



Croquet Australia trading as  
Gateball Australia

Gateball  
Selection Policy  
and  
Player Agreement

Version 1.1

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## **1. Authority for this Policy**

- 1.1 Croquet Australia has registered the business name Gateball Australia (GA) for its Gateball operations.

## **2. Objectives of the Gateball Selection Policy**

- 2.1 To identify and select Gateball Australia players for Australian representation at the World Gateball Championships or Asian Gateball Championships hosted by the World Gateball Union (WGU).
- 2.2 To provide opportunities to continually improve the standard of Gateball Australia's elite and developing players in Australia.
- 2.3 For Gateball Australia representative teams to achieve the best possible results in international events.

## **3. Player Input to Selection Policy**

- 3.1 Gateball Australia and the Selectors wish to ensure that players are aware of the specific issues that the Selectors will look for in the application of this policy. Players and officials are free to provide input to the policy prior to final approval.
- 3.2 The Chair of the Gateball Selection Committee will discuss the policy with players. Any changes proposed from these discussions will be considered by the Selection Committee and forwarded to the National Coordinator – Gateball (NCGB) for referral to the CEO for approval.
- 3.3 Players may also submit proposals to amend the policy directly to the NCGB for referral to the CEO for approval.

## **4. Mandatory Requirements**

- 4.1 For a player to be eligible for selection to represent Australia in an international event and to participate in a national team, training and development squads (if applicable), the player shall meet the requirements in this section.

### ***Residential Requirements***

- 4.2 Residential requirements for players to be selected are as follows:
- 4.2.1 The player was born within the jurisdiction of Australia; or,
- 4.2.2 Either of the player's natural or adoptive parents was born within the jurisdiction of Australia; or,
- 4.2.3 The player is a citizen of Australia, is entitled to hold a passport issued by Australia and has lived in Australia for 12 consecutive months prior to competition; or,
- 4.2.4 The player has been a permanent resident of Australia for a period of 12 consecutive months immediately prior to the competition.
- 4.3 Subject to paragraphs 4.3.1, 4.3.2 and 4.3.3 below, a player who is qualified to represent more than one Country may choose which Country to represent, but if that player represents a Country other than Australia, the player may not subsequently change that choice to Australia unless:
- 4.3.1 A period of 36 months has elapsed since the end of the last World Gateball Championship or Asian Gateball Championship in which the player represented another country; or

- 4.3.2 the player had not attained the age of 18 years on the first day of the last World Gateball Championship or Asian Gateball Championship in which the player represented another country; or
- 4.3.3 A significant change in circumstances has occurred and is approved by the NCGB.
- 4.4 All questions regarding Eligibility for International Gateball Events will ultimately be determined by the WGU and should be directed to the NCGB as Gateball Australia's representative at the WGU.
- 4.5 The Selectors may invite players who do not meet the residential requirements outlined in 4.2 to participate in national training and development squads.

#### ***Other Mandatory Requirements***

- 4.6 Players selected to represent Australia in an international event shall:
  - 4.6.1 Be affiliated to a State association that is a member of Croquet Australia and be a current financial member of Croquet Australia
  - 4.6.2 be in good standing with Croquet Australia, for example, they are not currently under suspension by Croquet Australia for a breach of policy or any other Croquet Australia disciplinary provision (including, but not limited to, the Gateball Selection Policy and Player Agreement, the Gateball Australia International Engagement for Gateball Policy and National Integrity Framework and
  - 4.6.3 have notified the National Coordinator – Gateball in writing (by the Australian Gateball Championship (AGC) entry form or by email), that they wish to be considered for selection, prior to the closing date of entries for the AGC held immediately prior to the Selection Committee being formed.

