



# Representative Selection Policy and Procedure

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## 1. Version Control

Version No	Issue Date	Amendment Details	Endorsed by	Approved
0.1	28/02/2023	New Document	Yvonne Searle	
0.2	02/03/2023	Updates from Board Meeting	Yvonne Searle	
1	15/03/2023		Yvonne Searle	NQTA Mgmt Committee

## 2. Purpose

This policy is to ensure that North Queensland Touch Football selects the best available players to represent NQ Tropical Cyclones using a selection methodology that is equitable and replicable.

### 3. Scope

This policy covers the selection of all players who make themselves available across the following divisions.

- Open Division – Men’s, Women’s & Mixed**  
 Players selected into these divisions will be of the age required per the conditions of entry of the competition.
- Junior Divisions – 12, 14, 16, 18, 20.**  
 Players must trial in their age division in accordance with their date of birth. Players who want to trial up a division must submit written dispensation as per section 7 (e).
- Senior Divisions – Masters & Veterans**  
 Players may compete in any eligible age division of their choice as per the conditions of entry for the competition.

### 4. Definitions and Abbreviations

Word or Phrase	Definition
Affiliate	A local entity that conducts or administers touch football competitions and which is a Member.
Management Committee	As noted in the North Queensland Touch Association constitution and also known as the NQTA Executive Committee or NQTA Board.
Selection	In the process undertaken to ensure the best available players are chosen to represent North Queensland Tropical Cyclones.
Technical Panel	As noted in the North Queensland Touch Association constitution, includes Technical Director and Coaching Director.

### 5. References

[Play by the Rules ASC - Inclusion and Diversity](#)

[TFA Code of Conduct](#)

[Management of Conflict of Interest – to be developed](#)

### 6. Policy Statement

This policy outlines the criteria and steps taken to select representative players for North Queensland Tropical Cyclones. This policy applies to coaches, selectors and players who make themselves available for selection.

The policy details:

- Selection Criteria
- Selection Panel
- Calls for Expression of Interest (if applicable)

- Player Eligibility
- Team Composition
- Notification of Selection Criteria
- Selection and naming of teams/squads
- Player feedback
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest

## 7. Procedure

### 7.1 Selection Process

The Technical Panel and Management Committee will determine the format to select teams for National Youth Championship and National Touch League with final signoff by NQTA Management Committee.

The selection process will be available to all players and coaches prior to nomination for selection.

The specific selection process may be any of the below formats:

- a) Call for player expression of interest for selection aligned with selection of a team from a championship event. The maximum number of players accepted from a championship event shall equal the maximum allowed to play within the National Youth Championship or National Touch League Condition of Entry plus a minimum of 3 and maximum of 8 shadow players.
- b) Call for player expression of interest for selection aligned to a championship event and finalised at a team selection trial. The maximum number of players accepted from a championship to a selection trial shall not exceed 30 unless the coach can provide justification within statement of intent of this policy. Players that attend a championship shall not be displaced from a selection trial by players that are not in attendance at the championship. In cases where exemptions from attending the championship are approved, up to 30 players can be selected from the championship with successful exemptions added beyond 30.
- c) Call for player expressions of interest (EOI) for selection aligned with selection of a team from a selection muster. EOI for a selection muster shall not be capped. The maximum number of players accepted from a selection muster shall equal the maximum allowed to play within the National Youth Championship or National Touch League Condition of Entry plus a minimum of 3 and maximum of 8 shadow players.
- d) An alternate format implemented in response to an unforeseen disruptive event including but not limited to legislated health directive or extreme weather event.

### 7.2 Selection Panel

The selection panel will be made up of the team's coaching group. If player numbers at any team selection trials exceeds 30, coaches may seek the assistance of up to two additional selectors to be verified by the Technical and Coaching Director. The request must be forwarded to the Technical

and Coaching Director at least two weeks prior to the event or muster. Selectors for NYC will need to possess a Working with Children 'Blue Card'. All selectors must also meet the requirements of section 7.8 Declaration of conflict of interest.

