



SELECTION POLICY

1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define the processes and guidelines used when Sturt District teams are selected each year, and how players may move between teams during the year.

2 Our Commitment

The Sturt Sabres Basketball club's vision is "Basketball Excellence – Leading Australia". One of the key focus areas of this vision is on-court performance and ensuring we select the most competitive teams possible.

3 Values

Sturt Basketball Clubs values are:

PRIDE - Sturt players are proud to represent their club, and as such present themselves in a professional manner.

LEADERSHIP - Sturt players are role models for their team mates, other players, especially younger players and the wider basketball community.

ACCOUNTABILITY - Sturt players are accountable to the team and club for their performance on and off the court.

RESPECT - Sturt players treat everyone (fellow players, coaches, officials and supporters) with respect, displaying the highest level of sportsmanship and citizenship.

COMMITMENT - Sturt players are committed to being in the best mental and physical shape as possible, practicing and competing with their absolute best effort, never quitting or giving up



4 Responsibilities

The key values that coaches, players and parents need to keep in mind throughout the process are Respect and Accountability.

Coaches need to be mindful that selections can have an uplifting or deflating effect on players and while our vision of basketball excellence requires that the environment is competitive, and players are held accountable for their performances, coaches will do all they can to communicate with players in a respectful manner at the right time, in the right place with the right message.

Players need to maintain a growth mindset and need to see any negative selection decisions as opportunities for growth and learning, whilst seeing positive selections as a privilege and not a right.

Parents need to support their children in developing and maintaining a growth mindset through both positive and negative selections, reinforcing hard work and resilience over talent. Parents need to also recognise that making and communicating negative selection decisions is one of the most stressful things a coach has to do. The club has a separate grievance policy, and this must be followed if further feedback is required.

5 Player Eligibility

Players seeking selection in Sturt District teams must comply with the following to be eligible for selection:

5.1 Existing players

Existing Sturt players must:

- a. be registered members of the Sturt Basketball Club;
- b. have completed an Intent to Play form and paid the required deposit on fees in accordance with the Club Financial Fee Policy;
- c. be up-to-date with all financial obligations, including but not limited to District fees, Domestic fees, Camp fees, merchandise sales and loan equipment;
- d. play continuously with the Sturt Basketball Club to be assured of maintaining their position. Players who stop playing (except those who move to BA Centre of Excellence, overseas colleges or professional teams) or are de-selected will lose their status as an existing player and will be treated as a prospective player if they later wish to return.

5.2 Prospective junior players:

Junior players wishing to join Sturt must:

- a. attend selection trials (August / September) as advertised on the Club website and on social media. Note: Exemptions from trialing, or other forms of trial at other times may be granted at the discretion of the Director of Basketball.
- b. If offered a position, complete an "Intent to Play" form and pay the required fee deposit.



5.3 Prospective senior players

Prospective senior players wishing to join the Club must:

- a. complete an “Intent to Play” form and pay the required fee deposit. If offered a position the player chooses not to accept, the deposit is forfeited. If the player is not offered a position the deposit on fees will be refunded.

6 Player Selection Criteria

- a. Proven evidence that the player reflects the values (Section 3) of the Sturt Basketball Club;
- b. Meet the eligibility criteria set out above;
- c. Attendance at all games and practices;
- d. Ability (technical, mental and athletic) to compete at the selected level of District basketball;
- e. Current and potential physical (height, length, body composition etc.) and physiological (speed, strength, power, endurance etc.) characteristics;
- f. A history of past performances with Sturt District, or other equivalent teams;
- g. Desire and commitment to working hard at improving technical, mental and athletic ability;
- h. Be socially compatible and display an ability to work with other members of the team towards a common goal;
- i. Be highly receptive to coaching and highly co-operative within the team environment;
- j. Ability to comprehend verbal and visual instruction and the ability to execute skills and competitive play following instruction.

Important: *It must be noted that subjectivity is an unavoidable element in any sporting team selection. Whilst this document attempts to explain how players and teams are selected, it is inevitable that there will be different perspectives on those selections.*

6.1 Absences

- a. Absences must be approved by the team head coach;
- b. Players who are unavailable to practice or play must contact the team head coach as soon as practical to discuss the issue;
- c. A medical certificate must be supplied if a player cannot attend multiple sessions in a row;
- d. Players playing multiple sports are encouraged to do so, however it must be noted that frequent absences for these and other reasons usually affect player performances and their development may fall behind, resulting in their peers moving ahead in selections;
- e. Players in the Premier League squads must give first priority to playing and practicing with the Premier League, except in cases of higher level commitments (refer 7.4).



