

# JUNIOR HIGH- PERFORMANCE PROGRAM PLAN 2019-2022

Badminton Australia

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## 1. Program Aims/Objectives 2019-2022

*Please note the terms 'Junior High-Performance Program, Squad/s or Player/s' and 'National Junior Program, Squad/s or Player/s' are used synonymously and interchangeably throughout this plan.*

### 1.1 Overview

Badminton Australia (BA) has a 4-year plan for its Junior High-Performance Program (2019-2022). BA will work together with Badminton Oceania, Sport Australia and Commonwealth Games Australia to deliver a structured, targeted program to achieve BA's performance and strategic objectives over this period.

The 2022 Youth Olympic Games (YOG), the 2022 Commonwealth Games and the 2021 and 2022 World Junior Championships have been identified as key target events.

### 1.2 Key Events

- 2019 World Junior Championships – Kazan, Russia
- 2020 World Junior Championships – Auckland, New Zealand
- 2021 Oceania Mixed Team Championships – TBC
- 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games – Host nation and sports included TBC
- 2021 World Junior Championships – China
- 2022 Commonwealth Games – Birmingham
- 2022 Youth Olympic Games – Senegal
- 2022 World Junior Championships – Spain

### 1.3 Performance Objectives

Year	Event	Proposed Target
<b>2019</b>	WJC - Individual	Reach R32 in a minimum of two events
<b>2019</b>	WJC - Team	Top 25
<b>2020</b>	WJC - Individual	Reach R16 in a minimum of one event
<b>2020</b>	WJC - Team	Top 20
<b>2021</b>	OJC - Individual	Minimum 4 Golds
<b>2021</b>	OJC - Team	Gold
<b>2021</b>	CYG - Individual	Host nation and sports included TBC
<b>2021</b>	WJC - Individual	Reach R16 in a minimum of two events
<b>2021</b>	WJC - Team	Top 16
<b>2022</b>	Commonwealth Games	Minimum 1-2 current NJS player/s qualify/be selected
<b>2022</b>	YOG	Qualify one male and one female
<b>2022</b>	WJC - Individual	Reach QF in a minimum of one event
<b>2022</b>	WJC - Team	Top 16

## 1.4 Strategic Objectives

### 1.41 Strategic Objective 1 - Player Transition

Strategic Aim - Transition a greater number of Junior High-Performance players in to the Senior High-Performance Program.

Strategic Action 1 - BA will create and manage a pathway to transition a greater number of Junior High-Performance players in to the Senior High-Performance Program.

Strategic Action 2 – Provide opportunities for promising U19 players to train with the Senior National Squad, in Melbourne, for small periods of time as agreed with the Senior High-Performance Manager/Coach.

Strategic Review – Annually quantify and compare over time the number of active members in the BA Senior High-Performance program that have graduated from the BA Junior High-Performance program.

### 1.42 Strategic Objective 2 - Player Retention

Strategic Aim – Reduce the number of Junior High-Performance players that drop out of badminton, for sustained periods of times, due to academic reasons (i.e. Year 12).

Strategic Action - BA will investigate and look to implement a means of retaining high performing junior program players that have commitment issues through important academic periods.

Strategic Review – Annually quantify and compare over time how many Junior High-Performance players are dropping out of badminton at the start of the Year 12.

### 1.43 Strategic Objective 3 - Tournament Exposure

Strategic Aim – Increase the tournament exposure and tournament variety for players on the Junior High-Performance Program.

Strategic Action 1 - BA will create and implement a more transparent and objective selection model which will incentivise players to participate in more tournaments (both domestic/international and junior/senior).

Strategic Action 2 - BA will look to provide at least one opportunity for members of the BA Junior High-Performance Program to play in an international tournament, outside the Oceania Region, each year.

Strategic Action 3 – BA will provide a financial reward to the winner/s of the U19 National Individual Championships to be spent on participating in a Senior International event (Boys Singles \$400, Girls Singles \$400, Boys Doubles \$600 per pair, Girls Doubles \$600 per pair, Mixed Doubles \$600 per pair). The funds will be reimbursed and not given as prize money.

Strategic Review – Review the tournaments played by members of the Junior High-Performance Program twice a year (July and December).

#### 1.44 Strategic Objective 4 - Training Camps

Strategic Aim – Provide more opportunities for members of the BA Junior High-Performance program to train with the National Junior Coach and other players on the program.

Strategic Action - BA will aim to host a minimum of 3 domestic training camps each year open to all players on the Junior High-Performance Program.

