



## 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 Council and National Sport Committee.

This Policy will be due for review and update no later than January 2012.

### 1. RLSSA SELECTION POLICY – Aussie Barras

#### 1.1 Applications

The National Sports 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 Sports Advisor.

#### 1.2 National Team Selection Panel

A National Team selection panel usually comprises the National Sports Advisor (Chairperson), National Team Coach and a National Sports 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 National Team selection panel 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 panel 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 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 Lifesaving Championships or other RLSSA National 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 Lifesaving 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 be in the opinion of the selectors, competent, skilled and at the highest level of fitness required to compete to 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 the Society;
- 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 Barra squad and/or an Elite Athlete squad will be selected after the corresponding year Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships. The final selection of the Aussie Barra 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 Barra team who are not part of the Aussie Barra squad or Elite Athlete squad. The RLSSA Pool Lifesaving Grand Prix or other selection event as nominated by the National Selectors 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 Grand Prix events or other RLSSA events throughout the year.

Other factors/criteria that may be used by the National Selection Committee 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 have occurred within the 12 months preceding 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 selectors reserve the right to deselect any member who sustains an injury prior to the team's departure 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 selectors 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 Barra and/or Elite Athlete squad and the Aussie Barra 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 lifesaver.

Any application for selection in future Australian Life Saving Teams for World Life Saving Championships and World Games by athletes signing a RLSSA competitors agreement will require those athletes to submit an application through RLSSA for 36 months from the date of accepting a position in an RLSSA Aussie Barra Team or squad. This application will be forwarded to each athlete by RLSSA with guidelines for completion and submission.

Failure to fulfill 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 this RLSSA team/squad for which the RLSSA competitor's agreement applies. This will be enforceable via the competitor's agreement.
- ii. The athlete will be ineligible for selection in all future RLSSA teams/squads.

## 2. RLSSA U16 Australian Representative Team – Junior Barras

### 2.1 Team Selection

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

- The team to be selected will consist of a minimum of 4 boys and 4 girls
- In addition, a wild card nominee may be selected at the discretion of the National Selectors
- The team will be selected at the conclusion of the RLSSA Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships by the National Team selectors.
- 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 Sports Advisor.

### 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;
- Must be in the opinion of the selectors, 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 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 U16 Overall Pointscore at the Australian Pool Lifesaving 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.
  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 U16 events at the Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships will be the selection criteria to gain automatic selection on the team.
    - U16 Junior Australia Cup (200m Super Lifesaver)
    - U16 200m F/S with Obstacles
    - U16 100m Carry with fins
    - U16 100m Tow with Fins and Tube
    - U16 50m Manikin Rescue
    - U16 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 Aussie Barra squad and/or the Junior Aussie Barra 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 lifesaver.

Any application for selection in future Australian Life Saving Teams for World Life Saving Championships and World Games by athletes signing a RLSSA

competitors agreement will require those athletes to submit an application through RLSSA for 36 months from the date of accepting a position in an Aussie Barra Team or squad. This application will be forwarded to each athlete by RLSSA with guidelines for completion and submission.

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

1. Request to the athlete to repay all money contributed by RLSSA for their participation in this RLSSA team/squad for which the RLSSA competitors agreement applies. This will be enforceable via the competitor's agreement.
2. The athlete will be ineligible for selection in all future RLSSA teams/squads.

### **3. RLSSA U19 Australian Representative Team – Silver Barras**

#### **3.1 Team Selection**

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

- The team to be selected will consist of a minimum of 4 boys and 4 girls
- In addition, a wild card nominee may be selected at the discretion of the National Selectors
- The team will be selected at the conclusion of the RLSSA Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships by the National Team selectors.
- 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 Sports Advisor.

#### **3.2 Selection Criteria**

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

- ⇒ Be a current member of the RLSSA;
- ⇒ Hold a current RLSSA Bronze Medallion or higher;

- ⇒ Must be in the opinion of the selectors, be to the 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, loyalty and commitment to the values of Royal Life Saving Society - Australia;
- ⇒ 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 U19 Overall Pointscore of the Australian Pool Lifesaving 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 selected in the RLSSA U19 Australian Pool Lifesaving Team.
  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 U19 events at the Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships will be the selection criteria to gain automatic selection on the team.
    - Under 19 200m Super Lifesaver
    - U19 200m F/S with Obstacles
    - U19 100m Carry with fins
    - U19 100m Tow with Fins and Tube
    - U19 50m Manikin Rescue
    - U19 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 Aussie Barra squad and/or the Silver Aussie Barra 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 lifesaver.

Any application for selection in future Australian Life Saving Teams for World Life Saving Championships and World Games by athletes signing a RLSSA competitors agreement will require those athletes to submit an application through RLSSA for 36 months from the date of accepting a position in an Aussie Barra Team or Squad. This application will be forwarded to each athlete by RLSSA with guidelines for completion and submission.

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

1. Request to the athlete to repay all money contributed by RLSSA for their participation in this RLSSA team/squad for which the RLSSA competitors agreement applies. This will be enforceable via the competitor's agreement.
2. The athlete will be ineligible for selection in all future RLSSA teams/squads.