



# AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN LIFE SAVING TEAM

**SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA LIMITED (“SLSA”)  
ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY AUSTRALIA (“RLSSA”)**

## 2022 Life Saving World Championships Campaign Selection Guideline

### (High Performance Program)

#### 1. PURPOSE

The primary purpose of this Selection Guideline is to select open and youth athletes for respective Australian Life Saving Teams that have the capability and point scoring capacity to assist Australia win the 2022 Life Saving World Championships (LWC2022). The secondary purpose of this Selection Guideline is to select open, pathway, youth and talent ID athletes into the following squads and teams:

- a) Life Saving World Championships (LWC) 2022 Squad
- b) Australian Open & Youth Team: New Zealand Pool Life Saving Championships 2021
- c) Australian Representative Team: German Cup & Orange Cup 2021
- d) Australian Pathway Team: Sanyo Bussan Cup 2022
- e) Australian Life Saving Team: World Games 2022
- f) Australian Youth Life Saving Team: Life Saving World Championships 2022
- g) Australian Life Saving Team: Life Saving World Championships 2022
- h) Australian Pathway Teams (various events).

#### 2. KEY DEFINITIONS:

**World Life Saving Championships Squad:** Athletes selected into squad(s) for the 2022 ILS World Lifesaving Championships.

**Australian Life Saving Team:** Team selected to represent Australia at the 2022 ILS World Championships.

**Australian Youth Life Saving Team:** Team selected to represent Australia at the 2022 ILS World Youth Lifesaving Championships (*athletes must be born between 01/01/2004 – 31/12/2007 for any AYL eligibility*)

**Australian Representative Team:** Capped team selected to represent Australia in an international competition.

**Australian Pathway Teams:** Uncapped team selected to represent Australia based on developing and preparing the athletes for the 2022 ILS Life Saving World Championships and beyond.

Collaborative Panel:	Panel made up of SLSA and RLSSA Operational Staff Members. The role of this panel is to provide governance of the World Life Saving campaign.
LWC2022 National Selection Panel:	Panel made up of a chair of selectors along with two panel members. Both SLSA and RLSSA must have one nominated representative on the selection panel. The Head Coach will sit on the LWC2022 National Selection Panel in an advisory capacity only and does not have voting rights. The role of this panel is to ensure that the purpose and procedures detailed in this document are adhered to.
Head Coach:	Appointed coach for the duration of the 2022 Life Saving World Championships campaign.
Team Manager:	Appointed for the duration of the 2022 Life Saving World Championships campaign.
Campaign:	18 month – 2 year period leading into the 2022 ILS Saving World Championships.
Individual Performance Plan:	Written agreement between The Head Coach and each squad/team member setting out planning expectations, behaviours, accountabilities, performance goals and athlete benefits (including training environment support).

### 3. SELECTION CRITERIA

To be eligible for consideration for selection athletes must:

- (a) Have fulfilled the requirements of their respective organisation to participate at their respective National Championships and the respective policies of the applicable organisation and be in good standing with their club, regional, state and national organisations.
- (b) Have completed within the relevant time period, the applicable nomination form (as per electronic application form found here) in respect to the team under consideration.
- (c) Be a financial member of a SLSA and/or RLSSA affiliated club and hold a current SLSA Bronze Medallion (with Cert II) and/or current RLSSA Bronze Medallion or equivalent Life Saving Award.

If selected as a member of the 2022 Australian Life Saving Squad/ Team, the athlete will attend all relevant camps and workshops associated with their selection. Failure to do so without reasonable cause may result in their removal from the Squad/Team. Applications for reasonable cause must be submitted to the Head Coach and Team Manager for consideration.

