



## **By-Law 10**

### **STATE TEAMS**

**Version:** as ratified on 16 February 2023

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## **Name**

1. This By-Law shall be referred to as the **State Teams By-Law**.

## **Source**

2. This By-Law is made pursuant to rule 33 of the Constitution of Table Tennis Victoria Incorporated.

## **Scope**

3. This By-Law is intended to regulate the selection of table tennis players into State teams and Presidents teams for the Australian Championships and to make provision for the management of the relevant teams in connection with the Championships.

## **Aim**

4. Table Tennis Victoria seeks to ensure any State Team includes the best performing players in the relevant year to maximise chances of winning team and individual events at the Australian Championships.
5. Table Tennis Victoria seeks to maximise the results of a State Team by providing support through a team management structure which may include the appointment of team managers and team coaches where desirable.

## **Selection period**

6. The selection period for State Teams for the Australian Championships commences immediately following the close of the previous year's selection period and continues until 8 weeks prior to the date set down for the Championships in the relevant year (unless varied by Table Tennis Victoria).

## **State Selection Panel**

7. The State Selection Panel shall select all players for State Team representation at Australian Championships in accordance with this By-Law and By-Law 8 State Selection Panel.

## **Team eligibility**

8. To be eligible for selection in a State Team for participation in an Australian Championships, a player shall –
  - be a registered member of Table Tennis Victoria and owe no outstanding monies to Table Tennis Victoria or any of its Affiliates;
  - be of good standing within the sport and adhere to the requirements of Table Tennis Victoria's constitution and By-Laws.
  - satisfy the requirements set down by Table Tennis Australia for State representation – see *National Championships Regulations*;
  - complete the prescribed State Team Availability form as available on the TTV website;
  - have played at least the minimum number of approved tournaments prescribed for the relevant age category as set out in regulation 9.

## **Minimum number of tournaments played**

9. The number of approved tournaments which a player is required to participate in per age category, prescribed for the purposes of State Team eligibility, is determined by the State Selection Panel, approved by Table Tennis Victoria and advised at the commencement of the relevant selection period for that particular age category. The number of approved tournaments may be varied by the State Selection Panel once the Tournament Calendar for the following year is released or by the Board at any other time.

**Explanation:** If the State Selection Panel determines the number of approved tournaments which a player is required to participate in is 5, then in order to be eligible for a particular age category, the player must have played in that age category at the prescribed minimum number of tournaments. Thus, if a player played only in the O/40 events at 5 tournaments, he or she is eligible for selection in the O/40 team's event but not eligible for the O/30 team's event.

10. For avoidance of doubt, the Victorian Country Championships and Victorian Metropolitan Championships shall count as approved tournaments for the purposes of regulation 9.

#### **Automatic exemption from eligibility criteria**

11. a) Any player who wins the Victorian Open shall be granted automatic exemption from the eligibility criteria set out in regulation 9.  
  
b) Any player who wins the Victorian Closed may be granted automatic exemption from the eligibility criteria set out in regulation 9.

#### **Discretionary exemption from eligibility criteria**

12. The State Selection Panel may also grant a table tennis player an exemption from the eligibility criteria set out in regulation 9 in the following circumstances where the panel is satisfied that a player:
  - has suffered a significant injury preventing that player from participating in the prescribed minimum number of tournaments;
  - has by virtue of other official State, National, Oceania or International tournament, playing or training commitments, been prevented from participating in the prescribed minimum number of tournaments;
  - has by virtue of playing or training commitments, authorised by Table Tennis Victoria prior to participating in the activity, been prevented from participating in the prescribed minimum number of tournaments. (eg: participating in an overseas pennant, tournament or attending a training camp after seeking

authorisation by TTV, attending the NZ Veterans Test and NZ Veterans Open or the World Veterans Championships);

- has experienced unforeseen circumstances preventing them from participating in the prescribed minimum number of tournaments (eg: a player entered the last tournament of the selection period to meet the minimum number of tournaments, however, suffered an injury preventing the player from participating in the tournament; or
- is required to complete the numbers in a State Team (where there is insufficient eligible players) and the addition of that player is in the best interests of the sport.

