PARA ATHLETE SELECTION POLICY

Title:	Badminton Australia (**BA**) Para Athlete Selection Policy
Type of Policy	High Performance
Last Review Date:	January 2026
Version:	BA Para Athlete Selection Policy 2026
Next Review Date:	To commence in December 2027
Responsible Person:	Chief Executive Officer
Authority	Approved by the Board

1. STATEMENT OF SELECTION PHILOSOPHY

1.1. The aim of the BA Para Selection Policy (**Policy**) is to outline a thorough selection process, including the appeals process, for choosing individuals and representative teams. This Policy aims to provide a mechanism to enable the selection of the most appropriate representatives for Badminton Australia (**BA**) National Teams or Programs.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVES

2.1. The primary objective of this Policy is to ensure that athletes chosen to represent Australia in international competitions are of the highest possible standard and to enable Australia to achieve podium performances.

2.2. A secondary objective is to underpin the future success of Australia at Badminton competitions by providing High Performance development athletes with increased opportunities to develop as athletes and to compete at international competitions for the purpose of accelerating their progression.

3. INTERPRETATION

3.1. Unless the context otherwise requires, terms used in the Policy shall have the same meaning as is set out in BA's Rules and/or Regulations.

3.2. No selection criterion shall be weighted more or less significantly by reason only of the order in which that criterion appears in this Policy.

4. RELATED DOCUMENTS

4.1. Badminton Australia National Integrity Framework & Policies BA Privacy Policy.

4.2. Social Media Policy BA Events Bylaws and procedures.

4.3. BA Athlete Podium, Podium Ready, Podium Potential, Developing and Emerging Categorisation Framework Policy.

4.4. BA Para Classification Policy

4.5. BA Code of Conduct.

5. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for selection into Paralympic Squad, National Performance Camps and/or National Para Program (NPP) an athlete must:

5.1. Be a Registered Member in good standing with BA through the athlete's State/Territory Badminton Organisation (**S/T**). Good standing means being a current member of a club affiliated to a member S/T, being financial, and not being subject to any current disciplinary proceedings.

5.2. Be eligible to represent Australia at Badminton World Federation (**BWF**) and Paralympic Events.

5.3. Coached, or have ongoing input and feedback, by coaches that are registered with BA.

5.4. Have an international classification or be committed to obtaining one within 3 months of selection.

5.5. Be a member of, and train in, an affiliated club/association/academy or a state performance program.

5.6. For the National Para Program (NPP) and National Para Development Program (NPDP) be aged 14 years or older at time of selection.

5.7. For a National Performance Camp be aged 14 years or older at the time of the camp.

5.8. BA may, at its discretion, invite athletes younger than 14 years to a National Performance Camp subject to parental guidance and supervision being available for the duration of the camp.

5.9. In the opinion of the selectors, be a good representative of BA and not bring BA or the sport of Badminton into disrepute.

5.10. Have no outstanding financial issues with BA, S/T or the athlete's club.

5.11. Be prepared to sign the BA National Para Athlete Program Agreement (**Athlete Agreement**) and the athlete's coach be prepared to sign the BA National Program Coach Agreement (**Coach Agreement**). Athletes that do not sign the Athlete Agreement will have their offer of selection revoked.

5.12. Agree that selectors can at any time review the athletes selected into the national para program (NPP).

5.13. Participate in the relevant National Championships and their home S/T Development Program as per this Policy or be at risk of being removed from any or all National Programs.

5.14. Wear the approved BA uniform and use BA approved training equipment (exclusions to this clause include footwear, racquets, and personal adaptive equipment) as and when required.

6. SELECTION CONTEXT

The Programs, Events and Teams to which Policy applies are:

6.1. National Performance Camps

6.2. National Para Program (**NPP**)

6.3. National Para Development Program **(NPDP)**

6.4. Paralympic Squad

7. SELECTION CRITERIA

7.1. National Performance Camps (Camps lead by BA in a S/T)

7.1.1. Athletes may be considered for selection to a National Performance Camp where they:

7.1.1.1. comply with section 5.

7.1.1.2. are part of the National Para Program (NPP) and are competing in international tournaments within the year of selection.

7.1.1.3. Additional athletes may be considered for selection subject to the following:

7.1.1.3.1. As determined by the Selection Panel up to the number of positions available in a camp.

7.1.1.3.2. Are in the National Para Development Program (NPDP)

7.1.1.3.3. Athletes having participated in the most recent S/T Championships where applicable or have a medical exemption approved by their S/T.

7.1.1.3.4. BA, after consulting the athlete's S/T, may at its discretion allow for up to 5 athletes to be selected from diverse backgrounds. This may include but is not limited to athletes who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people or low-income families.

7.2 NPP and NPDP Athletes

7.2.1 The total number of athletes selected to the NPP is up to the discretion of the Para Selection Panel and subject to available resources at the time of selection. BA is not obliged to fill any or all places in the NPDP.

