



## BWA Representative Player Selection Procedure

### U12 - U14 - U16 - U18 - Masters - HQ Champs

#### How are the selectors appointed?

- Selectors nominate via the BWA website, and the MDM recommends to the BWA Board of Management as per the selection criteria.
- The BWA Board of Management appoint a Selection Committee per age group. These members agree to perform their duties per the signed Selector Agreement document, following the Representative Selection Committee procedures.
- BWA appoint either the MDM or the DO to the relevant Selection Committee.

#### How do trials work?

- Player nominations are exported directly from the online Representative Player Nomination forms.
- The MDM/DO prepares teams/groups for the first week of trials based on representative history, playing position, competition level (playing division) and approx. numbers required per position/session from the overall number of participants.
- The initial groupings are a starting point – the remaining trials' teams/groups are influenced by the selectors rankings based on their observations and approx. numbers required per position/session from the overall number of participants (see next section for further details).
- How field playing positions are considered:
  - Striker** – includes a left, centre and right (also traditionally referred to as 'left/right wing' and 'centre forward')
  - Midfield** – includes a left, centre and right (also traditionally referred to as 'left/right inner' and 'centre half')
  - Half** – includes left and right, these are outside defenders
  - Defender** – includes a high and low, these are central defenders (also traditionally referred to as fullbacks)
- The MDM/DO allocates an identification number (trial bib number) alphabetically by Surname, which remains the same throughout the entire trial period. Selectors and coaches are provided with relevant details for each nominee at trial games (personal details are not provided).
- Coaches are asked to ensure all players receive equal game time and have an opportunity to play in both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> preferred playing positions (as per their nomination). Players are encouraged to speak openly to coaches if they wish to trial in a certain position and haven't yet had the opportunity.

- BWAHA appoint experienced coaches to run the teams/groups at trials, with the intent of providing trialling players a quality experience and exposure to the representative process. These include representative/ development coaches, and experienced representative players.
- There are 3-4 weeks of trial games scheduled per age division. The 4<sup>th</sup> week, only if required, *may* be a squad trial wherein a smaller group of players *may* be required to participate in an additional trial game. This is designed to further assist the Selectors to make final decisions around player selections, specifically if a player has not been selected in a Southern Cross squad.

### **What is the selection process?**

- Selectors are provided with two sets of documents listing each player's nomination. *For club fixtures*, the document contains their playing division(s), club shirt number, preferred playing positions, and representative history to use whilst watching weekly fixtures during the trial process. *For trial games*, the document contains their identification number (trial bib), preferred playing positions, and representative history to use whilst watching the trial games. This particular document is updated weekly, as the trials progress and players are allocated to different teams/groups. Selectors keep all documents throughout the trial process.
- Selectors are required to rate each player from 1 – 7, every week; (1 = highest skill level displayed/game sense) to (7 = lowest skill level displayed/game sense). The ratings also reflect the expected selection/standard of a player, i.e., a rating of '1' is relevant to a selection into Brisbane Team 1, and so on.
- Selectors are required to make comments/notes supporting their rating of each player.
- Selectors confidentially discuss/meet after each trial discussing the outcomes and thoughts of each player / team requirements where possible. Each selector advises of their ratings per player, and an average rating is formed. These average ratings are then used each week to re-sort the teams/groups for trials.
- Selectors confer with the rep/development coaches at trials for opinions on performance etc.
- Selectors and MDM/DO discuss any player movement between trial sessions – this will depend on the strategy that selectors introduce to see players perform, some examples include but are not limited to;
  - Prospective team v Prospective team
  - Strong Midfield & Striker lines v Strong Defensive lines

### **What is the Southern Cross Tournament and why is it so important?**

- The Southern Cross is a day carnival between Associations within South-East Queensland. U12\* – U18 age groups compete at the Southern Cross, prior to the State Championships. \*U12's is the only age group which does not attend a State Championships.
- The Southern Cross is a vital stage to the BWA selection process, for U14, U16 & U18 age groups.
- The Southern Cross Committee determine the competition rules stating that only 1 team from the Southern Cross Associations may participate in Division 1. The Southern Cross Committee have approved 4 BWA squads per age group to compete at the Southern Cross since 2017.
- The Chair of the Selection Committee completes the Selection Pro Forma listing the 4 squads\* of players to compete at the *Southern Cross*, along with shadows and non-selected players.

