

Sports world

As Anya strolled into the room I expected her to be in full kit and covered in trophies and medals but she wasn't like that at all. She was kind, modest and very competitive with a good sense of humor.

Anya first told us that she started playing at school and joined cricket clubs and other people realised that she had potential and was picked to play in teams. When she first found out she was playing for the England women's cricket team she felt surprised and really excited, she was only 16.

Anya Shrubsole prefers batting to fielding because when you field there isn't much to do where as when you bat there is more to do which makes it more entertaining. Cricket is a very social sport you get to know your team mates really well, everyone gets on and you also get to travel the world!

Anya doesn't really get nervous before a match, instead she gets there early and has a look around to get the feel of the place. Anya isn't that superstitious at the beginning of the game, she has two bats if she does a really good hit with the first one she will use that bat until she isn't hitting as well then she will use the other bat. The best team she has ever played against is the Australian team.

Anya won a young cricketer award and she loves to receive them but she has to sacrifice a lot in order to work hard for them. She has to train for about 20 hours a week and she is expected to eat healthily. Anya said that she wouldn't have got to where she is now without the support from her family and friends. Anya also has a lot of other hobbies such as playing the flute and she used to play the piano. Before cricket took over Anya's life, she also enjoyed playing football and rugby.

When she was asked if there were differences in the way women and men play cricket she said that men could hit the ball harder and they were bigger and stronger. Anya also said when she was younger and playing in boys cricket teams, the other team would make little comments like "you have a girl on your team you are going to lose". Anya's advice to young people playing sport is that you should stick at it and don't quit because it may develop into something you like.



Anya is also very organised she does her homework in her free period at school so she is able to play cricket all evening. Anya aims to be the best woman cricketer in the world.