

# AUSTRALIAN TEAMS

# 5.1

## DEFINITION

- 1 An Australian representative team is defined as a team of competitors and officials, which is selected in accordance with the procedures laid down by the Council and which participates in an international competition on behalf of Orienteering Australia.
- 2 The Manager, Coach, Medical Officer, Physiotherapist and other officials appointed by the Board are also members of the team.
- 3 A reserve is not a member of the team unless appointed to the team in the event of a vacancy occurring.

## TEAM SELECTION

### Selection Panels

- 4 The Council shall determine the composition of Senior and Junior Selection Panels for the selection of Foot Orienteering teams and squads and an MTBO Panel for the selection of Mountain Bike Orienteering teams and squads. The panels shall be appointed for a period of two years from the Annual Conference in each odd-numbered year. Each of the Panels shall consist of not less than three selectors. The Council may determine that one or more positions on a selection panel are to be filled *ex officio*.
- 5 Nominations in writing to the Executive Officer may be made for membership of the Selection Panels but the Board may also nominate selectors. The Board may make recommendations on the membership of the panels to the Annual Conference for consideration by the Council. The Selection Panels shall be responsible to Council through the Board.
- 6 The Chairperson of Selectors-for each panel shall be appointed by the Council at the Annual Conference in each odd-numbered year for a period of two years. The Chairperson shall consult with relevant team/squad coaches and managers to ensure that all suitable candidates for selection are considered.
- 7 The Senior Selection Panel (foot) shall be responsible for the selection of the National Squad and all Australian senior representative teams including World Championships teams (refer to Operational Manual 5.2 "World Championships Teams"), World Cup teams and Bushrangers teams.
- 8 The Junior Selection Panel (foot) shall be responsible for the selection of the National Junior Squad, National Junior Development Squad and all Australian junior representative teams including Junior World Championships teams (refer to Operational Manual 5.3 "Junior World Championships Teams").
- 9 For selection of teams across age groups (such as for World University Championships) and where selection of veteran age groups is required (such as Australia/New Zealand Challenges) the selection panel shall consist of the Manager, High Performance (as chairperson) and respective chairs of the Junior and Senior Selection Panels (foot).
- 10 The MTBO Panel shall be responsible for the selection of all Australian Mountain Bike orienteering teams and squads including World MTBO Championships (refer to Operational Manual 5.4 "MTBO World Championships Teams").
- 11 Each member of a Selection Panel is expected to be personally familiar with current orienteering standards and recent performances of all orienteers who are likely contenders for team selection. He/she should be in a position to make such information available to the Selection Panel or the Chairperson of the respective panel as required, and to utilise such

information impartially in the selection of Australian teams and squads.

12 If not otherwise a member of the respective Selection Panel, the Coach(es) and Manager(s) of a particular team may be non-voting members of the respective Selection Panel and may participate in discussion as they see fit.

13 All decisions with respect to selection shall be made through the active participation of all members of the respective Selection Panel at face to face meetings or, with the agreement of all members of the respective Panel, using suitable alternative communications, on an occasion formally called with adequate notice. In the event of a tied vote on any selection decision, the chairperson of that panel shall have a casting vote.

14 Members of Selection Panels shall be ineligible to vote or take part in discussion on selection of the class in which he or she, or a member of his or her immediate family, or a partner, is a contender for selection.

15 No member of the Selection Panel shall seek to partake in public discussion, either verbally or in writing, of the merits of individual contenders for team selection.

16 Where a member of a panel vacates their position, or is unable to take part in a specific selection (e.g. due to inability to attend a selection trial, or a conflict of interest as defined in clause 14), the Board may fill that vacancy as required, either temporarily or for the remainder of that member's term in office.

### **Eligibility**

17 Eligibility for selection in an Australian team as defined in paragraph 1.1 shall be subject to the nominee being a fully registered member of a State/Territory Association affiliated to OA.

18 A candidate for selection in an Australian team shall not be considered in the following circumstances:

- Suspension from competition by the IOF, OA or an affiliated state/territory association at the time of selection or team competition.
- The provision of false information to OA.

### **Selection Criteria**

19 The objective of a team's selection process is to select a team that is likely to be most successful in competition at the event for which the team is selected. The following selection criteria should be applied to give the respective Selection Panel the latitude to pick the best possible team.

20 The primary guide to selection shall be performance in previously nominated selection trials or selection events in Australia and, where appropriate for overseas based orienteers, at nominated overseas events. Selection events for teams shall be determined by the respective selection panel and shall be ratified by the OA Board. Where selection events are held a significant period apart, higher priority shall be placed on the more recent event. Where an orienteer is precluded from competing in a nominated event because of being involved in its organisation, performance in other events may be used in consideration of his/her merits for selection.

21 High priority shall be given to selecting a team, which can be expected to behave in a harmonious and responsible manner. Previous unacceptable behaviour by an orienteer as determined by the Board shall be taken into account by the respective Selection Panel and may result in that orienteer being excluded from selection.

22 As secondary criteria, recent performances in high standard events, both in Australia and overseas, performance in previous Australian teams and likely performance in the anticipated competition terrain shall be considered.

