



2025 STATE REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER SELECTION POLICY

1. Purpose and Scope

- 1.1 This document outlines NRL SA's policy, operational process and procedures for selection of players to participate in NRL SA representative programs for 2025.
- 1.2 This policy only applies to the specified teams and/or squads that are selected under the auspices of NRL SA as defined within this policy.
- 1.3 Selection of any other representative teams/squads not explicitly specified within this policy but falls under the auspices of NRL SA shall not be applicable to this policy. Should such teams require selection to be made, NRL SA shall advise at time of recruitment for players the process and policy for selection.

2. NRL SA Representative Teams/Squads

- 2.1 The teams/squads that this policy applies to shall be the following:
 - South Australian Senior Men's Squad and Team
 - Combined Affiliated States (CAS) Schoolboys Program
 - South Australian Schoolboys 17 Years & Under Squad and Team
 - South Australian Women's Squad and Team
 - Any other squad and team NRL SA determine that is applicable under this policy and is advised in writing prior to selection of squad and team
- 2.2 Any program run by School Sport South Australia (SSSA) for participation in school teams run by SSSA are not operated by NRL SA and falls under SSSA's selection policy and guidelines.

3. Selectors

- 3.1 Selectors for each team/squad listed in 2.1 shall as minimum consist of the NRL SA Operations Manager and the respective Head Coach appointed to team/squad.
- 3.2 The NRL SA Operations Manager at their sole discretion may formally appoint additional selector(s) to those in 3.1, including but not limited to assistant coaches, team managers, other NRL and NRL SA staff. Should this occur this will be formally notified on team/squad application process for players.

4. Player Selection Conditions

- 4.1 To be selected for any team/squad in 2.1, a player must:
 - a. meet the age requirements of the respective team.
 - b. be registered to a NRL SA affiliated club.
 - c. play matches for a NRL SA affiliated club during 2025 season.
 - d. comply with conditions of registering and participation in any selection trials. (Note 4.2 and 4.3).



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- e. for any Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Squads and Teams only, players must be enrolled and attend a South Australian Secondary School and must obtain from their School Principal a signed and completed Eligibility and Verification form, which includes confirmation of age, behaviour, and attendance at school is of suitable standard (as determined by individual player's school) to be a good ambassador for South Australian schools.
 - f. comply with all NRL SA codes, policies, rules and regulations, including Code of Conduct.
- 4.2 A player may be selected into a team/squad without having participated in selection trials due to personal or special circumstances. Such circumstances shall only be approved by NRL SA General Manager upon application via the NRL SA Operations Manager.
NOTE: the NRL SA General Manager may deem such circumstances to be of a private matter that requires details to be kept confidential.
- 4.3 All teams/squads in 2.1 shall have a trial that is "open" to all potential participants compliant with 4.1. Additional trials for players on an invitational only basis shall be made at the determination and sole discretion of Selectors. Players may be invited to the additional invitational only trials without having to attend the "open" trials as directed by the Selectors at their sole discretion for reasons identified under 4.2 and/or due to previous performance in Representative Teams.
- 5. Selection**
- 5.1 Due to the complex, multi-faceted and variable nature of the game, selection will involve subjective assessment by the Selectors. This may not necessarily mean the "best" available participant is selected as there are numerous intangible measures that may come into consideration. This may include, but not limited to, team/squad make up, team/squad cohesion/fit, attitude, behaviour, potential for improvement throughout program, etc.
- 5.2 Selectors must make themselves available to advise areas for improvement to non-selected players of respective team/squad. This process is not to be used by affected participants for debating merits of selection/non-selection that are subjective and any serious breach by affected participants not compliant with Code of Conduct will be dealt with under that code.
- 6. Appeal/Dispute**
- 6.1 Any Appeal/Dispute regarding selection must be sent to NRL SA General Manager subject to the following:
- a. application is made in writing
 - b. appeal/dispute ONLY relates to a discrepancy of process within this policy or application of policy. Any appeal/dispute regarding subjective assessment of Selectors will NOT be accepted.
 - c. explicit evidence and/or evidence that is provided from source independent of appellant/complainant is supplied with the application. An expression of views or opinion of selection will NOT be considered as evidence.