



Port Macquarie Touch Association (PMTA)

Selection Policy

July 2026

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Policy Owner

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the **selection framework, criteria, timelines, and communication pathways** for the selection of players and team staff in Port Macquarie Touch Association's (PMTA) Representative Programs.

This policy supports:

- Fair and transparent decision making.
- Alignment with PMTA values and behavioural standards.
- Compliance with NSW Touch Association and Touch Football Australia policies.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All PMTA junior and senior representative teams.
- All player, referee, and team staff (including coaches, assistants, and managers) selections.
- All NSWTA sanctioned representative tournaments.

3. Governing Body Compliance and Mandatory Requirements

The Port Macquarie Touch Association (PMTA) Representative Programs operate within the governance framework established by Touch Football Australia (TFA) and the New South Wales Touch Association (NSWTA). Selection decisions must comply with the following mandatory principles and requirements.

3.1 Touch Football Australia (TFA) Requirements

Under TFA policies and the National Integrity Framework, PMTA is required to ensure that:

- **Behaviour and conduct are legitimate selection considerations** - Selection may take into account a player's, referee or team staff member's:
 - Adherence to the TFA and PMTA Codes of Conduct.
 - Attitude, respect, and sportsmanship on and off the field.
 - Willingness to act in a way that supports a safe, inclusive, and positive sporting environment.
- **Selection is conditional on compliance, not entitlement** - Participation in trials, training, or prior representation does not guarantee selection. Ongoing compliance with behavioural and integrity expectations is required at all stages.
- **Disciplinary matters may affect eligibility** - Players or team staff who are subject to disciplinary action, suspension, or investigation under PMTA, NSWTA, or TFA policies may be deemed ineligible for selection or continued participation.
- **Appeals relate to process, not outcomes** - TFA policy does not provide a right to appeal selection decisions themselves. Any appeal or complaint must relate solely to whether the documented selection process was followed correctly.

3.2 NSW Touch Association (NSWTA) Requirements

Under NSWTA policies and Conditions of Entry for representative events:

- **Eligibility is linked to local association participation** - Players must meet NSWTA eligibility requirements, including participation in approved PMTA competitions within the relevant qualification period.
- **Age eligibility and division rules are prescribed by NSWTA** - Players must meet NSWTA age cut-off dates and division eligibility criteria for the competition being entered.
- **Tournament entry conditions override local preference** - Team composition, minimum and maximum player numbers, uniform requirements, and event rules are governed by NSWTA Conditions of Entry and must be complied with regardless of local selection preferences.
- **NSWTA retains authority over sanctioned events** - NSWTA rules, interpretations, and disciplinary outcomes apply at all NSWTA sanctioned tournaments and take precedence over local policies where required.

3.3 Club Responsibility

PMTA is responsible for:

- Applying these requirements consistently.
- Communicating relevant obligations to players, parents, referees, and team staff.
- Ensuring selection decisions remain compliant with all governing body policies.

4. Guiding Principles

Selections will be guided by the following principles:

- **Fairness and Equity** - All eligible players are assessed on equal terms, using consistent criteria applied across age groups.
- **Transparency** - Selection processes, timelines, and expectations are documented, communicated in advance, and applied as described.
- **Consistency** - Selection frameworks are applied uniformly, regardless of prior representation, reputation, or personal relationships.
- **Development Focus** - Selection decisions consider both current performance and long-term development, particularly in younger age groups.
- **Behaviour, Respect, and Safety** - In line with TFA and PMTA policy requirements, behaviour, attitude, respect for others, and adherence to Codes of Conduct are essential selection considerations and may outweigh on-field performance.

5. Governance & Authority

5.1 Authority

- The PMTA retains ultimate authority over all representative selections.
- The PMTA Representative Committees oversee the selection framework.
- The Representatives Director coordinates implementation.

