**TENNIS ASSOCIATION OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO**

**JUNIOR SELECTION POLICY**

  **1. The Aim of this Selection Policy**

 The aim of this policy is to set out the process for the selection of TATT Junior

 teams, squads and players to represent Trinidad & Tobago at a range of

 national and international events, including eligibility for selection for

 wildcards and designated places at ITF events.

 **2. Application of this Selection Policy**

 2.1. This policy is issued by the Council of TATT

 2.2. This policy shall take effect from January 1st 2012 and will apply to the selection of

 the Junior teams, squads and players to represent Trinidad & Tobago at a range of

 national and international events, including eligibility for selection for wildcards

 and designated places at ITF events.

 2.3. This policy applies to all members of TATT wishing to be considered for selection to

 Trinidad & Tobago Junior Teams and squads and those wishing to represent

 Trinidad & Tobago at a range of 18 and under national and international events,

 including selection for wildcards and designated places at ITF events.

 **3. Selection Committee**

 3.1. The Selection Committee will consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of

 five members and will be appointed for a two year term with a review after 1 year.

 3.2. The Selection Committee will be appointed by the Council of the TATT. The

 Chairperson of the Committee will be appointed by the members of the Selection

 Committee

 3.3. The Chairperson may direct any member of the Selection Committee to vacate the

 Committee for such period as is considered appropriate where it is considered, in

 the discretion of the Chairperson, that the member has an association with a

 player which may give rise to a question of bias or conflict of interest in the

 selection process.

 3.4. Where any selector advises the Chairperson that he considers he is unable to meet

 his responsibilities as a selector, the Chairperson will appoint a replacement

 upon approval by the Council to assume that selector’s role on the Committee.

 **4. Eligibility for Selection**

 4.1. To be eligible for selection under this policy for TT Junior Team selection all players

 must meet the following criteria:

 (a) ITF age eligibility rules must be met for ITF competitions.

 (b) Players must be nationals of Trinidad & Tobago and holders of a valid passport at

 the time of selection. Such players must conform to the ITF Junior Circuit

 regulations regarding qualification of a player to represent a country

 (c) Players must compete in their age-group National Championships within the year

 in which selection is being considered unless granted an exemption by the

 Committee.

 4.2. To be eligible for selection under this policy, for places and/or wildcards into ITF

 Closed Tournaments and other individual international tournaments all players

 must meet the following criteria:

 (a) ITF age eligibility rules must be met for ITF competitions.

 (b) Players must meet the eligibility criteria and conditions of the tournament for which

 selection is being made.

(c) Players must compete in their age-group in National Championships within the year in that selection is being considered unless granted an exemption by the committee.

 4.3. Subject to the right of appeal set out in clause 9, the decision of the Selection

Committee in selecting the players which are ratified by the TATT Executive shall be final.

4.4. The selection panel will determine selection for the Junior Teams by dates which have been determined in consultation with the TATT Executive.

 4.5 Where specific criteria are set for eligibility of players by other bodies e.g. Beep Test

 by TTOC, such criteria shall apply.

 **5. Criteria for Junior Team Selection**

 5. The Selection Committee will consider the following factors in selecting players for

 TATT Junior Teams to compete in national and international team events as follows:

 (a) Tournament performances in the past 12 months. Performances and results from the

 following tournaments will be taken into account:

 (i) ITF tournaments

 (ii) Performance and results on all national team tours

 (iii) TATT sanctioned Junior Tournaments

 (iv) Other National and International events

 (b) ATP or WTA Rankings, ITF rankings, TATT Rankings

 (c) Performance in Singles and Doubles

 (d) Head to head results in the past 6 months

 (e) Team requirements in respect to discipline, positive attitude, fitness, conditioning,

 commitment and teamwork

 (f) Teams are ambassadors for Trinidad & Tobago and are expected to behave in an

 exemplary fashion. Each player's ability to meet and maintain this standard and

 comply with the “rules of tennis”, the Policies of TATT and the TATT Code of Conduct;

 5.2. The Selection Committee may consider such further matters which it considers

 relevant to its selection decision under this policy.

