

# ACT Men's and Mixed Netball Association Inc.

## Representative Player selection policy

### 1. Principles

The ACT Men's and Mixed Netball Association Inc. (ACTMMNA) strives to provide development opportunities for all interested players, while ensuring we field competitive teams to represent our Association annually at the Australian Men's and Mixed Netball Association (AMMNA) Australian Championships.

In this policy, the ACTMMNA sets out the criteria and processes that apply to selecting athletes for 'the Griffins' representative program and teams. Note, this policy does not apply to the selection and appointment of coaches and other representative team officials.

Athletes wishing to trial for selection in a Griffins representative team must carefully read this policy to understand the requirements and expectations of them as representative players. Any athletes who are unable to meet the requirements may be ineligible for selection.

### 2. Trials

The ACTMMNA Executive Committee (ACTMMNA Executive) will undertake a selection process for its representative teams annually. The Committee will notify its members and the public of the time and place of trials. Notification will generally be published via social media accounts of the ACTMMNA, on the ACTMMNA website, or by other means including emails, flyers or physical advertisements.

Trials will be held over at least two (2) dates – with athletes expected to participate all scheduled trials unless an exemption is granted by ACTMMNA. Additional trials may only be convened with the approval of the Committee at the request of the Selection Panel for a group of players to attend and demonstrate their suitability for one or more representative teams in exceptional circumstances.

Where notification has occurred to the ACTMMNA Vice President Game Development (at [actmensnetball.vpgamedev@outlook.com](mailto:actmensnetball.vpgamedev@outlook.com)) prior to trials, athletes who are unable to attend any trial sessions may seek consideration for placement in a team under the ACTMMNA Exemption Policy (see further information below). Exemptions from the trials process will be considered on a case-by-case basis ACTMMNA Executive and Selection Panel. Selection into a team will be determined by the Selection Panel and endorsed by the ACTMMNA Executive.

The format and content of the trial process will be determined by the ACTMMNA Executive on the advice of the Vice President Game Development and appointed Head Coach for the coming season. Trials may consist of any, or all of the following tests, including fitness, skills assessments and game play.

### 3. Selection panel

The appointment of a selection panel will be a decision of the ACTMMNA Executive annually to support each new/annual selection process. The Executive will consider the advice of the Head Coach and the Vice President Game Development in formulating the panel. The Vice President Game Development will act as the Convenor of Selectors, and will in consultation with the ACTMMNA Committee, lead the selection process, including allocating administrative and other tasks to various members or association volunteers as required to support the trial and selection process.

All appointees to the selection panel are required to disclose any material conflicts of interest they have (or may have) in performing their duties as a selector. The Vice President Game Development will put in place any processes required to mitigate conflicts of interest, or manage other risks as deemed appropriate. All procedural arrangements and communications will be copied to the Association Secretary at [actmensnetball@outlook.com](mailto:actmensnetball@outlook.com) as a fair and transparent record of all processes.

#### a) Selection panel duties:

The Vice President Game Development will convene the selection panel prior to the first trial to discuss the selection process and advise on any matters pertaining to the organisation of the trial/s sessions.

At the trials, the selection panel will observe all players fairly across a range of skills and drills, as well as match play situations. By consensus, the selection panel will finalise all athlete lists to comprise the representative squad and individual teams to be ratified by the ACTMMNA Executive. Recommendations will also include endorsed training partners. Where there is not consensus amongst the selection panel, the ACTMMNA Executive may be consulted with the final decision resting with the appointed Head Coach and the ACTMMNA President.

#### b) Approval of selections by ACTMMNA:

Players and teams (including training partners) selected by the Selection Panel are subject to the approval and endorsement of the ACTMMNA Executive. Players will be notified of their selection into a representative team within five (5) days of the final selection process, and once the team lists have been approved and ratified by the ACTMMNA Executive. This communication process will be managed by the Vice-President Game Development, copied to the Secretary at [actmensnetball@outlook.com](mailto:actmensnetball@outlook.com).

Any players not selected will be afforded the opportunity to gain feedback from the Selection Panel. Any requests for feedback are to be provided in writing to the Vice President Game Development at [actmensnetball.vpgamedev@outlook.com](mailto:actmensnetball.vpgamedev@outlook.com) within five (5) working days of notification of non-selection. Feedback representing the views of the Selection Panel will be provided in writing within 5 working days by the Vice President Game Development.

The content of any selection discussions or decision is absolutely confidential and is not to be shared with anyone outside the Selection Panel or the ACTMMNA Executive. No communications, other than the formal processes outlined directly above are to be entered into.

