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Reg. No. 2000/018796/08

Selection Criteria Framework (SCF)

The Selection Criteria Framework (SCF) is a TSA Board approved protocol that forms the basis of TSA Junior Team selections. To this end, all officially appointed selectors are compelled to sign and confirm their commitment and adherence to this framework. It is expected that amendments and improvements may be added to this SCF over time.

1. **The TSA Junior Ranking System** is the key indicator and input of a player's performance.

- The ranking system affords all players an opportunity to demonstrate their competitiveness locally and, on the ITF Junior and World Tour tournaments.
- All players have access to a wide range of tournaments, such as TSA Series, Nationals, Masters, Mini and Grand Prix events, as well as 12 local ITF's and a number of international ITF's in neighbouring countries and sub-Saharan Africa.
- **The 'blend' of 6 qualifying tournaments** can consist of any local TSA events AND/OR as many as 6 ITF local tournaments or as many as 3 overseas ITF tournaments (anywhere in the world) as part of the best six.
- Selections are made based on singles, doubles, and combined rankings. As such, the combined ranking is an important indicator of performance (100% singles and 25% doubles). This complies with the ITF's recommendation on the importance of doubles, since the ITF uses the same combined ranking.

2. **A Player Performance Metric (PPM)**

- The PPM is a template developed by TSA to help with the selection process and see which players qualify for selection purposes. "Qualifying" refers to players who could be considered or would be in the running for selection for various teams. In all likelihood, this list would comprise of between 10 and 20 players per age group and gender. National Squad players would also qualify.



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- The PPM will comprise the following metrics to assist selectors with their selections:
 - TSA Rankings – Singles, doubles and combined
 - ITF ranking
 - Head- to-Head (past 12 months)
 - Player behaviour (TSA code of conduct)
 - UTR and WTN ratings

3. Nationals & Masters

- **U12s and U14s** are required to participate in nationals and masters to qualify for the national teams, unless they are required to compete in international events for the South African team, or if they have an injury and a doctor's note.
- **U16 and U18s** are required to participate in nationals and masters to qualify for the national teams, unless they are required to compete in international events for the South African team, or if they have an injury and a doctor's note.
- **U16 and U18** players can request an exemption from playing, by providing the ITF tour schedule four weeks prior to nationals. This exempt will be provided only to players who will be able to compete in Grand Slam tournaments.
- NB All players **MUST COMPETE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AGE CATEGORY.**

4. Additional Factors

- The ranking system (as a core indicator,) together with the PPM (point 2,) constitutes the **objective and measurable factors for team selections.**
- Additional factors include, but are not limited to:
 - TSA's policy on transformation
 - Physical well-being of the athlete



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5. International Players

- A player can only be selected for representative teams outside of the above mentioned parameter if he/she is formally classified to be an 'internationally based' player.
- An international player is indicated as a person competing more than 183 days per calendar year outside the borders of South Africa.
- This classification should be formalized via the submission and acceptance by TSA of the formal "international" player classification form.

6. **Code of Conduct:** A player's selection for a representative team will be dependent on a clean Code of conduct report as per TSA's criteria.

7. SA Squads:

- At year end a **National Squad** of a minimum of 8 players from each age group and gender will be announced representing 1st and 2nd years.
 - This squad will receive TSA national squad accreditation.
8. It should be noted that various **ITF/CAT tournaments, ITF/CAT Masters** and other selected **INTERNATIONAL** tournaments have **pre-determined criteria over which TSA has no jurisdiction**. In these cases, TSA may be compelled to nominate representative teams outside of the approved SCF.
9. **TSA Masters qualification** is based on the top ranked and available players in each age group (see players with international status criteria above). TSA retains the right to propose 2 Wild Cards per age group, specifically to ensure, where necessary and possible, adherence to the TSA Transformation policy.



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10. Whilst team and squad selections are not an exact science, selections must be intellectually defensible. **The intention of the SCF is to:**

- Ensure selectors all work off a standard set of data, such as the SCF protocol and the PPM – this eliminates subjectivity and focuses on facts.
- Ensures a higher level of transparency – eliminates speculation.
- Accommodates 'internationally' based players

11. TSA national selectors and high-performance staff are recused from the selection process if his/her player is up for nominations and selection.