7.2.2 Up to an additional 5 athletes in the NPP may be selected as reserves and may be invited to national camps or activities where suitable and where space permits. There is no obligation to select reserves.

7.2.3 Athletes may be selected into the NPP and NPDP where they:

7.2.3.1 Comply with section 5.

7.2.3.2 Have competed in their home S/T Championships (if any) or received an exemption in writing from the S/T.

7.2.3.3 Have competed in at least 1 international BWF Para Badminton Tournament in twelve months prior to selection (NPP athletes only) and the Australian National Para Badminton Championships (NPP and NPDP athletes), or received an exemption in writing from BA.

7.2.3.4 Comply with this Policy. To remain in the program during the year of selection the athlete must also comply with this policy. The athlete selected will immediately forfeit their position in the National Program if they are not able to comply with this Policy.

7.2.4 Additional Athletes Selected

7.2.4.1 Additional athletes may be selected subject to section 5 and the following:

7.2.4.1.1 BA may at its discretion allow for up to 3 additional talented athletes from diverse backgrounds to be considered for selection for each of the NPP or NPDP. This may include but not be limited to athletes who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people, people based outside of major metropolitan centres, people from low socio-economic backgrounds or elite athletes' talent transferring from another sport.

7.2.4.1.2 When determining athletes who may be considered for selection to the additional positions the following may be considered:

7.2.4.1.2.1 The prospect of future podium success at an international level.

7.2.4.1.2.2 Performances at National Championships and S/T Individual Championships.

7.2.4.2 Consistency in standards of behaviour conducive to supporting the goals of the program and overall objectives of BA and as outlined in BA's policies in section 4.

7.2.4.3 Past National and International performances in events and over such periods as determined by the Selectors.

7.2.4.4 Current National and International performances including performance over the preceding twelve-month period.

7.2.4.5 Current International ranking (if any).

7.2.4.6 (Where relevant) Any current or potential injury or condition which may impair, inhibit or prevent the participant's performance to the requisite level.

7.2.4.7 Any other factor considered relevant in the circumstances.

7.2.4.8 If the Selection Panel considers any of the above Criteria, it may in its absolute discretion give weight to extenuating circumstances such as injury, pregnancy/postpartum or personal circumstances.

8. INFORMATION FOR SELECTORS

8.1. The Selection Panel is appointed by the Board. The panel will be made up of two (2) BA Para / High-Performance staff and one (1) independent selector. Independent means not being a current athlete or immediate family member of any athlete in any of the BA National Programs or having been a BA Staff or Board Member in the past 12 months.

8.2. A majority decision of the Selection Panel is required. Subject to this Policy, the decision of the Selection Panel is and shall be final.

8.3. The CEO will be the conduit between the Selection Panel and the Board and will brief and consult with the Board on all selection issues. The Selection Panel may consult with the CEO on any matters regarding the selection process. Unless expressly requested by the Selection Panel, athletes have no right to make submissions or representations to, or appear before, the Selection Panel. Any right or claim to natural justice in this regard is expressly excluded, such a right being preserved in the Appeal Process.

8.4. Selected/Nominated teams/squads will be ratified by the CEO and endorsed by the Board.

8.5. **Notification to Relevant Parties**

8.5.1. Subject to constraints imposed upon BA by third parties, individuals selected by the Selectors (**Selected Parties**) shall be notified of their selection/nomination as soon as practicable after their individual selection or finalisation of the relevant squad or team or individual or official position(s)

8.5.2. Athletes acknowledge that their Selection/Nomination may be subject to an appeal.

8.5.3. Notification will be made by the CEO of BA, or any other BA officer nominated by the CEO.

9. REMOVAL FROM A SELECTED/NOMINATED PROGRAM, SQUAD OR TEAM

9.1. Any participant who does not meet the criteria set out in this Section 9.1, is ineligible for Selection/Nomination to, or continued membership of, a National Program or National Squad or Team.

9.1.1. Breaches or fails to observe, in the opinion of the CEO, any of BA's Policies, Procedures, Rules, Regulations or Decisions including but not only BA's Integrity policies.

9.1.2. By reason of illness or injury is unable to perform to the required standard in the opinion of the Coaching staff (after having received advice from a medical practitioner);

9.2. Breaches or fails to fulfill a requirement of the BA Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy.

9.2.1. Breaches or fails to comply, fulfill, and observe the requirements in the National Team Agreement or the National Program Athlete Agreement.

9.2.2. Fails to participate in their S/T Championships or National Championships in the year of their selection without having an approved exemption.

9.2.3. Any participant may be removed from a National Team or Program by the Selectors as the circumstances may require including where the participant has failed to sustain their performance and/or behaviour to a satisfactory level, provided that the required performance levels and/or behaviour had first been discussed with the participant and the participant had been given a reasonable opportunity to attain those performance and/or behaviour levels.