## **5. Gateball Events for which the Gateball Selection Policy apply**

- 5.1 The Selectors shall select players for Gateball for:
  - 5.1.1 Up to three (3) representative teams of six (6) players each for World Gateball Championships or Asian Gateball Championships (hosted by the World Gateball Union) including a sufficient number of traveling and/or non-traveling reserves (“Representative Teams”); and
  - 5.1.2 Any other purpose determined by Gateball Australia including National Development Squads or other overseas tournaments.
- 5.2 The Selectors may add players to a Representative Team at any stage, subject to those players satisfying the relevant selection criteria.
- 5.3 Where more than three teams are invited from Australia to attend a World Gateball Championship or Asian Gateball Championship (the Championship) the CEO may instruct the selectors to select additional teams.

## **6. Process of Selection**

### **6.1 Selection Criteria**

- 6.1.1 Selection of players to represent Australia will be based on the Mandatory elements outlined in 6.2 and Performance elements outlined in 6.3 below.

## **6.2 Mandatory elements**

- 6.2.1 Mandatory player residential and other requirements for selection outlined in Section 4 cannot be waived by the Selectors. Players not meeting any of these criteria cannot be selected to represent Australia.
- 6.2.2 Any player who accepts an invitation issued by Gateball Australia to attend a Championship must provide Gateball Australia with a good reason if they fail to play in that event. If the selectors do not believe a valid reason has been provided, they shall take this into account in selections for international championships held in the following 36 months, and the player may be deemed by the selectors as ineligible to be selected to represent Australia for a given period (up to 36 months). The player may appeal this decision under the appeals process detailed in Section 10 below. If a player is unable to play in an event that they have been selected for, both the Selectors and the individual player involved should try to resolve the matter immediately.

## **6.3 Performance elements**

### ***Performance in High-Calibre Events***

- 6.3.1 Selection of players to Representative Teams will largely be based on playing performance in the Australian Gateball Championship (AGC) and State Gateball Championships. The Selection Committee will provide the most weight to performance in the most recent Australian Gateball Championships and, to a lesser extent, State Championships. Players need to ensure that they participate in events that will be considered by the Selectors.
- 6.3.2 Players should have participated in the most recent AGC event and the most recent State Gateball Championship for the State in which they are affiliated, unless there are extenuating circumstances (see Section 6.4).
- 6.3.3 The Selection Committee:
- 6.3.3.1 May publicly specify that players' performances in a set of specific events (in addition to the AGC and State Gateball Championships) shall be a contributing factor in the process of selection for a specific event or events. If so, this must be advertised at least six months prior to the event(s) in which players' performance will be assessed.
  - 6.3.3.2 Will normally only consider events that have been conducted in the last 24 months, unless they specify otherwise (as outlined in 6.3.3.1).
  - 6.3.3.3 Will assess players' performances predominantly in team games but may also consider performance in doubles games.

### ***Additional Player Issues***

- 6.3.4 Selectors will also evaluate players against the following criteria:
- a) attitude to officials, tournament managers, referees, team managers, High Performance Manager, team captains, team coaches and other players;
  - b) compatibility with, and support of, other squad/team members;
  - c) willingness to assist the High Performance Manager and/or team coach/team captain in developing a good working relationship with the team members;
  - d) be a good ambassador for the sport, Gateball Australia and the country;
  - e) adherence to National Squad training protocols as specified in writing by the High Performance Manager or squad/team coach/team captain (including mental skills, tactical skills, physical skills and appropriate fitness levels);
  - f) physical fitness covering strength, flexibility and endurance as assessed by the High Performance Manager or squad/team coach/team captain.

## **6.4 Extenuating circumstances**

- 6.4.1 In considering the performance of players at the Australian Gateball Championships the Selection Committee may give weight to extenuating factors.
- 6.4.2 Players unable to compete at the Australian Gateball Championships shall advise the National Coordinator - Gateball in writing (including by email) of this fact and the reasons thereof, before the commencement of the Australian Gateball Championships. Any notification of non-attendance by a player who wishes to be considered for selection, should be recorded in the program of the Australian Gateball Championships or announced at the tournament.
- 6.4.3 In the case of illness or injury, players may be required to undergo a medical examination by a doctor.
- 6.4.4 In the case of bereavement, equipment failure, travel delays or other extenuating circumstance, a decision will be made by the Selection Committee on an individual basis.
- 6.4.5 Where the Selection Committee find that extenuating circumstances exist, extra weight will be given to performance at State Championships.

