



# Western Province Bowls

## Selection Policy

### 1. OBJECTIVE

**1.1** The objective of the WP Bowls Association's (WPBA) Selection Policy is to ensure the best possible squad, teams and players are selected to achieve maximum success when representing the WPBA.

### 2. INTERPRETATION

**2.1** This selection policy document must be read in conjunction with the Constitution, By Laws, and Modus Operandi for Selectors and policy for awarding district colours.

**2.2** This selection policy document must be applied in conjunction with the selectors long-term strategic plan.

### 3. APPOINTMENT OF SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**3.1** The WPBA Executive at their sole discretion shall appoint a panel of selectors, being a minimum of three and a maximum of 5 from each gender, preferably from different clubs. In making such appointment, they should consult with the convenor of selectors. Consideration of suitability of candidates will include, but is not limited to, previous district, national or international experience and involvement in WPBA competitions.

**3.2** Selectors shall be appointed for a term of three years. Upon completion of their three-year term, a selector may be appointed for further term(s) at the discretion of the WPBA Executive.

**3.3** The Executive may replace any Selector who is unable to meet their responsibilities under this policy.

**3.4** District Selectors shall maintain a close relationship with convenors of club selectors to maintain a record of performance of candidates.

### 4. PLAYER'S ELIGIBILITY

**4.1** To be selected to represent WPBA in any sanctioned district, national or other event, players must:

**4.1.1** Be a member of a Club affiliated to WPBA.

**4.1.2** Be an affiliated member of WPBA.

**4.1.3** Be an affiliated member of Bowls South Africa.

### 5. SELECTION PROCEDURE

**5.1** Subject to the approval of the Executive, the following criteria shall apply:

**5.1.1** The Selectors shall from time to time, as directed, select such squads, teams or individual players required for specific tournaments.

**5.1.2** Selectors may where possible, give feedback to non-selected players. Where possible, at least two selectors should be present during any such feedback.

**5.1.3** Selectors are not limited or restricted in changing the selection of any squad, team, or individual player.

**5.1.4** Selectors may from time to time select a player who does not meet the criteria at a particular point of time in cases of, but not limited to, illness or newly obtained citizenship.

**5.2** Selectors must ensure compliance to the Bowls SA Inter District Championships requirements as they relate to players of different racial groupings.

### 6. SELECTION CRITERIA

**6.1** It is recognised that the selection criteria used in selecting successful teams is a balance of objective and subjective criteria. Selectors shall try to choose compatible players that will perform as a team. The selectors shall seek to find balance and fairness, both in their teams, but also in their selection process. Nevertheless, the selectors shall apply the criteria to the best of their judgement without bias or favour.

**6.2** The following objective criteria will be considered in team selection:

**6.2.1** Player immediate past performance, ability, competitiveness, mental strength, and current form as demonstrated in squad training sessions, WP League (Flag and Muter) and other district or national competitions.

**6.2.2** A player's performance track record within the last three years in district and higher-level bowls events.

**6.2.3** Player commitment to and participation in the squad training and trials activities, as well as performance in these exercises.

**6.2.4** The need to develop high potential new or young bowlers or players of colour as required within the guidelines prescribed by BSA.

### **6.3 Player availability/unavailability**

**6.3.1** Selectors understand that players may be unavailable for squad sessions under special circumstances. Players must advise of any unavailability dates by informing the Convenor of the Selection Committee as soon as they are known.

### **6.4 Player personal preferences and other criteria**

**6.4.1** Players who limit who they will play with, or what position or division they must be selected in as a condition of their availability risk affecting their own selection outcome.

**6.4.2** The selectors believe that alcohol affects a player's concentration and any player who drinks or are under the influence of alcohol whilst playing an official match is not displaying commitment and respect to the game and his team mates.

**6.4.3** The player's position in the team including team balance and compatibility with other members of the team will be considered, recognising that a spread of particular skills is needed.

**6.4.4** A player's disciplinary record and behaviour track record will be considered an important indicator of whether the player will fit into a team structure.

**6.4.5** Any other rational criteria deemed appropriate by the selection committee may be considered.

## **7. REMOVAL OF PLAYERS FROM SELECTED SQUADS OR TEAMS**

**7.1** Under the following circumstances any player may be removed from selected teams or squads:

**7.1.1** Breach of Bowls South Africa's or WPBA's Constitution and Policies, including but not limited to the code of conduct and communication policy.

**7.1.2** By reason upon medical advice or justified concern that a player would potentially not be fit to complete a tournament for which the team has been or will be selected.

