



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - BYLAWS

TEAMS AND INDIVIDUAL EVENTS FOR
OPEN, U19, U17, U15 & U13

Last Reviewed: December 2024

Effective from: 01 February 2025

Preamble

Badminton Australia (BA) is the national governing body for Badminton in Australia. BA is affiliated with the Badminton World Federation (BWF), Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), Paralympics Australia (PA) and Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA). It is the government recognised peak sporting body for Badminton in Australia by the Australian Government through the Australian Sports Commission (ASC).

The purpose of holding Australian National Championships is to promote and celebrate badminton, align athletes, coaches, and official talent & development pathways, and to be financially sustainable. These bylaws are designed to achieve these principles.

As athletes, coaches and officials participate in Badminton through the different age levels, there will be different approaches to winning and performance relative to athlete development. For younger players in U 13 U15 and U17 there will be a great emphasis on player development whereas U19 and Open age groups are to have a greater emphasis on performance.

These bylaws are underpinned by the BWF General Competition Regulations and are to be read in conjunction with:

- [BWF General Competition Regulations](#)
- [BWF Junior Competition Regulations](#)
- [Badminton Australia Integrity Policies](#)

Where there is a conflict across policies at an operational level concerning the implementation of these policies and these bylaws, the BA CEO is responsible for resolving the issue, and the Policy and/or bylaws reviewed, updated and approved for the future.

This bylaw is designed to:

- Create an atmosphere of equity, excellence, and fair play.
- Optimise safety.
- Provide opportunities for participants to excel.

For the purpose of this document, States & Territories (S/T) refers to the following S/T bodies:

- Badminton Association of Western Australia
- Badminton Victoria
- Badminton New South Wales
- Badminton Tasmania
- Badminton Northern Territories
- Badminton South Australia
- Badminton Australian Capital Territory
- Badminton Queensland

1.0 General Information

- 1.1 Australian National Championships are to be held annually commencing with a Team Event followed by the Individual Event for each championship category.
- 1.2 These By-Laws cover the following championship categories of Open, U19, U17, U15 and U13.
- 1.3 BA will manage, co-ordinate and be financially responsible for each event with operational support wherever possible of the local S/T Badminton organisation and/or club/association.
- 1.4 The naming of the respective Championships are as follows:
 - 1.4.1 The Australian National Championships comprising:
 - a) Open Australian National Team Championship (competing for the Ede Clendinnen Shield)
 - b) Open Australian National Individual Championship
 - 1.4.2 The U19 Australian National Championships comprising:
 - a) U19 Australian National Team Championship (competing for the CP Maddern Trophy)
 - b) U19 Australian National Individual Championship

- 1.4.3 The U17 Australian National Championships comprising:
 - a) U17 Australian National Team Championship (competing for the June Bevan Trophy)
 - b) U17 Australian National Individual Championship
- 1.4.4 The U15 Australian National Championships comprising:
 - a) U15 Australian National Team Championship (competing for the Val Nesbitt Trophy)
 - b) U15 Australian National Individual Championship
- 1.4.5 The U13 Australian National Championships comprising:
 - a) U13 Australian National Team Championship (competing for the Pat Daw Trophy)
 - b) U13 Australian National Individual Championship
- 1.5 The length of both the team and individual events is subject to entries but will not exceed 7 days in total.
- 1.6 The draw format for the team event will be determined by the Event Director and Referee subject to the number of teams entered.
- 1.7 Each S/T can enter a maximum of two teams into the team event.
- 1.8 There must be a minimum of four (4) teams from four (4) different S/T's for the event to be considered an Australian National Team Championship.
- 1.9 When Team formats require 3 sessions to be played in a day, no team is expected to play more than two (2) ties per day.
- 1.10 Players may only represent the S/T they are registered in with the exception of combined S/T teams where a minimum of 50% of the team, or combined Territories team, must be filled with their own players. Substitute players must receive endorsement from their respective S/T to be allowed to join with another S/T. It is the responsibility of the S/T to request endorsement in writing from a player's S/T and advise BA. In the Individual event, the substitute player will compete under their original affiliated S/T.
- 1.11 Team seeding will be based on:
 - 1.11.1 Results from the most recent National Team Championships.
 - 1.11.2 Where a S/T did not compete in the most recent Team Championships, individual rankings of players taken from the Australian National Rankings, or, where determined by BA, other criteria can be added provided those criteria are listed in the event prospectus when determining team seeding.
- 1.12 Individual Events will comprise of the following event disciplines:
 - 1.12.1 For Open & U19
 - Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles (MS, WS, MD, WD, XD)
 - 1.12.2 For U17, U15, & U13
 - Boy's Singles, Girl's Singles, Boy's Doubles, Girl's Doubles, Mixed Doubles (BS, GS, BD, GD, XD)
- 1.13 For the Open, U19, U17, U15 & U13 Individual Events, where events have more than 15 entries, the event is played in a knockout format through to the finals with 1st round losers/2nd round match losers competing in a Consolation event. Players in U19, U17, U15 and U13 are expected to play in Consolation events.

