

## PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS SELECTION AND DESELECTION POLICY

<b>Number:</b>	001	<b>Version:</b>	1
<b>Revised:</b>	-	<b>Approved:</b>	March 2026
<b>Authorised by:</b>	CEO	<b>Next Review Date:</b>	March 2027

### 1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this policy is to define the procedures used when players are selected for the South Australia and South Australia Metro High Performance Program each year.

### 2. Policy and Application

- 2.1. This Process applies to all teams operating under the Performance Pathways Department of Basketball SA (BSA), including (but not limited to):
  - 2.1.1. National Championships
  - 2.1.2. Ivor Burge Championship
  - 2.1.3. Southern Cross Challenge
  - 2.1.4. East Coast Challenge
  - 2.1.5. Performance Pathways Development Camps, and
  - 2.1.6. Other Basketball Australia-sanctioned competitions.

### 3. Philosophy

- 3.1. In alignment with Basketball Australia (BA), the BSA Performance Pathway program is committed to ensuring that we [Win Well](#) in our program, which to us means creating better people and better performers across our program.
- 3.2. The Performance Pathway Department remains:
  - 3.2.1. Athlete-centred
  - 3.2.2. Coach-driven
  - 3.2.3. Administratively supported
  - 3.2.4. Performance-based

### 4. Values

- 4.1. Representatives of Basketball SA:
  - 4.1.1. Exemplify the BSA values of respect, accountability, inclusivity, trust, and excellence.
  - 4.1.2. Are committed to sustaining a growth mindset and encompass a [Win Well](#) mentality.
  - 4.1.3. Are committed to being in the best mental and physical shape as possible.
  - 4.1.4. Train and compete at their absolute best effort knowing they are representing SA.
  - 4.1.5. Train and compete with the highest level of disciplined sportsmanship and behave at the highest level of citizenship.
  - 4.1.6. Accept the responsibility of being a positive role model for SA.
  - 4.1.7. Are committed to the High-Performance Program and to improving basketball in SA.
  - 4.1.8. Are committed to abiding by BA and BSA Policies, Codes of Behaviour and By-Laws, including the Member Protection and Working with Children Policies, and

demonstrating appropriate behaviour both on and off the court.

## **5. Responsibilities**

5.1. All BSA representatives are held to a minimum standard of the BSA Code of Behaviour.

### **5.2. Coaches**

5.2.1. Coaches must ensure that communication with players is consistent with BSA's values and the Performance Pathway Department's strategic priorities.

5.2.2. Coaches are accountable for creating a competitive and development-focused environment.

5.2.3. Selections must be communicated respectfully.

### **5.3. Athletes**

5.3.1. Athletes need to maintain a growth mindset and need to see any negative selection decisions as opportunities for growth and learning, whilst seeing positive selections as a privilege and not a right.

5.3.2. Athletes understand that court time is based on performance and team strategy and will remain a positive support of the team regardless of their playing circumstance.

5.3.3. Athletes are responsible for maximising their physical and mental states through prioritising session quality over session volume, and prioritising rest and recovery outside of programmed and prescribed activity.

### **5.4. Parents and Caregivers**

5.4.1. Parents and caregivers need to be the primary support of the athletes as these programs are designed to explore and push the physical and mental limits of these athletes.

5.4.2. Parents and caregivers need to support their children in developing and maintaining a growth mindset through both positive and negative selections, reinforcing hard work and resilience over talent.

5.4.3. Parents and caregivers must maintain respectful communication with coaches and officials across all mediums.

## **6. Communication**

6.1. The Performance Pathways Department is responsible for organising the communication of:

6.1.1. This process and amendments

6.1.2. Trial dates publicly and to clubs for dissemination

6.1.3. Team selection and position appointments

## **7. Feedback**

7.1. Formal feedback is provided at the end of program involvement.

7.2. Trial feedback must be requested within 5 business days of notification.

7.3. It is up to the players to take control of their own development; reflect and diarise any feedback they receive for their own and their supporters' benefit.

## **8. Eligibility**

### 8.1. Athletes must:

- 8.1.1. Be registered with a BSA-affiliated club
- 8.1.2. Have no outstanding financial obligations to BSA or affiliate of BSA
- 8.1.3. Have no active BSA judiciary investigation or sanction being served at the time of trial/competition
- 8.1.4. Have completed the required trial registration and paid the appropriate registration fee
- 8.1.5. Complete and return a *Player Medical Declaration Information Form* (when required)

## **9. Selection Process**

### 9.1. Selection panel includes:

- 9.1.1. Performance Pathway Leads
- 9.1.2. Head Coach
- 9.1.3. Assistant Coaches
- 9.1.4. Independent selectors (if appointed)

### 9.2. Selection Duties

- 9.2.1. Concerns should be emailed to the Performance Pathway Leads.

