



National Intermediate Squad (NIS) Selection Criteria

Tagline: Iron sharpens Iron

Set-up

The National Intermediate Squad will be comprised of the top players under the age of 17 years old who have the potential to be selected into the National Team in future. Squad members will have priority to attend training camps or take part in competitions both domestically and overseas.

1. Objectives

- 1.1) To increase the base of competitive players in Singapore and bring them together on a regular basis to spar and spur each other.
- 1.2) To promote healthy competition (cooperate and compete at the same time) by setting clear and fair guide-lines which players and coaches can aim and work hard towards.
- 1.3) To select and prepare players for the major age-group competitions each year such as Asia Youth, Asian Junior and World Junior.

2. Player Requirement

- 2.1) Must be a Singapore citizen or minimally Permanent Residency status*
- 2.2) Commit a minimum of 6 training sessions a week (Representing schools during inter school competitions during the weekdays can be counted) during non-exam period.
- 2.3) Complete a minimum of 2 training sessions a week during exam period.

** Selection criteria will be more stringent for non-citizen.*

3. Duration

Players in the squad will be reviewed before Mid December of that calendar year by the following criteria

- 3.1) Results from the local and international age-group competitions
- 3.2) Training attendance (e.g. 80% on the average except for exams period)
- 3.3) Training attitude (inputs by panel of coaches)

4. Selection criteria for NIS training squad

- 4.1) Quarter-Finalist from U15 and U17 Singles and Doubles in SBA Sanctioned March and June Competitions will be invited for a trial period of at least 1 week with a possibility of extension.
- 4.2) Semi Finalist from U15 and U17 Singles and Doubles in other SBA Sanctioned Competitions will be invited for a trial period of at least 1 week with a possibility of extension.
- 4.3) Panel of SBA coaches will be given 2 to 4 discretionary places to invite players who are not in the Top 8 that are deemed to possess the attributes to be potential National Team players in the future.
- 4.4) Players who were previously in the National Junior Squad (in future) may also be invited.

5. NIS status

- 5.1) NIS status to be accorded after an assessment of 3 months and the players will be assessed by the panel of coaches (include assessment from school coaches) on the following:
 - a) Potential
 - b) Training attitude
 - c) Attendance (80%)
 - d) Conduct in school
- 5.2) Current NIS status can maybe remove if players fail to minimally reach Top 8 in at least 1 SBA sanctioned competitions.
- 5.3) Players that are identified by coaches as potential National Team players but did not attain Top 8 in any of the SBA sanctioned competitions can remain in the NIS training squad if his/her training attitude and attendance are good.
- 5.4) Any NIS players who do not reach Top 8 in any of the SBA sanctioned competition for any event before 1st December of the calendar year can have the NIS status withdrawn but can also remain in the NIS training squad if his/her training attitude is good and the coaches assessed that he/she still has the potential to be a National Team player in future.

5.5) D&S reserve the right to have the final say over the NIS status of players.

6. Training Venue and Days

6.1) OCBC arena (Monday to Friday)

6.2) Singapore Sports School (Saturday)

6.3) Respective Schools (Monday to Thursday)

7. SOP for invitational of players (not inside National Immediately Squad or training squad) that fulfil points 4.1, 4.2 or 4.3

7.1) Letter to be issued immediately to players upon reaching the respective stages of the competition via email.

7.2) Players that have been invited have to reply within 5 working days and can join NIS training at OCBC the following Monday after letter have been issued.

7.3) NIS status can only be accorded to those on trials after at least 3 month of trials, with the option of extending the trial period base on the coaches recommendation.