## **6.5 Requirements for Selection Consideration**

- 6.5.1 Only players who nominate before the most recent AGC will be considered for selection.
- 6.5.2 Players wishing to be considered for selection to represent Australia, should be fully conversant with the following Croquet Australia documents:
- a) Member Protection Policy (particularly the Codes of Behaviour);
  - b) Anti-doping Policy;
  - c) Gateball Selection Policy.
  - d) Croquet Australia Complaints and Discipline Policy
  - e) Personal Grievance Policy

All current policies are found on the Croquet Australia [website](#).

- 6.5.3 Players wishing to be considered for selection must accept the requirements outlined in clause 6.5.2 and be prepared complete an online Representative Team Player Agreement by the date specified in the letter of offer sent to the player.

## **6.6 Selection Methodology**

- 6.6.1 One team captain for each team is selected by the Selection Committee (Team Captains).
- 6.6.2 All players that nominated for selection consideration are assessed against mandatory and performance elements of the Selection Criteria. Only players that meet the mandatory and performance elements of the Selection Criteria are assessed further.
- 6.6.3 Players meeting the mandatory elements of the Selection Criteria will be allocated to one of the following regions:
- NSW/ACT
  - QLD
  - SA/VIC
  - WA
  - TAS
- 6.6.4 The best 50% of players in each region will be determined based on their performance at the most recent Australian Gateball Championship and most recent State Gateball tournaments and are allocated to the selection pool.

- 6.6.5 Players who have not been allocated to the selection pool will be compared to players allocated to each other region who have been allocated to the selection pool and if necessary, adjustments to the selection pool are made, either by replacement or addition of players to the selection pool.
- 6.6.6 Players in the selection pool will be provisionally allocated to teams, either as team members or reserves, by Team Captains, using the remaining selection criteria. Not all players in the selection pool may be allocated to a team if there are more players eligible for selection than places on teams.
- 6.6.7 The teams and reserves recommended by the team captains will then be reviewed by the Selection Committee against the selection pool members not allocated to a team and any necessary adjustments made.

## **6.7 Report to National Coordinator for Gateball**

- 6.7.1 Within 14 days of the Selection Committee finalising their selection process for Representative Teams or National Development Squad members, the Chair of the Selection Committee will provide a written report to the National Coordinator for Gateball justifying the Committee's selections.
- 6.7.2 Within 14 days of receiving the report referred to in clause 6.7.1, the National Coordinator for Gateball may require the Selection Committee to reconsider their selections if the National Coordinator for Gateball reasonably considers that the Selection Criteria outlined in clause 6.1 have not been met. The National Coordinator for Gateball will explain to the Selection Committee the reasons why they do not believe the Selection Criteria have been met.
- 6.7.3 In the case where the Selection Committee and National Coordinator for Gateball cannot agree that the Selection Criteria have been met, the Chair of the Selection Committee and the National Coordinator for Gateball will meet with the CEO to determine how the matter will be resolved.

## **7. Selection Time Frames and advice of selections**

- 7.1 The selection process will commence as soon as possible after the completion of the Australian Gateball Championships. Where possible Representative Teams will be selected at least 6 months prior to the commencement of the relevant international event. Subject to funding, longer term development squads may also be established and be subject to ongoing review by the Selection Committee.
- 7.2 The NCGB will notify those players that have been selected within 14 days of the CEO being notified of the selections.
- 7.4 Once all players that have been selected have been notified, the names of the selected players shall be published on the Gateball Australia website.
- 7.3 All players offered a position in a Representative Team (national development squad or team), or selected to represent Australia, will be advised of the requirements in clause 6.5.2 and are required to complete the online Representative Team Player Agreement.