For events with 15 or less entries, the event will be played in a round-robin group format, as determined by the Event Director and Referee, with group winners to proceed to a knock-out stage. There will not be a Consolation event for draws that allow for round-robin matches.

1.14 The time allocated for individual events is subject to the number of entries received. Individual events may start on the day that the team event finishes.

1.15 The Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the Laws of Badminton. The BWF General Competition Regulations will apply wherever possible.

2.0 **ELIGIBILITY**

2.1 All players competing in the Australian National Championships must fulfil the following criteria:

2.1.1 be a citizen, permanent resident, or resident in Australia for a minimum of ~~six (6)~~ 13 months prior to the start of the Open National Championships and a minimum of six (6) months for the U13, U15, U17 and U19 National Junior Championships.

2.1.2 be a current bona fide member of an Association/Club/State/Territory and for an Association/Club that entity be affiliated with the S/T they are representing in Australia.

2.1.3 have made themselves available for selection and fulfilled the selection and eligibility criteria of their S/T for selection to their representative team.

2.1.4 be endorsed of good standing by their S/T to compete in the Championships. Good standing means being a current member of a club/association affiliated to a member S/T, being financial, and not being subject to any current disciplinary proceedings.

Commented [TW1]: As discussed with S/T's and based on 6 out of 8 S/T's being in favour.

2.2 Players over the age of 14 satisfying Clause 2.1 and Clause 2.2 are eligible to compete in the Open category. For Open, U19, U17, U15 and U13, the following age criteria applies:

2.2.1 Open – Players must be above the age of 14 as of the 1st of January in the year of the Championships.

2.2.2 U19 – players must be above the age of 14 as of 1st of January and under the age of 19 years as of the 31st of December in the year of the Championships.

2.2.3 U17 – players must be above the age of 12 as of 1st of January and under the age of 17 years as of the 31st of December in the year of the Championships.

2.2.4 U15 – players must be above the age of 10 as of 1st of January and under the age of 15 years as of the 31st of December in the year of the Championships.

2.2.5 U13 – players must be above the age of 9 as of 1st January and under the age of 13 years as of the 31st of December in the year of the Championships.

2.3 It is a requirement that all appointed S/T team coaches attending the National Championships team event, have at least a BA Foundation Coaching Course qualification, are registered with BA, have a current WWCC or equivalent and are confirmed to be in good standing with their S/T. Good standing means being a current member of a club affiliated to a member S/T, being financial, and not being subject to any current disciplinary proceedings.

3.0 **RIGHTS**

3.1 BA owns all rights and commercial activities, including but not limited to internet, television, radio, sound, moving pictures, players' images, and logos, in connection with the Championships.

3.2 In determining the financial arrangements at each Championships, BA may grant licenses and concessions in respect to such rights, including the direct grant of all or part of such rights as it sees fit.

4.0 **MANAGEMENT & STRUCTURE**

4.1 An Event Director and organising committee shall be appointed by BA. The management of the Championships shall be vested in BA, subject to compliance with these By-Laws, the BWF General Competition Regulations and specific directions by BA. BA will ask the S/T member, where the event is being held, to nominate a person to be on the organising committee.

- 4.2 Appointments will be made as early as possible. BA event staff will consult with the BA Technical Officials Committee (BATOC) in relation to the appointment of the Referee, Deputy Referee, and pool of umpires wherever possible no later than four (4) months prior to the commencement date of the Championships.
- 4.3 BA, in close relation with BATOC and the host S/T, will be responsible for the provision of sufficient umpires for both the team and individual events. The costs associated with the pool of umpires, shall be equalised across all teams.
- 4.4 The Referee shall be the sole judge of competition matters relating to these By-Laws and the BWF General Competition Regulations.
- 4.5 Team and Individual entry fees shall be set by BA. These fees shall be inclusive of GST and paid in \$AUD.
- 4.6 Individual and Team entry fees shall be advised by BA in the prospectus for that event.
- 4.7 BA will determine the brand of shuttles and other equipment to be used prior to the commencement of the Championships. Two speeds of approved shuttles may be available during competition.
- 4.8 Prior to the commencement of the Championships the Referee will organise two meetings:
- a) Team Managers Meeting
 - b) Court Officials Briefing
- 4.9 The Teams and Individual draws will be conducted by Badminton Australia and approved by the Referee.

