

Member Protection Policy - *Part N – Rep Selection*

Version Control

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Approval

Delegation required for approval: UPNA Board of Management

Approving officer:

Name: Rachael McCurdy Position: Chairperson

Signature:  Date: 22/08/2022


Purpose and Background

The ***Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.*** strives to provide the opportunity for all players to represent the association at a level suitable to their ability. The ***Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.*** provides the opportunities to progress through the ***Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.*** player development pathway and the Netball Queensland pathway. ***Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.*** provides exposure for players to competition at a State and National level.

Policy Statement

Through the selection of representative teams, the *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* aims to:

- I. Ensure all identified players are given equal opportunity to be considered for a team and provide them with skill development opportunities to assist them reach their potential.
- II. Provide suitably qualified coaches and professional services that adhere to *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* and Netball Queensland policies and procedures.
- III. Develop best practice management strategies to provide a safe environment for all athletes and officials to effectively participate in *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* representative teams

	Underwood Park Netball Association	Document: REP SELECTION
	Policies & Procedures	ID: PART-N Issue 2. 22/08/2022

Applicability

This policy applies to *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* and persons identified in Member Protection Policy Clause 3.

Definitions

Refer to the definitions outlined in the Member Protection Policy's (Clause 20).

GBNL – Greater Brisbane Netball League - A representative competition for players in the U 16 – Open age groups to play in weekly fixtures from April/May through until September/October.

State Age – A representative competition for players in the U 12 -18 age groups, held over a 3/4-day weekend as designated by Netball QLD

TP – Training Partner. Player not initially selected to the team, but will be brought up into team following another players withdrawal

Selector – Person nominated to select representative players


Selection Panel – Group of Selectors

Head Selector – Chairperson of Selection panel

Procedure

1. Selection panel

- I. The selection committee, to select all *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* teams, shall consist of up to 5 selectors and they shall be appointed by the *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.*
- II. **All Independent Selectors** must act in accordance with Policy “Part N.01 – Rep Selection Procedure” and complete (or have completed) training on this Policy.
 - a) *Independent selectors are deemed to be those who have had no hands-on involvement in the day-to-day representative program within Underwood Park, or where invited, they shall not have had personal coaching knowledge of the participants in the age group they are selecting in. All selectors are required to complete the Selectors course available on the Australian Sport Learning Centre and be available for both selection trials sessions.*
- III. Coaches for teams **will not** be assigned teams at trials, however, will have been assigned to an age group. Those coaches are invited to observe the trial process and will be required to attend a collaborative meeting with the independent selectors at the conclusion of the second week of trials to discuss the final team selections and provide reasoning if they deem players selection should be reconsidered. Once teams have been finalized coaches will be advised of the team they have been allocated.
- IV. The Representative Coaching Coordinator will act as the Head selector and will act as Chairperson on the selection of all final team selection choices.


	Underwood Park Netball Association	Document: REP SELECTION
	Policies & Procedures	ID: PART-N Issue 2. 22/08/2022

2. Selection Processes

- I. All athletes wishing to be considered for selection into an *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* team must complete and submit the appropriate online nomination form (ensuring two playing positions are given) and pay the nomination fee prior to selection trials.
- II. *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* will appoint a suitable qualified selection panel, which adheres to the *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* policies and procedures (refer to document “Part N 0.1 – Rep Selection – Selectors Procedure”).
- III. Selectors must use and fully complete official records provided by the Association and use only the trialist sheets provided. Documentation must be returned to the Head Selector at the completion of each trial session.
- IV. Only those records maintained by the Selection Panel will be deemed the official record of the trials. Other notes taken by outside parties will not be considered as official trial information and are not admissible in appeals/disputes.
- V. Selectors shall select such squads/teams and officials as are required and as determined by the *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* from time to time. Teams shall only be formalized if enough trialists to select a team where every position is covered and there are three training partners (if possible). As such a squad shall be named or no team at all (see also point 3.VI).
Such squads/teams may include but are not limited to:
 - a) GBNL (Under 16, 18, 23 and Opens)
 - b) State Age (Under 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18yrs)
- VI. The selectors may select
 - a) Up to 15 players in the GBNL
 - b) Up to 10 players in any State Age Teams

3. Eligibility

- I. All selected players must be (or become) registered members of Netball Queensland.
- II. Selected players must also be registered and playing in a current *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* club team during the subsequent winter season**.
All players must play at least 3 games in an *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* registered club team during the subsequent winter season and at least one of these games must be played prior to the event in the case of State Age teams.
If a player fails to meet these criteria, then the *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* may impose a penalty in that they will be ineligible to be selected in a representative team for the *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* for a period of up to twelve (12) months from the date of the event or up to and including the same event in the following year.
** U18 and Opens GBNL players and players granted individual exemption by the UPNA board are not required to meet this expectation, however, must attend all training sessions as gazetted by their coach and the Association. Failure to request an approved absence may result in an imposed penalty of ineligibility to play GBNL fixtures or retriial for a period of up to twelve (12) months from the date of the event.

	Underwood Park Netball Association	Document: REP SELECTION
	Policies & Procedures	ID: PART-N Issue 2. 22/08/2022


- III. 16 & 17 Ages – where Netball QLD facilitate a competition grade at State Age for these ages, all eligible players are required to trial for State Age teams first as a priority over to being considered for a 16's or 18's GBNL teams. **Individuals may not elect to trial only for GBNL only** – Unsuccessful trialists for State Age, may trial for GBNL.
- IV. Selection into the teams will be based on performance at the selection trials held for each competition. In certain circumstances previous performances may also be considered. deemed relevant by selectors
- V. Athletes named in representative teams will be notified individually
- VI. Where insufficient nominations are received or the selectors deem that the nominations received will not be able to enter a team competitive in the division nominated, then the selectors may decide not to select a team in that age group for that competition. Where insufficient nominations are received or the nominations received are not positionally balanced for a team, then selectors may hold nominations open for a limited period and further trials may be held.

