


Circular

Title:	2024 Western Suns Representative Teams Selection Guidelines AMENDED
Date:	5 October 2023
Document ID:	28, 2023/2024
Department:	Surf Sports
From:	Surf Sports Email: surfsports@slswa.com.au
Audience:	Club Administrators, Club Surf Sports Officers and Club Coaches and Club Competitors
Summary:	The circular outlines information and selection criteria relating to the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Western Suns Ocean/Beach Interstate Team2. Western Suns Youth Team3. Western Suns Pathway Team
Action:	Clubs and coaches are to advise competitors of the Western Suns Team opportunities.

The information within this circular relates to the Western Suns Representative Teams Selection Guidelines for the Western Suns Ocean/Beach Interstate Team, Western Suns Youth Team, and Western Suns Pathway Teams.

This document is also now available on the SLSWA website and has been distributed widely to athletes, coaches, and administrators. It is the responsibility of all prospective team members and their coaches to read and make sure they understand the selection guidelines and how they operate.

If anyone has a specific query in relation to the intended meaning or operation of the policy, they can contact Surf Sports on (08) 9207 6666 or surfsports@slswa.com.au.



James O'Toole
Chief Executive Officer

SELECTION PHILOSOPHY

The Western Suns Ocean/Beach Interstate Team will be selected with the primary objective of achieving the best outcome for Western Australia at the SLSA Interstate Championships but still developing the talent in Western Australia. The SLSA Interstate Championships will be held on the **11 January 2024**.

Location

Maroubra Beach, NSW

Dates

Event date: 11 January 2024

Travel availability will be required from:

- **9-15 January 2024 (includes participation at Super Surf Teams League events if selected)**
 - a) Note that the travel will be accompanied by the Super Surf Teams League (which some competitors may also be selected for)
 - b) Athletes who wish to arrange their own travel on different dates will do so at their own cost.

TEAM COMPOSITION

The touring team composition will be based on the requirements of the Interstate Championships which is conducted in three components – Open (U17-Open), Youth (U17) and Pathway (U14/15). In accordance with SLSA requirements, the team will consist of the following:

1. **Open Team members** – 5 male and 5 female members from the U17, U19 and Open age categories
2. **Youth Team members** – 5 male and 5 female members from the U17 age group.

The **Western Suns Pathway Team** will consist of 16 athletes from the following age groups:

- a) **U14 members** – 4 male and 4 female members
- b) **U15 members** – 4 male and 4 female members

Please note: Competitors will be selected to compete in either the Open or Youth Competition and are not permitted to compete in both competitions.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

To ensure that SLSWA is aware of your availability and desire to participate as part of the Western Suns Interstate/Pathway Team, you are required to complete the online [Expression of Interest Form](#). Closing date for nominations is Wednesday 1 November 2023.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Only athletes qualified according to the terms of this section will be eligible for selection in the Western Suns Representative Teams.

a) SLSWA general eligibility criteria:

1. Athletes must hold 2023/24 competitive rights within a SLSWA registered club.
2. To be eligible for the Open Teams, a member must be a minimum age of 15 years (based on midnight 30 September 2023 i.e., under 17 age group) and hold a proficient SLSA Bronze Medallion.

3. To be eligible for the Youth Interstate Team, a member must be a minimum age of 15 years (based on midnight 30 September 2023 i.e., under 17 age group) and a maximum age of 18 years (i.e., under 19 age group) on or before midnight 30 September 2023, and hold a proficient SLSA Bronze Medallion.
4. To be eligible for the Pathway Team, a member must be a minimum age of 13 years (i.e., Under 14 age group) and a maximum age of 15 years (i.e., under 15 age group) on or before midnight 30 September 2023 They must hold a proficient SLSA Surf Rescue Certificate (U14 and U15).

b) SLSWA specific eligibility criteria:

1. Upon successful selection in the relevant Western Suns Team, complete and sign the SLSWA Athlete Agreement which will be sent to the athletes after selection.
2. At all times abide by SLSA's Code of Conduct and act in a manner that does not bring the sport of surf lifesaving or the SLSWA Western Suns Representative Teams into disrepute.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Athletes will be selected based upon a mix of objective and subjective selection criteria as defined by the SLSWA Selection Panel (see below). This method allows the selectors to pick what, in their opinion, is the best possible team to represent and earn the highest points for Western Australia.