- 23 The respective Selection Panel should take account of any exceptional circumstances affecting the performance of team candidates in a selection event (e.g. illness, potentially unfair aspects of course setting). Any team candidates who consider they have a case for special consideration are responsible for advising the Chairperson of the respective Selection Panel in writing.
- 24 If some candidates have trained or competed on the map or area prior to the selection trial, the effect of this experience should be taken into account.
- 25 The eligibility for selection of persons residing in Australia who are not Australian nationals shall be subject to the rules governing the relevant competition.
- 26 In selecting the team, the respective Selection Panel may select more than the required number of competitors in a class with final selection to compete taking place immediately prior to the event.
- 27 The respective Selection Panel may submit less than the permitted number of competitors if it considers that insufficient persons of the required standard are available for selection.
- 28 If further selection of runners from the selected team is required for a specific competition, this shall be the responsibility of the Team Coach who may consult with the Team Manager, Team Captain and other team members as he or she sees fit, unless an alternative procedure has been determined by the Council. In the event of no Coach being appointed to the team, the Team Manager (or appointed Team Leader) shall have this responsibility.
- 29 Orienteers wishing to be considered for team selection may be required to advise the Chairperson of the respective Selection Panel in writing by a specified date. The requirements for nomination shall be determined by the respective Selection Panel and advised to orienteers through either The Australian Orienteer or the OA High Performance website not later than 3 months before the specified date. The respective Selection Panel may consider for selection persons who have not nominated by the due date, but such persons do not have the automatic right to be considered.
- 30 Nominees for a team should state at the time of nomination that they are reasonably sure that they will be able to compete in the team if they are selected.
- 31 The Director, High Performance or a nominated OA Board member must be advised of the composition of any Australian team and approve its announcement.
- 32 World Championship teams shall be announced within 14 days of the conduct of the final selection trial for that team.
- 33 The Board may make selection in any Australian team or squad conditional on the signed return of an Athlete Agreement for the specific team to the Manager, High Performance.

**Team Reserves and Changes**

- 34 The respective Selection Panel when selecting a team may nominate team reserves, and may nominate an order of preference for those reserves. Reserves shall be advised of their nomination at the time when the team is announced.
- 35 In the event of a vacancy occurring in the team, the Team Manager shall consult the Chairperson of the respective Selection Panel who will determine whether the vacancy is to be filled and, if so, will fill the vacancy with an orienteer who is acceptable to the respective Selection Panel. Any reserves named under clause 34 (in order, if an order has been nominated) shall fill vacancies ahead of anyone who has not been named as a reserve.

36 The Team Manager shall advise the Chairperson of the respective Selection Panel of any known or expected vacancies in a team as soon as practicable.

### **Team Captain**

37 The respective Team Management/Coaching group for each Team may appoint a Team Captain (or Captains) when the Team is selected or at such time as they feel appropriate. Any appointment will be decided on suitability to perform the anticipated duties of Captain and shall not be limited by sex, age class or competitive ability.

38 The availability of the Captain for all team competitions and formal training shall be established before the appointments are confirmed.

### **Medical Fitness**

39 Selection in any team is subject to a reasonable expectation of being medically fit at the time of the competition.

40 Team members may be required to undergo a fitness assessment prior to departure for the event. If an athlete is reported as injured, medically unfit, or physically unfit, and if the loss of fitness or the seriousness of the injury (or other medical condition) and the period for (full) recovery are of a nature that the performance of the athlete at the event is likely to be compromised, the athlete may be replaced in the team by a nominated team reserve.

41 If required by the Team Medical Officer (or Team Manager if no Medical Officer is appointed), all team members must have complete medical examinations as soon as they are selected to the team. These medical reports must be sent to the Team Medical Officer immediately.

42 Injuries or illness incurred by team members at any time between the selection of the team and the start of the competition (or international event) must be examined immediately by a qualified sport medicine professional who shall provide a written report detailing the nature and severity of the injury or illness and provide a prognosis on the likely time needed for full rehabilitation to the OA Manager, High Performance.

43 Team members must inform the Team Medical Officer (or Team Manager if no Medical Officer is appointed) of any therapeutic substances ingested within the previous six months.

44 The Team Manager must make team members aware of the lists of proscribed doping substances.

45 Team members using doping substances to improve performance will automatically be expelled from the team.

46 Injuries incurred by team members immediately prior to international events must be examined by the Team Medical Officer (or Team Manager if no Medical Officer is appointed) and the result of that examination must be communicated to the Team Manager and Coach.

## **APPEALING TEAM SELECTION**

### **Initiating an Appeal**

47 An athlete wishing to appeal the selection of a team shall do so in accordance with the provisions of Clause 5 of OA Operational Manual 1.21 Appeals.

**Grounds for an Appeal**

- 48 The only grounds for any appeal to an Appeals Tribunal are that:
- The applicable Selection Criteria have not been properly followed and/or implemented;
  - The Athlete was not afforded a reasonable opportunity by OA to satisfy the applicable nomination criteria; or
  - There was no material on which the Selection decision could reasonably be based.
- 49 The overriding aim of selection is that the principles of natural justice are applied. The Appeals Tribunal shall consider this when assessing the appellant's case.

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