 5.3. The Selection Committee may decide in its discretion to take account of any

 exceptional circumstances which may have resulted in a player’s performance being

 adversely affected. The existence of exceptional circumstances will be for the

 selectors to determine. Exceptional circumstances will usually relate to the personal

 circumstances or fitness of the player, which have significantly affected the player’s

 performance.

 5.4. The various factors set out in clauses 5.1 to 5.3 will be considered by the Committee

 by using their experience and expertise in selecting individuals to form a team which,

 in their opinion, best fulfills the aim of achieving the objectives for that team. The

 selectors will weigh and consider the various factors as they think fit.

5.5 Players must be a participant in the National Development Program unless exempted by the Committee

 5.6 Whenever there are more than one player in contention for a position on a team,

 the Selection Committee in its discretion may arrange playoff matches to assist in

 determination of selection. Such playoffs will be supervised by the Selection

 Committee and must be held at such time as to allow the selection process to

 be undertaken as stated in this policy.

 **6 Selection for Tennis TT National Squads**

 6.1. The Selection Committee will consider the following factors when selecting players

 for TATT National Squads as follows:

 (a) Criteria as outlined in Clause 5.

 (b) The Selection Committee may select players to National Squads for development

 reasons

 **7. Notification of Selection**

 7.1. When the Selection Committee has selected the players, the Chairperson shall advise

 the TATT Executive of the names of the selected players with detailed justification and if found necessary in cases of contention, the TATT Executive may meet with the Chairperson to review the justifications in order to ratify and confirm selections

 7.2. Players shall be notified by the TATT Executive that they have been selected as soon

 as practicable after the Selection Committee has made its decision and at least one

 month prior to the event .

 7.3. Any public announcement of any selections will be made by the TATT Executive

 8. **Appeal**

 8.1. A player may appeal against his or her selection or non-selection to a TATT Junior

 team. The appeal shall be to the TATT Executive. There shall be no further right to

 appeal. The appeal must be lodged within 5 days of the notification of the selection

 by the TATT Executive.

 8.2. All time limits for appeals are mandatory and there shall be no right of appeal if an

 appeal is not brought within the time limits.

 **9. Removal/Withdrawal from Selection**

 9.1. If a player is selected to a Junior Team under this policy the player acknowledges and

 agrees that:

 (a) The TATT Junior Teams Player Agreement immediately comes into full force and

 effect;

 (b) He or she may be subject to drug testing by any recognized drug testing authority,

 and shall comply with the TATT Doping Policy; and

(c) He or she must maintain a designated level of fitness and standard of competitiveness

 prior to the tournament for which he/she has been selected as set out in the Tennis

 TT Player Agreement.

 **9.2. A selected player may be withdrawn from the Selected Team if he/she:**

 (a) Breaches any of the provisions of 9.1;

 (b) Breaches or fails to comply with the Constitution or any other applicable official

 policies or regulations.

 (c) Brings the Team, another selected player, an official, TATT or the sport of tennis into

 disrepute; or

 (d) Has an illness, injury or medical condition which in the Selection Committee’s opinion

 prevents the player from continuing to meet the criteria for selection or which poses

 a threat to any member of the team

 9.3. Before withdrawing a player under clause 9.2, the TATT Executive and/or Selection

 Committee shall notify the player in writing of the alleged breach or grounds for the

 withdrawal.

 9.4. A selected player may withdraw from selection by giving notice in writing to the

 TATT Executive, giving a valid reason as soon as practical once the situation causing

 the withdrawal arises.

 9.5. If a selected player is withdrawn from selection, the Selection Committee may

 consider another player who in their opinion meets the criteria set out in this

 regulation.

 **10. Changes to this Policy**

 10.1. The Council of TATT may change this policy from time to time in accordance with the

 Tennis TT constitution provided that it shall provide at least one month’s notice of

 such change to all affected players and members of Tennis TT.

September, 2011