



SELECTION POLICY FOR PLAYERS SEEKING SELECTION TO 2010 TAC CUP



Objectives of Selection Policy

The objectives of this Policy are:

1. To clearly document and make available to all Players eligible to play in the TAC Cup, their parents and the member clubs of AFL Victoria, the process and criteria to be used by AFL Victoria and its member clubs in selecting Players for TAC Cup club training squads, Player lists and match teams to compete in the TAC Cup in the year 2010; and
2. To select Players to compete in a high standard competition in the TAC Cup so as to enable them to develop to their full potential as a football Player and to equip them for a career in Australian Football.

Application of Policy

1. This Policy is issued by the Board of Directors of Football Victoria Ltd.
2. This Policy shall take effect from 1 February 2001.
3. This Policy applies to all clubs which participate in the TAC Cup and to all Players eligible to play in the TAC Cup as set out the "AFL Victoria TAC Cup Competition Rules and Regulations" and "AFL Victoria TAC Cup Competition Player Rules" issued by AFL Victoria.

Definitions

The following words used in this Policy shall mean the following:

"Affiliate" means any of the organisations engaged in the control and conduct of football clubs and football competitions in Victoria including the Victorian Country Football League (VCFL), Victorian Metropolitan Leagues and the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA).

"Club" means any one of the following football clubs, namely Bendigo Pioneers, Calder Cannons, Dandenong Stingrays, Eastern Ranges, Geelong Falcons, Gippsland Power, Murray Bushrangers, North Ballarat Rebels, Oakleigh Chargers, Northern Knights, Sandringham Dragons, and Western Jets.

"Club Training Squad" means, in respect of each Club, a squad of up to 120 Players selected for the purposes of determining the Player List.

"Player List" means, in respect of each Club, the list of Players required to be lodged and maintained in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the TAC Cup Competition.

"Match Team" means, in respect of each Club, the team of Players which are selected to play a match in the TAC Cup Competition.

"Player" means a person who meets the requirements set out in clause 4 of this Policy.



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“Region Manager” means the person employed or appointed by AFL Victoria in such role in the regions as prescribed by AFL Victoria.

“Selection Panels” means in respect of each Club, the persons appointed under clause 5 of this Policy.

Process of Selection

1. Each Club shall invite Players, as determined by the club’s Selection Panel to be members of its Club Training Squad. The grounds which the Club must take into account when offering such invitations are set out in clause 6.1.
2. In order for Players invited into a Club Training Squad to participate in that Squad and to be considered for selection to the Player List and Match Teams, each Player invited to a Club Training Squad must:
 - a. be eligible for registration with AFL Victoria as a Player for a club in accordance with the “AFL Victoria TAC Cup Competition Player Rules” , and
 - b. complete and sign, along with their parent or guardian, the application for selection form and return it to the Club to which they have been invited to be a member of the Club’s Training Squad by a date advised to the Player by the Club.
3. Each Club’s Selection Panel will review the Player’s performance and other factors and by applying the Selection Criteria (as set out in Section 5) will select:
 - a. a Club Training Squad for the TAC Cup, by no later than 30 November 2009;
 - b. the Player List for the TAC Cup, by 10 March 2010; and
 - c. the Match Team for the TAC Cup by the Friday before each match.

The dates provided in 4.2(a), (b), and (c) may be amended at any time by the selectors, with any such changes communicated to all affected Players, Clubs, and Affiliates.

NOTE: The above dates are the latest dates by which the selections are to be completed. Clubs are entitled to identify and give notice to all Players of an earlier date on which such selections in respect of that Club will be made.

Selection Panels

1. Subject to clause 5.3, each Club shall appoint a Selection Panel which shall comprise of:
 - a. the Region Manager (or his nominee) in the region in which the Club is situated;
 - b. the Coach of the Club’s TAC Cup team;
 - c. other persons appointed by the Club, who has experience in the selection and/or coaching of Players for the TAC Cup or equivalent level.

Each club shall advise all Players on the club’s Training Squad and Player List the persons comprising that club’s Selection Panel.

2. The Region Manager (or his nominee) in each region shall be the Chair of each Club's Selection Panel in that region.
3. No person shall be appointed as a member of the Selection Panel if they have a personal association (e.g. family member) with a Player who is seeking selection to that Club's Training Squad, Player List and/or Match Team for the TAC Cup unless written approval is obtained from the Chief Executive Officer, or his nominee, of AFL Victoria.
4. AFL Victoria may also direct any member of any Selection Panel to vacate the relevant Panel where it considers, in its sole discretion, the Panel Member has an association with a Player which may give rise to a question or perception of bias or conflict of interest in the selection process.

