



## 2021 Selection Policy

### Background:

Traditionally, ANUFC has made ad-hoc team selections using an undefined framework. Several issues are present within the current framework that have resulted in an ineffective and inefficient pre-season. The major issues identified are:

- **The existing selection criterion implemented by coaches lacks transparency and is inconsistent between teams.** This means that players in trial do not know how they can be selected and why they may have been dropped; and
- **Selections are not made in a timely manner.** There is a lack of consideration for the players who, while unlikely to be selected, spend most of their pre-season with a particular team before joining an appropriate team only days before the competition starts. There is also a lack of consideration for coaches in the lower leagues who do not get access to these players until the end of pre-season.
- **There is a lack of coordination between coaches when moving players between teams.** Players can be left in a *void* not knowing where to train next or who to speak with. This results in prospective members not joining the club, who would otherwise make great clubmen.
- **Players are uninsured after 3 weeks.** Unregistered members are covered by ANU Sport's *Try-before-you-buy* insurance for up to 3 weeks. After this point, these players are uninsured, creating a risk for the club.
- **The absence of a selection criterion presents a risk for the club in the event of a formal complaint.** With a clearly defined selection policy, a *Player in Trial* may make a formal complaint using our dispute resolution policy, and the Committee will then have a policy on how to review such complaints.

### Purpose:

This policy aims to address the issues presented by providing coaches with:

1. A framework to select and drop players; and
2. A timeline on team selections and the tools necessary to move players on.

## **Considerations:**

There are several considerations in establishing selection criteria that the Committee believes are appropriate:

- There should be separate selection criterion for NPL, SL, CL and ML that recognises the inherent differences in these League structures;
- Selections should be made as squads\*, not by teams, halving the number of selection dates and allowing for more timely player selections by all coaches;
- Established players in a team receive an elevated preference over a new player to that team;
- Established players in the club receive an elevated preference over a new player to the club; and
- Weekly pre-season training times and locations should be fixed (and preferably for the season).
- Pre-season training squad sizes should accommodate late arrivals.

## **Selection Criterion:**

The following selection criterion may be/should be considered when selecting players for State League:

- Established players in the team
- Established players in the club
- ANU Student and/or ANU Alumni and/or ANU Staff
- Footballing Ability
- Attendance
- Under 35

Each of these criteria are of equal value and a coach should select players that satisfy as many of these criteria as possible.

Note: Prospective club members identified as Over 35 should be directed to Masters. Existing club members in State League identified as Over 35 should be strongly encouraged to join Masters.

## **Selecting/Moving Players:**

Players in trial must be selected for a squad or moved on **within 3 sessions or two weeks**, whichever occurs first.

Coaches must send a list of players to the Club Registrar by the relevant date outlined below.

Players in trial who do not satisfy the established criterion should be moved on from the squad as soon as possible.

Coaches should be aware of where and when the squad they will move players to are training.

Coaches should notify the *Player in Trial* of the coach of the next squad, and direct them to that squad's next session. If possible, a coach should introduce players in trial to the next coach, in person.

### Squad Selection Dates

Squads*	Date (40-person Squad)	Date (Final Squad)
SL1   1R	27 <sup>th</sup> February	13 <sup>th</sup> March
SL2 B   2R B	6 <sup>th</sup> March	20 <sup>th</sup> March
SL2 O   2R O	6 <sup>th</sup> March	20 <sup>th</sup> March
SL3 B   3R B	13 <sup>th</sup> March	27 <sup>th</sup> March
SL3 O   3R O	13 <sup>th</sup> March	27 <sup>th</sup> March
SL4 B   4R B	20 <sup>th</sup> March	3 <sup>rd</sup> April
SL4 O   4R O	20 <sup>th</sup> March	3 <sup>rd</sup> April

### Dealing with Conflict:

If coaches face a conflict, they should refer to this policy. Any issues with the selection process should then be directed to the Committee as soon as practicable.

Players should be made aware of the selection criterion of this policy.

Players should be made aware of the club's dispute resolution policy, available on the club website.

### Registering:

All players must register for trials using the trial registration form, available [here](#), before attending their first session. Three weeks after their first session, a *Player in Trial* must register with the club, regardless of selection, to continue pre-season.

**Under no circumstances shall a *Player in Trial* attend sessions for more than 3 weeks without registering.**

This is an ANU Sport requirement of affiliation.

If the *Player in Trial* is selected, then they should be directed to the squad-specific ANUFC Membership application package available on the ANUFC website [here](#). Coaches will be given a code that will allow only selected players to register.

If the *Player in Trial* is yet to be selected, then they should be directed to the Club Social Registration Package available on the website. This membership is \$50 for students and \$170 for non-students.