



POLICY DOCUMENT

CLASSIFICATION OF PROVINCIAL TEAMS AT JUNIOR NATIONALS

1. Introduction:

In order to grow the sport it is imperative that we create excitement and interest at provincial level when competing at National Tournaments. There is no greater achievement at school level than being selected to play for your province and ultimately receiving school colours for this achievement.

As this sport is unique and quite small in some provinces, there is often insufficient players to make up a team who can represent their province. In the past, players have played for other provinces to ensure that they are not excluded from tournaments and this practice will continue in the future. However, it is important that rules and regulations are put in place to prevent provinces from “selecting” players outside of their province while excluding players in their own province.

2. Junior Leagues:

The following are the leagues which are available for players to participate in at Junior National Tournaments; however these can change if insufficient teams enter per category. This will be left up to the discretion of the organising body:

• U10 Mixed
• U13 Girls
• U13 Boys
• U16 Girls
• U16 Boys
• U19 Ladies
• U19 Men

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3. Junior Age Groups Classification:

AGE CATEGORY	MINIMUM AGE	MAXIMUM AGE
Under 10 Mixed	7	9
Under 13	10	12
Under 16	13	15
Under 19	16	18

- U10 Mixed Division. The age category is 7 - 9 inclusive.
- U13 Girls Division. The age category is 10 - 12 inclusive.
- U13 Boys Division. The age category is 10 - 12 inclusive.
- U16 Girls Division. The age category is 13 - 15 inclusive.
- U13 Boys Division. The age category is 15 - 15 inclusive.
- U19 Men's Division. The age category is 16 -18 inclusive.
- U19 Women's Division. The age limits are 16 -18 inclusive.

4. Age Determination:

The athletic age of a competitor is obtained by subtracting the year of birth from the current year. The competitor will compete from 1 January 1 to 31 December of the year in this category.

5. Age Exceptions:

- 5.1 A player who is older than 18 years of age, but is still in a school system which acknowledges National Colours, may be considered in the U19 League, only if both of the following requirements are met:
- 5.1.1 Before the start of the Tournament, a written letter confirming school and age of the player is forwarded to the Age Group Executive;
- 5.1.2 The Age Group Executive give written permission for participation in the Tournament.

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6. Team Make-Up:

- 6.1 The overriding priority is for all players registered in a province to play for that province as this is a National (inter provincial) event.
- 6.2 The second priority is for U13 & U16 teams to fall into the gender specific age groups as above. However, if insufficient players per gender group, the province can then decide to either:
- Enter a mixed team; or
 - Find players from another province; or
 - Allow their players to play for another province

Note: All mixed teams play in the Men's league specific to their age category.

- 6.3. U19 Ladies and U19 Men are gender specific teams. No mixed gender teams are permitted in this league.

7. Moving of Players between Provinces:

If insufficient players in a province, the following will apply:

- 7.1 The province requiring players to complete the on-line form which will be available prior to each and every tournament.
- 7.2 The province with additional players (players who require teams to play in) will similarly complete an on-line form which will be available prior to each and every tournament.
- 7.3 The Age Group Executive together with the Provincial Representatives will place the players to ensure fairness and that the players needs are taken into consideration.

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