



AFL Barwon Representative Netball – Selection Policy

ELIGIBILITY AND OVERVIEW

1. AFL Barwon Representative Program selections are open to any eligible athlete who has played with an Association in the AFL Barwon Region (BFNL, GFNL, Midweek Competitions).
 - a. Any player who is signed to a VNL 23&U or Championship Division is ineligible to play in the AFL Barwon Representative Program. Development team athletes are permitted.
 - b. In line with Netball Victoria's Competition Regulations, to be eligible to represent AFL Barwon Representative Program, an athlete must play a minimum of four (4) matches in an Association/League within an AFL Barwon competition in the relevant representative season.
2. Trial Dates, Program Information and Registration Forms will be distributed to AFL Barwon Affiliated Clubs and publicised via the AFL Barwon Website and social mediums.
3. Age Requirements:
 - a. Participant age is determined as of 31st December each year
 - a. 13/U athletes cannot exceed 13 years of age as of 31st of December of the competition year.
 - b. 15/U athletes cannot exceed 15 years of age as of 31st of December of the competition year.
 - c. 17/U athletes cannot exceed 17 years of age as of 31st of December of the competition year.
 - d. All Abilities' athletes must be a minimum of 15 years old as of 31 December of the competition year.
4. Attendance Requirement
 - a. Players are required to attend a minimum of two trials to be considered for selection.
 - b. Players that are unable to attend must provide notification in writing to the AFL Barwon Coordinator prior to the selection date to be considered for selection.
 - c. The AFL Barwon Coordinator may provide an exemption at their discretion based on individual circumstances.
5. Players will be required to identify their two preferred positions, but on the request of the selection panel, may be asked to trial in positions outside of those listed.



SELECTION OVERVIEW

6. The selection panel will consist of a minimum of two selectors.
7. Coaches from within the program will assist with selections for the league in which they are NOT appointed to.
8. Selection Criteria
 - a. The Selectors may consider the following selection criteria in the selection process:
 - the athlete's current level of skill and physical fitness
 - the potential of the athlete to successfully achieve the objectives of this Policy
 - the behaviour, conduct, attitude or other relevant qualities of the individual
 - any other factor considered by the Selectors relevant in the circumstances.
 - b. In considering the Criteria, the Selectors may in their discretion give weight to extenuating circumstances.
 - Past performance may be considered in extenuating circumstances whereby attendance at trials has not been possible.
9. Selection Decisions
 - a. Selection decisions should be made by group consensus of selectors, based on the skill level observed and recorded via the skill ranking system.
 - b. If there is no majority, the AFL Barwon Supervisor will be asked to facilitate the decision.
 - c. The use of ranking systems throughout trials will be referred to when making final decisions.
 - d. It is anticipated that attending players will be viewed at least twice at each selection date however, this may vary as it is dependent on the number of players attending each selection trial.
 - e. A player must have been viewed at least twice in their nominated positions by the Selection Panel before a decision not to invite that player to return for further selection sessions is made.
10. Selector Expectations
 - a. Selection personnel are required to act with integrity and objectivity in all aspects of the selection process.
 - b. Complete the required selection paperwork during each trial match for record keeping and decision making.
 - c. Assess players in line with the policy and documentation provided to them from AFL Barwon.
 - d. Work collaboratively with other selectors and advise the AFL Barwon Representative Coordinator if support is required to finalise decisions.



POSITIONS WITHIN PROGRAM

11. Team/Squad Size

- a. A team of ten (10) will be selected for the championship team in each age group (13&U, 15&U, 17&U).
- b. A team of twelve (12) will be selected for the development team in each age group, where they are fielded.
- c. Squad sizes are subject to change. Movement between teams may occur, which may impact final numbers within each squad.
- d. Training partner positions may be offered, pending the outcome of trials.
- e. Team sizes for All Abilities' teams shall be decided as necessary and will be based on the nominations received from clubs.

12. Fees shall be paid by the individuals promptly, or as by the due date, unless other arrangements have been made with the Representative Program Coordinator or Finance Manager.

13. Training partners (if positions are offered) will train alongside the team and may be elevated into the team in the event of injury or withdrawal of a selected player.

14. Notification to Athletes

- a. As soon as reasonably possible following completion of the final selection, the AFL Barwon Representative Program Coordinator will notify in writing all trialists of the selection decisions.
- b. Subject to this Policy, the decision of the Selectors shall be final.

15. Requests for Feedback

- a. any requests for feedback must be submitted in writing within a reasonable time following the trial notifications. Please note, specific feedback may not be possible on all occasions.

16. Removal from Team

- a. Once the teams have been selected, an athlete may be removed from or replaced in a team by the AFL Barwon Representative Coordinator in consultation with the team coaches as the circumstances may require.
- b. This may include (but is not limited to) situations such as non-attendance, injury or where the athlete has failed to sustain her performance and/or attitude to a satisfactory level having been given the opportunity to attain those performance levels within a reasonable time. Breaches of code of conduct or other policies, either within the program or in AFL Barwon Competitions, may also impact participation in the program.
- c. Expulsion from the program forfeits all fees paid.



GRIEVANCES

17. Dispute Resolution

- a. In the first instance, any issues that may arise should be directed to the coach or team manager of the team in which an individual is participating within. This should be done in a respectful manner.
- b. If a parent/guardian/individual do not feel comfortable in raising the matter directly with the coach, they can reach out to the AFL Barwon Representative Program Coordinator, who can support in facilitating any discussion or relevant mediation processes.
 - The AFL Barwon Complaints Handling Process may then be enacted if the issue is unable to be resolved easily.
- c. AFL Barwon takes Child Safeguarding seriously, and any issues that may constitute a breach of this policy should be raised with the AFL Barwon Representative Program Coordinator or Head of Netball immediately.