporting PE lessons with coaching and kit.</p> <p>One event in each school with a view of all 3 then converging on Ropley CC on Thu 23 Apr?</p> <p>Ropley CCs involvement can spark a lifelong love of the game and help embed cultural change in schools. Beyond the day itself, we will have opportunities to build lasting connections with schools, offering cricket activities and inviting students to experience the joy of cricket at Ropley CC.</p> <p>Annual W&Gs Taster Event – Potentially incorporated in the Schools Cricket Day look to hold the W&G taster event with an emphasis of W10 and younger age group cohort. Although, equally both can be held separately – Essentially, Apr seems to be the optimum month to hold the 'Taster' to be able to provide newcomers with the full summer package.</p> <p>Ropley CC do not have a W10 team but could work with Tichborne Park to help their recruitment, buildings ties with both clubs along the way.</p>	<p>imperative to engage at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>Current Managers, Coaches and volunteers</p> <p>Conversations being held with TPCC W10 Coach</p>	<p>2026</p> <p>2026</p> <p>Consider reinstating W10 for 2027</p>	<p>Access required to Ropley Recreational Ground and Sports Pavilion.</p> <p>Alternatively, work with Four Marks Parish Council and hold the event on the open space which was formally Four Marks Cricket Club.</p> <p>Access required to Ropley Recreational Ground and Sports Pavilion.</p> <p>Alternatively, work with Tichborne Park CC and hold the event there.</p>
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	Identify methods to strengthen teams through initiatives such as recruitment of players not considered previously by club teams. Recruitment of enhanced player(s) wanting a coaching / playing challenge taking a club team forward).	Sports teams (transferable skills and the shared love of playing sports)	Via current team members who are involved in other sports or higher education.	2026 - 27	
		Collages	Ascertain opportunities with collages via current players in higher education.	2026 - 27	
		Universities	Currently offering Southampton University opportunity to train alongside Women's team to encourage potential involvement during summer season.		
	Consider a structure or communication platform for any W&Gs messages	Monthly newsletter (Digital).	Volunteer(s) writer / editor required.	Monthly – Ongoing	
		Team and Squad comms groups (WhatsApp).	Managers	When required – Ongoing	
		Use of the Club App Teamo Other Social Media (SM) platforms.	Managers Volunteer(s) social media manager / coordinator required.	When required – Ongoing Ongoing	
Be able to expand volunteers i.e. umpires, scorers, coaches, volunteers.	Girls Club Cricket Accelerator.	Correspondence with HCB / ECB to ascertain veracity of the initiative occurring.	2026	Signed up to the ECB 'Club Interest' portal. Awaiting further details of resources available.	
	Young Champions of Change - for volunteers aged 14 - 18.	Current player volunteers from GU15/17's.	2026		

		<p>The Young Cricket Collective is a vibrant movement of volunteers aged 14–18, helping shape the future of cricket and their communities. In 2026, 500 young change makers across England and Wales are invited to become Champions of Change – using their voices and ideas to deliver local projects that matter.</p> <p>ECB are inviting clubs to play a vital role by encouraging junior players to get involved and actively supporting their journey. Together, we can inspire lasting change – for young people, club and the game we all love.</p> <p>Female Leaders in Clubs Programme.</p> <p>Creating space for women to thrive – on and off the pitch – and helping clubs become more inclusive, dynamic, and future-ready. Delivered through a bespoke and interactive e-learning platform, the Female Leaders in Clubs Programme will support women to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feel confident and ready to lead Understand and shape leadership opportunities in their club Gain practical tools for leadership Build strong peer networks Create personal plans that drive positive change <p>Let's empower all women in cricket to lead with purpose and passion.</p> <p>HCB – Hampshire Champions Programme.</p>	<p>Correspondence with HCB / ECB to ascertain veracity of the initiative occurring.</p> <p>Opportunities advertised with current players from GU13+.</p>	<p>2026</p> <p>2026 - Ongoing</p>	<p>Signed up to the ECB 'Club Interest' portal. Awaiting further details of resources available.</p>
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		Initiatives providing training opportunities (Umpires scorers, coaching and grounds maintenance).			
	<p>Women's socials- plan some events for the women's/ girls to make it inviting and to have fun outside of cricket to build a strong bonded team.</p>	<p>Women's T20 World Cup Club watch parties.</p> <p>Turn match days into community celebrations! Clubs are invited to host ICC Women's T20 World Cup Watch Parties – vibrant, inclusive events that bring people together to enjoy the tournament and the spirit of cricket.</p> <p>Food, music, games, and competitions – all wrapped in the excitement of live cricket. By registering your Watch Party through the ECB portal, your club will gain access to Sky Sports coverage and receive a commemorative promotional pack to decorate your venue and help everyone Catch The Spirit.</p> <p>Extend an invitation to local community groups, other sports teams, and anyone who loves cricket, for a chance to showcase your club's welcoming atmosphere, attract new members, and create unforgettable memories.</p>	<p>Volunteer(s) social / events manager / coordinator required.</p>	<p>2026 - Ongoing</p>	
	<p>Look at opportunities for the sports pavilion to make it better for new players i.e. being open and looking more welcoming;</p> <p>Serving drinks and being open more regularly as a space to socialise.</p>	<p>Plan for all Girls age groups to train on one evening (Monday?) during summer to replicate the Juniors Thu Night vibe... Bar open, facilities available, BBQ?</p> <p>HCB W&Gs Lead (Emma Cowdrill) speaking with Hamp Cricket photographer Dave Vokes in relation to having photos of women cricketers for display in the pavilion.</p>	<p>Bar trained volunteer(s) required.</p> <p>Ropley Women's 'Slam' team have been champions 2 of the 3 years it has been running – potentially photos of</p>	<p>Apr 26 – Ongoing</p>	