7 Squad Selection

- a. Sturt Basketball will appoint coaches to teams;
- b. Those coaches will meet and in consultation with other club coaches in the club (previous year's coaches of the player group) and the Director of Basketball, a squad of players is announced. This squad may be split into any combination of divisions (e.g. Division 3 / 4 squad) and these are posted online after junior and senior presentations have concluded;
- c. Players practice with their squad and selections are subsequently made to teams within the practice squad;
- d. Players may move between teams or squads depending on performance, using the player selection criteria above. Coaches must provide feedback to the moved player if requested.
- e. In cases where consensus is not reached amongst selectors, the hierarchy of selection shall be Director of Basketball, Team Head Coach and then Team Assistant Coach(es).

7.1 Junior Squad Selection Guidelines

- a. There shall be roughly equal numbers of top-age and bottom-age players in all teams of any age division from Under 12 to Under 18 to ensure continuity from year to year, provided that players in each half of the age group are of suitable standard;
- b. The top two teams of Under 12 to Under 18 junior squads will have roughly equal numbers of top-age and bottom-age players to ensure continuity from year to year. If the group of players in either half of the age group are of not of a suitable standard, then the stronger half may be over-represented in selections;
- c. Junior and Extended Premier League squad teams that are nominated in or subsequently graded in the same division are not selected so that teams are even or more even in standard, except in exceptional circumstances. Sturt will endeavour to place teams in the appropriate grade to facilitate maximum development, however the final placement of teams is the decision of the body governing the competition.

7.2 Premier League Squad Selection Guidelines

- a. Premier League squads are selected by invitation and are drawn from all players in the club who are turning 16 in the year of competition or older;
- b. There shall be a number of players who are contracted to play Premier League;
- c. There shall be no more than 15 players of each gender who comprise the Premier League Squads, who are not eligible for Under 18 competition or returning from playing overseas (e.g. colleges in the USA);
- d. Players eligible for Under 18 competition may be selected to play in Premier League based on merit and performance, in the absence of higher level commitments (refer 7.4);
- e. There shall be a number of players in the Extended Premier League Squad who are selected to play in Premier League Reserves or the highest division of Youth League. They may also be invited to practice with the Premier League Squad on a full time or limited basis;
- f. Players playing in the Under 18 age group may be selected to play in the highest division of Youth League or Premier League Reserves in the absence of players in the Premier League Extended Squad not eligible for Under 18 competition. They may also be invited to practice with the Premier League Squad on a full time or limited basis, provided this is not in conflict with Under 18 or higher-level commitments (refer 7.4).



7.3 Senior Squad Selection Guidelines

- a. Senior Squads (excluding the Premier League and Extended Premier League Squads) are for those players who want to play at a higher level than social basketball in BSA senior and lower division Youth League competitions, but do not want to play or who are not selected to play in the Premier League or Extended Premier League squads.
- b. Players are given preference in Senior Squads based upon history of playing or non-playing membership with Sturt and social ties to existing squad members.

7.4 Higher Level Commitments

- a. Players who are in Basketball Australia programs or are scholarship holders at the Australian Centre of Excellence will give priority of commitments to these programs when they clash with the Sturt practices and games;
- b. Players who are in Basketball South Australia High Performance will give priority of commitments to these programs when they clash with the Sturt practices and games;
- c. Players who have written, paid contracts with NBL or WNBL teams must meet their contractual obligations to that team as a first priority when their team commitments clash with the Sturt practices and games.

7.5 Exceptional Circumstances

- a. Under exceptional circumstances or circumstances not covered by these policies and procedures, the Director of Basketball may approve selection decisions that are deemed to be in the best interests of the club, squad, individual team or an individual player.

This policy applies to all Sturt Sabres Basketball Club selection.

This policy statement shall be displayed on the Sturt Sabres website and is endorsed by the Committee.

President
Sturt Sabres Basketball Club

April 2018