



### **Super 1's to Super 9's (Player Pathway): Case Study**

The Lord's Taverners Super 1's programme delivery commenced in Greater Manchester in January, and the first players from the scheme are now representing Lancashire at county level in the ECB Super 9's competition, and taking on other counties during their experiences of cricket.

Super 1's is a programme aimed at engaging 12-25 year olds with a disability in regular weekly cricket coaching. In addition to developing bat and ball skills, the programme aims to boost self-confidence, independence and leadership skills. Outreach delivery in secondary schools, colleges and community groups acts a vehicle to drive attendance at the weekly hubs. The Super 9's programme is a national competition for players with a physical and/or learning disability. It is a softball competition, based on the pairs format in order to promote participation. The Super 9's is seen as a pathway to the D40 hardball competition, in which more experienced cricketers compete.

Ben Hawkins and Jamie Heywood have both been regular attendees at their hubs. Ben attends the Oldham hub, based at Mahdlo Youth Zone, every Monday evening during the Ability Zone Session at the club. Jamie is an ever present at the Salford hub at You Can, which takes place each Saturday. Neither player had played cricket outside their school/college before being introduced to the programme.

Joel Harris, Lancashire Cricket Foundation Super 1's Officer is delighted with the progress made by both players, saying: "Both players have shown a real passion for cricket, and are developing their skills at their hubs but also at Super 9's training. Ben is starting to show that he can be a leader in the group, and takes a lead on the field. Jamie is more reserved, but is integrating into the group well which highlights his improving social skills. If both players continue to improve, and more importantly enjoy playing, I see them progressing to the hard ball squad in the future".

For more information on the Super 1s programme please contact Joel Harris on: [jharris@lancashirecricket.co.uk](mailto:jharris@lancashirecricket.co.uk) or 07506 030533