When considering athletes for potential selection to an Australian Life Saving Squad/ Team and any other Australian Representative Teams (including Australian Youth Life Saving Team), Selectors may consider:

- (a) performances in all age categories at the following events where applicable:

- i) 2021 SLSA Australian Surf Life Saving Championships and 2021 SLSA Australian Surf Life Saving Youth Championships;
  - ii) 2021 SLSA and RLSSA respective State Championships;
  - iii) 2021 SLSA & RLSSA National Pool Life Saving Championships;
  - iv) Life Saving World Championships 2018 – National Teams and Interclub;
  - v) 2019/2020 International Life Saving Events including and not limited to, German Cup/Orange Cup, International Surf Rescue Challenge, Sanyo Bussan Cup.
  - vi) In recognition of the nature of the World Lifesaving Championships, the selection panel may take into account performances at additional approved swimming meets, including State, National and International championships.
  - vii) Athletes residing internationally have the ability to submit results/times via video footage. Any requests to provide video submissions must be provided in writing to the Head Coach and approved by the Collaborative Panel. All footage will be reviewed by Head Coach (and assistants where appropriate), along with National Selection Panel. All athlete communication must be direct with the Head Coach. All international athlete training must be logged through the approved Athlete Management System for tracking purposes.
- (b) Ocean/Beach event ability as assessed at approved events/training sessions or trials as agreed to by the Head Coach and the National Selection Panel.
  - (c) Pool Lifesaving event ability as assessed at approved events/training sessions or trials as agreed to by the Head Coach and the National Selection Panel.
  - (d) Demonstrated and/or potential ability to work collaboratively as a part of the team, including the Head Coach, coaching staff, team officials and other team members.
  - (e) Have a current level of skill and physical capacity required for the nature of the event that is being selected.
  - (f) Declare any current /potential injury or condition which may impair, inhibit or prevent the member's performance to the requisite level.
  - (g) The potential of the athlete to successfully achieve the objectives of this Guideline and of SLSA and/or RLSSA under their Constitution.
  - (h) Any other factors considered relevant in the circumstances approved in advance by the National Selection Panel.

If selected, athletes must meet agreed benchmarks in their Personal Performance Plan and positively contribute to the culture and gold standard benchmark aspirations of the squad/team.

If selected, athletes must complete appropriate level anti-doping course requirements provided by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) within the first four weeks of selection. Failure to do so may result in the removal from the high performance squad.

No particular selection criterion above need be considered nor shall any criterion be weighted more or less significantly by reason only of the order in which that criterion appears in this Guideline.

In considering the criterion the Life Saving World Championships 2022 National Selection Panel may in its discretion give weight to extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances may include

but are not limited to injury, personal bereavement or talent transfer situations from applicable sports.

Athletes may be added to the 2022 squad at any time at the discretion of the 2022 National Selection Panel.

#### **4. SELECTION PROCESS**

The 2022 Collaborative Panel is responsible for the formation of the 2022 National Selection Panel.

##### **4.1 2022 National Selection Panel**

- (a) The 2022 Collaborative Panel shall appoint in its sole discretion, one selector each from SLSA and RLSSA on the basis of previous national or international experience or involvement in lifesaving competitions. In addition, the 2022 Collaborative Panel shall appoint a third selector who shall act as Convenor of the National Selection Panel.
- (b) The Convenor may participate in selection discussions but shall only exercise a casting vote. The Convenor under the direction of the CEO of SLSA and CEO of RLSSA as appropriate shall be the Australian Life Saving Team spokesperson on team selection matters.
- (c) The Head Coach will sit with the 2022 National Selection Panel. This position is in an advisory role and allows scope to discuss potential athlete point accumulation capacity and team combinations via the use of an event matrix. This position does not include voting rights.
- (d) The period of appointment for the 2022 National Selection Panel and the Convenor of the 2022 Selection Panel shall be for the duration of the Life Saving World Championships campaign and will apply to all squads and teams during this campaign.
- (e) Where a member of the 2022 National Selection Panel has a conflict of interest in relation to one or more athletes that have nominated for consideration for selection, the selector must declare that interest and stand aside from the process. The Operational Staff Member of the organisation that nominated the conflicted selector has the right to appoint a proxy selector.

##### **4.2 Notification of Guideline**

- (a) This Guideline shall be available to all members of SLSA and RLSSA on their respective website.
- (b) Any change in the Criteria or this Guideline shall be notified to State Centres/Branches in accordance with the provisions of the Constitutions, policies and procedures of SLSA and RLSSA.
- (c) SLSA and RLSSA at their discretion may give further notice of this Guideline to their respective membership.

