



ACT Team Selection Guidelines

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out guidelines for the ACTBA committee and selectors when selecting individuals and representative teams for competition events.

Selection is a difficult process involving many contributing factors, interests and emotions. If the selection process is clearly and widely understood, seen to be fair, transparent and unbiased, then selection disputes will be minimised and results will be optimised.

Selection is not an issue in the ACT partly because presently there are not many high performance players. The number of players in the ACT willing to participate in competition\national events is relatively small.

However, for the selection process to be successful, the ACTBA should allow the players fair and full opportunity to display their worthiness for selection and then also ultimately gives them the best possible opportunity to fulfil the aims of the ACTBA at the competition.

This document should be used as a guide only and should be revised as required as the circumstances arise.

Objectives (why do we need these guidelines)

The objectives of these guidelines are to:

- a) Provide a consistent, transparent and co-ordinated team approach to badminton at all levels of the badminton community,
- b) Provide players with the best possible safe, positive and healthy experiences
- c) Ensure equal opportunities for all players to participate in representative badminton
- d) Encourage and promote life long and active participation in badminton, from grass roots to elite,
- e) Foster supportive environments for enjoyable participation in a wide variety of physical activities, though the development of skills and good sporting behaviour
- f) Encourage the allocation of appropriate resources and facilities
- g) Actively cater for talented players

Rationale of the selection process.

The aim of the selection process should be determined by the type of event/championship being considered.

For a **senior championship** (masters, veterans, Interstate Open and Ede Clendinnen) the ACTBA selectors aim to select senior players identified as adding value to the team as a whole and the possibility of gaining experience in order to develop for the future.

For a **junior championship** event the ACTBA selectors aim to pick players:

- a) with the ability to achieve a medal result at that particular junior championship,
- b) identified as having the potential to develop into representatives at the senior national level
- c) with the aim of giving them the opportunity to experience a team environment and a carnival format.

Badminton Australia has produced a draft Junior Badminton Policy which is not available yet.

What are the Selection Criteria

The selection criteria are:

- Selection at various interstate Tournaments,
- Specified ACTBA events within a whole season
- Rankings
- Head to head competitions
- Selection training programs

Selection of ACT Junior (age U19) team

With the help of the ACTBA Match Secretary and ACT Badminton coaches, the ACT Junior Team will be selected immediately following the ACT Championships and junior training sessions. This will consist of a minimum of 4 boys and 4 girls. The selection should be based on seeding, performances, commitment, etc.

BA organises 4 national events and other states also organise Open events in which the selected team should attempt to participate. Examples of national events are:

Australia Youth Olympic Festival (NSW)

Val Nesbitt Trophy U15 (Vic)

June Bevan Trophy and Australasian U17 Championships (NZ)

CP Madden Trophy and U19 (Vic)

Selection of ACT Teams for:

ACT (Senior- age 19 and above) Team

Open to all age groups. Players should be willing to compete in Open events around Australia and/or the national event such as Ede Clendinnen Shield.

If numbers are low, players will team up with the Northern Territory team.

Veterans Events - Eaglehawk\Bendigo in Victoria
BVASA, Lockleys, Adelaide
Ballarat, Victoria
Albury, NSW

Players must be 40 and above to compete in these events.

International Masters – this event is held once every 4 years
Players must be 30 and over to compete in these events.

Australian Masters – this event is held once every 2 years
Players must be 35 and over to compete in these events.

University Games – This event is held yearly. Due to the poor membership of student members, the UC Badminton club has no interest in setting a team for this event as the players must be students of the University and players must pay for their own expenses.

Reasons for not being selected

- a) Some of the reasons why a particular player may not be selected are
 - injury, illness
 - any legitimate unexpected reason that results in a player being unable to compete in trials or other events used as the basis of selection criteria e.g family bereavement, etc).
- b) Failure to finish a selection trial or event for any legitimate, unexpected reason.

Eligibility Criteria

- a) Players must be within the appropriate age group for the particular event
- b) Sign Team agreement and/or abide by the code of conduct

Any remaining position/s will be filled at the discretion of the ACTBA selectors.

Stakeholders

The **key stakeholders** in developing this policy and their roles are:-

- The **ACT Badminton Association** – approval of the ACT Team Selection guidelines; oversee the development of the guidelines and ensure effective consultation with all stakeholders
- **Affiliated Club Presidents** – assist in the development of the draft guidelines; consult club members; implement the guidelines at the Club level.
- **Coaches** – integral in the acceptance of the modifying of rules and procedures and changing the culture of the sport
- **Officials** –the development of and able to implement, modified rules for the sport
- **Players** – the participants who will benefit from the implementation of the guidelines
- **Parents** - the critical supporters of the players who need to be informed and involved in the guidelines and its development
- **Administrators** - the Club and Regional administrators who are the direct link for all information pertaining to the document

Selection of a Team Manager

Each team should have a Team Manager.