13. An exemption for participation at overseas events will be considered for absence up to and including the weekend prior to the departure or weekend after the return of the team flight, excluding NZ events. Where there is no official team flight, consideration will be for absence up to and including two weekends prior to the commencement of the event or two weekends after the completion of the event.
14. A player seeking exemption from the eligibility criteria as set out in regulation 9 shall submit an exemption in writing (on the prescribed form) to the Chair of the State Selection Panel as soon as practicable at the end of the relevant selection cycle.
15. An exemption shall not be granted by the State Selection Panel unless the vote to do so satisfies the majority of the panel.

### **Team selection**

16. Subject to the exercise of powers by the State Selection Panel, Table Tennis Victoria shall use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that State “A” teams are selected for all relevant age categories to participate in the National Championships.
17. The State Selection Panel may only nominate a State “B” or State “C” team where the Panel is satisfied that such team shall be “reasonably competitive” in that particular age category at the National Championships.

## **Number of players in team**

18. A State Team shall generally consist of the number of players required to play each team match plus 1 player. This requirement of “plus 1 player” may be varied by the State Selection Panel where it is in the interests of the sport to do so.

**Example:** In a team event where there are 3 rotations of singles in a match, a team shall ordinarily comprise 4 players.

## **Player eligibility for multiple age categories**

19. Where a table tennis player is eligible for 2 or more age categories at a National Championships, the State Selection Panel may select the player in any category. In making such selection, the Panel may give preference to selecting the player in their actual age category but is not required to do so where the Panel is satisfied that it is in the best interests of the State team(s) to select the player into a different age category.

## **Selection of players into “A” teams**

20. State “A” teams shall be selected from table tennis players meeting all eligibility criteria as set out in regulation 8 (and including any player who has been granted an exemption under regulation 11 or 12) in the following order –

- first, the player with the highest total State Team Points
- second, the player with the second highest total State Teams Points
- third, the player with the third highest total State Team Points [not required if the team complement is 2 rather than 3 players].

21. In order to complete the complement for a State “A” team (thus satisfying the “plus 1 player” requirement), the State Selection Panel may select 1 additional player (or 2 additional players in exceptional circumstances) in the exercise of their discretion but the Panel may have regard to the following –

- the player who won the Victorian Open in the relevant age category (if not already selected)
- the player who won the Victorian Closed in the relevant age category (if not already selected)
- the player with the highest ranking points as determined by *Ratings Central* (see *By-Law 16 – Athlete Rankings*)
- the player with the next highest ranking points as determined by *Ratings Central* (see *By-Law 16 – Athlete Rankings*).

**Explanation:** In selecting the U/13 Boys “A” Team, Player A finished on top of the State Team Points (and won the Victorian Closed for U/13 Boys), Player B finished second on the State Team Points, Player C finished third on the State Team Points, Player D finished fourth on the State Team Points, Player E finished fifth on the State Team Points (and won the Victorian Open for U/13 Boys) and Player F finished sixth on the State Team Points (but has the highest ranking points under *Ratings Central*).

The State Selection Panel may select Player A, Player B and Player C which completes the minimum complement of 3 players for the team. The Panel has a discretion to select a 4<sup>th</sup> player – the Panel may select any other player, however preference may be given to selecting Player E as he has won the Victorian Open in the relevant age category (and not selecting Player D even though he has a higher State Team Points total). However, assuming Player E did not win the Victorian Open, preference may then be given to selecting Player F (and not player D) as Player F has the highest ranking points under *Ratings Central*.

### **Selection of players into “B” teams and “C” teams**

22. State “B” teams (where applicable) and State “C” teams (where applicable) shall be selected from table tennis players meeting all eligibility criteria as set out in regulation 8 (and including any player who has been granted an exemption under regulation 11 or 12) in the order of the players with the next highest total State Team Points (after excluding all players selected for the respective State “A” team) until the required team complement is satisfied.
23. Notwithstanding regulation 21, the State Selection Panel shall exercise a discretion in the selection of the “plus 1 player” into any State “B” Team or State “C” team, but in

exercising this discretion shall give preference to the player with the highest ranking points as determined by *Ratings Central* (see *By-Law 16 – Athlete Rankings*).