5.2 Selectors

- The PMTA Representatives Director shall appoint selectors to undertake team selections at the PMTA selection trials.
- Selectors may include appointed coaches and independent representatives.
- All selectors must act in the best interests of the Club.
- The PMTA Referees Director is responsible for selection of referees.

5.3 Appointment of Team Staff

- The PMTA Representatives Director shall seek applications from eligible coaches, assistant coaches, managers, assistant managers and other support people, for appointment as PMTA representative team staff.

5.4 Final Team Selection

- Each representative team will be ratified by the PMTA Representatives Director and PMTA committee.

5.5 Conflicts of Interest

- Selectors must declare any actual or perceived conflicts of interest.
- Where necessary, conflicted individuals may be excluded from deliberations.

6. Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility for selection and continued participation in PMTA Representative Programs is conditional upon meeting all the requirements outlined in this section.

6.1 Base Eligibility

To be eligible for selection, players must:

- Be registered and financial with PMTA and the relevant governing bodies.
- Meet NSWTA age and eligibility requirements for the nominated division.

- Satisfy all eligibility requirements specified in NSWTA Conditions of Entry for the relevant competition.
- Attend at least one of the designated selection trial(s) or submit an exemption request in accordance with Section 6.2 below.

Detailed age eligibility tables, including applicable birthdate ranges for each representative age group, will be published annually in Player Information Packs and Expressions of Interest (EOI) documentation.

6.2 Request for exemption from Selection Trail(s)

Players who are unable to attend a scheduled PMTA selection trial may submit a request for exemption to remain eligible for consideration. This request must be made using the official PMTA Selection Trial Exemption Form, accessible via the QR code below, and submitted by the player or their parent/guardian (where applicable).

Submission of this form constitutes a formal request for exemption from trial attendance in accordance with this Selection Policy. All requests will be considered by the Representatives Director.

Approval of an exemption is not automatic. Submission of a request does not guarantee exemption approval or selection in a representative team. Where an exemption is granted, players may be assessed using alternative methods, including (but not limited to) prior performance, observations in PMTA competitions, and other relevant information available to selectors.

To be considered, exemption requests must be fully completed and submitted no later than **24 hours prior to the relevant selection trial**. Late submissions may not be accepted except in exceptional circumstances. Applicants are expected to provide clear and accurate information outlining the reason for non-attendance and any supporting details that may assist in the assessment process.

By submitting an exemption request, the applicant acknowledges that they have read and understood this Selection Policy and agree to comply with all eligibility, participation, and behavioural requirements outlined within it.

To access the online exemption form:

1. Scan the QR Code with your phone camera to access the link, or
2. [Click on this Link \(TIP: you can do this on your phone screen\)](#)



6.3 NSWTA Participation Requirements

The NSW Touch Association (NSWTA) requires players to qualify for representative events by participating in competitions conducted by their home affiliate.

For representative events, this may include:

- Participation in PMTA competitions in the current or previous season, and
- Meeting minimum game participation thresholds as determined by NSWTA and PMTA for the relevant competition.

Eligible qualification seasons and minimum participation requirements are defined by NSWTA Conditions of Entry and confirmed by PMTA each season.

Detailed qualification requirements will be published annually in Expressions of Interest (EOIs) and Representative Information Packs.

6.4 Participation Eligibility

Players must:

- Have participated in PMTA competitions as required by NSWTA Conditions of Entry, including minimum game participation requirements determined by NSWTA and PMTA for the relevant season.
- Meet any additional qualification requirements outlined in the Expression of Interest (EOI) documentation for that season.

6.5 Commitment Requirements

Selection and continued participation are conditional upon player and team staff ability and willingness to:

- Attend **all compulsory tournaments** entered by the team.
- Attend a **minimum level of training sessions**, as defined and communicated by PMTA for each season or team.

Failure to meet agreed commitment expectations may result in removal from a squad or team and replacement at the discretion of PMTA.

6.6 Financial Obligations

Selection into a representative team is conditional upon payment of all fees and charges associated with the program by the deadlines set by PMTA.

