

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA AGE DISPENSATION POLICY

Where considered appropriate, provision can be made for the granting of age dispensation to state and territory teams participating in School Sport Australia Events.

Such dispensation however, shall only be granted where it is considered that it will help develop a sport in any state or territory.

Each School Sport Australia Sports Management Committee must determine the form of age dispensation to be used (e.g. months/years per team, limited number of over age players per team etc).

Sports wishing to implement any form of age dispensation, including those sports which already have age dispensation provisions in their Rules and Guidelines, must follow the procedures outlined below:

1. States or territories wishing to apply for age dispensation must include a request for same on the Sports Management Committee's Post-Event Meeting agenda **at least 60 days prior to the event.**
2. Any request for age dispensation must be accompanied by a **written submission** outlining the rationale behind the request.

(Note: Age dispensation cannot be granted via a motion from the floor of the Sports Management Committee meeting.)

3. Requests for age dispensation, together with the written submission, must be circulated by the National Secretary to all states and territories **at least 30 days prior to the event** for their consideration.
4. Sports Management Committees at their Post-Event meeting shall consider any requests for age dispensation and submit any recommendations for same to the **School Sport Australia Executive Officer for Postal Ballot.**
5. Once approved by the appropriate Management Committee, any age dispensation granted **shall apply from the following year for a maximum of 3 years but shall be subject to an annual self evaluation.**
6. Any state or territory, having been granted age dispensation must provide to the respective Sports Management Committee an **annual written evaluation** outlining any progress in development in that sport and justifying its continuation.

This must be forwarded at least 30 days prior to the event to the National Secretary who shall circulate it to all states and territories.

7. Failure to provide an annual evaluation report shall result in any age dispensation being **discontinued.**
8. **Any state or territory wishing to amend another state or territory's age dispensation must follow procedures 1- 4 (above).**

PRIMARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

- The School Sport Australia Primary Management Committee is responsible for determining the form of any generic age dispensation which may apply to any member body.
- Such age dispensation shall be for a three year period.
- Any member body granted generic age dispensation shall be required to provide an annual self-evaluation to the November meeting of the School Sport Australia Primary Management Committee.
- In School Sport Australia Exchanges, a generic age dispensation shall apply to the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and the Northern Territory (NT) in all team sports.

Note 1: - A generic age dispensation of up to 6 months for all team members has been granted to the ACT for all team sports for 2008-2010

Note 2: - A generic age dispensation of up to 12 months for 30% of team members has been granted to the NT for all team sports for 2008-2010