The duties of a Team Manager are to:

- act as a chaperon to the players
- provide moral support and encouragement for players
- arrange accommodation and transport
- help in fund raising activities e.g. DISCO !, KAROKE !, Raffles

Safety Guidelines

General

The provision of safe environments is essential for Badminton. It is therefore necessary that those conducting Badminton:

- (a) are sensitive to the long and short-term medical conditions of participants;
- (c) insists that the Badminton facilities and equipment are appropriate and safe;
- (d) insists that participants wear the appropriate protective equipment;
- (e) creates quality learning environments by encouraging accredited coaches and
- (f) encourages coaches to maintain current first-aid qualifications.

Physiological considerations

Fluid

A regular pattern of fluid intake should be encouraged as part of all practice and playing activities.

Stress

Players experience stress in Badminton as a consequence of parent, coach and officials' attitudes and expectations.

Coaches, parents, etc should not impose unrealistic goals on players but instead, offer support and encouragement.

Drugs and sport

The use of drugs does affect sporting performance, general health and well-being. Education about the use/miss-use of performance enhancing drugs should be made available to players in order to develop appropriate attitudes and an understanding of the issues.

Coaches, team Managers, etc should emphasise participation rather than performance outcome, sound training practices and a healthy lifestyle as factors that contribute to enhanced Badminton performance.

Nutrition

The nutritional needs of players are affected by their level of activity, and correlates to player performance.

Weight Training

A safe, practical and productive strength program can prepare players for the demands of Badminton. Strengthening their muscles, joints and connective tissue is an

excellent precautionary measure against injury. To avoid injury at any level, weight training should only take place under the supervision of a qualified instructor. Strength training should only be a supplement to a broad movement experience in which skill development should be the major physical focus.

Medical considerations

Some players have medical conditions that may affect their participation in Badminton. Coaches and team managers need to be sensitive to participants with long term conditions, such as asthma, epilepsy or heart and lung disease and be able to deal with any emergency.

Medical advice should be sought when the fitness or performance of a participant is questioned or when recovery from illness or injury is in doubt.

Facilities and equipment

Organisers should:

- (a) maintain safe facilities and equipment;
- (b) adequately supervise participants during sessions;
- (c) ensure that protective equipment is available for use at training and competition;
- (e) modify equipment, rules and court dimensions, as required; and
- (f) cancel practice and competition when there is evidence of unsafe playing conditions.

The **roles and responsibilities** of coaches, players, administrators, parents and officials are given in the next few pages

COACHES

- Remember that young people participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
- Never ridicule or yell at a young player for making a mistake or not coming first.
- Be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport and teach your players to do the same.
- Ensure that the time players spend with you is a positive experience. All young people are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- Avoid overplaying the talent players; the just-average need and deserve equal time.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. Encourage players to do the same.
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep an up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Any physical contact with a young person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background and religion.

PLAYERS - General

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit, so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- Treat all participants in your sport as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Do not walk across a court when the game is in progress.

In addition to General Code of Behaviour, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by ACTBA:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow players, coaches, officials and spectators.
2. Do not tolerate acts of aggression.
3. Respect the talent, potential and development of fellow players and competitors.
4. Care for and respect the equipment provided to you as part of your program.
5. Be frank and honest with your coach concerning illness and injury, and your ability to train fully within the program requirements.
6. At all times avoid intimate relationships with your coach.
7. Conduct yourself in a professional manner relating to language, temper and punctuality.
8. Maintain high personal behaviour standards at all times.
9. Abide by the rules and respect the decision of the official, making all appeals through the formal process and respecting the final decision.
10. Be honest in your attitude and preparation to training. Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
11. Cooperate with coaches and staff in development of programs to Adequately prepare you for competition at the highest level.

OFFICIALS

- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level and needs of young people.
- Compliment and encourage all participants.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Emphasise the spirit of the game rather than the errors.
- Encourage and promote rule changes which will make participation more enjoyable.
- Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Give all young people a 'fair go' regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

ADMINISTRATORS

- Involve young people in planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making related to the activity.
- Give all young people equal opportunities to participate.
- Create pathways for young people to participate in sport not just as a player but as a coach, referee, administrator etc.
- Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules are modified to suit the age, ability and maturity level of young players.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction for junior players.
- Remember that young people participate for their enjoyment and benefit. Do not overemphasise awards.
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development and help improve the standards of coaching and officiating.
- Ensure that everyone involved in junior sport emphasises fair play, and not winning at all costs.
- Give a code of behaviour sheet to spectators, officials, parents, coaches, players and the media, and encourage them to follow it.
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Support implementation of the National junior Sports Policy.
- Make it clear that abusing young people in any way is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Parent/Guardian

As a parent/guardian of a player/participant in any activity held by or under the auspices of ACTBA, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any such activity or event:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
2. Remember that your child participates in sport for their own enjoyment, not yours.
3. Focus on your child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
4. Never ridicule or yell at your child and other children for making a mistake or losing a competition.
5. Show appreciation for good performance and skilful plays by all players (including opposing players).
6. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with or in the vicinity of persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
7. Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
8. Do not physically or verbally abuse or harass anyone associated with the sport (player, coach, umpire and so on).
9. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
10. Be a positive role model.
11. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behaviour.