Selection Criteria for Squash Australia Winning Edge Squad

1. POLICY OBJECTIVES

- To select players for the Squash Australia 'Winning Edge' Performance Programme (**Winning Edge Squad**), who will focus on attaining medal success at the Commonwealth Games.
- To select players that can win World Championship medals.
- To select players that have the potential and motivation to attain the above objectives by committing to a world class training environment as defined by the Squash Australia Management. Full-time training can be undertaken in combination with part-time study or part-time work after an agreement has been made with the Squash Australia HP Manager.

2. PLAYERS ELIGIBILITY

In order for players to be selected for the Winning Edge Squad they must meet the following requirements:

- Be an affiliated player of and in good standing with Squash Australia.
- Must be eligible to represent Australia in the Championships. This requires that a player be born in Australia, or be a citizen of Australia, or be a permanent resident of Australia, or have resided in Australia for at least the three years immediately preceding the Championships; and,
- Must not have represented another country in the three (3) years preceding the start date of the Championships in a recognised international Squash Team Championship in any age group. Players that have previously represented another country in a recognised international squash tournament may represent Australia only with the prior approval of the WSF Competitions Committee.
- Not currently be under disqualification or suspension under the rules of the WSF.
- Comply with all relevant Squash Australia Policies and Guidelines, including, but not limited to, those associated with Anti-Doping and Athlete Behaviour.

3. PLAYER SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications must be sent to hp@squash.org.au by 12 midday (AEST) on the 1st September 2018.
In reaching their selection the Squash Australia High Performance management team will consider the following competitions where two competition targets need to be met:

- Results at Australian Junior Open U13, U15, U17 & U19 (Platinum level events).
- Results at Oceania Junior U15, U17 & U19 (Platinum).

- Results at WSF u19 Events.
- Results at PSA events with a preferential weighting on higher level events.
- Achievement of the physical performance benchmarks as published by SA.
- Players that have been identified by the Squash Australia High Performance Management team as having evidenced performance ability and values to achieve a medal at the 2022 or 2026 Commonwealth Games

The results criteria can be found here
https://www.filepicker.io/api/file/bTsopLOReqG7tCiOVy6n

There will be minimal fitness requirements targets that need to be achieved which can be found here - https://www.filepicker.io/api/file/G4TpQLdQTlOjmsJZAEVv

In addition to results, the SA HP management team will consider a range of Talent Pathway Identification qualities, including:

- Commitment to training over the most recent preceding twelve month period.
- Squash technical, physical, cognitive and leadership ability.

In certain circumstance the HP team can propose to the HP Working Group, the addition of a player to the programme whom have not fully met the competition or fitness targets. To do this the HP Team have to be confident that the player has demonstrated technical, tactical, physical and cognitive traits consistent with future world class performances. In order for the player to be selected to WE there needs to be 100% agreement from the HP Working Group.

4. PLAYER AVAILABILITY FOR PREPARATION AND COMPETITION

Upon selection for the Winning Edge Squad, the player must confirm their commitment to its objectives and to their Individual Development plan as agreed with the Squash Australia HP Manager.

5. OVERRIDING FACTORS

- Should a player with an established record of high-level results become injured and unable to compete in the majority of listed events in section 3 above, the player may be considered for selection based on previous performances subject to passing a suitable fitness test and providing medical evidence and update throughout the process.
- If an injury occurs to a selected player after nomination they will be required to demonstrate an appropriate level of fitness (as determined by Squash Australia) to remain as a selected player.
- Attendance, behaviour and performance of players will be constantly reviewed through the season and continued selection will be dependent on these factors.

6. DESELECTION

A player selected for the Winning Edge Squad may be deselected if the player:

- Due to illness or injury, in the opinion of the SA HP management team becomes unable to perform to the required standard. Medical advice may be taken.
- Demonstrates a lack of training or tournament preparations as deemed unsatisfactory by the SA HP management team, this includes non-participation in 'Winning Edge' training camps or selected events i.e. Trans-Tasman, World Teams, World Doubles Championships, Commonwealth Games, Australian Open, Australian Junior U15, U17 & U19 Championships Individual or Team.
- Lack of satisfactory progress in the four main areas (technical, tactical, physical & mental) of his/her player profile 360 review.
- Has chosen not to train at an agreed SA approved training location.
- Breaches or fails to fulfil a requirement of the Anti-Doping Policies of Squash Australia, the World Squash Federation or other approved agencies.

7. SQUASH AUSTRALIA TRAFFIC LIGHT WARNING SYSTEM

In reviewing the players throughout the year the SA HP Management team will operate a traffic light system of satisfaction with player progress:

Green – The player is performing well and meets selection criteria. The SA HP Management team are satisfied with the player's progress.

Amber – The player has not shown sufficient progress against the selection criteria or lacks commitment to remain in the group in the view of the SA HP Management team. The Amber level acts as a warning for the player to improve their profile against the criteria within a three month period or face a red level warning.

Red – The player has been warned (amber) previously and has continued not to make sufficient progress against the player selection criteria or lacks commitment in the view of the SA HP Management team. Upon receiving a red level warning, the player can be removed from the Winning Edge Squad. In cases where the SA HP Management team deem that the player has shown a severe lack of commitment to their High Performance development the player can be given a straight red warning and removed from the Winning Edge Squad.

8. SELECTION PANEL

The selection panel for the Winning Edge Squad will comprise of three members of the SA HP management team.

9. SELECTION DATE, NOTIFICATION AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Players will be notified via written or verbal communication by a member of the SA HP Management team of their selection by 1st October 2018. In June and December of each year the SA HP Management team will review selections and may appoint or remove players. If a player is not notified personally he/she can assume that he/she has not been selected for the Squash Australia Winning Edge Squad.

10. APPEALS

Appeal to the selection may be made in writing to the Chief Executive of Squash Australia within 24 hours of the publication of the squad. The sole ground for an appeal is that the selection policy was not properly followed. An appeal must be made in writing with appropriate and sufficient supporting documentation and must be accompanied by a deposit of $1000.00, payable to Squash Australia. If the appeal is upheld the deposit will be refunded in full. Within two working days of receiving the appeal, the Chief Executive (or an appointed deputy) will head a group of three selected people with elite sport experience ('Appeal Committee') that will investigate the issues of the appeal with all involved parties. No member of the Appeal Committee shall have been involved in the original selection process. The Chief Executive (or an appointed deputy) will in writing inform all parties about the Appeal Committee's decision to either uphold or reject the appeal. The Chief Executive (or an appointed deputy) will set appropriate deadlines for the process of appeals to minimise disruptions to the competition.

Full guidelines on the Appeal Policy please can be found here
https://www.filepicker.io/api/file/uEU1IPtpR3O1dFAml4sc