



# SOUTH QUEENSLAND SHARKS

## REPRESENTATIVE SELECTION POLICY

### 2024-2025



## INTRODUCTION:

“Selection” as defined in this policy is the process undertaken to ensure the best available players are chosen to represent South Queensland Border Districts and the South Queensland Sharks.

This policy is designed to ensure that all players representing the South Queensland Sharks are selected under a fair and equitable process.

## OBJECTIVE:

- To ensure that the integrity of the Sport of Touch Football is always maintained.
- To ensure South Queensland & Border Districts maintain the highest selection standards possible.
- To identify the best players in the South Queensland & Border Districts Region
- To ensure the best method of selections are employed by SQBD
- To select the best players to represent the South Queensland Sharks

## 1.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

- 1.1 Players must be registered at an SQBD Affiliate during the period outlined in the event Conditions of Entry and have met the minimum requirement of games played.
- 1.2 Players must be financial members of QTF.
- 1.3 For NYC specifically, players will be selected to attend the final trial from their participation in the SQBD Junior Tri-Series (TID event for NYC) and provided another opportunity to be selected from representing their SQBD Affiliate at the Qld Junior State Cup (final chance for coaches to see players prior to selection day). Should players not be able to participate in any of these opportunities, we recommend a dispensation claim be submitted. These will be considered on a case by case basis.
- 1.4 Players must attend selection day (player trials).
- 1.5 Players must complete a dispensation if they are unable to attend the selection event or the final trial.

## 2.0 PLAYING DIVISIONS

- 2.1 **Open Division – Men’s, Women’s & Mixed**  
Players selected into these divisions will be 16 years of age or older.  
While on tour, any player under the age of 18 MUST be accompanied by a guardian at all times outside of scheduled matches and training sessions.
- 2.2 **Junior Divisions – 12, 14. Youth Divisions – 16, 18, 20.**
  - 2.2.1 Players must trial in their age group in accordance with their date of birth.
  - 2.2.2 Players wishing to trial up an age division must submit written dispensation to SQBD at least 7 days prior to the trial.





### 2.3 Senior Divisions – Masters & Veterans

2.3.1 Players may compete in any eligible age division of their choice.

2.3.2 Age divisions may be subject to change from year to year based on event.

## 3.0 PLAYER DISPENSATION

3.1 The SQBD Dispensation Form is available on the SQBD Website / Documents & Policies

3.2 Any player unable to participate in any of the TID events (NYC: Tri-Series; NTL: Sharks Shield) or at the final trial, “Selection Day” must complete a Dispensation Form and submit to SQBD at least one week (7 days) **prior** to the event commencing.

3.3 Dispensations will only be considered for extenuating circumstances. If it is a medical dispensation being sought, then a medical certificate must accompany the Dispensation Form and the medical certificate must clearly state the nature and extent of the injury or illness along with the expected recovery time.

3.4 It is the responsibility of the players to provide the “Player Dispensation” Form and medical certificate or an incident report from the Tournament Medical staff to the SQBD Administrator for any injuries or illnesses that may occur during an event.

3.5 Verbal notification for “Player Dispensation” will not be accepted as all dispensations must be received in writing.

3.6 Dispensation Forms will be reviewed and approved by the appointed Head of Selectors in collaboration with the SQBD Sports Performance Panel.

3.7 Players will be notified of the decision as soon as practical. It is the right of the SQBD Sports Performance Panel to accept or reject any such application for dispensation.

3.8 Acceptance of dispensation does not automatically place a player into a SQ Sharks Team.

3.9 If a dispensation has been approved and the player is unable to compete in the trial, the coach must provide Talent Identification (TID) documentation to support the player being selected in the team. The TID can occur at any FIT, TFA, QTF or SQBD Affiliated competition or event within the last 24 months.

## 4.0 PLAYER ASSESSMENT

4.1 The SQBD Board, in consultation with the Sports Performance Panel, reserve the right to nominate where and when selection of SQ Sharks Teams will occur.