5.0 TEAM FORMAT

5.1 Open Team

- 5.1.1 Each tie shall comprise of 8 matches two (2) each of men's and women's singles, one (1) each of men's doubles and women's doubles and two (2) mixed doubles. The winner of a tie resulting in 4-4 matches at the end of play will be determined as per schedule 1.
- 5.1.2 Each team must consist of a minimum of three (3) men and three (3) women with a maximum of five (5) men and five (5) women. The final names of all players shall be submitted to BA no later than three (3) weeks before the commencement of the Championships.
- 5.1.3 Players may play no more than two matches within the same tie but cannot be in the same discipline.
- 5.1.4 The order of play for all ties shall be fixed as per the following; Mixed Doubles 1 & 2, followed by Men's Singles & Women's Singles 1, followed by Men's Singles & Women's Singles 2, Followed by Men's Doubles & Women's Doubles unless both team managers agree to change the order of play and have received approval from the referee. Minimum rest time for players competing in two (2) disciplines is 30 minutes.
- 5.1.5 Each team is required to submit its team ranking lists electronically, on a template provided by BA, at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the Championships. The team ranking should follow the Australian National Rankings or should include documented evidence of why the team ranking does not follow the Australian National Rankings. The Referee may have the ranking lists approved for correct ranking order by the BA National Selectors.
- 5.1.6 An electronic copy of all approved team lists, with their players in ranked order for singles and all possible ranked combinations for mixed doubles, shall be distributed to all team managers at least 7 days prior to the commencement of the Championships. If a team is required to make a last-minute change to their ranking list, they are to submit the change as soon as possible to the Event Director and Referee. Alterations may be accepted by the Referee; however, reference may be made to the BA National Selectors to confirm any change to the rankings.

Commented [TW2]: As discussed with S/T's and based on 6 out of 8 S/T's being in favour and over 62% of survey respondents being in favour.

Commented [TW3]: As per feedback from S/T's with 6 out of 8 S/T's in favour.

Commented [TW4]: Feedback from S/T's regarding the playing out of all matches in a tie for the Open age group suggests that ties should finish in the knock-out stage once a team has won a minimum of 5 matches. This is further supported by survey feedback where 55% of surveyed people are in favour of stopping a tie when a team has won 5 matches in the knock-out stage.

- 5.1.7 Following approval by the Referee, any amended ranking list will be promptly advised in person and distributed in writing to all team managers.
- 5.1.8 Any team unable to field the minimum number of Men and/or Women in any one tie must move their players up the ranking order, leaving the lower ranked position vacant.
- 5.1.9 The Referee shall determine the appropriate time for team lists to be submitted prior to each tie on the form supplied. Where two ties are played in one day teams to be given at least until 15 mins wherever possible after the completion of the earlier tie for their team list to be submitted for the next tie.
- 5.1.10 All injury, substitutions, forfeited matches and re-submission of Team listing shall be subject to the approval of the Referee.
- 5.1.11 Each S/T shall have a Manager. For the Open Championships, the Manager can occupy this role while also being a playing member, or a coach. No person can be a coach, team manager and player.
- 5.1.12 All team officials must have a valid Working With Children Check (WWCC) – valid Working with vulnerable people check, or equivalent.
- 5.1.13 The team, including athletes, coaches, and team manager, winning the Championship shall be named the Australian National Champions and be presented with the Ede Clendinnen Shield. Medallions shall be provided by BA to the team members for the First, Second and Third Place Winners. Other medallions may be presented at the discretion of Badminton Australia.

5.2 U13/U15/U17/U19 Team

- 5.2.1 Each tie shall comprise of 8 matches of two (2) each of Men's/Boy's and Women's/Girl's Singles, one (1) each of Men's/Boy's Doubles and Women's/Girl's Doubles and two (2) Mixed Doubles. The winner of a tie resulting in 4-4 matches at the end of play will be determined as per schedule 1.
- 5.2.2 Each team must consist of a minimum of three (3) males and three (3) females with a maximum of five (5) males and five (5) females. The names of all players shall be submitted to BA no later than three (3) weeks before the commencement of the Championships.
- 5.2.3 Players may play no more than two matches within the same tie but cannot be in the same discipline.
- 5.2.4 The order of play for all ties shall be fixed as per the following; Mixed Doubles 1 & 2, followed by Men's/Boy's Singles & Women's/Girls Singles 1, followed by Men's/Boy's Singles & Women's/Girl's Singles 2, Followed by Men's/Boy's Doubles & Women's/Girl's Doubles unless both team managers agree to change the order of play and have received approval from the referee Minimum rest time for players competing in two (2) disciplines is 30 minutes.
- 5.2.5 In the U13/U15, all eight (8) matches in each tie need to be completed in both the group and knock-out stages with the exception of the Gold Medal final where the tie will finish once a team has won a minimum of five (5) matches.
- 5.2.6 In the U17/U19, all eight (8) matches in each tie need to be completed in the group stage. In the knock-out stage, once a team has won a minimum of five (5) matches, the tie will finish unless both team managers agree to play out the remaining matches with the exception of the Gold Medal final where the tie will finish once a team has won a minimum of five (5) matches.

