

REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION GUIDE



BACKGROUND & HISTORY

AWFA has administered a successful Representative program since 1974, with teams ranging from U11 to U16. These teams have over 250 participants who are selected throughout a trialing process held during October and November each year.

Our Representative Program offers an opportunity for players to gain access to further pathways to continue their footballing journey, as well as having access to the best coaching and development in the Albury-Wodonga area.

Our teams attend several tournaments throughout NSW and Victoria, including but not limited to tournaments in Bathurst, Geelong and Shepparton. This provides an opportunity for our partners to gain awareness and promotion across the most populated area in Australia. With the improvement of facilities in Albury-Wodonga, including the Baranduda Fields that are due to be completed in 2024, we expect that we will play host to more of these tournaments in the coming years.

As part of our Representative program, we hold our annual Representative Dinner, an opportunity for our players and their families to be part of our community and celebrate the successes of the Representative year.

In recent years, we have looked to sponsorship to help subsidise the program so that all players enter on a level playing field. This saw us introduce new uniforms included in the price at no additional cost to families.

KEY PARTNERS



ELIGIBILITY

Players

In order to be selected for an AWFA Representative squad:

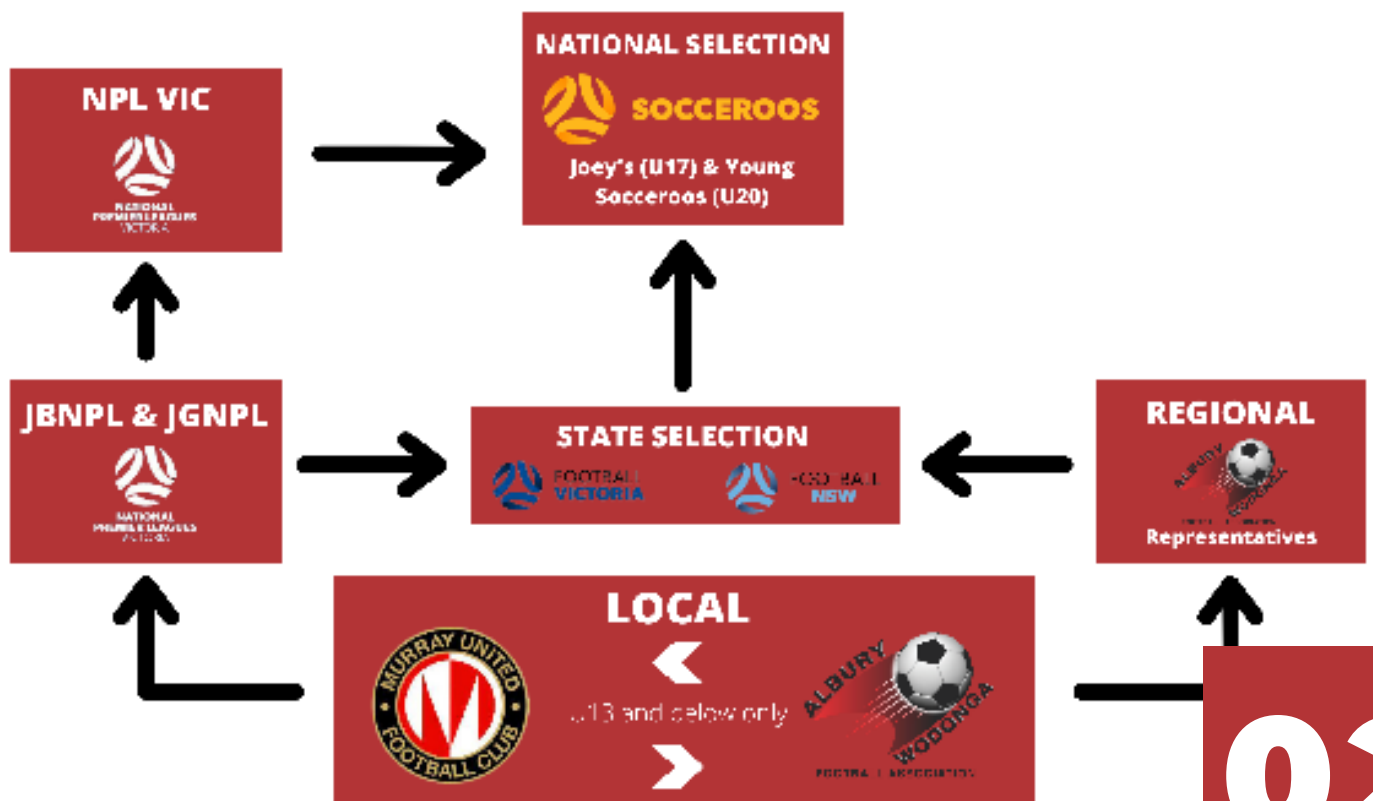
- A player **MUST** be registered to an AWFA-affiliated club for the season in which they are playing.
- Each player must be registered under the age group specified on 1st January of the year in which they are playing
- A player **MUST** play in their age group unless special exemption is granted by AWFA Executive Committee.

