



# Australian Junior Championships Policy Review

Version: 1.0 - 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Review Date: October 2017



# Executive Summary

## AJC /AJST Timeline – Past and Future

- Survey and consultation post AJC 2016
- Final survey results and summary paper distributed June 2017
- 2nd paper and consultation – AJC 2017
- Request interested parties to participate in Policy Review Group
- This overview will be distributed to wider group and calendar invites set up for regular catch ups.
- Complete review and update policies for Board approval

# Executive Summary – Discussion Points



Summary of the detailed slides included in this presentation.

## AJC and Other Tournaments

- Eligibility
- Conditions of Entry
- Integrity
- Events
- Referees
- Tournament Draw

## AJST and Rankings

- Sanctioned Tournaments
- Tour Points
- Draw Formats
- Eligibility
- Rankings versus Rating



## 2.1.1 Eligibility – Policy Extract

- This is not an open event, for a player to be eligible to compete in the individual events he/she must be registered with, endorsed by a State/Territory Association that is affiliated and fully financial with Squash Australia.
- All players must have completed the required Integrity courses for their age group in order to be eligible to play. More information can be found on Squash Australia's website:  
<http://www.squash.org.au/w/about-us/integrity>
- For a player to be eligible to compete in their state/territory team events he/she must meet all state/territory selection criteria, as per each State/Territory Association that is affiliated and fully financial with Squash Australia.
- A player is to be deemed eligible for an age group, if that player has not turned that age on or before the last day of the event. Age groups are to be known by the under 'The age' and represented as "Under 19s for example. The Under 19s is to be called the Australian Junior Women's/Men's Championship.
- All coaches, team officials, referees and event organisers of the Championships must be registered with and/or endorsed by a State/Territory Association.



## Eligibility - Discussion Points

- The inclusion of Overseas / International players
  - Should a player residing full-time overseas be able to play in the AJC?
  - Should there be criteria over citizenship / permanent residency?
  - Should they have resided in Australia for a minimum period



## 2.1.2 Conditions of Entry – Policy Extract

- A player may only play in one age group of the Individual Event and only one age group of the Teams Event. Players must play in their correct age group in the Individual Championships with the exception of the Australian Junior Women's/Men's Under 19s all players are eligible to enter this age group.
- Any player competing at the Australian Junior Championships may be requested to submit a birth certificate or extract for age verification purposes. This condition is to be included on the Championship entry form.
- The Championships are an alcohol and drug free event and so any player found under the influence or in possession of Alcohol or Illicit Drugs will be in breach of these conditions and subject to disciplinary action.
- All players completing in either the Individual or Teams events must complete the official entry form that will be available from the Squash Australia Website. This must be submitted on or before the closing date (twenty-eight (28) days prior to the commencement of the Championship and for the Individual event, must be accompanied by the correct entry fee.
- It is mandatory that each competitor is required to accept the "CONDITIONS OF ENTRY" shown on the entry form as determined by Squash Australia.
- All players must submit the relevant Integrity certificates upon submitting the official entry form for the competition. Failure to do so may void the entry.



## Conditions of Entry – Discussion Points

- Should a player be restricted to their own age 'correct age group' or should they be able to play in any permissible age group.
  - I.e. a player who is 14 could choose to play in one of the following age groups:
    - Under 19
    - Under 17
    - Under 15
  - They would not be able to enter multiple age groups
  - They could not enter the Under 13 age group.

## 2.1.3 Integrity – Policy Extract

- All players must submit the relevant Integrity courses for their age group in order to be eligible to compete in the AJC. Failure to do so may void their entry and render them ineligible.
- All certificates must be submitted with a player’s entry form.
- The following table shows the courses that each player must complete

|               | PLAYERS |                                 |                                  | COACHES |          | ADMINISTRATORS         |             |                                     | SQUASH AUSTRALIA       | ENTOURAGE                                                          |
|---------------|---------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|----------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
|               | State   | National Seniors (U19 and Open) | National Juniors (U13, U15, U17) | State   | National | Squash Australia Staff | State Staff | Board Committees and Working Groups | Squash Board Directors | Parents, Other Family, Referees, Other Administrators, Contractors |
| ASADA Level 1 | X       | X                               | X                                | X       | X        | X                      | X           |                                     | X                      | X                                                                  |
| ASADA Level 2 |         | X                               |                                  |         | X        | X                      |             |                                     | X                      |                                                                    |
| Match Fixing  | X       | X                               | X                                | X       | X        | X                      | X           | X                                   | X                      | X                                                                  |
| Illicit Drugs |         | X                               | X                                |         | X        |                        |             |                                     |                        |                                                                    |
| Blue Card     |         |                                 |                                  | X       | X        | X                      | X           |                                     | X                      |                                                                    |





## Integrity – Discussion Points

- This is compulsory for ALL AJST Tournaments
- Discussion required on how to communicate, manage and monitor for future tournaments
- AJC 2017 – 100% of the participants completed (both individual and team)
- Some were late
- Feedback from States / Territories on process required.