## **8. Feedback to unsuccessful or removed players (when requested)**

- 8.1 Players who have expressed interest in selection for a team and are not selected, or players who have been selected and are subsequently removed from a team, can request feedback from the selection committee about the reasons for their non-selection or removal by emailing the Selection Committee Chairperson within 7 days of the announcement of the selections or communication of their removal.



- 8.2 The Chairperson of the Selection Committee, or the Chairperson's delegate, will be responsible for liaising with players who request feedback about their non-selection or removal. All feedback must be provided within 7 days of the request for feedback.
- 8.3 Issues discussed with players shall be documented. Players will be provided with a copy of this document outlining the reasons for non-selection or removal from a team. Preferably, this will be an agreed record of discussion between the Chairperson of the Selection Committee, or the Chairperson's delegate, and the player concerned. If any dispute arises concerning this record of discussion, the Chairperson of the Selection Committee shall attempt to resolve this. If the issue is not resolved within 14 days the record of discussion, prepared by the Chairperson, or the Chairperson's delegate, will become the record for purposes of the Selection Committee.

## **9. Post Selection Information**

### **9.1 Replacement of a Selected Injured Player**

- 9.1.1 If a player is injured in such a way and to such an extent that the Selectors believe this may have a significant effect on their performance in an event for which they have been selected, the Selectors may determine a standard of fitness to be met by that player. If the player is unable to meet that standard the Selection Committee, in consultation with the Gateball High Performance Manager, may select a replacement player.
- 9.1.2 A replacement player for an Australian Team will be selected by those members of the Selection Committee (including the current Team Captain) contactable within the required timeframe. The Selection Committee should exercise all reasonable measures to ensure that the chosen replacement is eligible to represent Australia.

### **9.2 Removal of a Player from a Squad or a Gateball Representative Team**

- 9.2.1 A player is ineligible for continued membership, and will be removed from the Representative Team (squad or event) as the case may be if they:
- a) No longer meet the selection criteria;
  - b) breach or fail to observe this policy or other Croquet Australia policies;
  - c) by reason of illness or injury are, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, unlikely to be able to perform to the required standard in the event for which they have been selected;
  - d) breach or fail to observe the Player Agreement;
  - e) fail to adhere to any specified training program.

### **9.3 Replacement of a Selected Player Removed from a Gateball Representative Team**

- 9.3.1. If a player is removed from a Representative Team by the Selection Committee, the Selection Committee must select a replacement player or players if the number of players remaining in the relevant team falls below 6, and may select a replacement player if the remaining number of players is 6 or more.
- 9.3.2. A replacement player for a Representative Team will be selected by those members of the Selection Committee (at a minimum including the relevant Team Captain and Chair of the Selection Committee) contactable within the required timeframe. The Selection Committee should exercise all reasonable measures to ensure that the chosen replacement is eligible to represent Australia.

## **10. Appeals**

- 10.1 Croquet Australia shall refer to the Croquet Australia Complaint and Disciplinary Policy for an appeal on:

- a) a player's non-selection for, or removal from, any National Development/Training Squad or Representative Team; or
  - b) the Selection Committee not following the provisions, processes and procedures of this policy.
- 10.2 There is no right of appeal against any decision made by the Selection Committee in respect of:
- a) Process of Selection – Additional Player Issues (see 6.3.4 above), provided that the feedback process covered in section 8 above has been followed; or,
  - b) Replacement players (see 9.1 and 9.3 above).
- 10.3 Any appeal by a player under this section must be made to Croquet Australia through the Croquet Australia [complaint form](#).
- 10.4 Prior to lodging an appeal, the player must accord with the following procedure:
- a) The player must seek feedback on their non-selection or removal from a team using the process outlined at section 8.
  - b) Within 14 days of the Selection Committee providing a written summary of the reasons for non-selection or removal to the player, the player shall submit their grounds for the appeal using the complaint form;

## **11. Amendments to this Policy**

This policy may be amended by Gateball Australia in accordance with the Croquet Australia Constitution.

## **APPENDIX A –PLAYER AGREEMENT - TEAM EVENTS**

The Team Player Agreement form included in this appendix will be used as the template for player agreements for each Australian Representative Gateball Team/Event, with appropriate minor amendments made for each team/event as needed.



