



National Championships Policy

Version 5 – 08 July 2020

1. Policy Objective

- 1.1. The objective of this selection policy is to provide guidance to persons who have been assigned the task to select, organize and manage the representative teams from Weightlifting Tasmania in National Championships.

2. National Championships

- 2.1. The Australian Weightlifting Federation stages the following national championships:

2.1.1. Australian Under 15/Under 17 Championships

- a. An **under 15** athlete must turn at least 10 years of age in the year of the championship and be less than 15 years of age at the start of the calendar year in which the championship falls. There is no qualifying standard for athletes entering into the under 15 championships but athletes must have recorded a performance in an AWF sanctioned event prior to close of entry.
- b. An **under 17** athlete must turn at least 13 years of age in the year of the championship and be less than 17 years of age at the start of the calendar year in which the championships falls.
- c. The qualifying standard to enter into the under 17 championships is: **K grade**
- d. An under 15 athlete may compete simultaneously in the under 15 and under 17 championships provided they have reached the minimum age for both age groups, and has attained the qualifying standard for the under 17 championship.
- e. In both cases, the AWF will publish the years of birth for eligibility to compete.

2.1.2. Australian Junior/Under 23 Championships

- a. An athlete entering into the **Junior** Section must turn at least 13 years of age in the year of the championship and be less than 20 years of age at the start of the year in which the championship falls. The AWF will publish the years of birth for eligibility to compete in the Junior section.
- b. An athlete entering into the **Under 23** Section must turn at least 13 years of age in the year of the championship and be less than 23 years of age at the start of the year in which the championship falls. The AWF will publish the years of birth for eligibility to compete in the Under 23 section.
- c. The qualifying standard for entry into the Junior Championships is: **I grade**
- d. The qualifying standard for entry into the Under 23 Championships is: **G grade**

2.1.3. Australian Senior Championships

- a. An athlete entering into the Seniors section must turn at least 13 years of age in the year of the championship. The AWF will publish the year of birth after which an athlete is not eligible. There is no upper age limit for this event by all participants must reach the qualification standard which is: **D grade**

2.1.4. Australian Masters Championships

- a. A **master** is an athlete who has reached the age of 35 years or will reach the age of 35 in the year that the championship is held. Age groupings are 35-39, 40-44, 45-49 and so on in 5-year increments. Theoretically there is no upper age limit but the AWF does publish the year of birth range for eligibility.
- b. There is no qualification standard, but lifters must have competed in the respective State Masters Championships or other AWF sanctioned event if no State Masters event has been conducted during the qualifying period.

2.1.5. Australian Open Championships

- a. An athlete entering into the Open must turn at least 13 years of age in the year of the championship. The AWF will publish the year of birth after which an athlete is not eligible. The qualifying standard for entry into the Open is: **D grade**

3. Tasmania Team Composition

- 3.1. In accordance with AWF rules, only athletes that have achieved the qualification standard for the relevant National Championship can be selected for the Tasmania state team.
- 3.2. In addition to meeting any national championship qualifying standard, a WTI member must also have competed in the relevant nominated state championship event conducted in the same calendar year as that of the corresponding national championship, unless extenuating circumstances apply. Extenuating circumstances would include acute or severe injury or illness, absence from the state or circumstances reasonably considered to be beyond the member's control. Members unable to compete in the relevant state championship should notify the Board of Weightlifting Tasmania bearing in mind that the timeframe for nominating entries to a national championship usually ends with 6 days of the state championship. The merit of each case will be decided by the board of Weightlifting Tasmania.
- 3.3. In the information that is circulated by the AWF to states prior to the closing date for entry in a national championship, the rules for nominating a state team will be provided. These rules will state the maximum number of athletes, male and female, who can be nominated as state team members.
- 3.4. Athletes who qualify for a state championship but are not selected into the state team may also be entered. In some cases, the AWF stipulates a maximum number of participants from each state.
- 3.5. There is no state team event in the Australian Open Championship.

4. AWF Rules and Procedures

- 4.1. The following rules and procedures are of critical importance in managing state teams:
 - 4.1.1. All athletes participating in a national championship must, at time of weigh-in, produce photo idea.
 - 4.1.2. The minimum allowable weights for competitors, irrespective of whether it is a snatch or a clean & jerk, is as follows:
 - a. Females – 21Kg
 - b. Males – 26 Kg
 - 4.1.3. All athletes must comply with the dress code. It is important to be knowledgeable of the technical rules in regard to what athletes are allowed to wear on the platform.
 - 4.1.4. Athletes may compete in the category in which they have been entered or go up or down one category provided they have qualified. The category of choice must be declared at the final verification of entries meeting that takes place usually on the evening before the championship starts.

5. Team Organisation Responsibility

- 5.1. The Board of Weightlifting Tasmania must select a team manager for each state team to manage all arrangements for:
 - 5.1.1. team selection
 - 5.1.2. travel and accommodation of the team
 - 5.1.3. team uniform
 - 5.1.4. protection of team members under the age of 18
- 5.2. The selection of the Team Manager must occur at least three months prior to national championships for which they will have responsibility.
- 5.3. The selected team manager must be available to accompany the team to respective national championships. The airfare and accommodation costs of the team manager will be covered by Weightlifting Tasmania.

