

2026 UNIVERSITY T20 CRICKET – AUSTRALIA V INDIA

Following the successful inaugural Australian men's university tour of India in 2024 and the subsequent visit of the Indian men's university team to Australia in 2025, UniSport Australia (UniSport), in partnership with the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), is continuing to grow the bilateral program with plans to send both Australian men's and women's university teams to India in 2026.

This initiative forms part of a broader and developing Australia – Indian university sport partnership. The 2026 tour represents a unique opportunity to be part of a flagship international program, strengthen bilateral relationships and showcase Australian university cricket on the global stage.

It is anticipated that the tour will take place in late 2026 (November/ December) and will consist of approximately six T20 matches.

UniSport seeks to select a men's team of 12-14 players, a women's team of 12-14 players. The teams will be supported by team staff including coach, manager and physiotherapist.

Tour information:

It is anticipated that the tour will take place in late 2026 (November/ December) and will consist of approximately six T20 matches against Indian university representative teams.

The Australian delegation will include:

- a men's team of 12-14 players
- a women's team of 12-14 players
- team staff including coach, assistant coach/manager and physiotherapist

The tour is expected to run for 7-10 days (final duration and tour dates to be confirmed). Tour costs are expected to be approximately \$2500 - \$3500 and will include flights, accommodation, meals, playing uniform, dress uniform, travel insurance, ground transfers, souvenirs. The tour is self-funded however there may be financial support available from UniSport and the participant's university.

On ground logistics will be coordinated by UniSport and AIU. The tour will include match play, training sessions and cultural engagements.

Selection Information:

UniSport will assemble a selection panel of three to five people to oversee all athlete and team-staff appointments. This panel will include the UniSport Nationals T20 competition manager, an experienced cricket selector and a representative from a UniSport member university who ideally brings a strong and detailed understanding of cricket.

The selection panel will consider all nominations, with a strong emphasis on identifying athletes through UniSport Nationals T20 as the primary international pathway for member universities. Accordingly, both on-field and off-field performances at the 2026 UniSport Nationals T20 Cricket will be a key component of the selection process. UniSport also recognises that not all member universities are able to participate in Nationals each year, and eligible athletes from these institutions are encouraged to nominate and will be considered as part of the selection process where appropriate.

Eligibility:

All selected athletes must:

- a) Be an Australian passport holder.
- b) Be currently enrolled and proceeding towards a diploma or higher at a UniSport member institution

Note: UniSport will seek confirmation of player eligibility from all participants and university prior to selections being finalised.

Selection Criteria & Other Considerations:

Selection will prioritise athletes who are performing at a 1st or 2nd Grade Premier Cricket level (or equivalent standard), recognising this as the appropriate benchmark to compete effectively at international university level.

Nominees will be required to provide recent statistics from the most current Premier Cricket season, which will form a key component of the assessment process.

The 2026 UniSport Nationals T20 Cricket tournament will play an important role in selection by providing an opportunity to assess current form within a university T20 environment. Performances at Nationals will be considered alongside Premier Cricket form, with particular attention given to relevant T20 performance indicators such as batting strike rate, bowling economy, and match impact.

- Currently playing 1st or 2nd grade premier cricket
- Most recent performances (2025/2026 season) premier cricket statistics and form
- Performances and statistics at the 2026 UniSport Nationals T20 Cricket (if applicable)
- Strong performances at the UniSport Nationals T20 Cricket will be considered alongside Premier Cricket performance, with particular attention to key T20 indicators such as batting strike rate, bowling economy, and overall match impact, in line with the requirement to be performing at 1st or 2nd Grade Premier Cricket level (or equivalent).
- Contribution to a positive team environment including player's attitude towards fellow players, coaches, and officials
- Physical conditioning and/or on field fitness
- Specific attributes relevant to Squad/Team balance and the needs of the squad in relation to batting, bowling, fielding, wicket keeping and team leadership. The squad will be selected with regards to team balance in relation to the aforementioned roles. Consideration will also be given to the style of batter and bowler
- Performances and statistics from the previous Australian Universities v Indian Universities tour (if applicable)

Note: UniSport also recognises that not all member universities are able to participate in Nationals T20 each year, and that not all eligible athletes are available to compete in the Nationals T20 tournament. Athletes who are unable to participate in Nationals, are encouraged to nominate for consideration where appropriate.

Nomination Deadline:

To be considered for selection with the Australian Universities team please complete the relevant online nomination form (linked below) **by Wednesday 29 July 2026.**

[Team Official Nomination](#)

[Athlete Nomination](#)