**7.1.3** Breach of the player's contract.

**7.1.4** Breach of the South African Institute for Drug Free Sport [SAIDS] and Anti-Doping program.

**7.1.5** Failure to demonstrate or maintain the required standard of performance.

**7.1.6** Failure to fit into the squad or team culture or team building and management activities.

## **8. THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES SHALL APPLY TO THE VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF SELECTION.**

### **8.1 WP TRAINING SQUADS**

**8.1.1** The training squads should consist of not more than 48 (forty-eight) members of each gender and will include a training program, assessments, and analysis.

**8.1.2** To be invited to the WPBA Training Squad the following criteria shall apply:

- At the start of each cycle, the selection committee may request clubs to nominate players for consideration to be included in the squads for the next cycle. A cycle runs from immediately after and up to the completion of the next ID tournaments.
- Have a record of performance at National and District tournaments.

**8.1.3** Inclusion in the squad will be at the sole discretion of the respective men's and ladies' selection committees.

**8.1.4** A further squad of players may be formed to facilitate focused coaching and development for younger and high potential players. The selectors shall identify these players to receive additional coaching and training.

### **8.2 MASTERS**

The following criteria shall apply:

**8.2.1** A rating system will be created and once approved by the Executive, populated with at least two seasons of performance information. This will be regularly published and maintained and considered as input to the selection committee decision on invitees.

**8.2.2** There will be separate Masters groups for Open, Veterans and Invitational players with specific criteria to prequalify for participation in these events.

**8.2.3** The OPEN Masters will be for the top singles players in the district and of any age.

**8.2.4** The VETERANS Masters will be for players 60 years or older on the date of the start of the tournament.

**8.2.5** The INVITATIONAL Masters are for young and newer high potential bowlers who have the potential to grow towards qualifying for the OPEN Masters and top District teams in future.

**8.2.6** Players need to demonstrate a continuous three-year singles record at international, national or district level.

- 8.2.7 The top singles players in the district as assessed by the WPBA Selectors are to be considered for participation.
- 8.2.8 Subject to the age restriction, the winner of the previous year's junior event shall have a choice to play in the open tournament the following year or to defend his/her title.

### **8.3 WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL BOWLING ASSOCIATION SINGLES**

- 8.3.1 The selection criteria shall be the same for the Open and Veteran singles competitions.
- 8.3.2 The winners of the most recent WP Masters and WP Singles competitions will be selected.
- 8.3.3 If one of the winners is not available, the runners-up from each competition will be considered.
- 8.3.4 The other spots will be Selector's choice, considering the last two year's singles performance.

## **9. MASTERS QUALIFICATION CRITERIA**

### **9.1 OPEN**

- 9.1.1 Any WPBA affiliated players who played in the most recent BSA National Masters shall be invited.
- 9.1.2 The winner of the most recent OPEN District Masters tournament shall be invited.
- 9.1.3 The winner of the most recent VETERANS District Masters tournament shall be invited.
- 9.1.4 The winner of the most recent INVITATIONAL District Masters tournament shall be invited.
- 9.1.5 The winner of the most recent district OPEN singles tournament shall be invited.
- 9.1.6 The winner of the most recent singles Champion of Champions tournament shall be invited.
- 9.1.7 The rest of the available places will be filled by the Selectors' choice on merit.

### **9.2 VETERANS**

- 9.2.1 The winner and runner-up of the most recent district veterans' singles tournament shall be invited.
- 9.2.2 The runner-up of the most recent Veterans Masters tournament shall be invited.
- 9.2.3 Semi-finalists of the most recent district OPEN Singles championship, if Veterans, shall be invited.
- 9.2.4 The rest of the available places will be filled by the Selectors' choice on merit.

### **9.3 INVITATIONAL**

- 9.3.1 The winners of the most recent JUNIOR District Masters tournaments (under 30) shall be invited.
- 9.3.2 No VETERAN players will be invited to the INVITATIONAL Masters.
- 9.3.3 The rest of the available places will be filled by the Selectors' choice on merit.

## **10. NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION**

- 10.1 Names of players selected shall be forwarded to the Executive Committee for ratification within seven days.
- 10.2 Upon public release of the names of players or teams selected, the WPBA Office will then determine the availability of players. For players representing the district, the WPBA Office will be responsible for making all travel and accommodation arrangements.
- 10.3 Players not being available must advise the WPBA Office and furnish reasons for non-availability.

## **11. PLAYERS AWARENESS**

- 11.1 This policy shall be available to all members of WPBA and the public on the WPBA website.

## **12. SELECTORS ATTENDANCE AT DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS**

- 12.1 A minimum of 2 selectors, being one of each gender, should attend any events or Tournaments as directed by the Executive of WPBA.

**Approved by the Executive on 27 October 2022**