



# Baseball Northern Territory – Junior Representative Team Selection Policy

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## Introduction

Baseball Northern Territory (BNT) is the state governing body for the sport of baseball in the Northern Territory as recognised by the national governing body Baseball Australia (BA).

The purpose of this Selection Policy is to establish transparent, consistent criteria, and procedures for the selection of athletes in all Northern Territory junior representative Teams and Squads.

It is the athlete's and their parent/guardian's responsibility to read and understand the Selection Policy and to seek advice if an athlete is unclear or uncertain about the operation or effect of the Selection Policy.



## Individual Selection

### Selection Philosophy

The objective of the Selection Policy is to select the best possible team to represent the Northern Territory with the intent of delivering performance outcomes in national competitions.

In selecting Junior Representative Teams, the entire Selection Criteria is taken into consideration, and athlete's will not be selected on technical or athletic ability alone.

The Northern Territory Representative Teams for the Australian Little/Intermediate/Junior/Senior League championships will be selected with the following overriding objectives:

1. To achieve a medal result at all national tournaments.
2. To identify and prepare athletes for opportunities in further Australian Championships.
3. To show year to year improvement in total wins/losses

### Application

The Selection Policy applies to all athletes who confirm availability for selection for Northern Territory Junior Representative Teams, and those who are current members of the NT Representative Teams.

The Selection Policy does not apply to officials and coaches. BNT has responsibility for and discretion in respect of the selection and removal of officials and coaches at any time.

### Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for selection, prospective athletes must abide by the following:

1. Be a currently registered, and financial member of BNT.
2. Read and agree to the athlete code of conduct and team expectations as set out in the pre-trial handbook.
3. Register details in the pre-trial survey.
4. Agree to the conditions as set out by the BNT – Junior Representative Team selection policy.

### Selection Panel

The selection panel for each NT representative team is comprised of the following:

1. Baseball NT Participation & Pathways Manager (Or appropriate)
2. Selected Head Coach of the relevant team
3. Selected Assistant Coaches of the relevant team



The selection panel will be overseen by the Baseball Northern Territory Board of Directors and the Baseball NT General Manager to ensure appropriate compliance to the Baseball Northern Territory – Junior Representative Team Selection Policy.

### Selection Criteria

The Selection Criteria to be considered for Northern Territory Representative Teams include the following:

1. Performance in trialling, training camps, events and local competitions;
2. Current and past representative team performances;
3. The athlete's demonstrated attitude and commitment to Baseball Northern Territory, team culture, balance and harmony;
4. The athlete's demonstrated ability to work with coaching staff, team officials and other team members;
5. The athlete's current level of skill and physical preparedness;
6. Any current injury or condition, which will impair or prevent the athlete's performance;
7. Factors relevant to team combination, including positional balance, specific positional skills and versatility to play alternative positions, technical compatibility;
8. Potential of athletes for subsequent Representative Teams; An athlete's demonstrated potential for improvement in the key attributes that project to successful performance in competition.

### Multiple Eligibilities

If an individual player is eligible for more than one age division and wishing selection in one or multiple teams, they are entitled to the following:

1. To nominate in the registration process which age division they wish to trial for.
2. To trial for all age divisions they are age eligible and nominated for without discretion.
3. To be selected for multiple teams by the selection panel.

Players unsuccessful in selection in one age group, if eligible, may be approached to nominate for a different age division if a position is available post team selection.

### Extenuating Circumstances

In considering the performances of athletes at events, trials, training camps or other attendances required under the Selection Policy or the Event Requirements, the Selectors may in their discretion give weight to Extenuating Circumstances.

Any athlete unable to compete at events, trials, training camps or satisfy other attendances required under the Selection Policy must advise the BNT General Manager or a delegated representative of this fact in writing, prior to the commencement of the event, trial, training camp or other attendance where practicable, and in all other cases within a reasonable time of becoming aware of the failure to meet the particular requirement.



Written notice must set out all the relevant facts, matters and circumstances specifying why the athlete is unable to participate.

Where any athlete seeks consideration of Extenuating Circumstances, a decision in each case will be made by the BNT General Manager and the Selectors in their sole discretion on an individual basis.

### Requirements after Selection

All members of the team are expected to meet minimum standards of behaviour for team members while assembled, travelling or training as part of the team. Any team member who does not meet that minimum standard of behaviour in the assessment of the head coach will be dismissed from the team.

During the period between the announcement of the team and the date of departure, assessment shall be made from time to time as to the selected athletes' standard of fitness, their progress in training and their preparedness for the event in which they have been selected. Such assessment shall be directed and be under the control of the head coach.

