

## STUDENT ELIGIBILITY POLICY

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Policy Group	National Programs Committee	Recommended by the National Programs Committee	22 January 2020
Drafted by	Michael Grant	Approved by the Board	18 February 2020
Responsible person	Executive Officer	Scheduled review date	December 2022

### INTRODUCTION

School Sport Australia (SSA) Championships are open to eligible students. To be eligible to participate students must:

- satisfy the age criteria for a Championship;
- attend an affiliated school of an SSA Member Body.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the integrity of SSA Championships and maintain an educational focus.

### POLICY

#### 1. Ages

- a) Age Eligibility for all Championships shall be as follows:
  - i) 12 Years and under Program - 12 years and under in the year of competition and a minimum of 10 years of age in the year of competition, unless there is a sport governing body rule that specifically restricts the allowable age group (for example, a ten (10) year old is not allowed to compete against a twelve (12) year old in a particular sport).
  - ii) 19 Years and under Program - 19 years and under in the year of competition and a minimum of 13 years of age in the year of competition, except where other specific age eligibility is applied.
- b) School Sport Australia member bodies retain the right to decide the appropriate method of team selection that best meets the educational needs of the students in their state/territory, in accordance with School Sport Australia Rules and Guidelines.
- c) In any calendar year students may only participate in one School Sport Australia sport specific championship, at either the 12 years & under age group, or the 19 years & under age group. Students are not able to participate in two age divisions in one sport, in the same calendar year.

#### 2. Students

- a) Students representing state teams must attend schools or other educational institutions affiliated to the School Sport Australia member body in that state.

- b) If a student has been selected in a state team, and the selection process has already been completed in the State they are moving to, he/she shall retain the right to be part of his/her original state team for that year only, provided:
  - i) Written consent is obtained from the parents.
  - ii) The original member body is prepared to accept responsibility for the student.
  - iii) Permission is obtained from the new Principal.
- c) Students selected in teams attending a School Sport Australia Championship must attend for the duration of the Championship. Students must participate in all programmed activities during the Championship unless exempted as per the Championship Attendance Policy.
- d) In exceptional circumstances where a member body requires additional students to field a team, an application must be made to the SSA office (Refer to Strategy 1 of the Sport Participation Policy). The decision to 'top up' with students will be made in consultation with the host state, which has the first option to fill the vacancy.

## **RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Championship Attendance Policy

Sport Participation Policy

## **AUTHORISATION**



Signature of Chairperson of National Programs Committee