



Veterans Cricket India (VCI)

Registered as Veterans India Cricket Foundation

SRN R74862277

India 50+ Player Selection Criteria

[6 June 2024]

The India 50+ Cricket Committee ('the Committee') aims to assemble a team capable of thriving under the intense demands of 45-over competitions and effectively competing against the best teams in this age group at the World Cup, scheduled to be played in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in February 2025 (WC 25).

Our selection process will prioritise players with exceptional skill, fitness, temperament, and character.

All prospective players must pass comprehensive fitness assessments that evaluate agility, endurance, strength, and stamina.

This rigorous approach combines seasoned talent with emerging players with the highest commitment, fitness, and performance levels.

We will pick our squad from a diverse pool of talented players who:

- Participate in Zonal selection tournaments scheduled for October 2024 in India.
- Were previously considered for WC23.
- Represented the Over-50 India team in ODI matches throughout the summer in the UK.
- Actively compete in the higher divisions of 40-over or longer competitive club leagues.

We are eager to select young, talented players, offering them a platform to demonstrate their skills and progress in their cricket careers.

This strategy is aligned with our goal to maintain the team's average age below 55 for the World Cup in February 2025, ensuring a skilful, fit, and youthful team composition.

The initial selection of 14-16 players for WC25 will be made immediately following the conclusion of the Zonal tournament in October 2025.

Selected players will participate in a two-day training camp led by Sanjeev Sharma, the India 50+ coach.

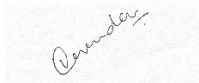
The final selected team will depart for Colombo a week before the World Cup 2025 for acclimatisation, team bonding activities and practice.

Selection Criteria for India's 50+ WC Players:

1. Skill
 - India-based Players:
 - Participation in top-tier T20/40+ over leagues; notable performance in Zonal tournaments and ODI's in 2024.
 - Non-India-based Players:
 - Participation in competitive leagues (e.g., for the UK players, ECB Championship - 1st Division, County Leagues 1st/2nd Division).
 - Assessment:
 - A thorough review of performance metrics (batting average, bowling economy, and fielding efficiency) and competitive participation.
2. Form
 - Criteria:
 - Current season performance, consistency, and impact in recent games.
 - Assessment:
 - Analysis of recent match footage and statistics in the months preceding WC25.
3. Fitness
 - Criteria:
 - Commitment to elite Over-50s athlete fitness levels; meeting benchmark fitness tests.
 - Fitness test results meeting established benchmarks (e.g., sprint times, endurance tests). This will be detailed in the Strength & Conditioning (S&C) pack available to players.
 - Overall physical and mental readiness for tournament play.
 - Assessment:
 - Comprehensive fitness tests will be conducted regularly following the initial squad selection in October 2024.
4. Age
 - Criteria:
 - Age is considered for strategic team composition. Younger, skilful, and fit players are preferred, with exceptions for older, highly skilled, experienced players.
 - Assessment:
 - Balance of age in team composition for strategic advantages.
5. Additional Considerations:
 - Exceptional Cases:
 - Potential inclusion for standout players who excel despite not fully meeting standard criteria.
 - Geographic Considerations:
 - Additional guidance for evaluating key India-based players based on the competitive level of local leagues.

Implementation Steps:

- **Data Collection:** Compile all relevant data from recognised databases and player tracking systems, ensuring comprehensive coverage of player performances and histories
- **Evaluation Panel:** While the committee retains full responsibility for final selections, it will seek insights and input from a broader panel of coaches and analysts to ensure well-rounded evaluations. However, the committee retains the ultimate decision-making authority.
- **Documentation and Transparency:** Maintain comprehensive records of all decisions and ensure clear, direct feedback is provided to players regarding areas for improvement or reasons for non-selection. This process will be handled with respect for player privacy and integrity.
- **Regular Review:** The committee will continuously update the selection criteria to reflect changes in the sport and competitive standards, ensuring our team remains at the forefront of 50+ cricket. These updates will be based on the latest developments in cricket analytics and player performance trends.



Verinder Bhoombla
VCI Chairman