## Croquet Australia Trading as Gateball Australia **PLAYER AGREEMENT – TEAM EVENTS**

This agreement provides as follows:

### **1. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GATEBALL AUSTRALIA AND PLAYER**

There is no employer/employee relationship between Gateball Australia and the Player but the Player undertakes to meet his/her obligations to Gateball Australia as set out in Clauses 4 and 5, and for the consideration as set out in Clause 6.

### **2. TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement comes into effect on the date the Player accepts a place in the Event and concludes upon the Player's return home, having competed in the Event.

### **3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

#### 3.1 Affiliation

The Player declares that they are a financial member of a State Association that is affiliated with Croquet Australia (trading as Gateball Australia) and a current financial member of Croquet Australia at the date of this Agreement.

#### 3.2 Residence

The Player declares that they are qualified to represent Australia and meets all the mandatory criteria outlined in Clause 4 of the [Gateball Australia Selection Policy](#).

### **4. PLAYER COMMITMENTS**

#### 4.1 Performance

The Player undertakes to;

- (a) prepare themselves both mentally and physically for competitive performance at the international level;
- (b) work with the Team Captain to maintain, develop and enhance their competitive skills during the term of this Agreement;
- (c) play the game of Gateball to the best of his/her skill and ability;
- (d) play in matches for which they are selected;
- (e) abide by all reasonable decisions of the Team Captain in relation to the training, practice, and playing of the game of Gateball prior to and during the Event; and
- (f) abide by all reasonable decisions of the Team Manager in relation to travel, accommodation and off-court matters relating to the Team during the term of this Agreement.

#### 4.2 Behaviour

4.2.1 The Player will conduct themselves in accordance with the Croquet Australia [Code of Conduct Policy](#), the Croquet Australia [Member Protection Policy](#), Appendix B in the [Gateball Australia Tournament Regulations](#), and the additional requirements set out below.

Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct or relevant policies may see the individual removed from the team and be returned to their place of residence at their own cost. The decision to remove a player from the team will be made by the Team Manager in consultation with the Croquet Australia CEO.

4.2.2 The Player will play the game of Gateball at all times in a sportsmanlike manner and in the spirit of fair play, and will at all times and for the duration of this Agreement conduct themselves in a manner befitting a representative of Australia, so as not to bring Gateball Australia, Croquet Australia or the game of Gateball into disrepute.

This includes making negative or inappropriate comments in relation to their team, other members of another Team, Team Captain, Team Manager, Gateball Australia or Croquet Australia, Selectors, the World Gateball Union or any other International or National Gateball organisation.

4.2.3 The Player will refrain from acts of misconduct including, but not limited to

- (a) accepting or failing to report a bribe;
- (b) not playing on merits;
- (c) betting or gambling on the outcome of a game in which the Player is participating;
- (d) drug offences (taking or supplying the same);
- (e) drunkenness;
- (f) offensive language (verbal or written);
- (g) rowdy behaviour;
- (h) other conduct prejudicial to Gateball Australia, Croquet Australia or the sport of Gateball in general or Gateball Australia's membership of the World Gateball Union (WGU) or Asia Pacific Gateball Union (APGU).

#### 4.3 Rules

The Player will comply with all Rules and Regulations of the WGU relating to the game of Gateball during the Event including any special regulations applying specifically to the Event.

#### 4.4 Team-Building and Team Activities

4.4.1 The Player will obey all reasonable directions and decisions of the Team Captain arising under this Agreement in relation to the training, practice and playing of the game of Gateball prior to and during the Event.

4.4.2 The Player will actively support and encourage members of the Team, and will assist the Team Captain and the Team Manager in developing a working relationship in the Team so as to promote a responsible attitude, commitment, trust, competence, respect, safety, honesty, professionalism, equity and sportsmanship amongst members of the Team.

4.4.3 The Player will actively participate in meetings, practice sessions and social occasions arranged for the Team, and actively contribute to the necessary tasks connected with the living arrangements of the Team during the Event.