Considerations for team selection will be based upon:

1. Performances at the WA Youth/Open Carnival at Secret Harbour on 11 November 2023;
2. Overall consistency of performance;
3. Individual strengths that may contribute to the performance of the team as a whole;
4. Willingness and ability to fill a role that may enhance Western Australia's medal potential; and
5. Additional non-performance-based traits considered beneficial to the team(s).

Secondary/supporting selection considerations:

- A) Performances at the 2023 SLSA Australian & Youth Championships;
- B) Performances at the 2023 SLSWA Nipper/Youth/Open Championships;

CONDITIONAL SELECTION

The SLSWA Selection Panel maintains the ability to make the conditional selection of any athlete subject to the athlete meeting further conditions. Examples being:

- Achieving a particular result in a future race;
- Completing a fitness trial; or
- Any other condition that, in the opinion of the selection panel, is reasonable in the circumstances of the athlete.

SLSWA SELECTION PANEL

The SLSWA Selection Panel consists of the Surf Sports Advisory Committee and SLSWA Surf Sports staff and will be responsible for the selection of the following touring teams:

- Ocean/Beach Interstate Team
- Youth Team
- Pathway Team

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Where a member of the SLSWA Selection Panel has a conflict of interest in relation to one or more athletes that have nominated for consideration for selection, the selector must declare that interest

and stand aside from the process. The Chair of the Selection Panel has the right to appoint a proxy selector.

Perceived or actual conflict of interest may occur as a result of a selector's relationship to a participant including:

- i. Parent or child
- ii. Sibling or other family
- iii. Partner or de facto
- iv. Coach or athlete
- v. Any other reasonable elucidation.

A conflict of interest would not be perceived as a result of a selector being at the same club as a participant.

REQUIREMENTS AFTER SELECTION

During the period between the announcement of the relevant team and the date of departure, athletes must demonstrate that they are physically fit, performing well and likely to compete at a level appropriate to the relevant national events, and uphold the standards as outlined with the SLSWA Athlete Agreement. If an athlete breaches the standards as outlined within the Athlete Agreement, they will face removal from the team. In this instance, SLSWA shall have the power to replace that team athlete, if necessary, at their discretion.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WESTERN SUNS INTERSTATE TEAMS

The Western Suns Interstate Teams will be announced on **Tuesday 21 November 2023** via the SLSWA website, SLSWA Circular and the SLSWA Facebook page. This will also be the date of State Team pack presentation, which will be held at SLSWA, 7 Delawney Street, Balcatta, 6.15pm.

SLSWA CONTRIBUTION

SLSWA will cover team travel and accommodation expenses for every member of the Western Suns Interstate Teams. Entry fees to events as part of the touring team will also be covered. Team members will be provided with team apparel.

All food, snacks and beverages are at the athlete's expense with the exception of one all Teams dinner on the Thursday night. SLSWA representatives will assist youth team members as/if required.

APPEALS

There is no right of appeal against non-selection of an athlete in the 2024 Western Suns Representative Teams.

POWER TO AMEND

SLSWA reserves the right to amend this policy at any time prior to the selection of the 2024 Western Suns Representative Teams. Amendment will occur only on the basis of extenuating circumstances. The amended policy will be distributed to all clubs at the time of any amendment.

Please direct any queries relating to this circular to Surf Sports at Surf Life Saving Western Australia during office hours on (08) 9207 6666 or email surfsports@slswa.com.au