

### **WDNA 50 - Representative Teams Selection Policy**

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#### **Policy Objectives**

The objectives for this Policy are to ensure that we:

- Maintain a transparent and independent team selection process ensuring equal opportunity exists for all WDNA players.
- Recognise talent, performance and potential for growth and development.
- Commit to selecting players and teams within each age group to maximise each team's likelihood of success.
- Meet our responsibilities to recognise, foster and develop players who strive to play netball at a district, regional, state or national representative level.

For the purpose of this Policy, the WDNA accepts that all players:

- Wish to play in a team and against teams of similarly skilled players and ability.
- Understand that team selection decisions are focused on maximising the performance of each team and development of players.

#### **Process & Timing of WDNA Representative Team selection trials**

- a. Players are invited to attend WDNA Representative Team selection trials, twice per year (once for each season).
- b. Current players are sent an invitation to register for the trials.
- c. Dates will be advertised on the WDNA website and WDNA Facebook page. Trials information will be distributed to all the clubs competing at WDNA.
- d. Trials for the Autumn season are held in October/November of the year prior, and for the Spring season in May/June.
- e. 11/U trials may be held at a different time to night team (13/U to Open) selection trials.
- f. After each selection trial, players will either be requested to attend the next trial or be advised that they were not selected. Feedback for unsuccessful players will be provided on request for all except the first trial.
- g. Squads and/or teams will be formally announced, as follows:
  - i. New players – within ten days of the final selection trial.
  - ii. Current representative team players within three weeks of the final selection trial.
- h. All players must attend the dates set down for the team selection trials.
  - i. Players who do not attend at least two trial sessions will not be offered a position in a team for that season however; they may be offered a position in the age group squad until such time as they can be assessed.
  - ii. If the player is injured or unwell or has school commitments at the time set down for the trials, the player may be invited to form part of the age group squad until such time as they can be assessed.
  - iii. WDNA must receive notice of the injury, sickness or school commitment prior to the date of the trial not being attended.
  - iv. The WDNA Representative Teams Selection Panel will have discretion to select a player based on previous representative WDNA team performance.
  - v. Current players are required to participate in selection trials even if they are trialling in their current age group.

### Eligibility to Participate

- a. It is expected that all parents and players will have read and understood this Policy in advance of submitting registration.
- b. A player will only be eligible to attend selection trials if:
  - i. They are a registered player and have a weekly commitment to play or umpire at WDNA (compulsory for players aged 16 and under).
  - ii. They have fully paid their previous season's fees.
  - iii. They have registered to attend the trials by the due date.
  - iv. They have acknowledged they will pay their season fee by the due date (unless agreement has been entered in to with the WDNA).
- c. Players aged 17 years and above from other Associations will be eligible to attend the selection trials. If a WDNA player and a player from another Association are of the same skill level and ability in the same court area, the WDNA player will be selected. A minimum of 70% of players in any 17/u team, and a minimum of 50% of players in any Open team, must have a weekly commitment to play, coach or umpire at WDNA. In the event that there are more than the allowed number of external players, the WDNA Committee will have discretion to review and accept or reject one or more of the players.
- d. In the event of a 19u team, the percentage of WDNA players and external players will be determined by the WDNA Committee at the time of selections.
- e. It is expected that players trialling for the 15/U and 17/U teams will commit to attending one interstate or international tournament during the year, if their team is scheduled to participate. See Policy *Country, interstate and international tournament attendance* for further information.

### Selection Trials

- a. Players will participate in trials for team selection based on their year of birth.
- b. Selection trials will be facilitated by skilled coaches and selectors who:
  - i. are independent of any player in that age group
  - ii. understand the competitive demands at that age group.
- c. A minimum of two trials will be conducted for each age group.
- d. Existing players who intend to trial in a new age group must attend all trials, unless:
  - i. they have a conflict with VNL club trials. In this case clauses 3.a & 3.c will apply. If the player is selected by the WDNA, the player will be allocated to the applicable age group squad to be assessed by the coach and selectors during pre-season
  - ii. they are injured or have received permission to be absent from the WDNA Representative Team selection trials by the WDNA Representative Team Administrator. The player will be evaluated per previous clause 4.d.i.
- e. Existing players may be requested by the WDNA Representative Teams to not participate in the first week of trials. Existing players must always participate from the second week.
- f. Previous season coach(es) may be asked to assist the selection process. Pre-trial feedback forms completed by coaches may also be considered during the selection process.
- g. Players must wear white tops and dark coloured shorts/skirt to each trial session. Players will be asked to change if they arrive in anything other than above.
- h. Should a player of exceptional talent be identified, then that player may be invited by the WDNA Representative Teams to participate in trials at a higher age group. The WDNA Representative Teams Selection Panel must first discuss and approve an invitation to each player to participate in the trials.
- i. If a player has been invited to trial at a higher age group but declines, they must trial at their own age group.
- j. Should a player or their parent request to participate in trials in a higher age group, the WDNA Representative Teams must first approve this prior to confirming the request.
- k. Parents who help out at the selection trials must not be involved in any selection discussions or associated processes.