### 9.3. Final decisions are at BSA discretion.

## **10. Selection Criteria**

### **10.1. Selection weighting considers:**

- 10.1.1. Technical, mental, and athletic ability
- 10.1.2. Physical and physiological attributes
- 10.1.3. Long-term potential in elite national pathways (i.e. Centre of Excellence, Opals, Boomers)
- 10.1.4. Past performance in the SPP or NPP (or equivalent)
- 10.1.5. Coachability and team compatibility
- 10.1.6. Minimum trial participation requirements

### **10.2. Selection weighting partially considers:**

- 10.2.1. A history of outstanding and well-rounded performances at
  - 10.2.1.1. NBL1 Central or equivalent competition, and
  - 10.2.1.2. BSA District leagues

### **10.3. Selection weighting does not consider:**

- 10.3.1. Domestic, school, or equivalent performances
- 10.3.2. Statistical summaries
- 10.3.3. Third-party or independent endorsement
- 10.3.4. Highlight footage across any medium

## **11. Attendance and Absences**

- 11.1. Athletes must attend at least 80% of the program unless exemptions are approved in writing.
- 11.2. Medical certificates are required for ongoing absences.
- 11.3. Medical clearances are required for returning to action after sustaining any injury that requires treatment or intervention.
- 11.4. Players must give priority to playing and practicing in the Performance Pathway programs over school, club and association commitments (including NBL1 and equivalent).
  - 11.4.1. BSA will ensure that, where at all possible, that these commitments do not overlap.
  - 11.4.2. In the cases of national commitments, these take precedence over Performance Pathway program commitments.
- 11.5. Dual-sport participation is encouraged and endorsed by BSA.
  - 11.5.1. In the event of high-performance across multiple sports, Performance Pathway Leads and coaches will agree upon minimum standards for the athlete based on individual development rates, current ability, and team needs.
  - 11.5.2. It is expected that the athlete prioritises Performance Pathway programs over all other basketball commitments for the duration of the relative program.

## **12. Higher Level Commitments**

- 12.1. Players and coaches who are in BSA Performance Pathway programs will give priority of commitments to these programs when they clash with practice and games with:
  - 12.1.1. School
  - 12.1.2. Club or association
  - 12.1.3. Third-party or independent providers.
- 12.2. Players and coaches who have written and paid contracts, or scholarship commitments with the following must apply priority to:
  - 12.2.1. Basketball Australia representative programs
  - 12.2.2. Centre of Excellence scholarship obligations
  - 12.2.3. NBL/WNBL contractual obligations

## **13. Deselection**

- 13.1. Being named into any Performance Pathway squad/team is a rare feat, and at every point in an athlete's playing journey, they will be deselected. It is important that athletes understand:
  - 13.1.1. Their value as a person is not related to their performance in sport
  - 13.1.2. Deselection can be the result of factors outside of the child's control, i.e. timing, similar skill set across the cohort, similar anthropometrics across the cohort, and overall team suitability
  - 13.1.3. Deselection isn't 'game over' and all participants are encouraged to take on feedback with a growth mindset to better position themselves in future programs.
- 13.2. It is important that parents understand:
  - 13.2.1. The Performance Pathway exposes children to a heightened stimulus and increased load which can create varying degrees of physical and emotional stress

- 13.2.2. At every stage of the Performance Pathway progression, their child is more likely to experience inevitable deselection
- 13.2.3. They will be the conduit of official information and program updates when their child is under the age of 18 years
- 13.2.4. That the leadup to deselection and the deselection process is the most difficult component of being a coach/selector
- 13.2.5. Their primary role as a parent is to create and foster a supportive and safe environment
- 13.3. It is important that coaches understand:
  - 13.3.1. Deselection may cause distress for younger aged athlete

#### **14. Athlete Entourages**

- 14.1. Entourage includes any person in attendance who is associated with a player, including (but not limited to) family members and friends. Athletes are responsible for the behaviour of their entourage. Misconduct may result in penalties. The following are examples of unacceptable behaviour:
  - 14.1.1. Wilfully question or challenge the ruling of the match referees with no intent to cooperate/accept call)
  - 14.1.2. Berate or abuse game officials
  - 14.1.3. Berate or abuse players (from either team)
  - 14.1.4. Berate or abuse team officials (from either team)
  - 14.1.5. Berate or abuse game day officials (e.g. Referee Coaches, Basketball SA staff)
  - 14.1.6. Berate or abuse other parents or spectators
  - 14.1.7. Display conduct which is inappropriate in a sporting environment
  - 14.1.8. Inciting poor behaviour in others
  - 14.1.9. Enter the playing court at any time without permission
- 14.2. Entourages are held to account of the BSA Code of Behaviour.

#### **15. Payment of Fees**

- 15.1. Participation by players in BSA Performance Pathway programs is conditional upon either payment in full of the relevant fees, or strict adherence with the payment plan.
- 15.2. Where there are special circumstances, BSA aids families of Performance Pathway players through financial assistance. This assistance can provide extended payment plans for families.
- 15.3. If fees are not paid or if the payment plan is not strictly adhered to, BSA in its absolute discretion may remove a player of that family from participation in a Performance Pathway program or team.
- 15.4. A player may be excluded from selection in a BSA Performance Pathway program or team if the family has a history of non-payment of fees and non-adherence with payment plans as determined by BSA in its absolute discretion.



## **16. Exceptional Circumstances**

- 16.1. The Performance Pathway Leads may approve decisions not otherwise covered by this Process in the best interests of the program, ensuring alignment with Basketball Australia and approval of the Basketball South Australia CEO.

## **17. Document Author and Approving Authority**

- 17.1. The Performance Pathways Department are custodians of this process and Policy.
- 17.2. The CEO is the document approver.