Coaches and Managers

In order to be selected to coach/manage an AWFA Representative squad:

- A coach & manager **MUST** have a valid NSW Working With Children Check
- A coach **MUST** have valid FA/FNSW coaching qualifications.

PATHWAYS



PLAYER SELECTION POLICY

Prior to the beginning of the Representative season (December onwards), each Representative team will hold trials throughout October. These trials will take place over two weekends, and comprise of training and games. At the completion, the coaches, in conjunction with their selected panellists, will select a squad of 16 players apart from U10's to U12's who will select 14 players due to 9 v 9 concept for the upcoming representative season.

It is up to the individual coach's discretion to select their squad of sixteen players. It is also up to the coach and their selected panel who is selected and for what reason/s.

The coach will then notify the High Performance Executive Committee Member of the squad's members within 3 days of the last training session.

High Performance will notify the Secretary of AWFA and/or the Association Administrator within 48 hours of having received the team list from each coach. The team lists will be displayed on the AWFA website and via social media within 72 hours of being notified.

Players Requirements

Once team has been published players are expected to acknowledge acceptance of position by informing Coach and via link register and pay \$100 acceptance fee which will be deducted from their final representative fee.

All players are encouraged to attend all sessions. Any players that are unavailable will need to provide written advice as to their unavailability i.e., injured, medical certificate, family reasons, training or playing at a higher level.

Failure to communicate your absence may jeopardise your selection in an AWFA Representative team.



PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

- Follow and abide by the Representative Player Code of Conduct

Player Policies (as per AWFA Rules and Regulations 2.7)

- 6.4.2 Every player registered with an AWFA club is encouraged to make themselves available for selection in representative teams.
- 6.4.3 Any player who is not registered with AWFA cannot play in any championships or competitions in which the team is entered.
- 6.4.4 Any player who does not attend training or matches to the best of their ability may jeopardize their position in the squad. This will be at the discretion of the coach following consultation with the EC.
- 6.4.5 Any player who after notification of their selection fails to meet their representative commitments shall be suspended for no less than two club matches.
- 6.4.6 Representative players wishing to move from one club to another club may do so only after lodging a form 31 and getting the approval of the AWFA Executive Committee and so long as their movement does not result in that club having more than five representative players from the current representative program in a single representative team. This includes train on, below age and development players. U12's only four representative players are permitted from the current representative program in a single team. This includes train on, below age and development players.
- 6.4.7 No REPRESENTATIVE player is allowed to move to a club and team of representative coach who is coaching the equivalent team at representative level.

Disciplinary Policies

- 6.7.1 Any player or club being found guilty of acting against or not abiding by these Regulations shall be guilty of an offence and subject to any penalty the EC, MC or DC shall decide.
- 6.7.2 Any incident or send off reports sent to the AWFA from a representative tournament competition organiser will be handled by the AWFA DC.