Commented [TW5]: As per feedback from S/T's with 6 out of 8 S/T's in favour.

Commented [TW6]: As per feedback from S/T's. All 8 S/T's in favour of playing out all matches in the U13/U15 and this being optional in the U17/U19.

- 5.2.7 Each team is required to submit its team ranking lists electronically, on a template provided by BA, at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the Championships. The team ranking should follow the Australian National Rankings or should include documented evidence of why the team ranking does not follow the Australian National Rankings. The Referee may have the ranking lists approved for correct ranking order by the BA National Selectors.
- 5.2.8 An electronic copy of all approved team lists, with their players in ranked order for singles and all possible ranked combinations for mixed doubles, shall be distributed to all team managers at least 7 days prior to the commencement of the Championships. If a team is required to make a last-minute change to their ranking list, they are to submit the change as soon as possible to the Event Director and Referee. Alterations may be accepted by the Referee; however, reference may be made to the BA National Selectors to confirm any change to the rankings.
- 5.2.9 Following approval by the Referee, any amended ranking list will be promptly advised in person and distributed in writing to all team managers.
- 5.2.10 Any team unable to field the minimum number of boys and/or girls in any one tie must move their players up the ranking order, leaving the lower ranked position vacant.
- 5.2.11 The Referee shall determine the appropriate time for team lists to be submitted prior to each tie on the form supplied. Where two ties are played in one day teams be given at least 15 mins wherever possible after the completion of the earlier tie for their team list to be submitted for the next tie.
- 5.2.12 All injury, substitutions, forfeited matches and re-submission of Team listing shall be subject to the approval of the Referee.
- 5.2.13 All teams shall be accompanied by a non-playing team manager who is at least eighteen years of age, and will be the responsible point of contact for the team throughout the Team Championships
- 5.2.14 All team officials must have a valid Working With Children Check (WWCC) – valid Working with vulnerable people check, or equivalent.
- 5.2.15 The team, including athletes, coaches, and team manager, winning the different age groups Championships shall be named the:
- 5.2.15.1 U19 Australian National Champions and be presented with the C.P. Maddern Trophy. Medallions shall be provided by BA to the team members for the First, Second and Third Place Winners. Other medallions may be presented at the discretion of BA.
 - 5.2.15.2 U17 Australian National Champions and be presented with the June Bevan Trophy. Medallions shall be provided by BA to the team members for the First, Second and Third Place Winners. Other medallions may be presented at the discretion of BA.
 - 5.2.15.3 U15 Australian National Champions and be presented with the Val Nesbitt Trophy. Medallions shall be provided by BA to the team members for the First, Second and Third Place Winners. Other medallions may be presented at the discretion of BA.
 - 5.2.15.4 U13 Australian National Champions and be presented with the U13 Pat Daw Trophy. Medallions shall be provided by BA to the team members for the First, Second and Third Place Winners. Other medallions may be presented at the discretion of BA.

5.3 U15/U17 ADDENDUM

5.3.1 It is highly recommended that where a child is 12 years or younger but competing in the U15 and/or U17 age group, that a parent or guardian travels and stays with each individual child for the duration of the Championships (team & individual events). Where a parent/guardian is unable to travel with their child(ren), States and Territories should ensure that permission in writing has been provided by a parent/guardian for their child(ren) to travel and stay with another adult.

5.4 U13 ADDENDUM

5.4.1 It is highly recommended that a parent or guardian travels and stays with each individual child for the duration of the Championships (team & individual events). Where a parent/guardian is unable to travel with their child(ren), States and Territories should ensure that permission in writing has been provided by a parent/guardian for their child(ren) to travel and stay with another adult.