## 2.1.4 Events – Policy Extract

- There is to be five age groups of individual competition for Junior Men and Junior Women.
  - Under 19s Australian Junior Men's and Junior Women's
  - Under 17s Australian Junior Men's and Junior Women's
  - Under 15s Australian Junior Men's and Junior Women's
  - Under 13s Australian Junior Men's and Junior Women's
  - Under 11s Australian Junior Men's and Junior Women's



## Events – Discussion Points

- 2017 – updated to include Under 11's Category.
- Events needs to include 'Doubles' components.
  - 2017 Open Under 19 and Under 15 events were included.
  - Structure going forward
  - i.e. Open or Traditional three events (boys, Girls and Mixed)
  - Where to include in schedule
  - Draw formats.

## 2.1.6 Referees and Officials – Policy Extract



- Referees and officials are determined as per Section One and there should be a minimum of two (2) National Referees and three (3) State Referees or higher in attendance at all times.
- The Referee officiating the Under 19s main draw should be accredited at National or higher level.
- Each State/Territory Squash Organisation is responsible for the provision of one (1) referee at a minimum of state level for the Championship. Should the State/Territory Squash Organisation be unable to supply the referee, another referee will be sourced at the expense of the default squash state body.
- Approval of all referees appointed to the Championship is to occur in consultation with the National Refereeing Manager, Events Manager and Tournament Director.
- Officials and Referees should wear Squash Australia outfitting where available
- For the individual events, where accredited referees are unavailable, players are to mark and/or referee the match directly following their own as directed by the Tournament Referee or Tournament Director. Where only one player is required, it will be the losing player who is to assist the Tournament Referee.
- For the teams events, where accredited referees are unavailable, each State/Territory will allocate one player, with the referee and marking duties alternating between the teams.



## Referees – Discussion Points

- The number and qualifications to be provided was taken from AO – this is near impossible to complete for all tournaments
- All States / Territories provided one referee, or were supplied by Host region.
- This process needs discussion and documentation to assist in communication and organization.



## 2.2.1 Tournament Draw – Policy Extract

- Draw formats will be determined by the number of entries and availability of courts and officials, however will utilise either Monrad, Triple Plate or Round Robin events.
- All reasonable steps will be taken to avoid drawing first round matches between competitors from the same State/Territory or in the instance of Internationally visiting players from the same country.
- If any player withdraws 24 hours prior to commencement of the 1<sup>st</sup> match, the Tournament Director may fill the vacancy by moving players in accordance with the method originally used to establish the draw.



# Tournament Draw – Discussion Points

- Draw Formats – have been asked previously why we do not use Swiss Draws
- Seedings – not included in this document – which needs to be fixed, but does mention players who are not nationally ranked. Players who caused appeals in 2017 were:
  - Returning from injury, so ranking was low
  - New to AJST so had not played, or only played a few AJST Tournaments
  - International / Returning players
- Should random allocations be used for this tournament, or direct seed placement
  - i.e. each seed in their correct spot, or 1, 2, 3/4, 5/8, 9/16, 17/32
- A Player withdrawal – needs more clarification on what is permissible.
  - Total redraw, movement of players, walkover etc



# Australian Junior Squash Tour Policy Review

Version: 2.0 - January 2017

Review Date: October 2017





## 2.4 AJST Sanctioned Tournaments – Extract & Comments

Sanctioned tournaments are expected to report final results to Squash Australia within 7 days of the tournament being completed.

- This is not occurring and many results are being submitted late and in an incorrect format. This leads to delays and incorrect rankings.

Prizes for sanctioned junior tournaments are to be in the form of trophies or prizes and not monetary rewards

- This is a WSF Regulation and can not be changed. If prizemoney is awarded, AJ



## 2.5 Australian Junior Squash Tour Points – Extract & Comments

The Australian Junior Squash Tour Ranking System (AJSTRS) is for affiliated junior squash players only.

To gain ranking points, all tournaments must be sanctioned Squash Australia tournaments, and must also use Squash Australia approved software and formatting of the tournament. More details can be seen in section 1.7 of this document.

Tournaments are to be registered three months prior to play to be recognised on the AJST.

- Calendars are being submitted very late. Dates should be submitted on time, and venues can be updated closer to the event start date.

Athletes will receive AJST points based on their final results in a sanctioned Squash Australia



## 2.6 Eligibility

### – Extract & Comments

All Australian citizens and permanent residents who have participated in an AJST tournament and satisfied the point accumulation requirements are eligible for a national ranking based on the AJSTRS.

All players entering Platinum, Gold and Silver AJST events must be registered with their State or Territory Association.