COACH & MANAGER EXPECTATIONS

Coaches

- Provide high quality coaching and training for their squad
- Prepare players for competitions/tournaments
- Conduct appropriate quality football activities to enhance the players' experience within the Representative Program
- Create a fair and inclusive environment
- Sign and return applicable forms

Managers

- Ensure that all players are dressed appropriately for matches & training
- Ensure successful management of the team
- Ensure welfare of the players in their care
- Ensure off-field matters are dealt with efficiently and effectively
- Provide support to the coach and support staff
- Sign and return applicable forms

Coaches and Managers Policies

- 6.3.1 All representative coaches and managers shall have a current NSW Working with Children Checks
- 6.3.2 All representative coaches and managers must complete registration in accordance with 4.25. (Registration)
- 6.3.3 No coach shall be permitted to move to a club to coach in the equivalent age group which they are the representative coach.



PLAYER FEE BREAKDOWN



WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE UNIFORM?

Included in your registration fee is a uniform pack for each player. New players to the program receive:

- A playing strip (shirt and shorts)
- A training kit (shirt)
- 2 pairs of socks
- An AWFA Representative Polo
- An AWFA Representative Tracksuit Jacket & Pants
- An AWFA Representative bag.

Existing players will receive a playing strip, training kit (shirt) & 2 pairs of socks each season. Train ons will receive a training kit and 2 pairs of socks.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR PLAYERS?

Registering to play Representatives presents many benefits for players and their families. These include, but are not limited to:

- Access to high-quality coaching (TSP Programs)
- Access to scouting and accelerated progression through the footballing pathways
- Increased training & developmental sessions
- Exposure to higher level of competition at tournaments throughout NSW and Victoria
- Potential selection to state and national-level representative teams
- Family-friendly community
- Make new friends with players & families they wouldn't normally play with.



REPRESENTATIVE CALENDAR & TOURNAMENTS

AWFA require teams to minimally attend the following tournaments for each corresponding age group. It is up to the coaches and managers of each team’s discretion if they wish to enter tournaments outside of the following. **Coaches and managers MUST notify AWFA High Performance if they wish to enter a tournament outside of the following. They must also notify players well in advance their intentions.**

- AWFA Activities
- FV Competitions
- FNSW Competitions
- FNSW Riverina Competitions

REPRESENTATIVE CALENDAR

U10 Boys	Representative Trials		Selections			AWFA Junior & Senior Season						
						Boys & Girls FC		Branch Champs	Vic Country			
U11 & U12 BOYS	Representative Trials		Selections			AWFA Junior & Senior Season						
						Boys & Girls FC		Branch Champs	VIC Country			
U12 GIRLS	Representative Trials		Selections		Proctor Cup	AWFA Junior & Senior Season						
						Boys & Girls FC		Branch Champs	VIC Country			
U13 & U14 BOYS	Representative Trials		Selections		Bathurst Cup	AWFA Junior & Senior Season						
								Branch Champs	VIC Country			
U14 & U16 GIRLS	Representative Trials		Selections		Proctor Cup	AWFA Junior & Senior Season						
								Branch Champs	VIC Country			
U15 & U16 BOYS	Representative Trials		Selections		Bathurst Cup	AWFA Junior & Senior Season						
									VIC Country			
	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September

These are **approximate dates** and are open to change depending on the organiser’s discretion. Any tournaments that the AWFA Representative decide to enter beyond the above will be up to the discretion of a team and their availability. All Representative players must make themselves available for each Representative commitment to the best of their ability.

AFTER SELECTION

Team selections will be announced shortly after the conclusion of all Representative team trials. These teams will be announced via social media and our website www.awfa.asn.au.

Players can also be selected as a 'Train-On' player, you are still involved with the representative team you trialled for, however you will act as a 'reserve' for tournaments and games. Train-ons will receive a training kit and socks. Any additional gear can be purchased at player's expense.