10. APPEALS

10.1. Appeal

Subject to this Policy, a person may only Appeal against a failure of the Selectors (or the CEO under the relevant clause) to comply with the procedures set down in this Policy. An Appeal may only be made on procedural grounds not on the merits of a particular selection decision. Any Appeal under this clause will proceed in accordance with Section 10.2.

10.2. Procedure for Appeal

10.2.1. Any Appeal under Section 10.1 must be made within 48 hours of the two closest business days of any public announcement under Section 8.5.1.

10.2.2. The Appeal must be lodged in writing to the BA CEO, and must:

10.2.2.1. set out the alleged procedural failure.

10.2.2.2. set out any grounds supporting the appeal.

10.2.2.3. set out any reasons or circumstances supporting the alleged ground of appeal; and be accompanied by an appeal fee of $500.

10.2.3. Nothing in this Policy prevents the withdrawal of an appeal at any time in writing to the CEO.

10.2.4. On receipt of an appeal in accordance with this Policy, the CEO will provide the information to the Selection Panel for them to review the alleged procedural failure.

10.2.5. The information from the Selection Panel will be conveyed to the Appellant.

10.2.6. Should the Appellant still not be satisfied by the decision the matter will be referred to a Review Panel.

10.2.7. The Appeal documents will be provided to the Review Panel as soon as the Panel is formed.

10.3. Rules of the Review Panel

10.3.1. The Review Panel shall be constituted by any three independent persons available to hear the appeal and who are appointed by the BA CEO to such role. The Review Panel may include a person who is legally qualified who will chair the panel.

10.3.2. No member of the Review Panel may be a party to or directly interested in the matter under consideration.

10.3.3. No current or past (for a minimum period of 3 years) BA Board and staff members, or immediate family members of any athlete who are part of BA National Programs will be eligible to be on the Review Panel.

10.4. Functions of the Review Panel

10.4.1. The Review Panel has no power of selection or re-selection. The Review Panel may review the matter set out in the Appeal and may (as appropriate) refer the matter back to the Selection Panel for consideration.

10.4.2. Procedures for the Review Panel
On receipt of the Appeal papers, the Chair of the Review Panel shall notify their fellow Panel members of

the Appeal and shall ensure copies of the relevant Appeal papers are forwarded to Panel members as a matter of urgency.

10.4.3. The Review Panel shall, as soon as practical after receiving a notice under Section 10.2.1, investigate and consider the matter and shall within 7 days of receiving such notice, determine whether the matter:

10.4.3.1. should be dismissed, because in its determination, the matter is trifling in nature or has no merit; or

10.4.3.2. warrants further review and determination in accordance with this Policy.

10.4.4. If the Review Panel determines the matter warrants further review under Section 10.2.2. it shall as soon as practicable, having regard to the timing of selection and proximity of relevant events, serve a notice in writing on the Appellant:

10.4.4.1. Stating that the Appellant may address the Review Panel at a meeting to be held as soon as practicable, being not earlier than four days from the date of the notice.

10.4.4.2. Stating the date, place (location or nominated video conferencing platform) and time of that meeting; and

10.4.4.3. Informing the Appellant that they may do any one or more of the following:

10.4.4.3.1. Attend that meeting (personally or by their representative, who may be legally trained or qualified):

10.4.4.3.2. Give the Review Panel, no later than 24 hours before the time of that meeting, a further written statement setting out relevant information surrounding and/or supporting the appeal.

10.4.5. The Review Panel may conduct a meeting convened in accordance with Section 10.3 (or any adjournment thereof) in such manner as it sees fit, but shall:

10.4.5.1. give to the Appellant and the Selection Panel (or the CEO) every opportunity to be heard.

10.4.5.2. give due consideration to any written statement by the Appellant.

10.4.5.3. allow the Appellant to be present along with his or her adult representative (who may be legally trained or qualified); and may as above.

10.4.5.4. request or require the Appellant or any other witness to attend the meeting or provide such evidence as is available.

10.4.6. Following consideration of all relevant and available information, the Review Panel shall arrive at a finding. A decision of the Selection Review Panel may be by a majority decision.

10.4.7. The Review Panel shall notify the BA CEO of its finding as soon as practicable.

10.4.8. If the Review Panel considers the ground alleged by the Appellant to be satisfied, it shall recommend that the Selection Panel again consider the selection/nomination of the relevant squad, team, individual or official.

10.4.9. The Selection Panel shall comply with any direction of the Review Panel in this regard.

10.4.10. Any further selection decision of the Selection Panel under the direction of the Review Panel shall be final, and no other further appeal shall be available to the aggrieved person in respect of that selection.

If the appeal is successful, the $500 appeal fee shall be refunded to the Appellant’s nominated bank account.