##### **4.3 Selection Procedure**

- (a) All athletes wishing to be considered for selection in the LWC2022 Squad/Team and Australian Representative Teams must:
  - i) Complete and acknowledge the Application for Nomination form (attached to the Australian Life Saving Team Memorandum and on SLSA and RLSSA websites) prior to the deadline specified on the nomination form.

- ii) Read and sign the 2022 Campaign Selection Guideline Agreement.

The 2022 National Selection Panel may accept a completed form from an athlete after this time in its absolute discretion.

To ensure there is no misunderstanding, athletes may be selected for Youth, Pathway or Representative tours who are not a member of AYLTL or ALT 2022 Squads.

- (b) The 2022 National Selection Panel may from time to time in its discretion select a person who is not otherwise under consideration. This may occur in circumstances such as illness, newly obtained citizenship or otherwise.
- (c) Following selection of the team, the Head Coach and 2022 National Selection Panel will prepare a matrix detailing which athletes will compete in each individual and relay/team event for the nominated competition. If illness, injury or poor performance arises during competition, the Head Coach may select a replacement in a specified event in the best interests of the team.
- (d) The selected team/squad and event matrix shall be provided to the 2022 Collaborative Panel for final sign off. If the 2022 Collaborative Panel does not agree with the execution of the selection process, it shall be referred back to the 2022 National Selection Panel with feedback.
- (e) The 2022 National Selection Panel members reserve the right to submit a minority selection report following team selection as evidence in any appeal process.

#### **4.4 Notification of selection/non selection to Relevant Parties**

- (a) Notification of the selected athletes shall be given to relevant parties within SLSA and RLSSA in accordance with the provisions of their respective Constitutions and protocols. Following notification of the selected persons by SLSA and RLSSA, a joint public announcement of the selected team shall be made.
- (b) Successful athletes shall be notified of their selection as soon as reasonably practicable by operational staff member or the 2022 National Selection Panel Convenor.
- (c) Unsuccessful athletes shall be notified of their non-selection in writing as soon as reasonably practicable by operational staff member or the 2022 National Selection Panel Convenor
- (d) The 2022 National Selection Panel Convenor (or his/her delegate) may meet with non-selected athletes to explain the Panel's decision.
- (e) The 2022 National Selection Panel Convenor (or his/her delegate) must be available to attend the first scheduled activity of the team to address the athletes in relation to matters of selection, team balance and the events that each athlete is to contest

#### **4.5 Removal from a selected team**

- (a) Any member of a selected squad/team (including the management team) is ineligible/will be withdrawn from selection of squad/team if they:
  - i) Breach or fail to observe this Guideline, the SLSA and/or the RLSSA Constitutions or any relevant Regulations;
  - ii) Breach or fail to fulfil a requirement of the SLSA or RLSSA (as applicable) Anti-Doping Policy.

- iii) In the opinion of the 2022 National Selection Panel (after having received advice from the ALT Medical Advisor or delegate medical practitioner) by reason of illness or injury are unable to perform to the required standard or return from injury parameters as below;
- (A) On return from injury athletes may be required to prove a 95%-100% level of fitness a minimum four (4) weeks prior to travel in which the following general markers may be considered;
- (1) Normal range of motion. Compare to uninjured side if possible
  - (2) Decrease in acute pain to near zero
  - (3) Decrease in swelling to near zero
  - (4) Strength of the affected body part at 80-100% of opposing body part
  - (5) 80-100% return of balance and coordination
  - (6) The ability to perform normal activities/movements without negative changes to mechanics
- (B) In addition to the above, at the discretion of Head Coach, Medical Advisor or National Selection Panel an athlete may be required to complete fitness testing at 95%-100% level, a minimum of four (4) weeks prior to travel to show requisite skills to perform at an international level. This may include but is not limited to swim time trials, craft training session, craft match race, beach training session beach/track time trial, gym based strength testing. Testing parameters will be determined by Head Coach based on individual circumstances and must be completed no later than 6 weeks prior to competition.
- (b) Any member may be removed from any selected squad/team by the 2022 National Selection Panel in consultation with the Head Coach as circumstances may require. This includes a member failing to meet the requirements of the agreed personal performance plan provided whilst given the opportunity to meet those requirements within a defined timeframe. This will also include those relating to positive contributions to the culture of the Australian Life Saving team and adherence to all squad/team protocols.
- (c) Any member of the Management Team may be removed by the 2022 Collaborative Panel for failing to meet the requirements as detailed in the relevant position description. Providing that the requirements within the position description had first been discussed with the member and been given the opportunity to meet those requirements within a defined timeframe.
- (d) If a team member is to be removed from a squad/team they will be notified by the Chair of the National Selection Panel following final consultation with the Head Coach and Collaborative Panel.