If a selected member of the Representative team cannot fulfill their commitments, or wishes to not be involved in the team, these players will be the next selected (at the discretion of the coach).

Your coach and team manager will be in contact shortly after the team selections are announced to inform you of the next steps. This includes all forms to be signed and returned, information on training and communications, uniform requirements, and registrations.

The registration fee will be paid in installments. A deposit of \$100.00 upon accepting of selection is required, and the following balance is due in late January/early February - prior to uniforms being delivered before the first tournament of the Representative calendar. Players will register as they do with their AWFA club, through PlayFootball, selecting AWFA Representative as the club - you are able to use Active Kids vouchers to register. A link with packages will be sent out via the manager



TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION

Travelling and booking of accommodation if/when required for tournaments throughout NSW, Victoria and the ACT is the responsibility of the individual i.e. a player and their family/guardian, a coach, a manager, a volunteer.

AWFA may subsidise travel for those who transport AWFA equipment to and from tournaments – this is up to the discretion of the Executive Committee.

FUNDRAISING

AWFA must be notified of any proposed fundraising prior to it occurring. All funds raised by representative teams shall be solely that team's cash flow for the time of their participation. Any residue must be forwarded to AWFA together with a financial statement at the completion of participation.

PHOTOGRAPHY

During the course of the season, a player may be photographed, or video recorded during the game or at an event, either individually or as a part of a larger group. That photograph or image may then be published, with identifying information, via the AWFA website or social media channels. **Please inform your Team Manager that you wish to opt your child/s out of these photos.**



FAQ'S

How do I know when and where training is?

Your team manager will contact you via your nominated contact information and ensure that you and your child knows where and when training is, and that you have access to the team communications for further updates where required.

What if my child/s cannot attend training/a match/a tournament?

Inform your team manager of the lack of availability and the next steps will follow.

What if my child/s circumstances change and have to withdraw from a team?

Please inform your team manager, who will inform the coach and the High Performance Executive Committee Member. The High Performance EC member will then inform you of next steps if required.

If I have an issue with any matter, who do I speak to?

Inform your team manager who will speak to whoever deemed appropriate and take the appropriate actions.

I cannot afford the registration fees – what are my options?

Please inform your team manager, who will forward you on the applicable *AWFA Form 21 - Application for Representative Player Financial Assistance*. This will then be sent to the Executive Committee for consideration. 20th of January will be the closing date for consideration of financial assistance for rep fees.

Can I play AWFA Representatives and with Murray United?

You can play for both your AWFA club and for Murray United in **non-NPL competition ONLY**. As it stands, these are those teams participating in the Shepparton Junior Soccer Association (SJSA). Follow the instructions set out in the *Dual Registration Process - AWFA SJSA* document, and contact the AWFA Registrar for further help if required.

AWFA REPRESENTATIVE FORMS & DOCUMENTS

[AWFA Rules and Regulations 2.7](#)

[AWFA Form 21 - Application for Representative Player Financial Assistance](#)

[Representative Coach Position Description](#)

[Representative Team Manager Position Description](#)

[AWFA Representative Team Manager Guide](#)

[AWFA Representative Coach Selection Policy](#)

[AWFA Representative Player Selection Policy](#)

[Representative Player Code of Conduct](#)

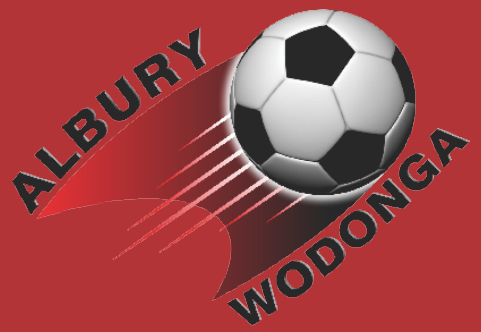
[Dual Registration Process - AWFA SJSA](#)

[Regional Player Pathway - Football Victoria](#)

Key Contacts

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