Strategic Review – Review and monitor the number of domestic training camps hosted by BA.

#### 1.45 Strategic Objective 5 - Physical Competencies

Strategic Aim – To increase the physical competencies and awareness of all Junior High-Performance program players.

Strategic Action - BA will aim to provide sports science support and guidance to all Junior High-Performance program players on how to structure their physical training and manage their bodies.

Strategic Review – Physical testing to be conducted and the results analysed at training camps.

#### 1.46 Strategic Objective 7 - Communication and Relationships

Strategic Aim 1 – To increase the frequency, quality and transparency of BA’s communication for matters concerning the Junior High-Performance program.

Strategic Action 1 – BA National Junior Coach/Performance Manager to have structured communication with all Junior High-Performance players, parents and/or coaches on a quarterly basis.

Strategic Action 2 – BA National Junior Coach/Performance Manager will aim to conduct a presentation and open forum for Junior High-Performance players, parents and coaches during each of the National Junior Championships (U15, U17 and U19).

Strategic Action 3 – BA National Junior Coach/Performance Manager will aim to visit all Junior High-Performance player’s daily training environment, at least once annually.

Strategic Measure – Junior High-Performance Committee to review and seek feedback from players, parents and coaches.

## 2. Program Model 2019

### 2.1 Management and Officials

#### **National Junior Coach and Performance Manager**

Stuart Rowlands

#### **Junior High-Performance Committee (JHPC)**

Stuart Rowlands (Chair)

Peter Roberts

Gillian Patmore

Julie McDonald

Geraldine Brown

#### **National Junior Selectors**

Stuart Rowlands

Brent Munday

Brandon Olver

### 2.2 Program Structure

The entire Junior High-Performance program will be based on the premise of being able to field 4 separate teams in a Sudirman Cup format (1 BS, 1 GS, 1 BD, 1 GD, 1 MX). This is the team format commonly used in major international junior and senior events. Structuring the program in this way enables BA to develop players across all 5 disciplines for a sustained period and ensures the BA junior program is not over concentrated in certain disciplines. The structure underpinning the BA National Junior Program, for the next 4 years, can be seen below:

BA Junior Team (2-3 boys, 2-3 girls)

BA Junior Reserve Team (2-3 boys, 2-3 girls)

BA Junior Development Team 1 (2-3 boys, 2-3 girls)

BA Junior Development Team 2 (2-3 boys, 2-3 girls)

BA reserves the right to select a total squad size (all players), between 16 and 24, for inclusion in the National Junior Program (exceptions may apply at the discretion of the BA Junior Selectors and JHPC).

### 2.3 National Junior Squads (NJSs)

There will be two National Junior Squads (U15 and U19) for which the following names will be used:

- Progress and Excel Group (U19 National Squad)
- Discover and Engage Group (U15 National Squad)

## 2.4 Player Contracts

- To be part of the BA Junior High-Performance Program, players must sign a player contract each year committing themselves to BA's requirements for National Junior Squad members.

## 2.5 Funding Allocation

- The 'Progress and Excel Group' will be the priority group of players on the Junior High-Performance Program and will receive a degree of financial support from BA.
- The program for the 'Discover and Engage Group' is essentially a user pays system. There may be occasions where BA can provide small subsidies and/or contributions to cover costs associated with BA events/trips.
- Anticipated costs of BA events/trips will be distributed to the relevant members of the Junior High-Performance program as early as possible.

### 3. Program Selection Model 2019

There will no longer be a nomination process to select players for the National Junior Squads. It is the responsibility of BA to have an excellent knowledge and appreciation for the best junior players in Australia.

BA would also like to make the selection process for the National Junior Squads more objective and transparent. For this reason, BA is introducing an automatic selection process for the National Junior Squads starting this year (2019) to fill 10 places on the program in 2020.

#### 3.1 National Junior Squad - Automatic Selection

National Junior Rankings will be formulated privately by BA using the same points system as the Senior National Rankings at the end of the calendar year. The BA points system for the senior rankings can be seen via the link below:

<https://badminton.org.au/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/BA-Australian-Rankings-Regulations-August-2016.pdf>

Each player's best 6 results (determined by rankings points), from the list of tournament types below, will be added together to give a total number of points for the year:

#### **U19 Players (players born in 2002 or later, players born in 2001 will no longer be eligible for the National Junior Program in 2020)**

1. Australian U19 National Championships or U17 Nationals Championships.
2. One Senior International Tournament in the Oceania Region.
3. One BA Sanctioned Open (Senior) tournament, inside your home state.
4. One BA Sanctioned Open (Senior) tournament, outside your home state.
5. One BWF Sanctioned Junior International Tournament (U17 or U19, exc. Oceania Junior Championships).
6. One BA Sanctioned U19 tournament, inside your home state (exc. National Junior Championships).

