



RLSSA National Teams Selection Policy

Introduction

This policy is relevant for all athlete selections into Royal Life Saving Society - Australia Australian Representative Teams for major Pool Lifesaving competitions including but not limited to Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships, Arafura Games, German Cup, Asia Pacific and any other International Pool Lifesaving Competition as seen relevant by the National Board and National Sport Committee.

This Policy will be due for review and update no later than January 2014.

1. RLSSA NATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION POLICY – Aussie Barras

1.1 Applications

The National Sport Committee will call for Expressions of Interest or applications for the RLSSA National Team (Aussie Barras).

Interested competitors are requested to apply in writing on the relevant form. Applications normally close on the advertised date as specified on the form. Late applications may be accepted due to extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the National Sport Adviser.

1.2 National Team Selection Panel

A National Team Selection Panel (NTSP) usually comprises the National Sport Adviser (Convenor), National Team Coach and a National Sport Committee member.

The National Team Selection Panel meets to:

- i) Select the best possible team, consistent with the particular competition for which the team is being selected. The NTSP reserve the right to select team members on development potential and;
- ii) Provide the best opportunities for competitors to gain selection in the Australian Lifesaving Team to compete in upcoming World Lifesaving Championships and World Games competitions

1.3 Selection Criteria

The NTSP will set the selection criteria, but will at least use the following criteria:

Criteria for eligibility for selection for the National Team are as follows:

- i. Athlete must be a current financial member of the RLSSA;
- ii. Athlete must hold a current RLSSA Bronze Medallion or higher;
- iii. Athlete must have taken part in at least one of the RLSSA Australian Pool Life Saving Championships or other RLSSA National Pool Lifesaving event / RLSSA sanctioned event as nominated by the National Team selection panel in the two (2) years prior to the competition the team is being selected for. Competitors must note that the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships immediately prior to the competition (for which the selection applies) may be the principal vehicle for selection in a National Team subject to section 1.4;
- iv. Athlete must; in the opinion of the selectors; be competent, skilled and at the highest level of fitness required to compete at an international level in the environment in which the competition (for which the selection applies) is to be held;
- v. Athlete must display the appropriate sportsmanship and commitment to the values of Royal Life Saving Society - Australia;
- vi. Athlete must in the opinion of the selectors have displayed loyalty to the Royal Life Saving Society - Australia in the Lifesaving sport and competition environment;
- vii. Minimum age requirement is 16 years of age at the date of the international competition.

1.4 Team Selection and other factors.

In any year, where the international competition for which the team is being selected is to be conducted towards the middle or end of the year; an Aussie Barras squad and/or a train-on squad will be selected after the corresponding year Australian Pool Life Saving Championships.

The final selection of the Aussie Barras team will take place a minimum of three months before the international competition depending on any outstanding circumstances.

Competitors may be selected for the Aussie Barras team who are not part of the Aussie Barras Squad or train-on squad. RLSSA National Pool Lifesaving competitions or other trial selection events as nominated by the NTSP in that year may be used as a selection vehicle in the team selection process. Therefore it is strongly recommended that all competitors compete in RLSSA National Pool Lifesaving events or other RLSSA sanctioned events throughout the year.

Other factors/criteria that may be used by the National Team Selection Panel include but are not limited to:

- i. Past national and international performances being performances conducted in ILS, RLSSA or RLSSA sanctioned events that have occurred since the event in which selection is being considered.;
- ii. Current national and international performances being any such performance that has occurred within the 12 months proceeding selection. These performances must have occurred in ILS, RLSSA or RLSSA sanctioned events;
- iii. Demonstrated and/or potential ability to work with the coaching staff, team officials and other team members;

iv. Any current or potential injury or condition which will impair, inhibit or prevent the member's performance to the requisite level. The NTSP reserves the right to deselect any member who sustains an injury prior to the team's departure and who does not pass a fitness test to the requisite level. The fitness test and timing of the fitness test will be determined by the NTSP in consultation with the National Team Coach.

v. The potential of the member to successfully achieve the objectives of this Policy and of RLSSA under its Constitution;

vi. Any other factor considered relevant in the circumstances including but not limited to selection of athletes based on development potential.

1.5 Acceptance

All selected competitors will be required to notify the National Office of their acceptance of selection to the Aussie Barras and/or train-on squad and the Aussie Barras National Team by signing and returning the Competitor Agreement by the advertised date.

By signing the Competitors Agreement athletes will be formally recognizing that RLSSA has played a significant role in their development as a Pool Lifesaving athlete.

