**Last Updated:** Jan 2025

**Background**

The State Schoolboys and Schoolgirls Football Teams will consist of up to 14 players. Students participating in the School Sport Australia Championship will turn 11 or 12 years by December 31st in the year of the Championship.

Online nomination forms are available on the School Sport WA website [www.schoolsportwa.com.au](http://www.schoolsportwa.com.au)

Once the nomination form is completed and trial fee is paid there is no correspondence required to be sent from SSWA to families. Parents/caregivers are to take the player to the trial/s they want to attend from the trial dates stated.

**Selectors**

* The State Team Coach shall administer the selection process.
* The State Team Coach and Team Manager shall be the principal selectors. This does not preclude the coach from seeking additional selectors outside of this group for all or parts of the selection process.
* Selectors shall reach decisions by consensus wherever possible. If consensus cannot be reached, the State Team coach has the responsibility of the selection call for this player.
* No selector shall be involved in the selection of any player who is directly related to them.

**Trials Specific Information**

* A number of trials will be held.
* The number of players carried through from each trial phase to the next is at the discretion of the selectors.
* A minimum of one trial is required to be attended at each phase of selection for a player to be eligible for the following phase.
* Injured players may be given time to trial by being exempted from early trials.
* Every endeavour shall be given to trialling players in their preferred positions but selectors reserve the right to trial players in any position.
* Selectors shall consider all attributes of the game including (but not limited to) physical ability, technical skill, positional and tactical sense and player attitude.
* When selecting the final team of up to 14 players, selectors will be asked to consider the balance of the squad with reference to each player’s game attributes.
* Train-on players will be selected to continue training and playing in practice matches.
* The train on players will be called upon in case of a withdrawal due to sickness, injury or negative attitude.
* The State Team coach may advise selected players (that includes country players) that they may miss certain trials or training sessions due to travel or other player welfare concerns.
* The selectors reserve the right to bring players in at any stage of the selection, squad or team process.
* Training on with the squad does not entitle players automatic selection should a player withdraw but will allow selectors to ascertain their current performances against the needs of the team.
* Should a player withdraw and if time permits, the coach may select one or more players for the vacated position/s from the train-on squad.
* All train on players will participate equally in training sessions and practice matches up to the time the Team is to attend the National Championships.
* Players can be withdrawn from the selection process or team preparation phase at **any** time should a player
	+ Represent School Sport WA in a negative manner.
	+ Fail to comply with behavioural or attendance team standards.
	+ In the weeks after selection due to an injury or condition, they are not able to perform to the required level of participation for their team role they have been elected for.
* Once a team is selected, attendance at training is to be balanced with family and club commitments. Initial decisions are to be made by consultation between parent/caregiver/player/club coach and State Team coach. If consensus cannot be reached, the team manager and tour leader shall be consulted. If consensus still cannot be reached, the SSWA Football sport convenor shall be consulted.
* All team members are required to be fit to play 1 week before departure for Nationals. A doctor/physiotherapist certificate may be required to ascertain player fitness. A player unable to travel will be replaced by a player from the train on squad.
* The Captain/s may be selected from their demonstrated attitude throughout the preparation/lead up events to the National Championship and will express the leadership and attitudinal efforts required of a team leader linked to SSWA. The final selection may come from the:
	+ The players themselves
	+ The coaching staff and tour manager

**SSWA Medal Winner Policy**

* Awarded to player deemed to have displayed perseverance, commitment and team spirit, as voted by team officials and players.