



JUNIOR TOURNAMENT PLAYER ELIGIBILITY POLICY

Australian Oztag is committed to providing opportunities for junior players to participate in tournaments and competitions that promote skill development, teamwork, and sportsmanship. This Junior Tournament Player Eligibility Policy outlines the criteria and requirements for junior players to be eligible to participate in Australian Oztag tournaments.

PLAYERS MUST

- Be a registered player in the association / region they are representing and have played a minimum of seven games in the one team over a seven-week period in the association's current junior domestic competition which must run for ten weeks or more.
- Current season means a junior competition offered over the spring or summer leading into the tournament.
- If the competition has not completed seven or more rounds the player must have participated in the domestic competition from last season.
- An exception will be made for players who are still eligible (15 years +) to play both juniors & seniors, but do not have a junior domestic competition in their area.
- If this is the case, they must be a registered player at the senior competition. In this instance, a senior association would be permitted to enter a junior team in a junior Australian Oztag representative tournament.
- If there is a junior domestic competition offered by the association / region you are representing, you must be a registered player in that junior competition to represent at a junior tournament.
- If there is a junior competition offered in the association / region then a senior association is not permitted to enter teams in the junior representative tournament.
- If there is both a junior association and a senior association in the same area (LGA), whether a single person holds the licence to operate both or two different people hold the licence, players must be registered in the junior competition to be eligible to compete in a junior representative tournament.
- Only being registered in the senior competition does not qualify a player for a junior representative tournament, regardless of the player's age.
- Age divisions are determined by the age you turn that year. For example,
 - If you turn 11 in December, the year of the tournament you will be playing in the 11's division at the tournament regardless of if the player is still only 10 when the tournament is played.



COMPLAINTS

- If an official complaint is received the tournament director will investigate the eligibility of the player. Complainants may remain anonymous.
- Associations who cannot provide evidence at the time of the complaint will have seven days after the tournament to produce the evidence to show the player was eligible to play. However, the tournament director still has the discretion to disqualify the team or player at the time.

PENALTIES

First Offence:

- Any team playing an ineligible player/s will be disqualified from the tournament.
- If it is proven after the conclusion of the tournament, a title if won will be stripped from the association and the runners up be awarded that division.
- The coach, manager and player/s involved will be suspended from playing / coaching at any representative level for any association for a period of twelve months.
- This disqualification will include the same tournament if it falls outside the twelve months the following year.
- The association / region will also be fined \$500.

Second Offence:

- The coach, manager and player/s involved will be suspended from playing / coaching at any representative level for any association for a period of twelve months.
- The association will receive a \$1000 fine.

Third Offence:

- If an association is caught on three separate occasions of playing ineligible players, the association may be disqualified from entering teams in any division at any Australian Oztag tournament for twelve months or a period set by the Australian Oztag.

The Junior Player at Tournaments Policy serves as a comprehensive guideline to ensure the fair participation, safety, and integrity of junior players in Australian Oztag tournaments. By outlining specific age categories, eligibility criteria, and conduct expectations, this policy aims to promote an inclusive and positive environment where young athletes can develop their skills, foster teamwork, and uphold the values of sportsmanship.