SELECTION CRITERIA FOR SQUASH AUSTRALIA TRANS-TASMAN TEST TEAM 2020

1. Background

a. The Squash Australia (**SqA**) Trans-Tasman Junior Team (**Team**) will compete at the Trans-Tasman Test at the Gold Coast, Australia from 14 – 15 April 2020. This selection policy (**Policy**) details the process and criteria by which SqA will nominate players for the Team to compete at the Trans-Tasman Test.

b. This Policy can be amended at any time by SqA if SqA is of the opinion that such an amendment is necessary for any of the following reasons:

(i) as a result of any change in Team eligibility criteria or rules;

(ii) as a result of any change in the rules governing a particular race/event;

(iii) to give effect to the Policy following a drafting error or oversight; or

(iv) to clarify any ambiguity or otherwise give effect to the intended meaning of the Policy

c. SqA shall not be responsible or liable in any way to anyone as a result of any such amendment.

2. Team composition

a. The SqA High Performance Management Team will select the Team. When selecting the Team, the SqA High Performance Management Team will select the Team based on this Policy, which is to consist of:

(i) up to 2 male players (to participate in the "team" event) for age group U13, U15, U17;

(ii) up to 2 female players (to participate in the "team" event) for age group U13, U15, U17, U19.

(iii) Up to 4 male players (to participate in the "team" event) for age group U19

(iv) the age cut-off date is 15 April 2020.

3. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for selection in the Team for the Trans-Tasman Test, a player:

(a) Must lodge their interest in representing Australia at the Trans-Tasman Test by submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI) to the SqA High-Performance Management Team (hp@squash.org.au) by 5 pm AEST on 17 January 2020.

a. The EOI must address the following areas:

i. Competition results in events outlined in section 4.a of this criteria.

ii. An outline of current weekly training program

(b) Must be affiliated, and in good standing, with SqA.

(c) Must be eligible to represent Australia in the Trans-Tasman Test. This requires that a player be born in Australia, or be a citizen of Australia, or a permanent resident of Australia, or have resided in Australia for at least the three years immediately preceding the Trans-Tasman Test; and,

(d) Must not have represented another country in the three (3) years preceding the start date of the Trans-Tasman Test 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.

4. Player Selection Criteria

a. In reaching their selection the SqA High Performance Management Team may consider results at PSA events, WSF junior events and Australian Junior Squash Tour events during the past 12 months.

b. Should a player with an established record of high-level results become injured the player may be considered for selection based on past performances at WSF junior events and Australian Junior Tour events, subject to passing a suitable fitness test and providing medical evidence and updates throughout the process.

c. Notwithstanding the above, the SqA High Performance Management Team will consider all relevant factors, results, performances and indicia of High Performance training and process at the discretion of the SqA High Performance Management Team. This discretion is absolute and it need not be exercised. This includes the ongoing demonstration of the player code of conduct which can be viewed at https://www.filepicker.io/api/file/Q6ZvegrRSqafMzFoDZ4o

d. In exercising its discretion, the SqA High Performance Management Team may consider any factor, or combination of factors that is, in the opinion of the SqA High Performance Management Team, relevant for consideration when selecting the Team.

e. Players on the SqA High Performance 'Winning Edge' programme may have priority for selection based upon developing their potential medal winning capability at major events.

5. Player Availability for Preparation and Competition

a. Upon selection for the Team, each player must confirm their commitment to its objectives and to their individual development plan as agreed with the SqA High Performance Manager.

b. If a selected Team member withdraws, is withdrawn or is declared unfit to continue as a Team member (for any reason), the SqA High Performance Management Team may replace that Team member with a further selection. This discretion is absolute and need not be exercised.

6. Deselection and Suspension

A player selected for the Team may be suspended or deselected if the SqA High Performance Management Team, at its absolute discretion, considers that the player:

a. due to illness or injury, becomes unable to perform to a standard deemed satisfactory by SqA. SqA may obtain and act upon medical advice for determining whether a player's physical condition warrants deselection for this purpose.

b. demonstrates a lack of training or tournament preparation required to perform to the best of their abilities, this includes non-participation in training camps or selected events.

c. breaches or fails to fulfil a requirement of the Anti-Doping or Match-Fixing policies of SqA, WSF or other approved agencies; or

d. has breached the requirements of this Policy, any SqA rule, regulation, by-law, team agreement or any other regulation (ether SqA or otherwise) applicable to the player by virtue of their membership in the Team and/or their participation in the sport of squash or the Player Code of Conduct Policy

7. Selection Date, Notification and Announcement

a. The selection panel will consist of the SqA National Junior Coaching Team. The SqA High Performance Manager will coordinate the selection process.

b. Players who are selected to be a member of the Team will be notified via written or verbal communication by a member of the SqA High Performance Management Team of their selection.

c. The team will be selected after the EOI closing date. The Team will be announced on 10 February 2020. If a player has not been personally notified of their selection by this date, that player can assume that they have not been selected for the Team.

d. For the avoidance of doubt, a player is not considered to be a member of the Team until his or her selection has been announced on the above date.

8. Athlete Obligations Once Selected:

Once selected to the Team, and to remain selected, players shall:

a. Agree their training and competition programme with the SqA High Performance Management Team in preparation for the event.

b. Maintain status as a member of the Team in good standing with their State / Territory squash association and with SqA; and

c. Demonstrate commitment to the Team by maintaining or improving their fitness levels and ensuring that their competitive performances are maintained at a high standard appropriate for competition at Trans-Tasman Test.

d. If an injury occurs to a selected player after nomination they will be required to demonstrate an appropriate level of fitness (as determined by SqA) to remain as a selected player on the Team.

e. Athletes must provide medical clearance when requested by SqA as per the athlete agreement.

f. Failure to satisfy the above criteria by a player may result in the player being moved to the non-travelling reserve position in the Team or being removed from the Team entirely.

g. Attendance, behaviour and performance of players will be constantly reviewed and continued selection will be dependent on these factors.

9. Appeals

Appeals will be conducted in accordance with, and governed by, the procedures provided in the Squash Australia Appeal Process.

10. Funding

Team members will be required to self-contribute towards some of the cost of the event. Full details on this contribution will be provided when a player is informed of their selection.