4. Criteria for Selection

- I. The major criterion for selection will be the performance of the player at the trials held for that competition.
- II. Areas of performance considered will include:
 - a) The skill level of the player
 - b) The fitness level exhibited by the player
 - c) The performance of the player as a member of the team
 - d) The attitude and behavior of the player on and off the court

5. Athletes Inability to attend set trials

- I. If a player is unable to attend a trial due to injury or illness:
 - a) Where possible the player will be invited to attend trials for the same competition, however in a different age group
 - b) If this is not possible the selectors may consider past (12 months only) *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* representative team experience and performance of that player to "paper grade".
- II. If a player is unable to attend a trial event due to school camp or other compulsory school event:
 - a) Written evidence of the camp/event must be supplied to the selectors, from the school
 - b) The player will be invited to attend trials for the same competition. However, in a different age group
 - c) The player may be looked at and considered by the selectors in a club game if available
 - d) If this is not possible the selectors may consider previous (12 months only) *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* representative team experience and performance of that player to "paper grade".
- III. If a player is unable to attend a trial due to other reasons:
 - a) The selectors have the discretion to allow the player to be considered for selection into the team in extraordinary circumstances
 - b) Written proof of the circumstances may be required in this situation

	Underwood Park Netball Association	Document: REP SELECTION
	Policies & Procedures	ID: PART-N Issue 2. 22/08/2022

6. Team Selections

- I. Team Members must sign the athlete/s contract within two weeks of team selection and return to the association, along with the required security deposit
- II. Team Members must pay the applicable fees, dependent on the competition they are competing in. This fee will be reviewed on a year-by-year basis. This amount will need to be paid **prior to the competition start date**. The team will be notified in writing of the due date and amount upon selection in a team
- III. Upon announcement of an athlete as selected in a representative team. All training components and activities set by the team coach and/or *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* are deemed compulsory by *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.*
- IV. All Representative commitments have priority over club and/or school team training/activities
- V. If special circumstances exist, then players may apply to the rep coordinator for relaxation of the rules regarding training and carnival attendance. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and evidence may be required as to the circumstances

7. Squad Selections


- I. Should the Association determine that a "Squad" shall be named, rather than teams, At the time of the relevant squad selection, selectors are to name no more than twenty three (23) athletes for selection in the State Age, age group, or fifteen (15) players for selection in a single team (e.g. GBNL)
- II. Final Team/s to be named no later than six (6) weeks prior to the competition commencement.

8. Feedback on trial

- I. All players may request to receive feedback on their trials
- II. All requests must be made in writing to the chairperson of Selectors within one (1) week of the program announcement date and feedback will be given after consultation with the selectors
- III. Feedback may be given after trials for representative teams, at the discretion of the head selector

9. Athlete Injury/Illness

- I. Any athlete selected for a representative team whilst carrying a current injury or medical condition, or any athlete that becomes ill or injured during training, must provide a medical clearance to be able to return to training or competition.
- II. Should it be decided, on the medical advice provided, that rehabilitation is unlikely to occur in time to allow the athlete to be a worthwhile contributor to the team efforts, the

	Underwood Park Netball Association	Document: REP SELECTION
	Policies & Procedures	ID: PART-N Issue 2. 22/08/2022

Underwood Park Netball Association Inc. will omit the athlete from any further training and competing as a member of the team

- III. Any replacement athlete must be selected according to the following criteria:
 - a) Any Training Partners (TPs) listed in the team, who are consistently attending training, who covers the positions vacated by the withdrawn player/s, must be considered first.
 - b) If no TPs are listed or no TPs are attending training or the TPs attending training do not cover the vacated positions, the Coach (with approval from the Head Selector) may invite players not selected in the team to attend training sessions and decide whether to offer them a position in the team.
 - c) It is to be clearly understood by any athlete, invited to attend the training session/s that selection is not automatic because of attendance at a training session.

- IV. If an athlete withdraws from selection due to injury or illness, no penalty will apply, and the player may be considered for selection in future representative teams.

- V. If an athlete withdraws from selection (after team or program selections have been announced) due to other specified or unspecified reasons, and the *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* does not see this as fit to warrant a withdrawal on reasonable grounds, then a penalty will be applied.

- VI. For withdrawal on unreasonable grounds, the *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* may impose a penalty in making that player ineligible to be selected in a representative team for *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* for a period of up to twelve (12) months from the date of withdrawal or up to and including the same event in the following year.

10. Appeals

- I. An aggrieved person may appeal against a failure of the selectors or the *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* to comply with procedures set down in this policy. That is, an appeal may only be made on **procedural grounds only**, not on the merits of a particular selection decision.
- II. Any protest or complaint must be lodged within seven (7) days of the selection decision being made
- III. Any appeal must be lodged in writing including:
 - a) The decision of the selectors or *Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.* in question
 - b) The grounds on which the appeal is made
 - c) The reasons or circumstances supporting the alleged ground for appeal
- IV. Nothing in this policy prevents the withdrawal of an appeal at any time in writing.

Related Document

Underwood Park Netball Association Inc.' Member Protection Policy