For selection in future united Australian Lifesaving Teams for World Lifesaving Championships and World Games; athletes signing a RLSSA Competitors Agreement will be required to submit an application through RLSSA for 36 months from the date of accepting a position in a RLSSA Aussie Barras Team or squad. This application will be forwarded to each athlete by RLSSA with guidelines for completion and submission. To ensure there is no misunderstanding in relation to this matter, the only requirement of an athlete who is a member of RLSSA and any other Lifesaving organisation is that the athlete is required to tick both membership boxes on the united Australian Lifesaving Team nomination form. Please contact the RLSSA National Sport Adviser if any further clarification is required.

Failure to fulfil this requirement will result in the following action by RLSSA:

i. Request to the athlete to repay all money contributed by RLSSA for their participation in the current RLSSA team/squad for which the RLSSA Competitor Agreement applies. This will be enforceable via the Competitor Agreement.

ii. The athlete will be ineligible for selection in all future RLSSA teams/squads.

2. RLSSA Under 16 Australian Representative Team – Junior Barras

2.1 Team Selection

To ensure the continued development of the Royal Life Saving Society – Australia’s (RLSSA) Under 16 athletes to an Aussie Barras team standard, any competitor who has succeeded in gaining selection in an RLSSA Aussie Barras (Open) representative team or equivalent in any other Lifesaving organization is no longer eligible for selection in the Junior Barras or Silver Barras representative teams or squads.

- The team to be selected will consist of a minimum 4 boys and 4 girls
- In addition, a wild card nominee may be selected at the discretion of the National Team Selection Panel (NTSP).
- The team will be selected at the conclusion of the RLSSA Australian Pool Life Saving Championships by the National Team Selection Panel.
- A competitor’s levy may be required to be paid by each team member. The amount of this levy will be decided by the National Sport Adviser.

2.2 Selection Criteria

The eligibility requirements for team selection will be the current RLSSA requirements:

- Be a current member of the RLSSA;
- Hold a current RLSSA Bronze Star or Bronze Medallion or higher;
- Athlete must have taken part in at least one of the RLSSA Australian Pool Life Saving Championships or other RLSSA National Pool Lifesaving event / RLSSA sanctioned event as nominated by the National Team selection panel in the two (2) years prior to the competition the team is being selected for. Competitors must note that the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships immediately prior to the competition (for which the selection applies) may be the principal vehicle for selection in a National Team subject to section 1.4;
- Must be in the opinion of the NTSP, be to required level of fitness, competent and skilled to an international level and/or in the environment in which the competition or training camp (for which the selection applies) is to be held;
- Display the appropriate sportsmanship and commitment to the values of Royal Life Saving Society - Australia;
- Athlete must in the opinion of the selectors have displayed loyalty to the Royal Life Saving Society - Australia in the Lifesaving sport and competition environment;
- Athletes must comply with the age requirements outlined in the RLSSA Australian Pool Lifesaving Competition Handbook. Under 16 Representative Teams will only compete in Australia. The minimum age for representative teams travelling internationally is 16 years.

In addition; Under 16 Team selection will be based on the following process:

1. The points gained by competing in all seven (7) events that comprise the Under 16 Overall Pointscore at the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships will determine the selection of the team.
2. The first, second, third and fourth placed overall boy and girl on accumulated points will be automatically selected in the RLSSA U16 Australian Representative Team – Junior Barras.
3. If; for any reason; a boy or girl in the first four places cannot take their place in the team, the fifth placed competitor will be invited to be part of the team and so on down the list of placing until the four places are filled.
4. To summarise; the points accumulated in the following individual Under 16 events at the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships will be the selection criteria to gain automatic selection on the team.
 - U16 200m Super Lifesaver (Junior Australia Cup)
 - U16 200m Obstacle Swim
 - U16 100m Manikin Carry with fins
 - U16 100m Manikin Tow with Fins and Tube
 - U16 50m Manikin Carry
 - U16 12m Line Throw
 - U16 CPR

2.3 Acceptance

All selected competitors will be required to notify the National Office of their acceptance of selection to the Junior Barras Squad and/or the Junior Barras National Team by signing and returning the Competitor Agreement by the advertised date.

By signing the competitors agreement athletes will be formally recognizing that RLSSA has played a significant role in their development as a Pool Lifesaving athlete.

For selection in future united Australian Lifesaving Teams for World Lifesaving Championships and World Games; athletes signing a RLSSA competitors agreement will be required to submit an application through RLSSA for 36 months from the date of accepting a position in a RLSSA Aussie Barras Team or squad. This application will be forwarded to each athlete by RLSSA with guidelines for completion and submission. To ensure there is no misunderstanding in relation to this matter, the only requirement of an athlete who is a member of RLSSA and any other Lifesaving organisation is that the athlete is required to tick both membership boxes on the united Australian Lifesaving Team nomination form. Please contact the RLSSA National Sport Adviser if any further clarification is required.