### **7.3 Calls for Expression of Interest (EOI) (if applicable)**

If applicable to the selection format, an EOI will be called one month prior to the championship or muster event. The EOI will be notified by the NQ Operations Manager through the following communication pathways:

- Email to affiliates
- North Queensland Touch Football Website
- North Queensland Touch Football Facebook
- North Queensland Touch Association Instagram

Key points to be noted in the EOI:

- Selection format including date of championship/muster and relevant selection date.
- Coaches of each representative team.
- Estimated cost and inclusions/exclusions of tour levy.
- Details of any compulsory training events.
- Link to the selection policy.
- Link to relevant Tour Memo.
- Link to the conditions of entry of the championship, if available.

In cases where information is character limited, the communication shall include a link to the NQ Touch website news articles.

To assist with preparation for event talent identification and muster weekends, the EOI will ask for nominations to be completed one week prior however EOI will be accepted up until the final day of the selection event. If the number of players completing the EOI is less than 30 the coaching team can continue to recruit players up until the day of the muster.

Any player that was selected in the year prior will automatically be included in the muster squad. The player must lodge an EOI to indicate their acceptance of automatic inclusion into the squad. Players will be required to complete a dispensation form if they are not able to attend the championship event and will not displace a player that has been assessed and included in the muster squad as per section 7.1 (c).

### **7.4 Player eligibility**

Players are considered eligible for consideration in the selection process if they are a financial member of an affiliate within the North Queensland region and:

- a) Have lodged an EOI prior to the final submission of the final team list for approval by the technical committee.
- b) Have not participated in a non-TFA affiliated touch football competition in the previous 12 months.
- c) Have played a minimum of 5 games within Season 1 or Season 2 (Senior or Junior competitions)

- d) Are not subject to any current suspensions or judiciary penalties within a TFA affiliated competition.
- e) Must trial in their age group in accordance with their date of birth. Any player wishing to trial up an age division must submit written dispensation to the NQTA Technical Panel 7 days prior to the selection event.

## 7.5 Team Composition

The maximum number of players selected in each team will be determined by the conditions of entry of the event. The best available team will be selected. Where the selection of 16 players is allowed under the conditions of entry players 15 and 16 will only be selected where there is a benefit to the team and the players are on a par with the team in relation to skills and performance. An application will need to be forwarded to NQTA Operations Manager with approval to be provided by the NQTA Management Committee.

Note: Where 16 players are selected, two players will be required to sit out each game. The process for player rotation will be provided in writing to the NQTA Operations Manager or nominated delegate and will be communicated clearly to players by the coaching team.

## 7.6 Notification of Player Selection Criteria

The selection criteria will be reviewed by the Technical Panel and will be provided to coaches and players when EOI are called for. See Appendix A for Junior Selection Criteria.

The selection criteria will include an assessment of skills appropriate to the age division including catching, passing, roll ball, talking, organising, performing set plays and performing games policies. It will also include a measured fitness aspect.

Players will be provided the criteria for selection prior to the selection event/muster. Coaches are required to provide feedback on the specific skills and to record the times for the measured fitness aspect for each player. Feedback is required to be specific to each player based on their performance at the selection event/muster and be provided in a manner that will allow the player to improve their skills. Written feedback is to be provided to the NQTA office within one week following the selection event.

Players and/or parents/guardians can request written feedback via an email to NQTA Operations Manager. See section 7.10 for appeal of selection outcome.

## 7.7 Notification of Squads and Teams

Notifications of squads and teams will be announced in a timely manner (1-2 weeks) following the selection event/muster. Consensus must be reached by the coaching team based on the selection criteria. Naming of teams will be in accordance with section 7.5.

Squads and teams will be announced through:

- Email to players/parents/guardians
- North Queensland Touch Football Website
- North Queensland Touch Football Facebook
- North Queensland Touch Association Instagram

## 7.8 Declaration of conflict of interest

Any member of the coaching team, managers, selectors, NQTA Operations Manager and NQTA Management Committee must declare any family relationships to players within their respective division or approval process. Failure to declare the conflict of interest may lead to non-selection of the player, withdrawal of the player, removal of the coach, manager or sector and/or non-reappointment of staff for future representative tours.

## 7.9 Procedure for Dispensation for attendance at the Selection Event or Muster

A player may lodge a Request for Dispensation in writing to the NQTA Operation Manager for review by the Technical Director. A player may only request one dispensation per Championship e.g. a junior player may request a dispensation for attendance at Junior State Cup North or a dispensation for attendance at the Muster. A player cannot be granted dispensation from both events. The request for dispensation must meet the intent of the selection policy and provide adequate justification e.g. a medical condition will require medical certificate or letter from a health professional. A request for exemption due to attendance at another sporting event will only be considered if the other sporting commitment does not have an ongoing impact on the players availability for muster or training e.g. a national athletics carnival being held on the same weekend where any ongoing commitment does not clash with touch football commitments.