4.2 Player assessment is to be conducted by approved selectors and coaches.

4.3 Documentation supporting analysis of individual player abilities will be submitted to the Sports Performance Panel at the completion of the selection event/s and/or trial.

4.4 Specific to NYC, Affiliate Junior Representative Coaches will be asked to submit player names, with evidence, of whom they believe should be TID’ed from the SQBD Junior Tri-Series for selection into the 2024 NYC SQ Sharks squads.

4.5 Throughout all three rounds of the SQBD Junior Tri-Series, members of the Sports Performance Panel, along with selected members of the SQBD region and appointed NYC coaches, will perform TID, to ensure the best players are provided an opportunity to trial for the 2024 NYC SQ Sharks squads.





## 5.0 TEAM FINALISATION

- 5.1 The final team will be completed by the Coaching Staff and appointed Head of Selectors in-collaboration with at least two members of the SQBD Sports Performance Panel for the respective divisions.
- 5.2 The final team composition is to be of no less than 14 players and no more than 16 players depending on the division and event the team will be competing in.
- 5.3 Specifically for NYC, the final team list is required to ensure there are at least four players listed as shadows. Shadow players will not be announced publicly.
- 5.4 Whilst it is preferred that all selected players are notified of their respective outcome at the final trial, all selected players will be notified of their outcome within 48-hours of the completion of the final trial.
- 5.5 The Sports Performance Panel will oversee the implementation of the selection process and finalisation of all SQ Sharks Teams.
- 5.6 If consensus does not occur during the selection process, the matter may be referred to the Sports Performance Panel who will facilitate an outcome, or if necessary, liaise with the SQBD Board.
- 5.7 Confidentiality of all selected players must be strictly adhered to by all selectors and coaches.
- 5.8 All teams will be ratified by the SQBD Board prior to public release.
- 5.9 South Queensland Sharks selected teams will be announced on the SQBD website and Facebook Page.
- 5.10 Players selected to represent South Queensland Sharks will receive a letter of acceptance with a link to accept and pay their tour deposit to confirm their selection in the team.
- 5.11 If a selected player fails to accept their position and make payment within the allocated time, they may be withdrawn from the approved selected player list.
- 5.12 The South Queensland & Border Districts Board, Management Team and Sports Performance Panel reserve the right to withdraw their approval of a player, coach or manager from a South Queensland Sharks team, tour or event without notice at any time.

## 6.0 PLAYER REPLACEMENT

- 6.1 Any selected player that withdraws from the selected player list is to supply written notification of their withdrawal to their respective Regional Coach who will forward to SQBD Administration.
- 6.2 The Regional Coach will co-ordinate a replacement player from the shadow list in-collaboration with SQBD Administration and the Sports Performance Panel as soon as possible.
- 6.3 Should a replacement decision be unable to be finalised, then the Sports Performance Panel will be asked to make the final selection decision in consultation with the SQBD Board.





## 7.0 SOUTH QUEENSLAND SHARKS REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAMS & TEAMS

- 7.1 All Coaches, Managers and Players selected in a South Queensland Sharks team will be under the responsibility and guidance of the South Queensland & Border Districts Board, Management Team and Sports Performance Panel at any training, meeting, event or competition they are involved in as the South Queensland Sharks until the completion of the primary event all members were selected for.
- 7.2 It is the responsibility of the South Queensland & Border Districts Board, Management Team and Sports Performance Panel to ensure the Sport of Touch Football and all associated members always maintain the highest integrity and best interest of the Sport.
- 7.3 The South Queensland & Border Districts Board, Management Team and Sports Performance Panel reserve the right to make amendments to the SQBD Representative Pathway and Program without external consultation as required.
- 7.4 All Coaches, Managers and Players and members of the South Queensland Management team will always be bound by the Touch Football Australia Codes of Conduct. Failure to adhere to the Codes of Conduct may result in instant dismissal from South Queensland Representative Pathways and/or Programs without notice.