**Explanation:** In selecting the U/13 Boys “B” Team, the State Selection Panel has already selected Players A, B, C and E for the U/13 Boys “A” Team. Player D finished fourth on the State Team Points, Player F finished sixth on the State Team Points, Player G finished seventh on the State Team Points, Player H finished eighth on the State Team Points and Player I finished ninth on the State Teams Points (but has the highest ranking points under *Ratings Central* of the remaining players). The State Selection Panel must select Player D, Player F and Player G which completes the minimum complement of 3 players for the “B” Team. The Panel has a discretion to select a 4<sup>th</sup> player – the Panel may select any other player but must give preference to selecting Player I as Player I has higher ranking points (than Player H) under *Ratings Central*.

### **Ranking players in the State Team Points list**

24. In order to make selections under this By-Law, ineligible players, unavailable players and players selected into different age categories are excluded from the ranking hierarchy (described herein) for a particular age category.
25. Where 2 or more players have equal State Team Points, such players shall be ranked according to the higher ranking points under *Ratings Central*. Where any such players remain equal after that process, the ranking of the players shall be determined by the State Selection Panel in the exercise of their discretion.

### **Nomination of players for Presidents team**

26. A Victorian player (who has not been selected in a State Team) may be nominated by the State Selection Panel for inclusion in a President’s team where such player has –
  - met the requirements of the National Championship as set out in the prospectus; and
  - the Panel is satisfied that the inclusion of the player in a President’s team is in the best interests of the sport to do so.

### **Deviation from selection rules**

27. The State Selection Panel may deviate from the selection rules set out in regulations 20 – 26 only in exceptional circumstances where there are genuine reasons and provided where the decision to do so is unanimous.
28. The State Selection Panel may not apply clause 27 for the same player in consecutive years.

### **Selection of para athletes**

29. The State Selection Panel may, in its absolute discretion, select para athletes to represent the State at the relevant Australian Championships.

### **Appeal against decision of Panel**

30. A player aggrieved by a decision of the State Selection Panel may appeal against the decision to Table Tennis Victoria in accordance with the procedures set out in *By-Law 8 – State Selection Panel*.

### **Announcement of State Teams**

31. Table Tennis Victoria shall announce all State Teams (and nominations for Presidents teams) on its website as soon as practicable after the decision is made by the State Selection Panel.

### **Appointment of Team Manager**

32. Table Tennis Victoria shall appoint a Team Manager for all State Teams approximately 6 months prior to the conducting of the relevant National Championships.
33. All expressions of interest must be in writing on the Table Tennis Victoria prescribed form.

34. The selection criteria for the appointment of Team Manager are as set out in **Annexure A**.
35. The duties and responsibilities of a Team Manager are as set out in **Annexure B**.
36. Where State Team Managers are appointed to attend a National Championships, they are entitled to remuneration and reimbursement of expenses as determined by the Board.

#### **Powers of Team Manager**

37. The Team Manager has the power to perform all such acts as appear to the Manager to be essential to the proper management and affairs of the State Team prior to, during or after the National Championships.
38. In the discharge of their duties, the Team Manager may consult with any of the Team Captains before making a decision. For avoidance of doubt, the Team Manager may direct a Team Captain to act or not act in any particular manner.

#### **Appointment of Team Captains – Veterans**

39. In respect of National Championships – Veterans, Table Tennis Victoria shall appoint a Team Captain (playing or non-playing) for all State “A” Teams, State “B” Teams and State “C” Teams upon the recommendations made by the State Selection Panel.
40. For avoidance of doubt, a Team Captain is not appointed as a team coach for that relevant State team but may assist in coaching that team (if desired).
41. A Team Captain is not entitled to any remuneration or travel and accommodation expenses by virtue of his or her appointment.

#### **Appointment of Team Captains – Seniors**

42. In respect of the National Championships – Seniors, Table Tennis Victoria shall appoint a Team Captain (playing or non-playing) for all State “A” Teams, State “B” Teams and State “C” Teams upon the recommendations made by the State Selection Panel.
43. For avoidance of doubt, a Team Captain (playing) is not appointed as a team coach for that relevant State team but may assist in coaching that team (if desired) but a Team Captain (non-playing) is appointed as a team coach for that relevant State team.
44. A Team Captain (playing) is not entitled to any remuneration or travel and accommodation expenses by virtue of his or her appointment.