Failure to fulfil this requirement will result in the following action by RLSSA:

- i. Request to the athlete to repay all money contributed by RLSSA for their participation in the current RLSSA team/squad for which the RLSSA Competitor Agreement applies. This will be enforceable via the Competitor Agreement.
- ii. The athlete will be ineligible for selection in all future RLSSA teams/squads.

3. RLSSA Under 19 Australian Representative Team – Silver Barras

3.1 Team Selection

To ensure the continued development of the Royal Life Saving Society – Australia’s (RLSSA) Under 19 athletes to an Aussie Barras team standard, any competitor who has succeeded in gaining selection in an RLSSA Aussie Barras (Open) representative team or equivalent in any other Lifesaving organization is no longer eligible for selection in the Junior Barras or Silver Barras representative teams or squads.

- The team to be selected will consist of a minimum 4 boys and 4 girls
- In addition, a wild card nominee may be selected at the discretion of the National Team Selection Panel (NTSP).
- The team will be selected at the conclusion of the RLSSA Australian Pool Life Saving Championships by the National Team Selection Panel.
- A competitor’s levy may be required to be paid by each team member. The amount of this levy will be decided by the National Sport Adviser.

3.2 Selection Criteria

The eligibility requirements for team selection will be the current RLSSA National Team Selection requirements:

The eligibility requirements for team selection will be the current RLSSA requirements:

- Be a current member of the RLSSA;
- Hold a current RLSSA Bronze Star or Bronze Medallion or higher;
- Athlete must have taken part in at least one of the RLSSA Australian Pool Life Saving Championships or other RLSSA National Pool Lifesaving event / RLSSA sanctioned event as nominated by the National Team selection panel in the two (2) years prior to the competition the team is being selected for. Competitors must note that the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships immediately prior to the competition (for which the selection applies) may be the principal vehicle for selection in a National Team subject to section 1.4;
- Must be in the opinion of the NTSP, be to required level of fitness, competent and skilled to an international level and/or in the environment in which the competition or training camp (for which the selection applies) is to be held;
- Display the appropriate sportsmanship and commitment to the values of Royal Life Saving Society - Australia;
- Athlete must in the opinion of the selectors have displayed loyalty to the Royal Life Saving Society - Australia in the Lifesaving sport and competition environment;
- Minimum age requirement is 16 years of age at the date of any international competition for representative teams;

In addition; Under 19 Team selection will be based on the following process:

1. The points gained by competing in all seven (7) events that comprise the Under 19 Overall Pointscore at the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships will determine the selection of the team.

2. The first, second, third and fourth placed overall boy and girl on accumulated points will be automatically selected in the RLSSA Under 19 Australian Representative Team – Silver Barras.
3. If; for any reason; a boy or girl in the first four places cannot take their place in the team, the fifth placed competitor will be invited to be part of the team and so on down the list of placing until the four places are filled.
4. To summarise; the points accumulated in the following individual Under 19 events at the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships will be the selection criteria to gain automatic selection on the team.
 - U19 200m Super Lifesaver (Junior Australia Cup)
 - U19 200m Obstacle Swim
 - U19 100m Manikin Carry with fins
 - U19 100m Manikin Tow with Fins and Tube
 - U19 50m Manikin Carry
 - U19 12m Line Throw
 - U19 CPR

3.3 Acceptance

All selected competitors will be required to notify the National Office of their acceptance of selection to the Silver Barras Squad and/or the Silver Barras National Team by signing and returning the Competitor Agreement by the advertised date.

By signing the competitors agreement athletes will be formally recognizing that RLSSA has played a significant role in their development as a Pool Lifesaving athlete.

For selection in future united Australian Lifesaving Teams for World Lifesaving Championships and World Games; athletes signing a RLSSA competitors agreement will be required to submit an application through RLSSA for 36 months from the date of accepting a position in a RLSSA Aussie Barras Team or squad. This application will be forwarded to each athlete by RLSSA with guidelines for completion and submission. To ensure there is no misunderstanding in relation to this matter, the only requirement of an athlete who is a member of RLSSA and any other Lifesaving organisation is that the athlete is required to tick both membership boxes on the united Australian Lifesaving Team nomination form. Please contact the RLSSA National Sport Adviser if any further clarification is required.

Failure to fulfil this requirement will result in the following action by RLSSA:

- i. Request to the athlete to repay all money contributed by RLSSA for their participation in the current RLSSA team/squad for which the RLSSA Competitor Agreement applies. This will be enforceable via the Competitor Agreement.
- ii. The athlete will be ineligible for selection in all future RLSSA teams/squads.