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## BADMINTON SOUTH AFRICA - SQUAD SELECTION PROCESS

- 1. Introduction.** A squad is a group of exceptionally talented players identified with the potential to make national teams and about developing future champions. Emerging squads are focussed on nurturing, gaining experience through exposure and talent identification. This Policy will apply to all BADMINTON SOUTH AFRICA (BSA) senior and junior squad selections except for those events that have their own specific selection criteria, for example Commonwealth Games, Commonwealth Youth Games, etc
- 2. Selectors may use their discretion where extenuating circumstances are present.**
- 3. National Senior Squad.**

The National Selectors will make the final decision on selections. This panel will take into account results achieved from both domestic and international events. Dedication as expressed in maintaining minimum fitness levels as prescribed by the National Head Coach is mandatory.

  - a. Player Eligibility
    - 1) It is mandatory to enter both the SA International and SA National Championships.
    - 2) Additionally, a player must participate regularly (70%) in SA Open events and be eligible to play in accordance with BWF General Competition Regulation
- 4. National Emerging Squad**

The National Selectors will make the final decision on selections. This panel will take into account results achieved from both domestic and international events. Dedication as expressed in maintaining minimum fitness levels as prescribed by the National Head Coach is mandatory (see current minimum fitness levels annexure A) Focus will be on nurturing, gaining experience through exposure and talent identification.

  - a. Player Eligibility
    1. It is mandatory to enter either the SA International or SA National Championships.
    2. Additionally, a player must participate regularly (70%) in SA Open events and be eligible to play in accordance with BWF General Competition Regulation
- 5. National U19 Squad**

Entry to the SA National U19 championships is mandatory. The junior selectors will be permitted to take into account results achieved from older age group events (seniors), both domestic and international. Dedication as expressed in maintaining minimum fitness levels as prescribed by the National Head Coach is mandatory.

Consideration will be given to results and performances from the domestic competitions list below; any athlete wishing to be considered must compete in three of the four tournaments below:

a) Player edibility

1. U19 SA Championships is mandatory
2. Two of the three remaining U19 Open Tournaments held annually is mandatory

## 6. Emerging U19 Squad

Entry to the SA National U19 championships is mandatory. The junior selectors will be permitted to take into account results achieved from older age group events (seniors), both domestic and international. Selection will be, but not limited to performance. Consideration will be given to talent and commitment. Dedication as expressed in maintaining minimum fitness levels as prescribed by the National Head Coach is not mandatory but desirable. Results and performances from the domestic competitions list below will be taken into account; any athlete wishing to be considered must compete in three of the four tournaments below:

a) Player edibility

1. U19 SA Championships is mandatory
2. Two of the three remaining U19 Open Tournaments held annually is mandatory

## 7. SA Junior Squad (U13, U15 and U17) Selection Criteria

This Policy will apply to BSA Junior Squad selections ie U13, U15 and U17. Please read the undernoted carefully.

The SA Junior Squad is seen as an emerging squad. Selection will be, but not limited to performance. Consideration will be given to talent and commitment. Dedication as expressed in maintaining minimum fitness levels as prescribed by the National Head Coach is not mandatory but desirable.

The junior selectors will be permitted to take into account results achieved from older age group events, both domestic and international as well as results obtained in senior events.

There is no right of appeal for junior squad selections.

### I. U13 and U15 Squad Selections

Junior Selectors will consider results and performances from the junior domestic competitions listed below:

any athlete wishing to be considered MUST compete in the U13 or U15 National Championships, plus two of the regional tournament whichever is applicable.

1. U13 or U15 National Tournament
2. Two U13 or U15 Regional Tournaments

## II. U17 Squad Selections

Entry to the SA National U17 championships is mandatory Junior Selectors will consider results and performances from the junior domestic competitions listed below: any athlete wishing to be considered must compete in the U17 National Championships, plus three of the four tournaments below:

1. U17 National Tournament
2. Two U17 Open Provincial Tournaments

## 8. Exemption Criteria for all team selections

Exemptions to domestic competitions will be considered in exceptional cases e.g., injury or illness. This will be at the discretion of the National Junior Selectors (for U13, U15, U17 and U19); and the National Selectors (for Senior); and must be agreed in advance, with medical evidence provided, if appropriate. In the case of overseas players written exemption must be obtained in advance from the national Coach or National Junior Coach, National Selectors or National Junior Selectors as well as the High Performance Structure and ratified by the BSA Board.

## 9. Appeals

It is only possible to appeal non-selection for senior and U19 squad selection and not U17, U15 and U13 squads

A Senior/U19 player has the right of appeal to BADMINTON SOUTH AFRICA; and any such appeal must be received in writing within 3 days of the date of a letter indicating non-selection; or within 3 days of the date of a selection letter sent to another player. Such letter of appeal requires to include a cheque for R300 payable to "BADMINTON SOUTH AFRICA". Coaches or Provincial Associations will not be permitted to appeal on behalf of athletes.

There will only be two grounds for appeal:

- (a) that the selection was not made according to due process or in accordance with the agreed criteria;

(b) that there was unreasonable bias or conflict of interest in one or more of the selectors.

Any such appeal must be lodged within three days from the date notification is received by the appellant. The appellant will require to lodge a deposit of R300 with any such appeal. If the appeal is successful, the deposit will be refunded. Otherwise, the deposit will be forfeit.

Badminton South Africa Appeals Panel meet to consider any appeals at a pre-arranged time – this Appeals Panel consists of BSA Legal Council (Chair), one BSA Executive Board member not from the same province as the appellant and not in any way associated with team selection or high performance and one individual fully paid-up independent member in good standing.

The Panel's decision on the Appeal is final and is formally advised to the appellant as soon as possible following the Appeals Panel meeting. Only in the event of the Appeal being upheld will the R300 payment is reimbursed.