Criteria for Selection

1. Each Club shall apply the following criteria in the selection of Players to be invited to the Club's Training Squad:
 - a. past performance of the Players including but not limited to club football, regional football representative teams, under 16 Carnival and Legend Series Matches, performance in the TAC Cup in the previous year;
 - b. potential of the Player in the Selection Panel's discretion, to perform well in the TAC Cup;
 - c. potential of the Player, in the Selection Panel's discretion, to play in the AFL;
 - d. ability of the Player to perform football skills (both general and specific positional skills) to a high level;
 - e. adequate fitness and athleticism of the Player,
 - f. versatility of the Player and their ability to play in a number of positions;
 - g. attendance by the Player at pre-season training and Club Training Squad training;
 - h. availability of the Player for training and games commitments prior to and including the TAC Cup; (Note: Players who have played with a school and/or club team the day before TAC Cup matches will be ineligible to play in that weekend's TAC Cup match, except in exceptional circumstances, e.g. due to late withdrawal by a player selected to a TAC Cup Team);
 - i. evidence of a positive attitude to training and commitment to team rules and principles as displayed in previous teams and squads;
 - j. evidence of a desire to play AFL or senior VFL football.
2. Each Selection Panel shall apply the following criteria in the selection of Players to the Club's Player List:



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- a. past performance of the Players including but not limited to club football, regional football representative teams, Under 16 Carnival and Legend Series Matches, performance in TAC Cup in the previous year;
 - b. performance in Club Training Squad and practice matches;
 - c. potential of the Player in the Selection Panel's discretion, to perform well in the TAC Cup;
 - d. potential of the Player, in the Selection Panel's discretion, to play in the AFL;
 - e. ability of the Player to perform football skills (both general and specific positional skills) to a high level;
 - f. adequate fitness and athleticism of the Player including meeting specific levels of fitness shown by testing and indicators;
 - g. versatility of the Player and their ability to play in a number of positions;
 - h. attendance at training by the Player;
 - i. availability of the Player for training and games commitments prior to and including the TAC Cup. (Note: Players who have played with school and/or club team the day before TAC Cup matches will be ineligible to play in that weekend's TAC Cup match, except in exceptional circumstances, e.g. due to late withdrawal by a player selected to a TAC Cup Team);
 - j. evidence of a positive attitude to training and commitment to team rules and principles as displayed in previous teams;
 - k. evidence of a desire to play AFL or senior VFL football.
3. Each Selection Panel shall apply the following criteria in the selection of Players to the Club's Match Team:
 - a. Performance at training, in Club Training Squad practice matches, and in previous TAC Cup matches, current Club Training Squad and practice matches as a List Player;
 - b. potential of the Player in the Selection Panel's discretion, to perform well in the TAC Cup;
 - c. potential of the Player, in the Selection Panel's discretion, to play in the AFL;
 - d. balance of skills and positions of Players in the team;
 - e. adequate fitness including consideration of injuries, illness etc;
 - f. attitude and understanding of game plan;
 - g. ability to continually improve over period of the TAC Cup season;
 - h. ability to assist other Players develop their football ability;
 - i. evidence of a desire to play AFL or senior VFL football.
4. No particular part of the selection criteria above shall be weighed more or less significantly by reason only of the order in which that criteria appears in the Policy.

Notification of Selection

1. Upon selection of the Club Training Squads, Player Lists and Match Teams the Region Manager in each region shall announce the Players selected respectively.
2. The Club Training Squads must be announced by no later than 30 November 2009
3. The Player Lists must be announced no later than 10 March 2010.
4. The Match Teams must be announced no later than the Friday before the relevant match.
5. The announcement will be done verbally and then notified to players by any of the following means: mail, local newspaper or as otherwise determined by the Club.

Appeals

1. Subject to clause 8.2, any Player who is aggrieved by a decision of a Selection Panel under this Policy may appeal that decision to the AFL Victoria Tribunal in accordance with rule 21 of the "AFL Victoria TAC Cup Competition – Rules and Regulations".
2. Before appealing under clause 8.1, the Player must go through the following process:
 - a. the Player concerned (or his representative) must inform the Chair of the relevant Selection Panel of their intention to appeal the decision and must meet or discuss with them the selection or non-selection decision;
 - b. if the Player is not satisfied with the outcome of the discussions in sub-clause (a) of this clause, then they must inform the Chief Executive Officer of AFL Victoria or their nominee of their intention to appeal and must meet or discuss with them the selection or non-selection decision.

Removal/Withdrawal from Selection

1. A Player who is selected to a Club Training Squad, the Player List or a Match Team under this Policy may be withdrawn from the squad/list/team if he:
 - a. breaches or fails to comply with this Policy;
 - b. breaches or fails to comply with the Constitution of AFL Victoria, the TAC Cup Competition Rules and Regulations and the TAC Cup Competition Player Rules;
 - c. brings any squad/team, his Club or AFL Victoria, or the sport of football into disrepute including behaving contrary to the aims and messages of the competition's major sponsor; or
 - d. has an illness or injury which in the relevant Selection Panel's opinion prevents the Player from continuing to meet the criteria for selection.



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2. Any selected Player may be withdrawn by the Selection Panel if any of the grounds in clause 9.1 occur. The Player's Club shall notify the Player in writing of the alleged breach or grounds upon which it is proposed that he be withdrawn. He shall be given a reasonable opportunity (not being less than seven days) to provide reasons why he should not be withdrawn.
3. A selected Player may withdraw from selection by giving notice in writing to the relevant Region Manager.
4. If a selected Player is withdrawn from selection, the Selection Panel may consider another Player who in the Selection Panel's opinion meets the criteria set out in this Policy.

Changes to the Policy

AFL Victoria may change this Policy from time to time, provided that it shall provide as much notice of such change as is possible to all affected Players, Clubs and Affiliates.

The Region Managers will take reasonable steps to give written notice to Players affected by any amendments and/or supplements to the Policy.