#### 4.6 Athlete Injury Reporting

Any athlete suffering an injury in which will cause them to miss a period of one (1) or more weeks of training must report the injury to the Australian Life Saving Team Medical Advisor within 48 hours of the injury occurring, via email. The ALT medical advisor will work with athletes local treating practitioners to ensure safe and timely return from injury.

The overarching goal of the ALT Medical Advisor is to ensure athletes remain in squads/teams and provide support for athletes to return to 100% health as quickly as possible. This will include the support and implementation of rehabilitation plans if required. All communications and regular updates from local practitioners should be passed on to ALT Medical Advisor to ensure clear lines of communications throughout the recovery process.

ALT Medical Advisor will implement a rehabilitation plan in conjunction with local practitioners to set required performance benchmarks throughout recovery period. This will ensure athletes are on a set timeline with specific goals and targets to meet.

If athletes are required to complete fitness assessment or testing, all performance requirements will be directed by the National Selection Panel or Head Coach, in consultation with Medical Advisor based on performance or event matrix.

### 5. APPEALS

#### 5.1 Appeal

A person may appeal where they believe the 2022 National Selection Panel has not complied with the procedures set down in this Guideline. **Such an appeal may only be made on procedural grounds not on the merits of a particular selection decision.** Any appeal will proceed in accordance with this clause.

#### 5.2 Procedure for Appeal

(a) Any appeal against a decision of the 2022 Selection Panel must be made to the CEO of SLSA or CEO of RLSSA within 2 days of the joint public announcement.

(b) The appeal must be lodged in writing with the respective CEO setting out the:

- i) Particulars of the alleged failure of the 2022 National Selection Panel in question; and
- ii) Grounds on which the appeal is made; and
- iii) Reasons or circumstances supporting the alleged grounds of appeal; and

Must be accompanied by an appeal fee of \$500 which shall be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

(c) If the appeal is made by a SLSA member the SLSA CEO will forward the appeal to the RLSSA CEO for action as described in this Guideline and vice versa.

(d) Nothing in this Guideline prevents the withdrawal of an appeal at any time in writing to the respective CEO.

- (e) On receipt of an appeal, the SLSA and RLSSA CEOs will liaise to immediately arrange for the appeal documents to be forwarded to the 2022 National Selection Review Panel.

### 5.3 Constitution of 2022 National Selection Review Panel

- (a) The 2022 National Selection Review Panel shall consist of three persons, which must include the following:
- i) Two persons with a thorough knowledge of lifesaving competition; and
  - ii) A barrister or solicitor who will chair the 2022 National Selection Review Panel.
- (b) No member of the 2022 National Selection Review Panel shall be a party to or directly involved in any matter under consideration.
- (c) SLSA shall appoint, in its sole discretion, one Review Member. RLSSA shall appoint, in its sole discretion, one Review Member. SLSA and RLSSA shall agree on the nomination of the person who will convene the Panel.

### 5.4 Functions of the 2022 National Selection Review Panel

The 2022 National Selection Review Panel has no power of selection or re-selection. The 2022 Selection Review Panel will review the matter(s) set out in the appeal and may dismiss the matter or refer it back to the 2022 Selection Panel for re-consideration.