If, as a result of such assessment, it is considered by the manager, after consultation with the other team officials, that by reason of ill health, injury or some other matter, a selected athlete has not maintained their fitness or standard of performance so as to be able to represent the Northern Territory at a standard comparable to that exhibited so as to gain selection, the manager shall immediately notify the head coach, who shall have the power to withdraw that athlete from the team.

### Trial & Selection Dates

Announcement of trial dates will occur approximately 1 month (30 days) prior to the trials taking place.

Team selections will occur within 2 weeks (14 days) of the final trial taking place. Official team announcements are not allowed prior to February 1<sup>st</sup> of the tournament year.

### Little League Eligibility

All players trialling must be compliant under all regulations as set out by Little League International in the Pre Trial handbook. If a player hasn't passed eligibility requirements as of May 1<sup>st</sup> of the tournament year and have no grounds to become eligible prior to the tournament, they will not be eligible to compete.

### Team Nominations

Baseball Northern Territory is required to nominate team entries at the request of the Baseball Australia National District Administrator and The Baseball Australia National Tournaments Manager. This process occurs approximately around September for the following Calendar year.

Baseball Northern Territory observes the following criteria when making a team nomination:



1. A minimum of 25 registered and eligible players across the top League Age (LA) Bands.
  - Senior League: LA 15 and 16
  - Junior League: LA 13 and 14
  - Intermediate League: LA 12 and 13
  - Little League: LA 11 and 12
2. Potential for podium success and overall performance for the team at the national tournament.
3. Potential for player development opportunities at the national tournament.

## Team Staff Selection

The BNT Participation and Pathways Manager, with consultation from the BNT GM and Board of Directors is responsible for the selection of representative team coaches. Executive Officers (EO's) are under the appointment of the Baseball NT General Manager. Once selected, Head Coaches are consulted in the selection of their relevant assistant coaches and EO's.

### Coaching Selections

Head/Assistant coach selection is done via an Expression of Interest. Candidates are required to fill out a short survey detailing their relevant coaching experience and list their ambitions and plans regarding the team's expected preparation and performance at the event. An informal interview, usually a phone call, may be conducted if necessary. Successful candidates are contacted via email with a selection letter. Baseball Northern Territory judges the candidates on the following qualities:

- Leadership qualities
- Performance potential and Previous success
- Conflict Resolution and Conflict of Interest skills
- Development Opportunities
- Required Coaching Qualifications
  - Head Coach – USA Level C Accreditation
  - Assistant Coach – USA Level B Accreditation

### Executive Officer

Executive Officers are appointed post the team being formally selected. Executive Officer selection is done via an Expression of Interest. Candidates are required to fill out a short survey detailing their relevant organisational experience and list their plans regarding the teams' activities and off field expectations at the event. An informal interview, usually a phone call, may be conducted if necessary. Baseball Northern Territory judges the candidates on the following qualities:

- Strong organisational skills
- Experience working with children
- Excellent communication
- Strong initiative



- Ability to work independently

***Please note:*** Priority may be given to female candidates pending the need for an appointed chaperone to accompany female athletes to the event.

### Team Scorer

Team Scorers are appointed post the team being formally selected. Team Scorer selection will be done via an EOI with a basic summary of their scoring experience being sent for review by Baseball Northern Territory. Scorers may be asked to assist with general off field duties as needed by the EO and Coaching staff. The team scorer requires the following:

- Scoring Fundamentals Qualification
- Working knowledge of Gamechanger
- Working knowledge of scoring via a book

***Please note:*** Priority may be given to female candidates pending the need for an appointed chaperone to accompany female athletes to the event.

### Appeals Process

The sole ground for any appeal is that the BNT Selection Policy was not properly followed and/or implemented.

Any appeal by an athlete against non-selection or removal from a NT Representative Team is made to the Baseball Northern Territory Board of Directors and must accord with the following procedure:

1. The appellant must give written notice of their appeal to the BNT General Manager within 72 hours of the announcement of the decision against which the appeal is made.
2. Within 5 working days of submitting the written notice of appeal, the appellant must submit to the General Manager the grounds of that appeal.
3. The Selection Panel will provide the Baseball Northern Territory Board of Directors and the appellant with a written statement as to the reasons for the decision against which the appeal is made.
4. The Baseball Northern Territory Board of Directors will give its decision as soon as practicable and will provide the Baseball NT General Manager and the appellant with a statement of the reasons for its decision.
5. The decision of the Baseball Northern Territory Board will be final.