	<p>Promoting RCC inspirational role models – photos in the clubhouse</p> <p>Female friendly.</p>	<p>Period Dignity initiative run by 'Initial'. Coaches and managers maintain a stock of period products to be held with 1st Aid kit for easy access.</p> <p>Apply for funding / Grants to upgrade / decorate both changing rooms and the female toilets.</p> <p>Decorate the 'officials' changing room for future use of female players to use when involved with mix gender teams.</p>	<p>the team displayed in Pavilion?</p> <p>Need to ascertain how to restock?</p> <p>HCB providing advice for funding.</p>	Ongoing.	
	<p>Integrate age groups providing a smooth transition throughout.</p> <p>Transition of junior players through to senior teams.</p> <p>Establish sufficient teams to cater for all players' ability. From new players to competitive cricket.</p> <p>Promote player pathway from club to country maintaining active in support of their progression (coaching / availability / logistics).</p> <p>Provide training opportunities to scorers, umpires, officials and coaches. (Manager, coach</p>	<p>GU11s – GU13s to train on same evening during summer to allow for inter-activities where appropriate, including parents / guardians.</p> <p>GU11 team to play HB cricket with their peers.</p> <p>Girls of GU13 who meet age requirements transitioning to women's cricket seamlessly.</p> <p>GU15s – GU17s train alongside senior squads.</p> <p>Continued advertisement of W&Gs opportunities.</p> <p>Devise a training and squad ethos that will continue to entice current and new players to remain and grow the club.</p> <p>HCB and ECBCA run courses for scorers and umpires are advertised</p>	Managers and Coaches.	Apr 26 – Ongoing	<p>Access required to Ropley Recreational Ground and Sports Pavilion.</p> <p>Recommend to RCC Committee that volunteers are</p>

	<p>and scorer per team with support in the form of official volunteers).</p> <p>Consider running a volunteer evening to provide upskilling / training in relation to match day tasks;</p> <p>a. Opening / closing down. b. Set up. c. Scoring / umpiring</p>	<p>to players / volunteers and are encouraged to take up.</p> <p>Identify suitable day / time and prep for delivery.</p>	Managers and Coaches.	Late Mar / early Apr 26.	<p>recompensed for financial pay out when enrolling for courses as;</p> <p>a. Incentive to volunteer. b. Incentive to give back in time / volunteering their skills.</p>
	Support the RCC Club Development Plan with the refurbishment of the nets facilities.	As directed within the RCC Club Development Plan	W&Gs Committee members	2026 - Ongoing	
Finances	Identify funding streams.	<p>Club outreach to available programs and grants, including those specific to Women's and Girls.</p> <p>Sharing of funds raised through club events and initiatives such as;</p> <p>W&Gs Taster event</p> <p>'Cricket for Wellness' Havant & East Hants MIND / Help for Heroes Veterans Cricket Team.</p> <p>Breast Cancer Awareness event</p>	RCC Committee and W&G Committee members.	<p>23 Apr 26 (ECB Schools cricket day) Annual event.</p> <p>30 Aug 26</p> <p>Oct 26</p>	

HCB Women's and Girls Coordinator (Emma Cowdrill) feedback;

Ropley CC strengths:

- Strong women and girls' community – players really feel they belong to the club
- Good governance – female representation on the committee advocating for W&G – 2 (Sarah Harry & Bella Wilson).
- Strong coaching set up – home grown inspirational female coaches. Bella, Sarah, Beth Cazalat and Andrea Adlam are regular coach providers with Roberta Shaw (u18) as an assistant. The ratio of those who have been supported through the coaching pathway compared to now being actively involved is relatively low. The

aspiration is for Female coaches to lead the Age groups and look to assist the current coaches in the senior set up with a view of taking over those positions. Separately – DofE Bronze, Silver and Gold is an area where we find we support juniors for ‘Sport’ and ‘Volunteer’ opportunities.

- Well-developed community links – Havant & EH Mind, Coppafeel, Pink Place, Help for Heroes, sponsors of four Hampshire Indatwa players.
- Innovation – Cricket for Wellness, Sports Ambassadors with Havant and East Hants MIND, Crick Fit sessions; charity links and regular events to support them.
- Holistic approach – recognition that cricket needs to be accessible and affordable – free kit exchange has been available for a number of years.
- Friendly & welcoming – an HCB period friendly club.
- Playing success – have had 2 teams in the HCL for a number of years; teams regularly progress through to finals of competitions. Winners of Hampshire Slam two years out of three.
- Opportunities to develop - women and girls regularly playing open cricket; players developed according to their individual needs.
- Fantastic annual W&G taster session to kick the season off.

Areas of focus:

- Focus on sustainability – currently workload is shared by a few stalwats. Are there youngsters coming through who can support with social media, devise and help run WWC events, support school tasters (after exams).
- Clubhouse could be updated – may be a grant application but also awareness of prioritization; refurbishment of nets. Approach other funds or local businesses to support? Pavilion is run by Ropley Parish Council / Sports Club Committee. No direct control by RCC.
- Promoting RCC inspirational role models – photos in the clubhouse – EC to d/w Dave Vokes.
- Increase attendees at Champions course and attendance at coaching courses to reduce workload on current team. Adult and junior sign up for individual courses such as umpire and scorers courses seem to be on the up... Champion’s opportunities seems to be a harder initiative to involve juniors in.
- Run a volunteers taster session for parents (coaching, scoring and umpiring) to provide sustainability – discuss with EC
- Looking to combine with Tichborne Park so that there is a W10 offer is a fantastic opportunity for both clubs and will complete the RCC playing offer
- Complete development plan actions and timeframe for those objectives in red – may just need rejigging and adding to sections you’ve already got?