



NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION POLICY

SQUASH AUSTRALIA LTD

VERSION CONTROL

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. This selection policy (**Policy**) details the process and criteria by which Squash Australia (**SqA**) will select players to compete for Australia at World Squash Federation (**WSF**) sanctioned Events, or other international squash Events, where an Australian Squash Team (**Team**) is selected to compete.
- 1.2. This Policy will be applied to select Teams for the following Events:
- (a) Men's and Women's World Team Championships
 - (b) Squash World Cup
 - (c) World Doubles Championships
 - (d) Men's and Women's World Junior Championships (Individual)
 - (e) Men's and Women's World Junior Championships (Team)
 - (f) Trans-Tasman Test Match
- 1.3. This Policy can be amended at any time by SqA if SqA is of the opinion that such an amendment is necessary for any of the following reasons:
- (a) As a result of any change in Team eligibility criteria or rules;
 - (b) As a result of any change in the rules governing a particular event;
 - (c) To give effect to the Policy following a drafting error or oversight;
 - (d) To clarify any ambiguity or otherwise give effect to the intended meaning of the Policy.
 - (e) SqA shall not be responsible or liable in any way to anyone as a result of any such amendment.

2. PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE

- 2.1. SqA will select players in each Team who they consider, in their absolute discretion, to have the best chance of achieving one or more of the following Performance Objectives.
- (a) Achieving the best possible finishing position(s) at the Event.
 - (b) Winning medals at future Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games and World Championship events.

These Performance Objectives are listed in weighted order.



3. TEAM COMPOSITION

- 3.1. The SqA High Performance Selection Panel (**Selection Panel**) will select each Team. When selecting a Team, the Selection Panel will select the Team based on this Policy. Subject to Cl. 3.2, the number of players selected in the Team for each Event will be as per the Team Composition section of the [National Team Selection Information](#) document.
- 3.2. Neither this Policy, nor SqA or WSF require SqA to nominate the maximum number of players to a Team. Final Team members and composition of each Team are at the absolute discretion of SqA as set out in this Policy.

4. SQUASH AUSTRALIA HIGH PERFORMANCE SELECTION PANEL

- 4.1. The Selection Panel for teams for all senior Events will consist of the following three members:
 - (a) The SqA National Coach (Chair)
 - (b) Three (3) people with appropriate high level Squash experience in a playing, coaching or management role at major international Events.
- 4.2. The Selection Panel for teams for all junior Events will consist of the following three members:
 - (a) The SqA National Pathways Coach (Chair)
 - (b) The SqA National Coach
 - (c) Two (2) people with an excellent understanding of the Australian Junior Squash Tour and experience in a coaching or management role with elite juniors.
- 4.3. External members of the Selection Panel, who are not employees of Squash Australia, will be subject to approval from the CEO.
- 4.4. The SqA High Performance Director will manage the selection process, including communication with athletes and taking minutes of all meetings of the Selection Panel, though will not be involved in the selection of players to a Team.
- 4.5. The SqA High Performance Team, consisting of the SqA CEO, SqA High Performance Director and SqA National Coach (Senior Teams) or National Pathways Coach (Junior Teams) will manage aspects of the Selection process as referenced in this Policy.



- 4.6. The powers of the Selection Panel shall include without limitation:
- (a) Making all selection decisions including decisions not to select a player to, and decisions to remove a player from, a Team.
 - (b) Exempting a player from the requirements of this Policy or the Competition Requirements on the basis of injury, illness or any other extenuating circumstances.
 - (c) Engaging experts, including medical or health professionals to provide reports of conduct examinations of a player, with further authority to provide such reports and information to SqA solely for the purpose of considering selection to or removal from a Team, and for the purpose of monitoring the performance and attitude of any player.
- 4.7. Subject only to the right of appeal in accordance with the *Squash Australia Selection Appeals Policy*, each decision by the Selection Panel shall be final and binding on the players and each member of any Team.

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- 5.1. To be eligible for selection in a Team, a player:
- (a) Must be affiliated at Compete – Senior (Senior Teams) or Competed – Junior (Junior Teams) level, and in good standing with, SqA and their state or territory association.
 - (b) Must be eligible to represent Australia at the Event. This requires that a player is compliant with WSF World Squash Championship Regulations K2 – K9 and, for World Junior Championships, Regulation X1. These regulations are available on the [WSF Website](#).
- 5.2. For the Trans-Tasman Test Series Event, a player must be:
- (a) Under 19 years of age on the final day of competition to be eligible for selection in the Under 19 Team.
 - (b) Under 17 years of age on the final day of competition to be eligible for selection in the Under 17 Team.
 - (c) Under 15 years of age on the final day of competition to be eligible for selection in the Under 15 Team.
- 5.3. A player must have fulfilled the Competition Requirements for selection for the Team for which they are seeking selection. These Competition Requirements are available in the *National Team Selection Information* document.