5.4.2 It is highly recommended that U13 teams do not stay together as a team in any type of shared accommodation, the recommendation is for players and parents/guardians to travel and stay together individually. Where a state or territory does decide to stay together as a team, clause 2.9 of Annexure B of the BA National Integrity Framework Child Safeguarding Policy should be observed at all times. The policy can be accessed via <https://www.Badminton.org.au/integrity-resources/>.

5.4.3 For all U13 matches in both team events and individual events there is to be no courtside coaching during play. Coaching can only occur at the end of each game. (No coaching in between points and during the 11-point interval).

6.0 INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS EVENT FORMAT

6.1 The Individual Championships Event format is described in Clauses 1.11 - 1.13.

6.2 Closing date for individual entries is 21 days prior to the individual event commencing.

6.3 Seeding for all Individual Championships will be based on the BA National Rankings as at 14 days prior to the individual event commencing. The draw for the individual events will be released up to 7 days prior to the commencement of the individual championships.

6.4 A minimum of 6 entries are required for the event to be classified as a National Individual Championship.

6.5 It is a requirement from and including 2024 that all coaches attending the National Championships Individuals have at least a BA Foundation Coaching Course qualification, are registered with BA, have a current WWCC or equivalent and are confirmed to be in good standing with their State/Territory.

Good standing means being a current member of a club/association affiliated to a member S/T, being financial, and not being subject to any current disciplinary proceedings.

7.0 Parents wanting to coach their own child(ren) during the National Championships Individuals, need to have completed the Badminton Australia Foundation Course online component prior to the commencement of the championships and confirmed to be in good standing with their State/Territory. Good standing means being a current member of a club/association affiliated to a member S/T, being financial, and not being subject to any current disciplinary proceedings.

DRESS CODE

7.1 Players shall be dressed in Badminton attire that conforms with the rules of the BWF competition regulations (clothing sections 20-24).

7.2 Each player from the same team must wear similar colour and design of shirts, with their S/T name on the back, and must wear shorts (or equivalent articles of clothing) throughout a Team Championship tie.

Commented [TW7]: After 2 years of pilot, all S/T's are in favour of keeping this regulation in the By-Laws. Additionally, 56% of surveyed people support the rule with 34% against and 10% unsure.

8.0 TROPHIES AND MEDALS

- 8.1 For Team Championships, BA shall provide medals/trophies for presentation to the players, manager, and coach of the top three placed teams. Badminton Australia, at its discretion, may provide medallions for other players, coaches, and court officials.
- 8.2 For the Individual Championships, BA will provide medals/trophies and prize monies (where applicable) to 1st, 2nd and losing semi-finalists.
- 8.3 In addition to clause 8.1 and 8.2, perpetual trophies/medals will be awarded to all winning Teams and Individual champions. BA is responsible for engraving the winner's details.

9.0 SPORTSPERSON OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS AWARD

- 9.1 The Referee, Event Director and up to two others approved by BA will award a Sportsperson Trophy to one player at each of the National Championships who has competed in both the Team and Individual events and is based on the following merits:

- leadership
- teamwork
- fairness
- respect

- 9.2 The following sporting trophies awarded at each of the Australian National Championships are:

- | | | | |
|-------|----------|---|------------------------------------|
| 9.2.1 | For Open | - | Cliff Cutt Memorial Trophy |
| 9.2.2 | For U19 | - | Joy Twining Memorial Trophy |
| 9.2.3 | For U17 | - | Val Nesbitt Sporting Trophy |
| 9.2.4 | For U15 | - | Ross and Jan Synot Sporting Trophy |
| 9.2.5 | For U13 | - | Rhonda Cator Sporting Trophy |

10.0 REPORTING

- 10.1 The Event Director and Referee are required to provide separate written reports to BA within 30 days following the completion of the Championships. A template for the report is available from BA. Such a report should identify any insights and areas for development regarding the conduct and organising of the event.

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**SCHEDULE 1
TEAM & INDIVIDUAL RANKING**

1.0 TEAM & INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (For Open, U19, U17, U15 & U13 Events)

1.1 In the Group stage, Team & Individual Rankings will be determined by BWF Regulations.

1.2 In the Knockout stage, when the total number of matches between the two competing teams are tied, the winner of the tie will be determined as follows:

1. The difference between total games won and total games lost. The team with the greater difference in games is declared the winner.
2. If 1 above results in a tie, then the difference between total points won and total points lost will be calculated. The team with the greater difference in points is declared the winner.
3. If 1 & 2 above still result in a tie, then the winner is decided by the result of the tie between the two teams during the round robin stage.
4. If 1, 2 & 3 above is unable to produce a winner, then the winner is decided by the combined result of the 1st MS, 1st WS, MD, WD, and 1st XD in the knockout stage tie.

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