



SELECTION GUIDELINES



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BACKGROUND

This is not a formalised selection document. That Document is a separate Selection Policy Document.

These guidelines listed below will be taken into consideration in when selecting National Squads and Teams.

Players will be assessed on the following:

- Attitude
 - Attitude to the Spirit of the Game
 - Attitude to Referees and Officials
 - Attitude to teammates
 - Attitude to opponents
 - Attitude to the Rules of the Game
- Ability to be coached
- Ability to be a role model, both for the Sport of Touch, and Touch Singapore
- Willingness to put something back into the Sport
- Ability to be a team player (on and off the field)
- Playing ability as per Selection Sheets



Selection and assessment criteria:

Selection of teams for the Touch World Cup 2019 will be according to two principles:

- A) Assessment of players as individuals, as per the individual criteria below.
- B) Consideration of the final make-up of the teams as per the team criteria below.

Individual criteria

In consideration of players as individuals, selectors will assess the following areas.

- A) Individual skills.
- B) Team skills
- C) Fitness
- D) Vision and decision –making
- E) Communication
- F) Mental strength and performance –oriented behaviour.

Individual physical skills

Attack skills: passing, catching, roll ball, diving, side stepping, swerving, scoring and support running.

Defence skills: making the touch, body position, balance and weight distribution and ability to get back on side quickly.

Team skills

Positional awareness: correct positioning in and defence, rarely out of position, awareness of teammates' and opponents' positioning, support running and use of support runners, gets back in to position without disrupting others.

Sub-unit skills, driving, switches, wraps, quickies, buddies, switch defence and wrap defence.

Team skills: ability to interact with team players, knowledge and application of attack patterns/policies/moves/game plan, knowledge of rules, maximises strengths and minimises weaknesses, cohesive and adaptable, ability to lead and/ or follow, unselfish, positive attitude to referees/officials and encouraging and supportive.

Defence skills: knowledge and application of defence policies, commitment, stays calm under pressure, communication and reads attacking plays.

Response to instructions: ability to carry out the game plan, ability to carry out instructions from coach/captain/team mates.



Fitness

Testing: level of results and evidence of continuous improvement.

On-field: ability to maintain physical and mental performance over a game or tournament with minimal fatigue, high work rate in games, quick to recover, contributes to the team and make minimal errors.

Vision and decision-making

Vision: is able to read the game, evidence of peripheral vision and knowledge of positioning of team-mates and opposition, reacts quickly and has a good understanding of team-mates' and oppositions' strength and weaknesses.

Decision-making: ability to select the correct option in attack or defence, takes responsibility, reacts to team-mates decision and does not rely unduly on others for direction.

Communication

Communication: talks in a positive manner, clarity, clear and audible in defence, vocal but not distracting, assists others, supportive and influences the game via communication.

Mental skills:

Mental toughness: performs tasks well under pressure or stress, able to implement training techniques in to the game, brushes off errors or poor decisions, remains focused and steps up for big games.

Discipline: respectful to opposition and officials, has a sporting life balance, manages injuries and illness, reviews team performance/tactics/techniques and skills.

Training behaviour: punctual and prepared for training, train to achieve their potential, high work, motivation and attention.

Self-improvement: seeks to understand own strengths and weaknesses, seeks advice, ask questions, receptive to feedback and advice, show commitment to improving self as a player and an athlete.



Team Selection Criteria

When considering the formation of specific teams, selectors will covering the following areas:

The balance of the team, skill mix of the team within the team, combinations, ability of players to play in more than one position and national squad strategy.

Team balance:

The number of players in each position, physical attributes for different positions, balance of utility players and specialists, balance of leaders and followers.

Skill mix:

Mix of play makers and work horses, mix of strong attacker and defenders and leaders in both areas, mix of attacking strengths such a strong passers and scoopers and stepper and finishers.

Combinations:

Potential for particular players to form attacking or defensive sub groups, existing effective combinations of players.

Covering positions:

Coach's strategy of utilities vs. Specialists, players who can cover mid-link, players who can cover link-wing, injury cover or potential tactical changes.

National squad strategy:

How many teams are being selected and in which divisions, which divisions are being targeted for medals, which divisions are targeted for development.



Selection Panel

A four person selection panel and criteria.

Touch Singapore's Elite Performance Director, Chris Wall will lead the selection process. The selection panel for national representative teams will consist of three additional members.

