

# CRICKET – CHANCE TO SHINE: SKILLS CHALLENGES

## Quick introduction

The Skills Challenges are a 'Personal Best' focussed set of 5 challenges aimed at developing basic fundamental movement related cricket skills – run in easy to set up 'Skills Stations'.

## Organising the game

- Ensure scoresheets are printed out in advance
- Only fit in the number of stations which the available practical space will allow (you don't have to do all 5!)
- Do a quick demonstration run through of all the stations (keep it short and simple!)
- Keep to time – use central timing for the stations and ensure quick transition takes place

## Health and safety

- Always ensure that in any striking activities, fielders are placed at least 10m away from batters if in the 'striking zone'.
- Ensure all equipment is appropriately checked before activity – specifically ensuring that bat handles have enough grip and are of the right size/weight for the age group.
- Set up stations so that any throwing/striking/bowling activities are directed away from participants or other groups.

## Equipment

- A variety of tennis balls (full and soft compression) including larger size balls.
- Cricket bats (various sizes) or tennis racquets/paddle bats for striking activities.
- Cones and space markers.
- Scoresheets/clipboard/pens.
- Tape measure.
- Stumps or similar targets.

## Getting started

- Each of the 5 Skills Stations to be set out in advance on a suitably sized playground, sports field or indoor hall.
- Teachers to refer to the 'Skills Matrix' document on the Chance to Shine Teacher Portal <https://teachers.chancetoshine.org> for a descriptor of each of the 5 stations, which are as follows:
  - 1) Movement & Co-ordination
  - 2) Throwing
  - 3) Bowling
  - 4) Catching
  - 5) Batting
- Scoresheets for the whole class can be downloaded and printed off from the Chance to Shine portal – children can keep track of their own scores or these can be done by teachers, assistants or young leaders.
- Each of the stations links back to an activity in the CTS 'Play' curriculum -> diagrams and videos of these can be found online.
- Children are encouraged to score their 'personal best', to have a go at all the stations then to beat their best on their 2nd round.
- Teachers can use the Scoresheets to measure:
  - 1) Progress of individuals
  - 2) Overall team scores
  - 3) House matches
- All relevant downloads can be found under the 'Compete' section of the CTS Portal.

## Think tactics

- Use the break in between stations or after the 1st round to ask the pupils
- What techniques can they use to help increase their score?
- How can they observe and analyse the performance of team mates to help support their scores?



## Leading, volunteering and officiating

Some key roles which leaders can play:

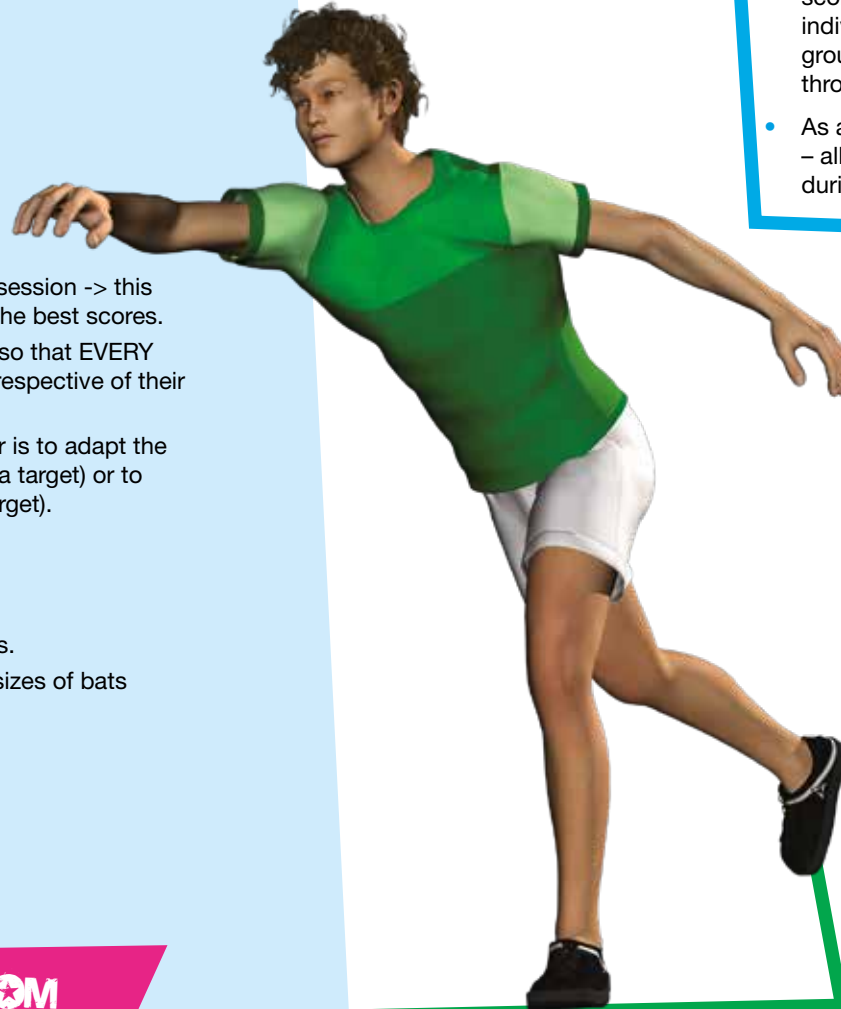
- Demonstrating activities.
- Setting up the skills stations.
- Managing a station and keeping time.
- Scoring activities and keeping track of progress.

## Keeping it fun

- Ensure as many bits of equipment are available as possible -> this means more stations and less queuing .
- Celebrate progress and values at the close of the session -> this ensures that there isn't a focus on those who get the best scores.
- Praise effort and not outcome -> this is important so that EVERY child understands that they can make progress, irrespective of their starting point.
- The most effective way to make the stations easier is to adapt the ball size (larger balls = easier to hit or easier to hit a target) or to change the target size (distance away or size of target).

## Think inclusively

- Celebrate progress scores – not the highest scores.
- Have a variety of equipment available -> multiple sizes of bats and balls.



## BIG ideas

- Allow the young people to decide how they wish the scores and competition format to be presented -> is this an individual/team event? House event? Year group by year group? Let them make the call and keep track of the scores throughout the term/year
- As all content is included online via the CTS Teacher Portal – allow pupils to use the video content and online resource during lessons (including top tips from the pros on the portal)

## Sporting ME: Spirit of the Games

*Excellence through competition*



**Determination:** The Skills Challenges are all about making progress – whether you are a beginner or cricket expert.

We want to celebrate working hard and improving Personal Bests.

[WWW.YOURSCHOOLGAMES.COM](http://WWW.YOURSCHOOLGAMES.COM)



CHANCE TO SHINE  
Spreading the power of cricket



Department for  
Digital, Culture,  
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