6. Summary of Championship Participation Costs

- 6.1. The costs associated with sending a representative team to a National Championship are as follows:

	Cost responsibility	Exceptions
Accommodation of athletes	The athlete	
Accommodation of chaperone	WTI	If required
Accommodation of head coach	WTI	
Accommodation of assistant coaches	Shared between the coach and WTI	
Accommodation of manager	WTI	
Airfare of athletes	The athlete	
Airfare of chaperone	WTI	If required
Airfare of head coach	WTI	
Airfare of assistant coaches	Shared between the coach and WTI	
Airfare of team manager	WTI	
AWF athlete entry fees	The athlete	
Food costs of athletes	The athlete	
Food costs of chaperone	The chaperone	
Food costs of coaches	The coach	
Food costs of manager	The manager	
Rail, car hire, bus, taxi	The athlete	
Uniform of athletes	The athlete	
Uniform of coach(es)	The coach	
Uniform of manager	The manager	

7. Booking Airfares

- 7.1. An important objective is to make air travel arrangements that are cost effective and this will entail makes bookings as soon as practicable after team selections have been made. Where possible, the staging of Tasmania championships should take place at least 8 weeks before a national championship and selections should be made immediately thereafter.
- 7.2. To facilitate a quick response to securing lower cost airfares, Weightlifting Tasmania should notify prospective team members in advance of date on which selection takes place that a deposit of \$200 is payable immediately upon selection. This deposit is to ensure that Weightlifting Tasmania will likely have sufficient funds available to make travel bookings.

- 7.3. The remainder of the airfare for each team athlete (after the \$200 deposit has been paid) must be paid by no later than one week prior to departure. Team athletes are responsible for the full amount of their air travel costs.
- 7.4. Airlines will enable Associations such as Weightlifting Tasmania to make group bookings with immediate payment provided the group size is 10 or more.
- 7.5. The ideal situation is that all members of the team travel together or at the same time if from different locations but this is not always feasible. Members of the senior or junior team may not have leave from work on the day before, or the day after the championship runs. Therefore separate arrangements may need to be made by Weightlifting Tasmania. Nevertheless documentation that is provided to prospective team members prior to the selection process should put the view that it may be necessary for prospective team members to make leave arrangements one day before and one day after the championships. In the case of Australian Under 15 and Under 17 championships, it is mandatory for all athletes to travel with appointed officials (manager, coaches, or chaperone) of Weightlifting Tasmania.

8. Booking Accommodation

- 8.1. Problems booking accommodation for teams can be alleviated by creating a group booking early to prevent other teams from taking advantage of the accommodation, which is nearest the venue, and at the most reasonable price. Booking at least 3 months ahead of the event is advised.
- 8.2. If it becomes necessary to book accommodation further than walking distance from the venue, the extra expense of hiring a minibus or car has to be considered.
- 8.3. Accommodation for team members is usually on the basis of twin share.
- 8.4. Team athletes are responsible for the full amount of their accommodation costs.

9. Ground Transport

- 9.1. Where possible, the team accommodation should be within easy walking range of the venue to reduce the need for ground transport. If this is not possible, a hire car or minibus should be considered. The costs of car or minibus hire, taxi or other ground transport are the responsibility of the athlete.

10. Team Uniform

- 10.1. The compulsory uniform for all team members, athletes and officials, is:
 - 10.1.1. Team Polo Shirt (Icon Sports Tasmania)
 - 10.1.2. Black tracksuit pants (Icon Team Tracksuit Sports are highly recommended but similar unbranded black pants will suffice)
 - 10.1.3. State Lifting Costume (Sylvia-P)
- 10.2. The State Lifting Costume made by Sylvia-P is unchanged since 2018. Team members do not need to purchase a new state costume if they already have one.
- 10.3. The team polo shirt and tracksuit pants made by Icon Sports Tasmania represent a new uniform but team members are welcome to purchase other items of team apparel.
- 10.4. All items of state team uniform must be ordered by Weightlifting Tasmania from the suppliers ICON SPORTS TASMANIA or SYLVIA-P. Individual members cannot order direct from either supplier.
- 10.5. A bulk order for team apparel will be given to ICON SPORTS TAMANIA early in the calendar year. A second bulk order may take place in the middle of the year.
- 10.6. Sylvia-P Weightlifting Costumes require a minimum 6-weeks turnaround, however Weightlifting Tasmania can order in small quantities, or even just one at a time.

- 10.7. Any member of Weightlifting Tasmania who has a realistic chance of selection into a state team should considered ordering as early as possible even before the state team is announced.
- 10.8. All items of team apparel available through the shop on the Weightlifting Tasmania website may be purchased by any member, irrespective of whether they are prospective representatives of the association or not.
- 10.9. Costs associated with team uniform are the responsibility of the athlete.