For a WSF recognised tournament (AJO & OJC), players must have a SPIN number and are to use it as their Member ID.

If a SPIN number is not required, the player is to use their player ID.

International players competing in AJST tournaments will not receive points on the AJSTRS.

~~Australian citizens~~ **Players** who ~~reside overseas and~~ participate in international tournaments must register their tournaments with Squash Australia before receiving points through the AJSTRS only for competing in WSF U/19 tournaments.



## 2.8 Release Dates – Extract & Comments

The Australian Junior Squash Tour Ranking System (AJSTRS) will be published on the first Wednesday of each month by 1700 AEST.

(All results to be considered are to be lodged the Monday prior to the publishing date. Results that aren't lodged by the Monday prior, may result in points being held over until the next release).

It is an athlete's responsibility to check that their points and personal information are correct (i.e. date of birth, address). Any issue or query regarding the AJSTRS should be emailed directly to Squash Australia on [events@squash.org.au](mailto:events@squash.org.au).

Any changes to be made by Squash Australia will not be done so until the next release date. Squash Australia reserves the right to release early or post-pone a release should it be in the best interest of players, States/Territories or Squash Australia.

- All results must be lodged using the correct format as seen in the "AJST Results Submission" document. At present results are being backdated. From now on late results / incorrect formats will not be applied until the following period.



## 2.9 Small Draws – Extract & Comments

A minimum of four players is required to be an accredited division. Tournament Directors may combine divisions to reach this minimum, or for the best interest of players or the tournament. If two divisions are combined, the players will receive points for the highest division. If a player participates in two divisions in a tournament, they will only receive points for the highest

- This is not understood by Tournament Directors and Players. If Age groups are combined, you can not deem a winner of the younger age group, they will receive the points for that age group placement alone.



## 2.10 Seeding – Extract & Comments

Seeding the event will follow the WSF model. Tournaments must seed players as follows: Seed 1 and 2 are placed in their allocated positions, seeds 3-4 are randomly placed in their allocated positions, seeds 5-8 are placed randomly in their allocated positions, seeds 9-16 are placed randomly in their allocated positions, seeds 17-32 are placed randomly in their allocated positions. This method is continued until all players have been placed in the draw in their brackets and random positioning. Where it is necessary to have byes in the draw seeded players will receive them in descending seeding order..

- Discussion if this should continue for the AJC, or if players should be placed into their respected seeded position.

Tournament Directors of Bronze and Silver events have the flexibility to move players within randomized seeding groups that are provided above.

- Some of these events are seeding are per the State / Territory or Regional rankings. To receive points they must use AJST rankings but with the flexibility mentioned above.



### 3.0 Australian Junior Squash Tour Ranking System (AJSTRS) – Ranking Calculation Method

There is discussion on the difference between Tour Points ranking systems and a rating /grading system. This discussion is for the calculation of Tour points and the methodology used.

Subsequent discussion paper on the introduction of a rating (matrix type) grading system for all affiliated players in Australia.





### 3.1.1 Age Groups – Extract & Comments

Players will be only ranked once, and the ranking will be for their current age group. All points gained through playing up will be taken back down and used on their existing ranking.

The official Australian Junior Squash Tour Ranking System (AJSTRS) works on a 12-month rollover system calculated by athletes' total points in the immediate 12-months prior to an AJST tournament. Once this 12-month period expires, acquired points will cease to contribute to an athletes AJST points.

- ~~i. August 1st 2016 will signify the start of the new points system.~~
- ~~ii. Players who have earned points in the 12 months before August 1st, 2016 will have their points reallocated to match the new systems allocation method however for tournaments up to 31st of July, 2016, points will be allocated using the new points, however in existing bands from the old system: i. 1 st place ii. 2 nd place iii. 3 rd 4 th place iv. 5 th 8 th place v. 9 th 16th place vi. 17th 32nd place vii. 33rd+~~
- iii. **If positions are not played out,** All players will receive the lowest points from their band i.e. a player who finishes 3rd or 4th will receive 4th place points, a player who finishes 5-8, will receive 8th place points and so on.
- iv. **Otherwise the player will receive the** ~~The new point allocation gives every~~ **for that unique** position ~~their own unique points~~ i.e. 1-33+. This method will be implemented from 1st of August, 2016.





### 3.1.4 Point Calculation and Allocation – Extract & Comments

A player's ranking points will be calculated by taking their best four (4) scores and adding them together. .

- Discussion occurring on how many tournaments and what types should be included comments include:
  - Best 4 results made up by 1 x best platinum result, 1 x best gold result, and best 2 silver results (or some such combination)
  - Players can play all 4 gold events if they wish but only their best result is counted for the rankings. Same with silver events
  - Bronze events are participation events – no points allocated. Not many higher ranked players enter them
  - What happens if players do not play in a Platinum or Silver event?
  - What happens if the previous year's event is outside the 12 month rolling period?