### 5.5 Procedures for the 2022 Selection Review Panel

- (a) The 2022 Selection Review Panel shall, as soon as practical after receiving the appeal documents under **clause 5.2(e)**, investigate and consider the matter and shall within 7 days of receiving such notice, determine whether:
- i) The matter should be dismissed, because in its determination, the matter has no merit; or
  - ii) The appeal warrants further review and determination in accordance with this Guideline; or
  - iii) The matter should be referred back to the 2022 National Selection Panel, because in its determination, the selection was not made in accordance with this Guideline.
- (b) If the 2022 National Selection Review Panel determines the matter warrants further review under **clause 5.5(a)(ii)** it shall as soon as practicable, having regard to the timing of selection and proximity of relevant events, serve a notice in writing to the person lodging the appeal, the selectors, SLSA CEO and RLSSA CEO:
- i) Stating that the person may address the 2022 National Selection Review Panel at a meeting to be held as soon as practicable, being not earlier than 4 days from the date of the notice;
  - ii) Stating the date, place and time of that meeting; and
  - iii) Informing the person that he or she may do any one or more of the following:
    - a. Attend that meeting (personally or by his or her adult representative, not being legally trained or qualified); or



- b. Give the 2022 National Selection Review Panel, no later than 24 hours before the time of that meeting, a further written statement setting out relevant information surrounding the appeal.
- (c) The 2022 National Selection Review Panel may conduct a meeting convened in accordance with **clause 5.5(b)** or any adjournment in such manner as it sees fit, although shall:
  - i) Give to the person lodging the appeal and the 2022 National Selection Panel every opportunity to be heard;
  - ii) Give due consideration to any written statement by the person;
  - iii) Allow the person to be present along with his or her adult representative (not being legally trained or qualified); and
  - iv) Request or require that the person or any other witness to attend the meeting or provide such evidence as is available.
- (d) Following consideration of all information, which the 2022 National Selection Review Panel considers relevant (in its absolute discretion) and which is available, the 2022 National Selection Review Panel shall arrive at a finding. A decision of the 2022 National Selection Review Panel may be by a majority decision.
- (e) The 2022 National Selection Review Panel shall notify the SLSA CEO and RLSSA CEO of its finding as soon as practicable.
- (f) If the 2022 National Selection Review Panel considers the ground(s) alleged by the person to be satisfied, it may direct that the 2022 National Selection Panel again consider the selection of the relevant team or athlete.
- (g) The 2022 National Selection Panel shall comply with any direction of the 2022 National Selection Review Panel.
- (h) Any further selection decision of the 2022 National Selection Panel under the direction of the 2022 National Selection Review Panel shall be final, and no other further appeal shall be available to the person in respect of that selection decision.
- (i) The 2022 National Selection Review Panel has no power to award costs. That is, each party will be responsible for their own costs of the appeal.

## 6. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

### 6.1 Reporting of Disciplinary Action

Where any disciplinary action is required in the lead-up to, during, or after competition a Disciplinary Action Report shall be submitted by the Team Manager to the 2022 Collaborative Panel as soon as practicable detailing the breach and any actions taken.

### 6.2 Serious Breach of Conduct

- (a) If a team member/s (including team management) is involved in a serious breach of conduct including, but not limited to, illegal activity, actions that result in emotional, mental or physical harm to another individual, or bringing SLSA and/or RLSSA into disrepute, the individual/s is to be dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary procedures as outlined in the SLSA Constitution/Regulations and/or RLSSA Constitution/Regulation where appropriate.

- (b) Serious breaches or allegations of serious breaches of conduct must be reported to SLSA and/or RLSSA immediately.
- (c) The outcome of any such action is to be available to the Rescue 2022 Selection Panel for consideration when selecting any future squads/ teams.

**6.3. Reporting of grievance against Team Management**

- (a) Any member of the squad/team may lodge a report detailing a grievance against any member of the Team Management to the 2022 Collaborative Panel outlining the nature of the grievance.
- (b) The outcome of any such grievance is to be available to 2022 Collaborative Panel for consideration when selecting any future squads/ teams.