



## 1. Policy Objectives

The St Albans Caroline Springs Netball Association (SACSNA) Representative Program is committed to:

- Maintaining a transparent, fair, and inclusive selection process.
- Identifying and developing players with talent, commitment, and potential.
- Selecting teams to maximise success and foster growth at district, regional, and state levels.
- Commit to selecting players and teams within each age group to maximise each team's likelihood of success.
- Meet our responsibilities to recognise, foster and develop players who strive to play netball at a district, regional, state or national representative level.
- Ensure players and parents understand the process.

For the purpose of this Policy, SACSNA acknowledges that all players:

- Desire to play in a team environment against opponents of similar skill and ability.
- Understand and accept that selection decisions are made with the goal of maximising both individual player development and the overall performance of the team.

## 2. Selection Process & Timing

a) Annual Squad Selection & Seasonal Development teams:

Teams will be selected per Semester. That is the Autumn and Spring seasons. Some movement or additional players may occur during the year based on player performance or availability.

b) Trial Registration:

- Current players are sent an invitation to register for the trials.
- Players must register online by the advertised due date.
- Trials will be promoted on the SACSNA website, social media, and will be distributed to all the clubs competing at SACSNA. It is expected clubs will circulate and promote this information.

*\* Age is determined at 31st December of the competition year (not the trial year)*

c) Trial Schedule:

- At least two trials will be held per age group (e.g. 11/U to Open).
- Dates will be set and advertised in advance.





## d) Trial Attendance Requirements

All players must attend the official dates set for SACSNA representative team selection trials.

- If a player is ill, injured, or unavailable, notification must be provided in writing prior to the trial by emailing: **sacsnowestside@gmail.com**
- In the case of illness on the day, an email must still be submitted; otherwise, the absence will be recorded as a “no-show.”
- Players who are unable to attend due to injury, illness, or school commitments may, at the discretion of the Selection Panel, be invited to join the age group squad until they can be properly assessed.
- The SACSNA Head Representative Coach and Selection Panel may exercise discretion to select a player based on their previous representative performance.
- Returning representative players must participate in trials, even if they are trialling in the same age group as the previous season.

## e) Post-Trial Communication:

- After each selection trial, players will either be requested to attend the next trial or be advised that they were not selected.
- Feedback is available upon request.

## f) Squad Announcements

Squads will be announced as follows:

- All players will receive an email notification advising whether or not they have been selected.
- For selected players, the email will include next steps outlining how to confirm and secure their position in the representative program.

## 3. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to trial for a SACSNA Representative Team, players must meet the following criteria:

- They are registered players and have a weekly commitment to play in the SACSNA domestic competition (9/U-15/U).
- If not currently registered, will register and actively participate in the upcoming season.
- 17/U, 19/U & Open players are encouraged to play within the SACSNA domestic competition.





- If a player's eligibility is impacted by exceptional circumstances, they may request an exemption by contacting the SACSNA Head Representative Coach, who will refer the matter to the SACSNA Executive Committee. The final decision rests with the Executive Committee.
- They have no outstanding fees from previous seasons.
- They have registered for selection trials by the advertised deadline.

## 4. Selection Trials

a) Players will participate in selection trials for their squad based on their age as at 31st December of the selection year.

b) Selection trials will be facilitated by coaches and selectors who:

- Are independent of any player in that age group.
- Have a sound understanding of the competitive and developmental demands relevant to that age group.

c) A minimum of two trials will be conducted for each age group.

d) Existing representative players who wish to trial will be notified of the trial dates and are expected to attend.

e) Players must attend each trial wearing:

- A plain white top and
- Black shorts or skirt

No club or representative branding is permitted.

f) Players arriving in incorrect attire will be asked to change before participating in trials.

g) Requests to trial in a higher age group must be made in writing and submitted prior to trials. Approval must be granted by the SACSNA Representative Selection Panel in consultation with the SACSNA Executive Committee.

h) Parents/guardians assisting with trial logistics must:

- Not participate in any selection discussions or decisions.
- Not assist with any age group in which their child is trialling.

Each selector will score players individually, and results will be discussed confidentially.





## 5. Trial Procedure

a) Players should expect and complete the following during trials:

- Check in on arrival to confirm attendance.
- Be in the correct attire, fully taped and ready to warm up.
- Coaches will lead a structured warm-up and skill drills at the beginning of the session.
- Court runs will be pre-planned and read out before and during trial match play.
- Players will be placed on court in their first and second nominated positions, where possible.
  - Some players may receive more runs depending on the number of nominations per position.
- Selectors may adjust runs or ask players to trial in alternative positions to assess versatility or team fit.
- Each selector will have a copy of the runs and will individually assess and score each player's performance.
- All assessment data will be collated and reviewed by the SACSNA Representative Selection Panel after each trial.