\*Southern Cross squads may vary from 14 – 16 players pending the recommendation of the Selection Committee.

Selectors may request to move players during the day to different squads, in consultation with the MDM/DO.

- Appointment letters are sent via email to all selected players, to compete at the Southern Cross. Team lists are sent via email to clubs for distribution and released on the BWA website.
- The appointed BWA selectors and MDM/DO will attend the Southern Cross as the final stage of the selection process for the State Championship teams.

### **What happens after Southern Cross and how are players notified of their selection?**

- The Chair of the Selection Committee completes the Selection Pro Forma listing the selected teams to attend *State Championships*, which is ratified by the BWA Board of Management.
- The Pro Forma will list respective teams and shadows and list all non-selected players (players ranked per position).
- New appointment letters are sent via email to all selected players to compete at the State Championships. Team lists are sent via email to clubs for distribution and released on the BWA website.

## Withdrawals, player movement and playing for another Association;

- If a selected player **withdraws**, the MDM shall refer to the Pro Forma pertaining to that age groups' selected players and the shadow list (of ranked players). They will discuss with the Chair of Selectors on appropriate replacement(s) and contact players individually.
- Depending on which team the withdrawal occurs in, and generally what position they play, there will be **player movements** from below – e.g., if a Brisbane 3 player withdraws, a Brisbane 4 player will be promoted into Brisbane 3, and a shadow will be promoted into Brisbane 4 etc.
- On occasion, other Associations contact BWA seeking additional players to fill their teams – this is considered a temporary '**release/clearance**'.
- If BWA receive requests from other Associations, the MDM will confirm the playing position(s) and number of players the Association is seeking and will then refer to the Pro Forma with the shadow list (of ranked players).
- *The opportunity to be given a release is based on the playing position, and where that player in ranked on the Pro Forma.*  
*Players do not need to express their interest to be released* - it is assumed that all players are interested and available for this opportunity.
- If multiple Associations are requesting players at the same time (which is common), a 'first come, first serve' process is adopted, and the MDM will work their way down the shadow list (and at times the non-selected list) until the list is exhausted.
- On occasion, these requests come from a neighbouring Association who need additional players to *also attend the Southern Cross* (mostly U14 – U18 age groups). As the Southern Cross is considered a part of BWA's selection process, any player receiving this opportunity is advised that:  
*- if they accept this offer, in the event that a selected Brisbane player withdraws from a BWA team, BWA will **not**\* be contacting them in the first instance to be included into a Brisbane team – i.e., they will stay with the released association, and BWA will call another player. Should they decline this offer, they will remain on the shadows list, with no guarantee to attend either tournament.*

The intent of this is to minimise the disruption for the regional Associations' team, make coordination for Association Staff/volunteers streamlined, and to increase the possible opportunity for more players to participate.

\*BWA still retains to the right to recall any player back into a Brisbane team if necessary, so this will only occur if all avenues have been exhausted and BWA still needs to promote a player into their team(s).

- Players who withdraw from selections, or a Brisbane team (after being selected) are not permitted to be released to play for another Association.

- Players (including shadow and non-selected players) are strictly not permitted to pre-arrange or negotiate playing for another Association.

#### **Can I request feedback about my selection?**

- Feedback requests will only be accepted from **non-selected players**.  
Players who are selected in a Brisbane team or as shadow will not be eligible for feedback.
- Feedback must be made via your club secretary in writing to the MDM (email).
- Feedback can only be requested, **48hrs after State Championship teams are announced**.  
Any requests made 2 weeks after team announcements will not be accepted.
- The MDM will approach the Selection Committee to provide the feedback, which will then be passed back to the club secretary via email.
- Feedback will not be provided during the trial process, which includes the Southern Cross tournament.

Refer to the BWA Operations Manual ('About' section on the website) for a full copy of our Associations rules.