

TOWNSVILLE BASKETBALL

Junior Representative Program

Player Selection Policy

Updated – August 2017

Reviewed – November 2018

PURPOSE

The aim of the selection policy is to define the process by which Townsville Basketball (TBI) will identify outstanding athletes to enable teams to be selected to Representative Program Teams that will represent Townsville at the next and future QNJBC and Basketball Queensland State Championships for each age group and gender.

Townsville Representative Program Teams include:

1. Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18 teams (Heat & Flames)
2. Development Teams that underpin the representative teams in each age group listed above (Lightning & Sparks)

1. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Athletes seeking selection to a TBI Representative Team must comply with all of the following to be eligible for selection:

- a. Athletes must be registered members of Townsville Basketball Inc.
- b. Athletes must be currently playing in the relevant age group competition at Townsville Basketball or demonstrate an intention to do so immediately following selection into a representative team
- c. Athletes must attend selection trials as determined by the TBI Basketball Development Manager. Exemptions from attending selection trials may be granted at the discretion of the Townsville Basketball after receiving an exemption request in writing (as detailed in Appendix 1) from the athlete concerned and the athlete complies with all other selection criteria.
- d. Under 16, and Under 18 athletes must also comply with the following requirements:
 - Basketball Australia Centre of Excellence Program Scholarship Holder, in the year of selection

PLEASE NOTE: Players who trial and/or compete for other associations are ineligible to trial (or may be deselected if this occurs after selection into the Representative Team or the training squad).

2. ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA

Please note that subjectivity is an unavoidable element of selection although we work to the following criteria:

- a. Meet the eligibility criteria set out in Section 1 - including birth certificate if required
- b. Completion of a Nomination Form and lodge this with Townsville Basketball within the prescribed timeframe to be considered for selection.
- c. The player is financial (i.e. has no outstanding debts) with Townsville Basketball and all Affiliated Clubs.
- d. Ability to compete successfully at the Basketball QLD State Championships in the current year or in the future.
- e. A history of successful past performances at the following:
 - Australian Junior Championships;
 - Basketball QLD State Championships;
 - Past Townsville Basketball representative teams;
 - State Performance Program or FDP squads;
 - TBI Domestic Club Competitions;
 - TBI Development programs.
- h. Demonstrated Physical ability: Demonstrated high level of performance at selection trials, sessions and games as specified for selection purposes.
 - Including athletic ability, including an attitude or desire and dedication to become a player at the highest possible level.
 - Assessed competencies in physical conditioning to perform at a maximum effort.
- i. Demonstrated acceptable and applied behaviour; Potential to be socially compatible and display a sense of “team ethic” within a group.
- j. Demonstrated self-drive & attitude Demonstrated attitude to become an exceptional basketball player.
- k. Demonstrated coachability - be highly receptive to coaching and be co-operative within the team coaching environment.

- Assessed competencies in comprehension of verbal and visual instruction and the ability to execute skills and competitive play following instruction.
- I. Demonstrated self-drive: with a demonstrated attitude of excellent self-discipline and standards of personal behaviour.
 - Outstanding desire and commitment to working hard at improving mental, physical and basketball skills.
 - m. Competency & Skill level; Assessed competencies in technical skills and competitive play
 - o. Game sense competency; assessed competency at game standard level being able to adapt and perform at the higher level

3. ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURE

- a. Athletes wishing to be considered for selection to a TBI Representative Team must complete a Nomination Form (that may be an on-line form) which will provide contact details, an outline of their playing history. The player's parent or guardian must also sign and acknowledge that they have a responsibility to pay for the debts incurred as a result of their child's selection to a TBI Representative Team. The estimated cost of selection will be detailed in the Nomination Form.
- b. Townsville Basketball will appoint a Head Coach for each TBI Representative Team.
- c. The Head Coach and the TBI Basketball Development Manager agree on a Representative Team Selection Panel for each age group prior to the trials.
- d. The Selection Panel will assess the ability of the players to meet the demands of a Representative Team Program.
- e. All recommendations from the Selection Panel must be approved by the Townsville Basketball General Manager prior to notifying the athletes.
- f. A minimum of 6 and a maximum of 8 hours of trials will be conducted, after which the TBI Representative teams are announced.
- g. The selection panel for each team will consist of the Head Coaches of the Division One (Heat & Flames) team, the Head Coach of the Lightning & Sparks teams (where applicable) and one other independent person appointed by Townsville Basketball.
- h. Candidate players must be provided with the selection criteria prior to every selection session. All players have the responsibility of reading the selection criteria (available on the TBI website) prior to the Selection Trials.

