

Policy Objective:

This policy is to enable the fair selection of players for the four CUVC squads for the 2021-2022 season: Blues Women, Blues Men, UCCW (2nd women's team) and UCCM (2nd men's team) working towards playing the BUCS matches in their relative divisions and competing in the Varsity match.

Performance objectives:

BW: To build a training squad who will grow to become a team capable of coming 4th in the Premier South BUCS Division in the 2021-2022 season (when relegation and promotion resumes) and winning the North-South crossover match in said season.

BM: To win the 2021-2022 Varsity match and to build a training squad who will be able to win promotion back to BUCS Division 1 in the 2021-2022 season as well as repeat a presence in the BUCS Cup final and a top-5 place in the Volleyball England Student Cup.

UCCW: To compile a training squad which can function as a development pathway for players who aspire to move to BW and which can build on the progress of last season by winning the Varsity match.

UCCM: To build a training squad which can function as a development pathway for players who aspire to move to BM and which will grow to become a team capable of coming 2nd in the BUCS Men's Midlands 2nd Tier in the 2021-2022 season and win the varsity match.

Eligibility Criteria:

To be eligible, players must be paid up members of the Cambridge University Volleyball Club and matriculated members of the University of Cambridge.

BW: The club will select 16 players to join the Blues Women team for the 2021-2022 season. Players must be able to commit to the team's pre-determined training schedule.

BM: The club will aim to select 16 players to join the Blues Men team for the 2021-2022 season.

UCCW: The club will select up to 16 players to join the UCCW team for the 2021-2022 season. Players must be able to commit to attending the majority of the team's pre-determined training sessions.

UCCM: The club will select 16 players to join the UCCM team for the 2021-2022 season. Players must be able to commit to the team's pre-determined training schedule.

Selection Criteria:

Candidates for UCCW and BW must submit some general information and description of their experience level to the online form for women's trials by 12pm on the 7th of October. New players who have played before and are deemed to be at an appropriate level will be invited to a training session to try out. Invitations to trials will arrive by end of day of the 8th of October. Players who do not fill in the form by the deadline may be invited to training sessions rather than trials. The decision

about invitations will be made by the captains and coach. Candidates will be observed at trials by captains and coaches from both UCCW and BW.

Candidates for UCCM and BM will not be required to submit a description of their experience level to attend trials. Trials are open to all who wish to attend. Players should select whether to attend UCCM or BM trials based on their own assessment of their skills. Please note that captains from UCCM and BM will attend both trials and observe all players. Players at UCCM trials who are deemed to be at an appropriate level will be invited to stay on for BM trials.

Blues Women Squad:

Players will be selected for the training squad based on whether they demonstrate in the trial session that they have the ability to:

- perform key technical skills with ease
- respond positively to feedback from the coach and their teammates
- follow covid-19 safety guidance effectively

The position a new player plays and their flexibility to change this if that fits into the team better will also be considered as well as the suspected potential for improvement.

Additional factors affecting selection for BUCS matches:

- Positions of available players
- Whether drivers are required

Additional factors affecting selection for varsity:

- Positions of available players
- Percentage of previous matches and trainings attended

Blues Men Squad

Players will be selected for the training squad based on:

- Technical quality
- Tactical knowledge
- Previous volleyball experience
- Suspected potential for improvement
- Position played in and flexibility to play other positions
- Height
- Psychological qualities and fit within the team (including but not limited to mental fortitude, optimistic attitude and respectful demeanour)
- Response to feedback from coach and teammates

Additional factors affecting selection for BUCS matches:

- Recent form in training sessions
- Positions of available players
- Ensuring a coherent and resilient group
- Whether drivers are required

Additional factors affecting selection for varsity:

CUVC Selection policy 2021-2022

- Recent form in training sessions
- Positions of available players
- Percentage of previous matches and trainings attended
- Ensuring a coherent and resilient group

UCCW Squad:

Players will be selected for the training squad based on their performance at trial. Specifically, whether they are able to:

- Perform basic technical skills well
- Respond positively to feedback from the coach and their teammates
- Communicate well with their teammates
- Follow Covid-19 safety guidance effectively

A new player's position and their flexibility to potentially change this if asked will also be considered, as well as their potential for improvement.

Additional factors affecting selection for BUCS matches:

- Positions of available players
- Whether drivers are required

Additional factors affecting selection for varsity:

- Positions of available players
- Attendance of previous matches and trainings

UCCM Squad:

Players will be selected for the training squad based on the extent to which they demonstrate in the trial session that they have the ability to:

- Perform key technical skills with ease
- Respond positively to feedback from the coach and their teammates
- Follow covid-19 safety guidance effectively.

The position a new player plays and their flexibility to change this if that fits into the team better will also be considered as well as the suspected potential for improvement.

Additional factors affecting selection for BUCS matches:

- Positions of available players
- According to skillset determined by coach and captain
- Whether drivers are required

Additional factors affecting selection for varsity:

- Positions of available players
- According to skillset determined by coach and captain
- Percentage of previous matches and trainings attended

Extenuating circumstances (applicable to all four squads):

Reduced participation due to illness or injury will be considered when assessing the attendance record of players. A player who remains an active member of the team despite being injured, eg. supporting during matches they cannot play in or attending Strength and Conditioning sessions, will be more likely to have the previously stated attendance requirement waived.

Incoming Athletes:

Candidates who are not selected after trying out will be informed by the captain via email as to why they have not been selected. Candidates not selected for the Blues Women squad may be considered for the second team UCCW instead. Candidates not selected for the Blues Men squad may be considered for UCCM. Players not selected for matches, will be informed before a team sheet is announced.

Successful players will be informed via email if they have been invited to the training squad, and via the respective team messaging method (WhatsApp/Messenger/Slack) when the team sheet is released if they have been selected for a match.

All selected players are asked to bear in mind that other players may not have been selected and recognise the impact this may have on them.

Appeals:

Athletes wishing to appeal should follow the complaints process outlined in the club's constitution. Should a player feel they have not been selected due to a lack of fair, due process, they may raise this issue with the coach, the captain, the vice-captain or club president.