



# HOWZAT!

## Batting Practices

**Name:** Off Drive

**Aim:**

To acquire and develop the skill of driving the ball on the off side.

To select and apply drives on the off side according to the line of the delivery.

To evaluate performance by observing others and listening to and following instruction. By using self analysis to identify which technical and tactical areas to improve.

**Organisation:**

Groups are organised as illustrated. In 2 teams of 4 the batting team stand behind the striking batsman in a safe area. Fielders field 1 metre behind the coned area. Fielders must not encroach. The coach or teacher serves the ball so it lands as a half volley on the off side. Player 1 attempts to hit the ball toward the coned area to score points. Points can be awarded for successful attempts. All players should have an opportunity to have a set amount of goes each. Rotate the players quickly to avoid queuing. When established you can encourage players to take it in turn to serve.

**Technique:**

When batting: Adopt stance position – head level, balanced, include bat tap; Backswing and step forward or back; Watch the ball and make a decision on the direction to hit the ball; Base established – front knee bent; Comfortable stride; Shoulders rotate vertically to begin downswing; Figure 9 shape with bat and arms; Bat swings through line of ball to complete follow through; Maintain balance.

**Adaptation/Variation:**

Hit the ball off a batting tee; Use bobble serves; Use over arm throws; Use different balls; Increase / decrease serving distance; Fielders can catch the ball; Increase / decrease the target; Add another batter.



**Equipment:**

**Players:** - groups of 8;

**Cones:** – 6 per group;

**Tennis balls:** - 6 per group;

**Stumps:-** 1 set per group;

**Bats:** - 1 per group;

**Time:** 15 - 20 mins;