- i. Members of the Selection Panel will attend trials, TBI Development program sessions and practice games until the final team selection is made after the nominated trial dates set by Townsville Basketball. Each selector will have one equal vote. Majority decision will apply. The Townsville Basketball General Manager has the power to overrule selection decisions if it is felt that a selection is not appropriate.
- m. At each stage of the selection process an athlete is entitled to and can request written feedback on their performance.
- n. The final teams, plus reserves, will be announced subsequent to the completion of the relevant trial period.
- o. Players offered a spot on the selected team will be given at least 2 months to meet any payments necessary to represent Townsville Basketball
- p. Players who do not meet the instalment payment schedule will not be eligible to attend the event and their spot will be offered to a reserve. Townsville Basketball does offer assistance to athletes who are experiencing financial difficulty. You should consult the Townsville Basketball General Manager in these circumstances.

4. NOTIFICATION OF ATHLETES SELECTION OR DE-SELECTION

- a. At the conclusion of the trial period, the selection panel will meet to determine athletes who have been successful in selection into Townsville Basketball representative teams or age group squads
- b. All athletes who registered and / or attended the trials, will be notified by email within a reasonable time frame by the TBI Basketball Development Manager of their selection or de-selection into a TBI representative team or squad
- c. Following this notification to athletes, Townsville Basketball will advertise the names of the selected athletes via our website and social media channels where appropriate
- d. Where a “squad” is named, all players in the age group or gender of the squad will be named. The squad will continue to train together until final teams are selected. The selection panel is required to attend all squad training sessions until final teams are selected.
- e. Following the selection of final teams from the squad. The notification process will occur as outlined in section 4. (b) and (c).

5. CONDITIONS THAT ATHLETES MUST COMPLY WITH IF THEY WISH TO BE SELECTED

Athletes should make themselves available for all training sessions.

Athletes in exceptional circumstances who are unavailable to train or play scheduled selection trials must contact Team Staff as soon as practical to discuss the issue. A medical certificate from a doctor or physiotherapist should be supplied if athletes are unable to attend a session for medical reasons. Situations of other sport commitments will not be considered as exceptional. Commitment to the Townsville Basketball Representative Team should be a first priority to maintain a position within the team.

6. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REGARDING ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION

Townsville Basketball may choose to provide team selectors with a list of approved players who have gained exemption from all of the Selection Criteria, but who will still be considered for selection. Selection will then be undertaken on the basis of the merits of all the eligible athletes to the best of the selectors' ability and knowledge. It is not intended that being on this list will either enhance or prejudice athletes' chances of selection nor is it intended that not being on the list will enhance or prejudice the chances of the athletes in attendance at trials.

7. PROCEDURE FOR ATHLETES WHO HAVE A VALID REASON FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH ALL ELIGIBILITY OR SELECTION CRITERIA/ PROCEDURES.

Any athlete who believes that they have a legitimate reason for being unable to comply with any part of the above selection eligibility, criteria and/or procedures may appeal to TBI by lodging the appeal in writing to the TBI reserves the right to consider each case on its merits with the decision of TBI being final. Legitimate reasons could include such situations as:

- Being unable to trial because of injury (medical evidence must be provided about the extent of the injury and the prognosis so that selectors can determine if the athlete will be available for the State Team if selected).
- Inability to gain release from an elite basketball development program (such as the Australian Centre of Excellence). Written evidence must be provided.
- Inability to gain release where the player is under written, paid contract to elite basketball teams (such as NBL or WNBL teams). Written evidence must be provided.

7. RELEASE OF ATHLETES FROM SQUAD AND/OR TRAINING COMMITMENTS

1. Athletes who are in Basketball Australia programs or are scholarship holders at the Australian Centre of Excellence will give priority of commitments to the Basketball Australia programs when they clash with the Townsville Representative Program training.
2. Under 18 athletes who have written, paid contracts with NBL, WNBL or QBL teams must meet their contract obligations to that team as a first priority when their team commitments

clash with the Representative Team Program training. The Head Coaches of these identified teams may agree to release their athletes to the Townsville Representative Program.

3. Athletes who have Basketball Queensland National Performance Program Scholarships must give the commitments of this program first priority when the commitments clash with Representative Team training or games.

8. PAYMENT OF FEES

- a) Townsville Basketball wishes to support junior players to enable participation in all Townsville Basketball Representative Teams that compete in Basketball QLD State Championships and the QNJBC Competition. There is, however, a cost in participating and players, through their families, must pay these fees to be eligible to participate in State Teams. Where there are special circumstances, Basketball Queensland offers assistance to families of all representative team players. This assistance can provide payment plans entered with families to provide for payment spread over a longer period.
- b) The participation by players of that family in Townsville Basketball Representative Teams is conditional upon either payment in full of the relevant fees or strict compliance with the payment plan.
- c) If fees are not paid or if the payment plan is not strictly complied with, Townsville Basketball in its absolute discretion may remove a player of that family from participation in a Townsville Basketball Representative Team.
- d) A player may not be selected in a Townsville Basketball Representative Team if the family has a past history of non-payment of fees and non-compliance with payment plans as determined by TBI in its absolute discretion.
- e) This policy is the last resort for Townsville Basketball who have an obligation to all participants to treat all families fairly in relation to payment of fees.