



BASEBALL
QUEENSLAND

PATHWAY PROGRAMS

QLD TEAM SELECTION POLICY



Introduction

1. The object of this policy is to outline the process of selecting athletes to represent Baseball Queensland in various Performance Pathway Programs.
2. This policy may be amended or supplemented by Baseball Queensland at its discretion in order to achieve this objective, specifically where matters arise which, in the sole discretion of the Baseball Queensland Board, have not been provided for in this policy or where the literal application of this policy would not achieve this objective.
3. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Baseball Queensland Ethics and Expectations Policy, BQ Athlete and Coach Agreement forms and Baseball Australia National Championships Technical Norms and Member Protection Policy.

Athlete Eligibility

All Athletes MUST meet the following requirements:

1. Hold a current full and active membership with Baseball Queensland
2. Meet the eligibility requirements for each National Championships as set out in Baseball Australia National Championships Technical Norms
3. Demonstrate a commitment and pay the specified Athlete Tournament Levy in full prior to departing and participating at National Championships
4. Uphold all components of the event organiser, Baseball Australia and Baseball Queensland Code of Conducts, including BQ Ethics and Expectations Policy
5. Complete and return all forms required by the event organiser, BA and BQ (to be distributed by team EO) to Team EO by the specified deadline
6. Attend selection trials (if required) as set out and all further sessions as advised
7. Must compete in a BQ sanctioned competition
8. Players unable to participate in the State Titles may still be considered for selection, provided sufficient justification exists.

Advising of Situations and Circumstances Necessitating Approval

1. All participants competing at the State Titles will be considered for State Team selection. If an athlete wishes not to be considered they must notify both their Region and BQ High Performance Manager in writing at their earliest convenience.
2. Any athlete not available to attend State Titles, On field testing sessions or trials (if required) but wishes to be considered for State selection must inform both their Region and BQHPM in writing at their earliest convenience
3. In case of illness or injury that result in an athlete unable to participate at State Titles a Doctor or Physio certificate may be required highlighting the injury or illness with a full return to play timeframe. All factors with an injury or illness will be considered

Selection Process

1. QLD State Titles are utilised as the final stages of athlete selection
2. QLD Coaches meet prior to the State Titles to review testing data along with establishing the Teams selection criteria and scouting process at the State Titles
3. QLD Coaches will be in attendance for all games at the State Titles to evaluate potential QLD athletes
4. All players are eligible for selection. However, QLD Coaches will obtain further information through communication with region selectors and team coaches
5. QLD Coaches will have formal selection meeting toward the end of each day
6. The Head Coach will liaise with BQ High Performance Manager on the Final Roster
7. A membership check will occur for all selected athletes
8. The roster will be posted on BQ website during the week following State Titles
9. All successful athletes will be notified through email of their selection and relevant information
10. Submit Provisional Team Roster to Baseball Australia
11. Provide relevant information for athletes wishing to be considered for Friendship Player consideration

BQ has selected a coaching staff responsible for selecting the training squads and final team, and these coaches do not take this responsibility lightly. BQ always try to appoint the best possible coaches who are willing and available, to select and coach our representative teams.

The selection process is made up of both objective data (radar gun readings, stopwatch times, size etc) and a subjective skills assessment. While we try to make the selection process as objective as possible, there will always be an element of subjectivity, with the responsibility to choose the final team resting with the coaching staff.

The nature of this process will always leave some people disappointed. If you are not selected, it is normal to be disappointed, but don't be discouraged. There will be many more opportunities in your baseball career to continue to develop. Use your disappointment as motivation to train harder and improve your game.

QLD Program selectors are looking for strong and athletic individuals who show the desire and commitment to compete at the highest level. The Queensland junior programs adopt a long-term athlete development framework with the aim of maximising athletic potential and producing players who are successful at senior levels.

Athlete Evaluation

Players will be considered for selection based on an evaluation of the following areas:

- Throwing velocity and skill
- Hitting ability and bat speed
- Running speed, athleticism and agility
- Position specific expertise
- Awareness of game situations and strategies
- Decision making ability

- Confidence and competitiveness
- Current and projectable strength and power
- Their contribution to the team competencies
- Leadership & communication
- Attitude & maturity

The factors listed above have been shown to be important predictors of success at the higher levels of the game. Statistics attained at club level, regional and even State Championships, however, are often poor predictors of success at the next level.

Many of these qualities cannot be realistically assessed in a single two or three-day tournament. BQ staff members and QLD coaches try to observe players and accumulate information over several weeks, months or even years in order to gain an accurate impression of each athlete.

On Field testing sessions are scheduled throughout the year and data collected from these sessions will be considered

Participation in BQ Winter programs (State Performance Squad and Athlete Development Programs) is used as an extended period of observation and athlete performance will be considered

Removal of Athletes from Selected Squad or Team

Any athlete who breaches any of the following conditions is ineligible for selection or continued participation of the squad or team. These include:

1. Demonstrated breaches or failure to observe this policy;
2. In the event of illness or injury where the identified athlete/ athletes are unable to perform to the required standard as determined by the selectors. This determination will be made following advice in writing from a medical practitioner. In such cases the advice in writing must be received by the High Performance Manager within five days of the initial notification. Progressive notifications and updates are to be made on weekly basis via telephone and in writing. Failure to provide the required documentation as stipulated will necessitate omission from the selected squad or team until medical clearance has been received by the High Performance Manager;
3. Breaches or failure to fulfil a requirement of the anti-doping policy of Baseball Australia;
4. Failure to observe and adhere to the Baseball QLD Ethics and Expectations document;
5. Failure to adhere to BA Member Protection Policy;
6. Failure to adhere to Athlete Training Agreement;
7. Failure to adhere fully to the specified training program. This includes participation in all the required training sessions, games or other nominated training requirements without approval for a leave of absence by High Performance Manager; or
8. Non-payment of the specified levy for the program or team within the identified timeframe.

Selection Panel

The selection panel for State teams will consist of:

1. BQ High Performance Manager
2. QLD Head Coach
3. QLD Assistant Coaches

Selectors outside of the above group may be included at the High Performance Manager's discretion. Failure to adhere to the policy will result in omission from participating in the selection process. All appointed QLD Coaches adhere to their signed Coaching Agreement Form.

Complaints/ Grievances and Appeals Process

In the event of a complaint or a grievance the CEO and Board of Management of Baseball QLD, or its appointed Committee, will hear all appeals. The sole grounds for any appeal, is prefaced on the fact that this policy was not properly followed and or implemented. There is no right of appeal against a decision of the selection panel in any instance.

In the event of this situation all appeals must be submitted to Baseball QLD CEO, ceo@baseballqld.asn.au. If there are grounds for appeal Baseball QLD will follow Baseball Australia's Member Protection Policy.