Failure to meet stated payment deadlines may result in forfeiture of the position and replacement at the discretion of PMTA.

6.7 Behavioural and Conduct Requirements

Players must, at all times:

- Comply with PMTA, NSWTA, and TFA Codes of Conduct.
- Demonstrate behaviour consistent with the values of PMTA.
- Treat coaches, selectors, officials, teammates, opponents, and volunteers with respect.

Behavioural expectations apply on and off the field, during trials, training, tournaments, and all representative activities.

6.8 Team Staff Eligibility

Team staff must:

- Meet accreditation requirements relevant to their role.

- Hold a current Working With Children Check where relevant.
- Agree to uphold PMTA, NSWTA, and TFA policies and standards of behaviour.

6.9 Consequences and Authority

Failure to meet eligibility, commitment, behavioural, or financial requirements may result in:

- Non-selection.
- Removal from a squad or team.
- Replacement during the season.
- Ineligibility for future selection within the same or future seasons.

Replacement decisions may be made where a selected participant no longer meets the requirements of this policy or is injured. Replacement decisions (including whether the displaced participant is replaced, and if so, by who) are at the discretion of the PMTA Representatives Director.

7. Selection Process

7.1 Expressions of interest (EOI's)

- EOI's for players and team staff will be conducted by the PMTA Representatives Director.
- EOI's for referee's will be conducted by the PMTA Referees Director.
- Information packs will outline expectations, commitments, and timelines.

7.2 Assessment Methods

Selections may be informed by:

- Formal trials.
- Observation during local competitions.
- Training sessions.
- Selector and coach evaluations.

Attendance alone does not guarantee selection.

7.3 Player Pool

Players not selected for a PMTA team may request a clearance from the PMTA Representatives Director to be entered into the Player Pool. The request shall be in writing via the following email: repdirector@portmakostouch.com.

8. Selection Criteria

Selectors will consider, on balance:

- Technical skill execution.
- Game awareness and decision making.
- Attitude, effort, teamwork, and coachability.
- Physical readiness appropriate to age group.
- Team balance and positional requirements.

Behaviour, attitude, and adherence to club values are integral to selection decisions in accordance with PMTA and TFA policy settings.

9. Timelines

Indicative timelines will be published annually and may include:

- EOI release.
- Trial dates.
- Team announcements.

While PMTA endeavours to announce teams promptly, timelines may vary depending on competition and NSWTA requirements.

10. Communication and Feedback

- Selection outcomes will be communicated through official PMTA channels only.
- Team announcements will list selected players only.
- PMTA may, at its discretion, provide general feedback. However, there is no obligation to provide detailed individual justification.

10.1 Appeals

- Appeals or complaints may only relate to whether **the documented selection process was followed** (in accordance with TFA policy).
- Selection decisions themselves are not subject to appeal (in accordance with TFA policy).
- Any complaint must be lodged in writing to the PMTA Representatives Director via the following email: repdirector@portmakostouch.com
- All appeals or complaints must be raised respectfully and through official PMTA channels. Abusive or disrespectful behaviour may impact future eligibility.

11. Development Squad Opportunities

Where numbers and resources permit:

- Development squads or additional teams may be formed at the discretion of PMTA.
- Selection into development pathways does not guarantee future representative selection.

12. Review

This policy will be reviewed:

- Annually by the Representatives Director and PMTA committee.
- Following significant feedback or governing body policy changes.

13. Related Policies and Documents

This policy operates alongside, and does not override:

- Port Macquarie Touch Association Constitution and Codes of Conduct.
- PMTA Discipline and Zero-Tolerance Policies.
- NSWTA Policies and General Conditions of Entry.
- Touch Football Australia:
 - Code of Conduct
 - Member Protection Policy
 - Disciplinary Regulations
 - National Integrity Framework
 - Junior Development Framework

Where any inconsistency arises, governing body policies take precedence.