"Selection" is defined in this document as the process undertaken to ensure the best available players are chosen to represent Singapore. The "Selection Process" may utilise Talent Identification (TI) and tournament selections at designated event/s, as determined by Touch Singapore (TSG) Technical Management Teams.

This policy is designed to ensure that all teams representing Singapore are selected under a fair and equitable process for all players. This policy is authorised and endorsed by Touch Singapore and should be read in conjunction with the "Selection Procedures" document.

All appointed Singapore Selecting and Coaching personnel need to be conversant of the current TSG Selection Policy and Selection Procedures.



Timeline of events

Timeline of selections and matches/tournaments.

Trial Dates

Men's Open

1. Tuesday 13th March: 6.30pm-9.30pm **Venue:** UWC Dover
2. Friday 16th March: 6.30pm - 9.30pm **Venue:** SUTD

Women's Open

1. Sunday 18th March: 2pm - 5pm **Venue:** SUTD
2. Friday 23rd March: 7.30pm - 9.30pm **Venue:** SUTD (TBC)

Men's/Women's Open

1. Sunday 25th March: 3pm - 5pm **Venue:** SUTD (TBC)

Proposed local and International fixtures.

1. International Tests vs. Japan Open Women's and friendlies for Touch YWC squads in June
2. AAM Advisory League Season 2, 2018
3. Training Camp, 2018
4. NSW State Cup, November/ December, 2018
5. Perth NTL, February 2019
6. Training Camp, 2019
7. Touch World Cup, Malaysia, 2019



World Cup Process and Management of Players:

With the Touch Singapore's (TSG) numbers rapidly growing we find ourselves in a very healthy position to fulfil each nominated category for the FIT Touch World Cup 2019 in Malaysia, with our highest player potential to date. With record numbers showing interest to be selected it has been recognised and acknowledged by the TSG committee and the Elite Performance Director that there is a requirement to carefully manage our players towards this global event.

Youth World Cup Players:

It is evident there is great deal of talent within our current Youth World Cup squads who could have the capability to represent Singapore at the Open Touch World Cup 2019 in Malaysia. Given the Youth World Cup timings Touch Singapore believes that it is in the player's best interests to be 100% focussed on delivering their best performance at this tournament without the additional pressure and workload that would come with attending trials and training with the senior national squads.

In order to manage both their playing welfare, development and understand that their first priority is the Youth World Cup 2018 in Malaysia, it has been decided that the Youth World Cup players that have registered for the Open categories **WILL NOT** be required to trial, leaving these players to focus fully on the Youth World Cup, education and general life commitments.

Upon the conclusion of the Youth World Cup in August 2018, the Head Coaches of the Open teams at their sole discretion will be permitted to invite any Youth World Cup player in to the Open environment where they will compete with the wider squad for Touch World Cup selection.

Please note that these players must be invited by the head coaches and it is not assumed that they have automatic entry in to the Open squads due to having been registered.



Final Squad Announcements:

The Touch Singapore Committee is committed to ensuring that we send the very best teams possible in to the Touch World Cup to represent our nation. With this in mind, the selection process will be rigorous and will ensure that the players finally selected to represent Singapore are of the highest standard possible.

After the initial trials a wider training squad for each category will be announced in March. Selected players will be required to attend the scheduled training sessions with the Singapore National Coaches.

Players will be monitored and continually assessed throughout these training sessions, during competitive matches and tournaments throughout the year including but not limited to AAM Leagues, June Tests Vs Japan, SITK tournament and the final training camps ahead of the final selections.

Final World Cup squad announcements will be confirmed in November 2018.

Please note that eligible players that do not make the final squad selection may at the sole discretion of the head coaches be invited to join a new playing squad in another category. However, this is dependent on the category head coach in their expert opinion, deeming the player suitable for inclusion. It should be clearly understood that this outcome is not automatic nor is it guaranteed and is solely at the discretion of the head coaching team.

Finally, Touch Singapore would like to remind all players that if successfully selected for a National squad that they are expected to be fully committed to the sport of Touch Football throughout the process up to the conclusion of the Touch World Cup in 2019. Players therefore are expected to prioritise Touch Football ahead of other conflicting sporting interests and teams. Consideration should be given ahead of the trials to prioritise Touch Football as future selections may be impacted as a result of perceived lack of commitment or conflict of interests.