- 5.4. If a player is unable to fulfill the Competition Requirements for selection due to injury, illness or any other extenuating circumstances, they must apply for an exemption from the Competition Requirements by advising the SqA High Performance Director in writing, citing all relevant information for their exemption. This written application must where practicable be provided within 24 hours of the commencement of a Competition Requirement.
- 5.5. Where a player applies for an exemption to a Competition Requirement, a decision to approve or deny the exemption will be made by the SqA High Performance Team in their sole discretion on an individual basis.

6. PLAYER SELECTION CRITERIA

The Selection Panel will consider the following Player Selection Criteria when selecting a Team:

- 6.1. Performances within the 12 months preceding the Team selection date which demonstrates the player's ability to contribute to the Performance Objectives outlined in Cl. 2.1. This includes:
 - (a) Performances at PSA Events (including PSA Satellite, Regional & National events), WSF sanctioned Events (including international junior events) and Australian Junior Squash Tour Events.
 - (b) PSA ranking and PSA ranking trajectory.
- 6.2. Performances at events in Cl. 6.1.(a) more than 12 months prior to the Team selection may be considered for players who are impacted by injury, illness or extenuating circumstances in the 12 months prior to the Team selection date.
- 6.3. In exercising its discretion, the Selection Panel may consider any factor, or combination of factors, and apply any weighting to those factors, that is, in the opinion of the Selection Panel, relevant for consideration selecting the Team. This discretion is absolute and need not be exercised.

7. SELECTION NOTIFICATION

- 7.1. All players who are members of the National Senior Squad will be notified of their selection or non-selection in any senior Team on the Selection Notification date for that Event.
- 7.2. All players who are members of the National Junior Talent Squads will be notified of their selection or non-selection in any junior Team on the Selection Notification date for that Event.
- 7.3. Players will be notified by written communication from the SqA High Performance Director of their selection or non-selection.



- 7.4. For the avoidance of doubt, a player is not considered to be a member of the Team until his or her selection has been announced on the Selection Notification date.

8. ATHLETE OBLIGATIONS ONCE SELECTED

- 8.1. Agree their training and competition schedule with the SqA High Performance Team in preparation for the Event.
- 8.2. Maintain their status as a member of the Team in good standing with SqA.
- 8.3. Notify SqA immediately if they sustain an injury, become ill, or are impacted by any other factor which may impact their ability to perform to the best of their ability at the Event.
 - (a) Athletes may be requested by SqA to provide medical clearance from an appropriate medical professional in order to satisfy their capability to perform to the best of their ability at the Event.

9. DESELECTION AND SUSPENSION

- 9.1. A player selected for the Team may be suspended or deselected if the Selection Panel, at its absolute discretion, considers that the player:
 - (a) Due to illness or injury, becomes unable to perform to a standard deemed satisfactory. The Selection Panel may obtain and act upon medical advice for determining whether a player's physical condition warrants deselection.
 - (b) Demonstrates a lack of training or competition preparation required to perform to the best of their abilities. This includes non-participation in training camps or selected events as outlined by the SqA High Performance Team.
 - (c) Breaches or fails to fulfil a requirement of any SqA Sport Integrity policy, or any policy which may apply to an Event for which a Team is being selected.
 - (d) Has breached the requirements of this Policy, any SqA rule, regulation, by-law, team agreement or any other regulation (either SqA or otherwise) applicable to the player by virtue of their membership in the Team and/or their participation in the sport of squash.

10. REPLACEMENT OF PLAYERS

- 10.1. If a selected player becomes unable to take their place in the Team, or if a player is deselected or suspended from the team as per CI 9, the Selection Panel will select a replacement player.



10.2. The replacement player will be selected based on the Player Selection Criteria in Cl 6 and is subject to all other requirements of this Policy.

(a) In considering the Player Selection Criteria set out on Cl 6, the Selection Panel may also consider more recent performances which have occurred after the Team selection date.

11. APPEALS

11.1 Appeals will be conducted in accordance with, and governed by, the procedures provided in the [SqA Selection Appeals Policy](#).