## 6. Selecting Teams

a) Players will be selected into teams based on a combination of the following factors:

- Performance during selection trials
- Pre-season training performance
- Team balance and positional needs
- Match and training performance during the previous representative season (if applicable)
- Adherence to the SACSNA Player Code of Conduct

b) Coaches will be provided with standardised pre-trial feedback forms relevant to their age group.

c) Coaches may also:

- Consult with previous season coaches (if applicable)
- Refer to the most recent Player Performance Reviews





- Engage in discussion with the SACSNA Head Representative Coach to finalise team placements

d) No player is guaranteed to:

- Be placed in the same team as previous seasons
- Remain with the same group of players from year to year

e) While every effort is made to finalise teams promptly, some movement may occur during pre-season as combinations are trialled.

f) If a player is selected in a higher age group but later declines the offer, they may be placed in a team within their original age group if a suitable position is available.

g) To optimise court time and enjoyment, teams will generally consist of 10 players. In some cases, team sizes may vary, but will not exceed 12 players unless exceptional circumstances apply.

h) All players and parents acknowledge that decisions made by the SACSNA Selection Panel are final and made in the best interest of the program and team balance.

i) If a returning player is not selected for a team in the upcoming season, a SACSNA representative official will personally contact the player's parent/guardian to provide feedback before teams are publicly announced.

*Note:* No player is guaranteed to retain a team position year-to-year (season-to-season).

### **7. Training Partners and Development Teams**

a) SACSNA may select training partners and development teams across all representative age groups.

b) These players are selected based on their potential to play at a representative level, although they may not yet be at the same developmental stage as selected team members.

c) Training partners must attend all scheduled training sessions but are not required to participate in weekly games or tournaments unless requested.

d) Development Team members are expected to attend all training sessions, tournaments, and matches as directed by the coaching staff.

e) Training partners and/or development squad players may:

- Train together as a group, or
- Be assigned to train alongside teams in their respective age groups.

f) Training partners serve as reserves. If a temporary replacement is needed for a match or





tournament, training partners may be called upon to fill in.

- The team coach, in consultation with the SACSNA Head Representative Coach, will select the most suitable training partner based on positional needs.

g) Should a player withdraw permanently, training partners will be the first considered for elevation to a full team position.

## 8. SACSNA Representative Squad Selection Panel

a) The SACSNA Representative Squad Selection Panel is responsible for the implementation and integrity of this policy.

b) The panel will be formed prior to trials and will oversee all aspects of player selection.

c) The Selection Panel will include:

- SACSNA-appointed selectors, and
- Independent selectors, where possible.

d) Any panel member, selector, coach, or official who has a child or close relative trialling in a specific age group must:

- Declare a conflict of interest, and
- Abstain from all involvement in the selection process for that particular age group.

c) Final selection decisions are binding and made in the best interest of the program.

## 9. Communication & Feedback

- A follow-up email will be sent to successful players only,
- within a week.
- If a selected player declines the offer of a place in the team, that place can then be offered to one of the alternate players in the same court area.
- Feedback on selection outcomes can be requested by emailing [sacsnewestside@gmail.com](mailto:sacsnewestside@gmail.com)

## 10. Terms of Selection

a) If offered a position, players must accept or reject the position within seven days of the initial email offer and pay a non-refundable deposit of \$250, which will go towards program fees.





## SACSNA Representative Team Selection Policy

Reviewed September 2025

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- b) All players are required to pay a player fee that will be determined annually.
- c) All uniform costs will be in addition to the player fees.
- d) Failure to pay player fees by the due date may result in the player being removed from the program. Players (their parents) have the option for an instalment plan, which can be chosen at the time of payment. Instalment deadlines must be adhered to if this option is chosen.
- e) All players are required to sign and return the player code of conduct prior to the commencement of the first training sessions
- f) All players are required to attend all team training sessions. If a player attends a reduced number of training sessions without appropriate communication to SACSNA administration and coaches, their playing position may be reconsidered.
- g) The best-performed 13&U, 15&U and 17&U players, as determined by the respective coaches throughout the program, will represent SACSNA in the Championship section at the Netball Victoria Association Championships Zone Qualifying Day. The remaining players will compete in the Reserve grade.

### 10. Player & Parent Responsibilities

- Read and understand this policy before trialling.
- Show respect to selectors, coaches, and other players.
- Accept the final decision of the Selection Panel.
- Uphold the SACSNA Code of Conduct at all times.

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For all representative inquiries:

**Email:** [sacsnewestside@gmail.com](mailto:sacsnewestside@gmail.com)