## 8.0 YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE PATHWAY

- 8.1 South Queensland Sharks representation forms a critical step in the pathway to future State and National representation.
- 8.2 We acknowledge that it starts at the grassroots level at your home Affiliate. Our region is fortunate enough to be comprised of 11 Affiliates: Beenleigh Multisports, Bilambil, Gold Coast, Jimboomba, Labrador Dodgers, Middle Green, North Gold Coast, Palm Beach, Redlands, South Tweed and Yarrabilba. We have arguably some of the greatest Affiliates and talent when it comes to both players and coaches.
- 8.3 It is important to the region that every player has an opportunity to represent the region. It is because of this view, that we continue to analyse, evaluate, reflect and restructure our policies.
- 8.4 To simplify the pathway, here are the steps:
1. Play representative touch football for your local Affiliate at the SQBD Junior Tri-Series and Qld Junior State Cup. If your Affiliate doesn't have a team in your respected division, contact SQBD Administration for further options
  2. Be TID'ed at the SQBD Junior Tri-Series or Qld Junior State Cup as a potential South Queensland Sharks representative player
  3. Accept your offer to attend the South Queensland Sharks Selection Day
  4. Trial at the South Queensland Sharks Selection Day and be selected into the NYC squad
  5. Accept the offered position, attend training and pay your levy
  6. Play for South Queensland Sharks at NYC.





# SQ SHARKS JUNIOR PATHWAY



MIDDLE GREEN



**REPRESENT YOUR AFFILIATE @  
SQBD JUNIOR TRI-SERIES &  
JUNIOR STATE CUP (JSC)**



**COMPLETE PLAYER NYC EOI  
BE SELECTED TO REPRESENT  
SOUTH QUEENSLAND SHARKS  
AT NATIONAL YOUTH  
CHAMPIONSHIPS (NYC)**

**ONE TEAM, ONE REGION**







## 9.0 ADULT REPRESENTATIVE PATHWAY

- 9.1 South Queensland Sharks forms a compulsory part of the pathway to playing for Queensland at State of Origin or for Australia at Trans-Tasman or World Cup.
- 9.2 There is no doubting the fact that grassroots development and Affiliate representation form a strong basis for your ability to represent South Queensland Sharks at NTL.
- 9.3 Historically, we have not had any lead-up events to Queensland State Cup. In 2023, we established Sharks Shield as an important lead-in event for Queensland State Cup but also as a TID event for future NTL representation. Whilst it is not compulsory to play in the 2024 Sharks Shield, it is highly recommended. We will have members of our Sports Performance Panel and other selectors in attendance who will be performing TID. These players will enter the Selection Day with an advantage of already having been TID'ed and notes about their performance in game situations logged.
- 9.4 It is important to the region that every player has an opportunity to represent the region. It is because of this view, that we continue to analyse, evaluate, reflect and restructure our policies.
- 9.5 To simplify the pathway, here are the compulsory steps:
1. Play touch football at your local Affiliate competition (at least ten games in the previous year to the NTL you wish to attend; this is a TFA requirement)
  2. Complete the EOI for your preferred division
  3. Attend NTL trials
  4. Be selected at NTL trials
  5. Accept the offered position, attend training and pay your levy
  6. Play for South Queensland Sharks at NTL.
- 9.6 The recommended pathway is below:
1. Play touch football at your local Affiliate competition (at least ten games in the previous year to the NTL you wish to attend; this is a TFA requirement)
  2. Play representative touch football for your local Affiliate at the Queensland State Cup
  3. If your Affiliate doesn't have a team in your respected division, contact SQBD Administration for further options
  4. Complete the EOI for your preferred division
  5. Participate in Sharks Shield
  6. Be TID'ed at Sharks Shield as a potential South Queensland Sharks representative player
  7. Attend NTL trials
  8. Be selected at NTL trials
  9. Accept the offered position, attend training and pay your levy
  10. Play for South Queensland Sharks at NTL.





# SQ SHARKS PATHWAY

**AFFILIATE**

**SHARKS SHIELD**

**NTL**

**STATE OF ORIGIN**

**ONE TEAM, ONE REGION**