## 4. Player Selection Criteria

The objective of the ACTMMNA is to select players into the Griffins Program who have the qualities and competencies required to compete at the Australian National Championships. Athletes who take pride in representing the ACT and will strive to perform at their best are key to the development of the Association, along with increasing our player base and providing junior development pathways.

The selection criteria considered by the selection panel will incorporate assessment of technical and physical athletic capability. The selection process will also consider personal and individual characteristics such as team fit, and future development opportunities such as including athletes in the squad as training partners.

All players must be a financial member of the ACTMMNA (or have the ability to become a financial member). Any athlete with outstanding monies owing to the ACTMMNA will not be considered for selection.

## 5. Other Player Considerations:

### a) Age eligibility

For any aged representative team, the player's age at the time of competing in the AMMNA National Championships must be consistent with any age eligibility criteria set by AMMNA. Currently, the following age criteria apply:

Division	Maximum age of the player on 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year of the championship*
17 and under	17 years old
20 and under	20 years old
23 and under	23 years old

*\*For example, a player that turns 17 before 31 December, or is older than 21 in the year of the championships will not be eligible to play in the 17 and under division, but can play in the 20 and under division.*

Any exemption to this age criteria must be approved by the ACTMMNA Executive and requires the prior approval of the AMMNA prior to the National Championships. There is no guarantee that an age exemption will apply, even if a player has limited experience in netball and/or other exceptional circumstances.

### b) Exemptions

As detailed above, the ACTMMNA may grant an exemption to a player who is ineligible for selection if, in the view of the Selection Panel, the player has demonstrated ability to add value to the performance of ACTMMNA teams. This is subject to formal approval processes, and despite an application does not assure access to a team by any player. The exemption process is outlined in the Griffins Program Athlete Trial Exemption Policy and is available on the ACTMMNA website.

## 6. Selection appeal process

If a player wishes to appeal the decision made by the Selection Panel as endorsed by the Executive, they may appeal that decision to the ACTMMNA. Any appeal must be made in writing to the Secretary of the ACTMMNA within five (5) business days of the official announcement of the relevant

team/s. Any communications to the Secretary of ACTMMNA notifying of an appeal should be sent by email to [actmensnetball@outlook.com](mailto:actmensnetball@outlook.com). Requests will not be considered by any other means of communication.

The ACTMMNA Executive or an Independent Reviewer will endeavour to provide its decision in relation to any appeal within fourteen (14) days of receiving the player's notification of appeal.

## **7. Player responsibilities and commitment**

Athletes nominating for selection should consider all requirements of this selection policy prior to trials. If an athlete is selected into an ACTMMNA representative team within the Griffins Program, they must agree at the point of acceptance of their offer to:

- a. Comply with the AMMNA and ACTMMNA policies, codes of conduct and any other relevant policies of both bodies in place before and during the National Championships
- b. Attend all compulsory training and fitness sessions in accordance with the Head Coach and Team Coach programs.
- c. Establish and maintain a level of fitness and performance required for representative athletes.
- d. Seek medical advice, and abide by that advice to maintain health and well-being and manage any injuries sustained, during the National tour build-up and in-tournament.
- e. Meet all financial commitments, as and when payments fall due, in line with the progress payment schedule advised at the time the athlete is made any offer in team.

## **8. Squad withdrawal and replacement players**

It is inevitable that due to extenuating circumstances following trials and player selections that a player may need to withdraw from a team. In addition, a player may be removed from a team if they have not met the player responsibilities and financial commitments outlined above, and as determined by the ACTMMNA Executive. Any return of deposits or funds paid to that point will be determined by the ACTMMNA Executive on a case-by-case basis to ensure that the Association is not financially disadvantaged. ACTMMNA begins incurring costs on behalf of athletes from the moment their selection is accepted, the majority of which are non refundable.

Following acceptance of a position within the ACTMMNA squad, if a player wishes to withdraw from a team they must do so in writing to the Vice President Game Development as soon as practicable at [actmensnetball.vpgamedev@oulook.com](mailto:actmensnetball.vpgamedev@oulook.com). Players should ensure this step is completed in addition to informing team coaches and staff.

In some circumstances, due to athlete withdrawal or removal from the program, any replacement player will be determined in consultation with the program coaches and confirmed by the Executive. Advice may be sought from the Selection Panel.. No communication with training partners is to occur by any Team Coach or Officials until all financial and other logistical considerations are considered by the ACTMMNA Executive.

## 9. Changes to this policy

This policy remains in force from its date of publication, or until such time as the ACTMMNA Committee amends the policy. The current version of this policy will be made available on the ACTMMNA website.