



PRETORIA BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

SELECTION POLICY FOR SPORTS TEAMS AT PRETORIA BOYS HIGH

Principles of selection

1. Boys will be selected for sports teams on merit.
2. Expectations from each player and the team will be clearly given by the coach of the team.
3. If a player is dropped from a team he may not be dropped by more than one team in a week (ie between major fixtures)
4. Clear reasons must be given to a player who has been dropped. The player should have been informed before being dropped that his place was in jeopardy and what he needs to do in order to keep his position in the team.
5. If a boy has been seriously injured, he must have medical clearance before resuming his sport.
6. Any boy returning from injury where he has missed a match should be considered for the team he last played for. If he is not selected to that team, he should start no lower than the team below. If the injury has kept him out of action for a lengthy period of time, he should start in the team below – ie he should not immediately go back to his previous team unless exceptional circumstances exist.
7. Any boy returning from Bush School should not be disadvantaged by his being away on a school-sanctioned activity that is compulsory for Form II boys.

Age groups in the sports offered at the school

Athletics	one team with age group divisions
Basketball	Open, U16, , U15, U14
Cricket	Open, U15, U14
Climbing	Open
Cross Country	Open, U15
Fencing	Open
Golf	Open
Hockey	Open, U16, U14

Rugby	Open, U16, U15, U14
Squash	Open, U16, U14
Swimming	one team with age group divisions that swims as A, B and C teams depending on the gala
Table Tennis	Open
Tennis	Open, U15
Water Polo	Open, U16, U15, U14

Definition of age groups

U14	Any boy who turns 14 between 1 January and 31 December (both dates included) in the year under consideration
U15	Any boy who turns 15 between 1 January and 31 December (both dates included) in the year under consideration
U16	Any boy who turns 16 between 1 January and 31 December (both dates included) in the year under consideration
Open	Any boy older than older than 16 on 1 January in the year under consideration.

Boys who are U19, ie 18 years old before 1 January, may play in the Open category but may be required to be disclosed to the sporting code's authorities

Boys who are U20 must receive special dispensation from the Headmaster to play sport for the school.

Boys who are U13 must play in the U14 age category.

Boys must play in their age group irrespective of their Form at school.

Playing out of age group in limited contact sport or sport with only one team

Climbing	Boys may compete in the team irrespective of their age
Fencing	Boys may compete in the team irrespective of their age
Golf	Boys may compete in the team irrespective of their age
Table Tennis	Boys may compete in the team irrespective of their age
Athletics	Boys to compete in their age groups unless chosen, based on performance, to compete in a higher age group event

Swimming	Boys to compete in their age groups unless chosen, based on performance, to compete in a higher age group event
Cross Country	U13, U14 and U15 boys compete in the Junior division. All other boys compete in the Open division
Squash	U13, U14 boys compete in the U14 division. U15 and U16 boys compete in the U16 division. All other boys compete in the Open division
Tennis	U13, U14 and U15 boys compete in the Junior division. All other boys compete in the Open division

(In these three sports it is required to motivate why a junior player should be playing in an Open team)

Playing out of age group in contact sports or sports with large numbers of players

This applies to the sports of Basketball, Cricket, Hockey, Rugby and Water Polo

A committee comprising the Director of Sport, a nominated Deputy, the MIC of the sport concerned and the coach will discuss any deviation from the age group rules above. The Director of Sport has the casting vote if required.

Appeal against a decision may be lodged with the Headmaster whose decision is final.

The following principles will apply:

1. This policy applies for selection of U13, U14, U15 and U16 players to Open teams only. An U14 boy may not play U15 for example, irrespective of his Form at school.
2. At all times, the best educational interests of the boys will be borne in mind.
3. Any junior boy must be the best player in the school in his position to be considered for selection to an Open team. He must be in the "starting team" if reserves are part of team selection.
4. The junior boy must be able to cope with the emotional pressure of playing 1st team sport. Advice may be sought by the committee from the boy's Housemaster or the School Counsellors.
5. Careful consideration must be given to the senior boy whose place the junior boy may be competing for. If the players are equal in ability, preference must be given to the senior boy for the position.
6. If an under-age player, selected for an Open team is dropped, he returns to his age group.

Specific comments on the above

1. Any boy who is U16 or under should not play in the 1st Rugby team for safety's sake. In exceptional circumstances, this may be considered but, due to the nature of the game, extreme caution must be taken.
2. An U15 boy may be considered for the 1st team in Cricket as there is no U16 age group and due to the nature of the game. No other of these five sports where physical strength is a key component of the game may consider U15 players for a 1st team.

A D REELER
HEADMASTER

M HOUSDON
DIRECTOR OF SPORT