**Policy Document**

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| **Policy Title:** | **State Junior Team Selection Policy** |
| **Policy Type:** | Program – High Performance |
| **Policy Number:** | P-HP001 |
| **Author:** | Fiona Young |
| **Author Title:** | Executive Director |
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**Updates to Policy**

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| **Update No.** | **Approval Date** | **Nature of Amendment** | **Update Author** |
| 1 | 14/11/2012 | Inclusion of travel expense clause | Fiona Young  |
| 2 | 03/09/2013 | Determination of playing order  | Fiona Young |
| 3 | 31/01/2016 | Inclusion of squad training in selection criteria | Fiona Young |
| 4 | 22/02/2016 | Removal of residency in eligibility | Fiona Young |
| 5 | March 2016 | Composition of Team | Fiona Young |

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| State Junior Team Selection Policy  |
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| **Scope**The State Junior Team Selection Policy and associated procedures applies to Squash & Racquetball Victoria Board, employees, members and all appointed personnel. |

Purpose

This policy is designed to provide a clear, transparent and objective framework for the selection of the Victorian Junior State Team representatives travelling to and participating in the Australian Junior Championships each year.

Policy

*Principles of representing Squash & Racquetball Victoria*

* Representatives of Squash & Racquetball Victoria are committed to being in the best mental and physical condition as possible
* Representatives train and compete at their absolute best effort knowing they are representing each registered member of Squash & Racquetball Victoria
* Representatives train and compete with the highest level of disciplined sportsmanship and behave at the highest level of citizenship
* Representatives accept the responsibility of being a positive role model for Victoria.

*Composition of State Junior Team*

The State Junior Team will comprise up to three (3) male and three (3) female representatives in each of the following age groups: 13 years and under, 15 years and under, 17 years and under and 19 years and under.

*Eligibility*

Players will be considered for selection in representative teams on the basis of their compliance with the following:

* Affiliation - a financial member of a Squash Club affiliated with Squash & Racquetball Victoria and/or individually affiliated with Squash & Racquetball Victoria for a period of at least six (6) months prior to the selection of the Victorian Junior State Team.
* Proof of Age - on demand, the player must provide acceptable proof of age. Acceptable proof includes any of the following; birth extract, birth certificate, passport, learner’s permit or drivers licence or Statutory Declaration.
* Players must sign and agree to be bound by the terms of the Squash & Racquetball Victoria Player Agreement within 14 days of the Team being announced.

***Selection Criteria***

Up to the top 3 players (male & female) in each age group on the Victorian Junior Age rankings as at the conclusion of each year’s State Junior Titles will be selected as the State representatives for that year. Players must also have participated and satisfactorily performed in the Junior Squad training program as specified each year. To gain a State ranking, players must participate in their age group in at least 4 of the 6 rankings events held each year, to enable an accurate ranking to be achieved - refer to the Victorian Junior Ranking System.

*Playing Order of the State Junior Team*

The State Junior Team playing order at the Australian Junior Team Championships is determined by the finishing positions in each age group on the Victorian Junior Age rankings as at the conclusion of each year’s State Junior Titles. The Team Management shall decide the composition of the Team for each tie of the Teams Competition in the best interests of the overall Team’s performance. Third place selected Team Athletes acknowledge that it is possible they may not be chosen to compete in any of the Teams events.

***Announcement of the Team***

The Team will be ratified by Squash & Racquetball Victoria’s High Performance Committee and Executive Director and announced each year at the conclusion of the State Junior Titles.

***State Team Training***

The selected players must participate in at least 2 of the 3 of the State Team Training sessions held in the period between the team selection and the staging of the Australian Junior Teams Championships.

Absence from training will be taken into consideration in situations such as illness, school commitments, attendance at Squash Australia/Australian Institute of Sport activities including tournament tours as recommended and family commitments. Consideration for these commitments will only be allowed where the player has notified the State Team Manager in advance of any commitment under this provision.

***Behavioural Considerations***

Players will be expected to comply with the Squash & Racquetball Victoria Member Protection Policy Players Code of Conduct and with competition conditions.

***State Team Member Travel Expenses***

Squash & Racquetball Victoria will arrange all team travel, accommodation, uniforms, coach, manager and entry fees. Squash & Racquetball Victoria will endeavour to cover the costs of the team uniforms each year. Players will be invoiced for the full cost less any fundraising and/or sponsorship received.

***Appeals***

An appeal in respect of non-selection or playing order in the Victorian Junior State Team will only be considered if:

* The process for selection was not adhered to
* The player was not given a ‘fair and equal’ opportunity during the selection process

Appeals must be lodged within 7 days of the Team being announced and the nature of the appeal will be required to be clearly documented to Squash & Racquetball Victoria’s Executive Director and accompanied with a fee of $150 (inc GST). The fee is non-refundable if the appeal is unsuccessful.

A response to the appeal will be provided within 7 days.