### Selecting Teams

- a. Players will be assigned to a team based on their:
  - i. Their performance during selection trials
  - ii. Their match and training performance during the previous season
  - iii. Balance of players for positions in each team
  - iv. Their adherence to the Player Code of Conduct
  - v. Their year of birth
  - vi. Verified significant external accomplishments (eg. State team selection)
- b. Selectors will be provided with standardised pre-trial feedback forms for the relevant age group.
- c. Selectors may obtain input from the previous season's coach(es) (in addition to the pre-trial feedback forms) and will consult the most recent player review.
- d. No player should expect that they will remain in a team or with other players from season to season, or from year to year.
- e. Whilst every attempt is made to quickly finalise teams within age groups, some movement can be expected during pre-season and as player combinations are trialled at the start of each season.
- f. Should a player accept to trial at a higher age group and be successfully placed in a team at that level, but later declines the offer then that player may, if a position is available be placed in a position in a team of their own age group.
- g. For the 13/U and 15/U age groups:
  - i. The approximate allocation between the four teams in each age group is 20 top age players and 20 bottom age players
  - ii. Players will be allocated to teams by skill level however, no top age player will be selected for the 4th (or lowest) team in each age group without approval of the WDNA Committee.
- h. To maximise court time and enjoyment of players, teams competing in a 40 minute game competition will be assigned ten (10) players wherever possible and teams competing in a 60 minute game competition will be assigned twelve (12) players wherever possible. In certain circumstances, WDNA may decide to vary this number. Team sizes must not exceed twelve (12) players.
- i. Parents & players understand that the decisions made by the WDNA Selectors will be final.
- j. Feedback will be made available after team selections are made, on direct request from the player or their parent/guardian. Feedback will not be provided on another player.
- k. Should an existing night representative player not be selected in a team within their current age group for the next season, a WDNA official will contact the parent of the player before the teams are announced and provide feedback.
- l. Existing players moving up an age group will receive the same communication as all players trialling. Should a player wish to receive feedback on their selection, they can email [repadmin@wdna.com.au](mailto:repadmin@wdna.com.au) to request this. No parent should be contacting the current team coach about selections, this should go through the Representative Teams Administrator.

### Training Partners

- a. WDNA may select training partners across all age group teams.
- b. Training partners are selected because they have the potential to play representative netball but are not yet at a stage of development of other players at their age group.
- c. WDNA will decide on the number of training partners at the end of the selection process.
- d. Training partners must attend regular training sessions but are not required to attend weekly games or tournaments, unless requested.
- e. Training partners may form a development team and attend selected netball tournaments.

- f. Training partners and/or development teams may train as a group or may be affiliated with teams in their age group.
- g. Training partners will be considered as a 'reserve' for teams so that in the event that a replacement player is required for a match or tournament they may be given the opportunity to play. The team coach will be responsible for selecting one or more training partners based on the court positions needing to be filled.

**WDNA Representative Teams Selection Panel**

- a. The WDNA Representative Teams Selection Panel is responsible for upholding this Policy.
- b. Formation of the WDNA Representative Teams Selection Panel will be undertaken prior to scheduled trials.
- c. The WDNA Representative Teams Selection Panel will be made up of the following individuals:
  - i. WDNA Representative Teams Administrator
  - ii. Age Group Head Coaches
  - iii. Two selectors
- d. Any WDNA Representative Teams Selection Panel member, Coach or Selector who has a player trialling in an age group will abstain from any involvement with that age group in which that player is competing.