#### **Appointment of Team Captains/Coaches – Juniors**

45. In respect of the National Championships – Juniors, Table Tennis Victoria shall appoint a Team Captain/Coach (non-playing) for all State teams at least 3 months prior to the conducting of the relevant National Championships.
46. All expressions of interest must be in writing on the Table Tennis Victoria prescribed form.
47. The selection criteria for the appointment as a Team Captain/Coach are as set out in **Annexure C**.
48. The duties and responsibilities of a Team Captain/Coach are as set out in **Annexure D**.
49. Where a State Team is required to travel interstate to attend a National Championships, a State Team Captain/Coach of a Junior team is entitled to reasonable travel and accommodation expenses organised by TTV.

#### **Powers of Team Captain/Coach**

50. Subject to regulation 35, the Team Captain/Coach has the power to perform all such acts as appear to the Team Captain/Coach to be essential to the proper management and affairs of the relevant State Team.

## **Team uniform**

51. All players shall wear the prescribed State Team uniform during the National Championships. All players must wear the State Team uniform during the Opening Ceremony, whilst playing the teams event and at the teams event medal ceremonies. For avoidance of doubt, players are not required to wear the State Team uniform (but players must not wear the prescribed uniform of another state, territory or country) whilst playing individual events and at the individual events medal ceremonies.
52. All Team Managers and Team Captain/Coaches shall wear the prescribed State Team uniform during the National Championships.
53. For avoidance of doubt, no other person (including a member of the President's team) is permitted to wear the prescribed State Team uniform during the National Championships (apart from participation in the Opening Ceremony and any matter incidental thereto).
54. The name of a player may be added to a State Team playing shirt but not to any other item of the State Team uniform.

## **Responsibilities of Table Tennis Victoria**

55. Table Tennis Victoria shall pay the team entry fee for the Open "A" teams and the highest Junior "A" teams.

## **Responsibilities of selected players**

56. It is the responsibility of all selected players to pay the event entry fee and the estimated team cost (as advised) of participation in a National Championships to Table Tennis Victoria prior to departure for the Championships.
57. It is the responsibility of all selected players to travel to and from a National Championships at their own cost.

58. It is the responsibility of all selected players participating in a National Championships to arrange accommodation at their own cost.
59. The responsibilities of a player selected to play in a State Team is as set out in the respective *Table Tennis Victoria – Victorian State Team – Athlete Agreement*.

#### **Jurisdiction of Team Manager**

60. Where a junior player [player under the age of 18 years] is travelling to a National Championship, such player falls under the jurisdiction of the Team Manager from the Opening Ceremony to the Closing Ceremony but only immediately upon the player having presented himself/ herself at the playing (or linked) venue and are present at the playing (or linked) venue.
61. In all other cases where a player is travelling interstate to an Australian Championship, such player falls under the jurisdiction of the Team Manager from the Opening Ceremony to the Closing Ceremony but only immediately upon the player having presented himself/herself at the playing (or linked) venue and are present at the playing (or linked) venue.

**Annexure A**  
**Selection Criteria for Appointment of Team Manager**

The selection criteria for appointment as a Team Manager are as follows:

1. Must be of good character.
2. Must demonstrate sound management (including administrative and financial) skills.
3. Must have sound communication skills (both oral and written).
4. Must demonstrate knowledge of the relevant *Regulations for National Championships*, including a sound knowledge of the relevant *ITTF Laws & Regulations*.
5. Must be capable of personal presentation to a high standard.
6. Must have good understanding of and empathy with the table tennis athletes in the State Team.
7. Must be capable of being respected by the table tennis athletes in the State Team.
8. Must have a current Victorian “Working With Children Check” card where there are any junior athletes in the State Team.
9. Must have a current Victorian driver’s license (appropriate to the vehicle to be driven) where the role includes driving transport for the State Team [the Team Manager, and other approved drivers, must have a good driving record].
10. Must have access to, through Table Tennis Victoria or personal means, a credit card capable of use to purchase goods and services.