## 7.10 Appeal of selection process or denied dispensation request

A player/parent/guardian may lodge an appeal against the outcome of a selection process or a denied dispensation request. The application must be made in writing to the NQTA Operations Manager within 7 days of the notification of squads/teams or denied request for dispensation.

A selection appeal will be required to demonstrate that an equitable or consistent selection decision was not made and did not meet the intention of the Selection Policy with justification to be provided. An appeal against a denied request for dispensation will be required to demonstrate the intent of the policy has not been met with justification required.

Appeals will be referred to the NQTA Management Committee for final decision.

A register of appeals will be maintained. The appeals will be reviewed annually when this policy is reviewed.

## Appendix A

### Selection Criteria for Junior Representatives - Skills Expectations

#### U12 Boys - Age expectations

- Pass well on dominant side or on both sides, including spiral pass
- Accurate pass while running
- Accurate acting half pass off the ground
- Consistent catch technique
- 1 hand roll ball, 1 hand Initiate the touch
- Dominant hand roll ball side at speed
- Follow coach instructions and be a team player
- Eyes up to identify defenders
- Understand rucking and sub set plans
- Understanding of defence policies and where short side is
- Knowledge of some line attack moves and basic understanding of why

#### U12 Girls - Age expectations

- Pass well on dominant side or on both sides
- Accurate pass while running
- Accurate acting half pass off the ground
- Consistent catch technique
- 1 hand roll ball, 1 hand Initiate the touch
- Dominant roll ball side at speed
- Follow coach instructions and be a team player
- Eyes up to identify defenders
- Understand rucking to sub box side
- Understanding of defence policies and where short side is
- Basic knowledge of line attack options/plays

#### U14 Boys - Age expectations

- Pass well on both sides
- Accurate pass while running
- Accurate acting half pass off the ground
- Consistent catch technique at speed
- 1 hand roll ball, 1 hand Initiate the touch
- Ruck and roll ball at speed and roll ball well both sides
- Follow coach instructions and be a team player
- Eyes up to identify defenders and spaces
- Understand rucking sub sets,
- Playing to a plan in attack and defence
- Understanding of defence policies and where short side is
- Knowledge of line attacking plays

### U14 Girls - Age expectations

- Pass well dominant side (ideally both sides)
- Accurate pass while running
- Accurate acting half pass off the ground
- Consistent catch technique at speed
- 1 hand roll ball, 1 hand initiate the touch
- Roll ball/ruck at speed & roll ball well both sides
- Follow coach instructions & be a team player
- Eyes up to identify defenders
- Understand rucking sub sets,
- Playing to a game plan in attack and defence
- Understanding of defence policies and where short side is
- Knowledge of line attacking plays

### U16 & 18 Girls - Age expectations

- Strong and accurate pass on both sides
- Accurate pass while running at speed
- Accurate acting half pass off the ground, short and long
- Consistent catch technique while running at speed
- 1 hand roll ball at speed
- Roll ball/ruck at speed & roll ball well both sides
- Follow coach instructions & be a team player
- Eyes up to identify defenders, scanning
- Understand rucking sub sets, playing to a plan in attack & defence
- Knowledge of attacking plays
- Ability & knowledge to change plans, plays etc on the run at coaches advice & on field observations
- on real time game play (not going through a move just because, identifying the defenders positions)
- Follow coach instructions & be a team player

### U16 & 18 Boys - Age expectations

- Pass strong & accurate both sides
- Accurate pass while running at speed
- Accurate acting half pass off the ground, short & long
- Consistent catch technique while running at speed
- 1 hand roll ball at speed
- Roll ball/ruck at speed & roll ball well both sides
- Follow coach instructions & be a team player
- Eyes up to identify defenders, scanning
- Understand rucking sub sets, playing to a plan in attack & defence
- Knowledge of attacking plays



- Ability & knowledge to change plans, plays etc on the run at coaches advice & on field observations
- On real time game play (not going through a move just because, identifying the defenders positions)
- Follow coach instructions & be a team player

### Fitness Drills

To be provided to coaches prior to Muster.