#### **U15 Players (players born in 2005 or later)**

1. Australian U15 National Championships
2. Australian U17 Nationals Championships or U19 National Championships.
3. One BA Sanctioned Junior tournament, inside your home state (U17 or U19, exc. National Junior Championships).
4. One BA Sanctioned Open (Senior) tournament, inside your home state.
5. One BA Sanctioned Junior tournament, outside your home state (U17 or U19, exc. National Championships)
6. One BWF Sanctioned Junior International Tournament (U15, U17 or U19).

2 U15 singles players (the top boy & girl) will be automatically selected for the NJS in 2020.

4 U19 singles players (the top 2 boys & 2 girls) will be automatically selected for the NJS in 2020.

4 U19 doubles players (the top 2 boys & 2 girls) will be automatically selected for the NJS in 2020.



If you do not play in some of the tournament types specified in the lists above, only your relevant results will be counted. There is no minimum or maximum number of tournaments a player can play, but only the best 6 results (determined by ranking points) from the tournament types above will be counted.

If a player is ranked in the top 2 for singles and ranked in the top 2 for doubles, the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest ranked singles player will also be automatically selected. If both the top 2 ranked singles players are also ranked in the top 2 for doubles, the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest ranked singles player and the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest ranked doubles player will also be automatically selected.

### **For U19 players born in 2001 that are graduating from the National Junior Program in 2019:**

If you are ranked in the top 2 at U19 in singles and/or doubles you will automatically be offered a place on the 'Incentive Program' within the BA Senior High-Performance Program in 2020. The 'Incentive Program' was introduced to the Senior High-Performance Program in March 2019 with the aim of incentivising players to compete in international tournaments through a financial reward-based model for achieving certain results. To be part of the program players are required to train with the Senior National Squad a minimum of three times a week, if they live in Melbourne, or for at least 6 weeks of the year if they live interstate. Further details and conditions of the Incentive Program will be discussed/shared with the relevant players as necessary.

### **3.2 National Junior Squad - Development Selection**

BA reserves the right to select the remaining players to make up the NJSs based on the following:

- Funding available.
- Balance of singles and doubles players within the National Junior Program.
- Balance of gender representation within the National Junior Program.
- Balance of age representation within the National Junior Program.
- Player's potential and commitment to represent Australia at Senior International level.
- Player's results across all BA and BWF sanctioned tournaments within the last 12 months.
- Player's physical, technical, tactical and psychological competencies.
- Player's attitude and sportsmanship.

This is the criteria that has been used to select the entire National Junior Squad for 2019. Automatic selection will commence in 2020 based on player's tournament results in 2019.

### **3.3 National Junior Squad – Mid Year Selections and Removals**

NJS players will be reviewed against key criteria (see 3.32) in July each year, starting in 2020. Players can only be introduced to or removed from the NJS at this time during the year.

### 3.31 Mid-Year Selections

New players can be invited to join the Junior High-Performance Program, in July, based on the development selection criteria outlined above (see 3.2), providing the total number of players in the NJS remains between 16 and 24 (exceptions may apply).

### 3.32 Mid-Year Removals

BA reserves the right to remove members of the Junior High-Performance program, in July (from 2020), in the following circumstances:

- Player has failed to meet the conditions of the BA Junior High-Performance Contract.
- Player has achieved results below expectations of the BA Junior High-Performance Program.
- Player results fall well below those set in their performance goals at the start of the year.

Players who have been removed from the Junior High-Performance Program can be re selected at the start of a new year or in July, providing the reasons for their initial removal were not due to a breach of contract conditions.

### 3.4 National Junior Team Selections

- Players can only represent the Australian National Junior Team if they are on the BA Junior High-Performance program.
- Players will not be required to nominate for Australian National Junior Team representation. BA will select from players currently on the BA Junior High-Performance program only.
- Only in extreme circumstances, at the discretion of the BA Junior Selectors and JHPC, can players outside the BA Junior High-Performance Program be selected for Australian National Junior Teams.
- A separate set of selection criteria will be prepared and communicated with all BA Junior High-Performance players for each major international junior event (i.e. World Junior Championships).