



Office  
of Sport  
Sport & Recreation

2018

## NSW STATE JUNIOR ACADEMY TALENT AND DEVELOPMENT SQUAD PERFORMANCE PATHWAY AND STATE REPRESENTATIVE TEAM INFORMATION

The State Academy Talent and Development Squad provides a structured program for junior players within NSW to develop their skills as a squash player. The program gives all players the opportunity to participate in the performance pathway for selection in the Squash NSW State Representative Team to represent NSW at the Australian Junior Championships to be held in Darwin 29 September to 7 October 2018. The academy is open to all Squash NSW Junior players in 2018.

Athletes wishing to become a member of the Squash NSW Junior Academy Squad Performance Pathway must be a Member of Squash NSW. Membership for junior players is \$40 Annually payable to Squash NSW. The completed membership form is to be forward to Squash NSW with payment advice. **All players are to complete a Membership Form** There is no fee payable for those members who play in the Sydney Junior Pennant Competition as fees are included in Pennant.

### State Academy Squads Performance Pathway Program

2018 offers a number of key initiatives in NSW which are being implemented across regions, so that all players have the opportunity to participate in development programs that will be delivered by the state coaching panel and regional coaches. There will be a minimum of six (6) Academy Camps held throughout the year with camps running over two days. The coaching panel will provide positive feedback to all Academy Squad Members and their parents to help them improve and develop their game.

Squad Members are required to meet skill and fitness standards, depending on your age. Fitness levels are adjusted according to age. Focus will concentrate on skills development. If you don't have a coach the NSW Academy can recommend recognised coaches to assist you in being part of the NSW Squash Academy Squad within your own region.

Camp dates will be listed on the Squash NSW and Squad Members will be advised of dates via email from the head coach or team manager.

### What the Academy Camp Provides and Camp Costs include:

Court Hire, Academy Coaches and visiting National Talent Coaches, Balls, support services and physical testing equipment.

Costs will be advised to parents and participants prior to each Academy Camp as circumstances will vary with regional facility, number of participants, number of courts and coaching services. Payment is to be made to Squash NSW prior to the camp.

It is expected that a coach will travel to country regions to deliver programs with the assistance of regional qualified coaches. This will assist in reducing the costs faced by families and players in country regions and raise the sports profile in regional centres.

### Key benefits include:

- Giving regional players access to Talent Development and Club Development coaching personnel
- Structured Training Program overseen by State Head Coach and feedback
- Skills and Knowledge that players can use in their day to day training
- State Coach working with players personal coach to reach players goals
- Reduce travelling and accommodation costs to regional members
- Opportunity to raise the sports profile in country regions
- Key identification of potential athletes seeking a squash career

- Eligibility to represent NSW at the Australian Junior Championships

***Athletes must join the Squash NSW State Junior Academy to be considered for any representative positions including:***

- NSW State Junior Representative Team
- NSW Travelling Squad
- Australian Representative Age Groups and Teams

***Squad Members must attend at least two (2) of the Academy Camps under the control of the State Head Coach prior to the State Junior Championships and meet all Selection Criteria if they wish to be considered for the State Representative Teams. The State Representative Team is selected at the State Junior Championships to be held the 13-15 July at Coffs Harbour.***

**Academy Fees Structure: Payable by Athletes/Parents (Self- Funded)**

**Late Memberships to Academy Squads** can be made throughout the year provided the player is participating in tournaments and a financial member of Squash NSW. To be considered for any representative positions the NSW State Selection Criteria still needs to be met.

***NSW Academy Members not chosen in the State Team will continue to have access to additional camps in regions in the later part of 2018 (See Squash NSW website for details) for further skills development and preparations for the following year 2019.***

### **Eligibility for State Junior Representative Team Selection**

Players must compete in two (2) Silver Tournaments, a minimum one (1) Bronze Tournament and attend two (2) Academy Camp prior to the State Junior Titles. It is compulsory to compete in the State Junior Championships (Gold) if seeking State selection and meet all selection criteria as directed by the head coach.

### **State Representative Team Structure & Requirements AJC**

The State Representative Team members will be required to travel as a team. Team members will need to be available to travel on the dates arrange by Squash NSW to and from the AJC. All team members will be required to stay together as a team at the arranged team accommodation.

The Team will consist of 24 Players, 2 Players in each age group plus 1 Reserve Player in each age group in U13 U15 U17 U19 boys and girls.

All State Representative Players travelling with the team will be expected to participate in the AJC singles event.

Players will need to advise of their availability for the State Representative Team at the time of selection at the State Junior Championships.

***Please note for parents or non-team players wanting to attend the AJC you will have to make your own travel and accommodation arrangements. You are welcome to arrange your travel and accommodation alongside the State Representative Team but you cannot be included in the State Representative Team arrangements.***

### **State Representative Team Fees**

Participation in the State Representative Team is self-funded. However, Squash NSW contributes considerably to the overall costs to help reduce the financial burden to families. Funding raising activities will be conducted throughout the year prior to the AJC. Help with fund raising activities under the direction of the State Team Manager will be greatly appreciated from Academy members during the year. Squash NSW will actively seek sponsorship to help further support the team and reduce costs to athletes and their families.

Please note withdrawal from the team after the close of entries for the AJC will result in the player/parents being financially responsible for all costs incurred. All fees and costs need to be paid in full prior to travelling to the AJC.

## **Selection Notes:**

**NOTE 1** The State Junior Selectors will be responsible for ensuring the best available players who meet Selection Criteria, are chosen to represent their state in all age categories.  
(See Junior Rankings NSW website for Benefits and Selection Criteria)

**NOTE 2:** If selected in the NSW State Junior Team a player will be expected to attend all the Talent Academy Camps leading up to the Australian Junior Championships.

**NOTE 3:** Unavailability to attend Compulsory State Championships and Academy Camps.  
(Refer to the Selection Criteria for Junior Rankings – Production of a Medical Certificate or School Letter for non-availability) Copy must be forwarded to State Team Coach prior to event.

## **Player Responsibilities**

- Be a financial member of Squash NSW
- Join the Squash NSW Academy Program 2018
- Participate in Squash NSW Academy Camps two (2) prior to the state titles and all prior to Australian Junior Championships.
- Compete in one (1) Bronze and a Minimum of two (2) Silver or above (Gold/ Platinum) Tournaments, prior to State Junior Championships

It is the responsibility of each athlete to meet the guidelines and performance targets set for your age group. Should you fail to advise your non-attendance or commitment to the program your further participation will be reviewed.

## **Academy Applications and NSW Membership to be forwarded to:**

**Post:** Development  
NSW Squash Limited  
PO Box 211  
Thornleigh NSW 2120

Or **Email:** [admin@nswsquash.com.au](mailto:admin@nswsquash.com.au)