

## **Pickleball Ireland**

### **Irish Team Selection and Criteria Policy (“Selection Policy”)**

- 1 The rationale and basis for a Selection Policy is built on the aspiration that Pickleball Ireland (“PI”) its Players, Board, Team Management and Coaches seek to achieve their best performance by design involving sound and sustained positive attitudes through application, respect and regular participation at training sessions as organised, leading to consistent and strong performance in competition.**
  
- 2 This general policy is underpinned by two independent and mutually supporting values.**
  - Player values of dedication, consistency, respect and competitiveness which should be readily evident in all players.**
  - Selection values of fairness, transparency, independence, respect and integrity which should be evident in the actions of the PI Board of Directors, Team Management and appointed Coaches.**
  
- 3 The Criteria for Selection to represent Ireland at any level across all formats – Singles, Mixed Doubles and Gender Doubles both at Open Age Level and 50 plus is that all player candidates must be,**
  - (a) Holders of either a Republic of Ireland or United Kingdom (only applicable to Northern Ireland born Nationals) passport.**
  - (b) Residents of Northern Ireland/ Republic of Ireland who do not hold a passport in accordance with (i) above, who have resided in Ireland for at least 24 consecutive months prior to selection latest 30th June and that,**
  - (c) All player candidates must be registered with a Club/Group that is a formal member of Pickleball Ireland.**

## **4 Assessment**

### **(a) Performance**

- (i) Significant and high-level performance at PI sanctioned ranking tournaments 2024/2025 – to include the Provincial Championships.**
- (ii) Participation in a minimum of 2 Player Squad Days.**

### **(b) Attitude/Application**

- (i) Sustained and positive attitude to training as well as full engagement with the management team/coach.**
- (ii) Attendance at organised training group sessions and regular contact with team management/coach.**
- (iii) Mannerly and professional to all within PI – the Board, Team Management, Coach, fellow team members and members of the public including within social media.**
- (iv) Competing in the majority of PI sanctioned tournaments referred to in (a)(i) above.**

**Important Note, both (a) and (b) above will be considered by the Selection Panel (see below - section 5, Implementation) when the final team is being selected.**

**Note, that unusual or exceptional circumstances will be considered so that all players are treated fairly even if they have not been able to participate in any of the (a)(i) Sanctioned Tournaments.**

## **5 Implementation**

- (a) A Selection Panel approved by the Board of Pickleball Ireland consisting of the Team Manager, and a minimum of two other PI members.**
- (b) The Selection Panel to be appointed on an annual basis with an effective date being 1st of January each calendar year.**

- (c) The Chair of the Selection Panel will be the Team Manager.**
- (d) A quorum for a meeting is 3 with a minimum of 3 meetings per annum.**
- (e) Consideration for player selection to be based both from a quantitative (results) and qualitative (attitude/application) data so that a balanced and informed judgement can be made on the suitability and timeliness of player selection and participation in the Player Squad.**
- (f) Any candidate under 18 years of age (must be a minimum of 14 years of age on 31st Dec 2025) will be allowed to participate in the Player Squad and will be eligible for selection as described above in item 5 (e), subject to appropriate indemnification and supervision commitment being received in favour of Pickleball Ireland.**

## **6 Selection Appeals Process**

- (a) It is important that a process exists for all players to challenge any selection decision.**
- (b) An appeal must be lodged with the PI Company secretary within 10 days of the selection having been announced.**
- (c) An appeal must be supplemented with**
  - (i) Reason for the appeal**
  - (ii) Supporting overview by the appellant**
  - (iii) Supporting evidence**
  - (iv) Any medical/counselling documentation when the appeal is based on medical or other such circumstances**
  - (v) PI Board to appoint an Appeals Panel within 10 days of receipt of an appeal ensuring no conflict of interest in its formation**