## Annexure B

### **Team Manager Duties & Responsibilities of Team Manager**

#### *Duties & Responsibilities prior to the Australian Championships*

1. Book appropriate accommodation (where appropriate) for the State Team Coaching Team. Arrange payment through Table Tennis Victoria. The Team Manager is not responsible for the accommodation for any players.
2. Suggest appropriate transport (where appropriate) for the State Team Coaching Team covering from the flight to accommodation, from accommodation to/from the competition venue, from accommodation/competition venue to/from food outlets, from accommodation to/from the closing function, and from accommodation back to flights. Arrange booking and payment through Table Tennis Victoria. The Team Manager is not responsible for transport for any players.
3. Where the Australian Championships is held in Victoria, State Team Coaching Team may stay at home, but the Team Manager must arrange accommodation and transport for any coaches that live outside convenient commuting distance of the competition venue.
4. Work with the State Pathways Coach to arrange and conduct compulsory pre-championship training session(s) which includes uniform fittings
5. Ensure all team entries are submitted to Table Tennis Australia by the due date.
6. Work with Table Tennis Victoria to ensure all Team Captain/Coaches have a current "Working With Children Check" card, where junior athletes are required to be coached or supervised.
7. Maintain comprehensive financial records.

8. Publish regular information circulars about the National Championships and State Team arrangements to all athletes, and, if junior athletes, their parents.

*Duties & Responsibilities during the National Championships*

9. Abide by TTV By-Law 0 – National Integrity Framework and subsequent policies.
10. Promote State “B” team members to State “A” teams and/or State “C” team members to State “B” teams and/or Presidents teams members to State “C” teams prior to the beginning of the Teams events to cover late unavailability.
11. Manage the State Team with the prime aim of maximising the chances of medals for Victorian athletes, particularly gold medals.
12. Ensure all members of the State Team (including Team Manager, Team Captain/Coaches and athletes) act in accordance with the *Member Code of Conduct*.
13. Ensure all drivers of team transport do not consume alcohol or drugs which may impair their driving ability.
14. Represent the State Team at Managers Meetings and quickly pass on relevant information to athletes, captains and coaches.
15. Support athletes, as requested, at disciplinary hearings.
16. Maintain the safety, discipline, morale and competitive spirit of State Team members.
17. Provide regular reports to Table Tennis Victoria to enable brief breaking news on the TTV website.
18. Determine number and names of attendees for the Closing Ceremony.

*Duties & Responsibilities after the National Championships*

19. Reconcile any outstanding costs (providing all receipts to Table Tennis Victoria).
20. Provide a written report about the performance of the State Team at the Australian Championships, within 14 days, to the TTV office to be passed on to the TTV Board at the next Board Meeting.

## Annexure C

### Selection Criteria for Appointment of Team Captain/Coaches

The selection criteria for appointment as a Team Captain/Coach (for junior athletes) are as follows:

1. Must be of good character.
2. Must demonstrate sound table tennis playing skills.
3. Must demonstrate sound coaching skills, and should ideally be an accredited TTA coach where applying for position of State “A” team coach.
4. Must have sound communication skills (relevant to junior athletes).
5. Must demonstrate knowledge of the relevant *Regulations for National Championships*, including a sound knowledge of the relevant *ITTF Laws & Regulations*.
6. Must be capable of personal presentation to a high standard.
7. Must have good understanding of and empathy with the table tennis athletes in the State Team.
8. Must be capable of being respected by the table tennis athletes in the State Team.
9. Must have a current Victorian “Working With Children Check” card where there are any junior athletes in the State Team.

**Annexure D**  
**Duties & Responsibilities of Team Captains/Coaches**

*Duties & Responsibilities prior to the National Championships*

1. Attend compulsory State Team training session(s).

*Duties & Responsibilities during the National Championships*

2. Abide by By-Law 2 – Member Protection Policy and TTV By-Law 3 – Member Code of Conduct.
3. Coach during all team matches.
4. If a Team Captain/Coach has had their trip paid by the State Team athletes, he or she must coach during individual events as assigned by the Team Manager or as requested by individual athletes.
5. Supervise the members of their allocated team and other athletes as assigned to them by the Team Manager during the National Championships while at the playing (or linked) venue. This supervision includes ensuring the athletes eat, dress, rest, and behave appropriately.
6. Ensure the members of the allocated team are fully aware of all their match times, including team and individual events.