4.4.4 The Players will be responsible for ensuring that their partners and other family members respect the need for both Player and Team commitment during games and on the occasions described in the paragraph above.

4.4.5 It is expected that each Player will attend the scheduled practice as advised.

#### 4.5 Education

All players and team officials are to have completed the eLearning [Anti-Doping Fundamentals](#) course provided by Sports Integrity Australia

## **5. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **5.1 Uniform & Dress Code**

- 5.1.1 Players will wear the shirts supplied by Gateball Australia. Teams will determine other items of their uniform in line with the WGU's Official Gateball Rules, Chapter 2, Clause 3, Clothing and Players agree to wear the team uniform.

Generally, each player shall receive 2 playing shirts from Gateball Australia. Long-sleeved shirts are available upon request.

**NOTE:** Players selected for any extra teams beyond the WGU official team entry limit do not receive the complimentary uniform from Croquet Australia.

- 5.1.2 The Player will be responsible for providing suitable protection from the weather including Team wet weather gear, Team hat and sun-screen.
- 5.1.3 The Player will wear appropriate footwear in accordance with the WGU rules of Gateball.
- 5.1.4 The Player will be advised at the time of signing this agreement whether or not they are to provide their own team tracksuits.
- 5.1.5 Players should wear formal attire to official functions as required or as directed and/or agreed by the Team Manager and/or Team members.

### **5.2 Accommodation, Travel, Meals and incidentals**

- 5.2.1 Unless otherwise notified by Gateball Australia prior to signing this Agreement, Players will be responsible for the cost of their travel, accommodation, meals and other incidentals in relation to their participation in the Event.

### **5.3 Equipment**

- 5.3.1 The Player will provide their own stick, a stick cover/bag/other container suitable for transportation of the stick and a watch timer.

## **6. GATEBALL AUSTRALIA OBLIGATIONS**

Gateball Australia will provide each Player with 2 playing shirts and any other items agreed upon by Gateball Australia prior to the Event.

## **7. SUSPENSION**

If the Player breaches any of the obligations outlined in Clause 4 of this Agreement, [Gateball Australia Selection Policy](#) or other documents mentioned in Clause 6.5.2 of the Gateball Selection Policy, Gateball Australia may, at its absolute discretion, suspend the Player from the Team and/or participation in the Event.

## **8. INDEMNITY**

The Player indemnifies Gateball Australia from any costs or claims made against Gateball Australia arising out of any or all the Player's actions or failings in this Agreement or otherwise in the terms set out in the Agreement.

## 9. INSURANCE

9.1 The Player shall notify Gateball Australia of any individual health matters by completing the Team Player Agreement.

9.2 Players are covered by Croquet Australia's travel insurance for this Event as set out in the [insurance program summary](#) on the Croquet Australia website. Details of Croquet Australia's insurance provider is available on the Croquet Australia [website](#).

**NOTE:** Players selected for any extra teams beyond the WGU official team entry limit are not covered by the Croquet Australia insurance program. These members should source private travel insurance for the event.

## 10. AUTHORITY OF GATEBALL AUSTRALIA

Gateball Australia warrants that the Player is an affiliated member of Croquet Australia and that Gateball Australia has the authority to select the Player to represent Australia in the Event and to appoint the Team Manager. The Player accepts Gateball Australia's authority to appoint a Team Manager, and that they have the authorities listed in Appendix B to the Gateball Australia Tournament Regulations.

## 11. DISPUTES

In the event of any dispute arising out of this Agreement and its implementation, Gateball Australia and the Player agree to be bound by the [Gateball Australia Selection Policy](#) and/or any other Croquet Australia [policies](#) and procedures as may be in place from time to time.

## 12. TERMINATION

If for any reason outside the control of Gateball Australia, the Event is cancelled, deferred or postponed, Gateball Australia may terminate this Agreement upon fourteen (14) days' notice in writing to the Player.

If for any reason the Player decides to cease competitive play in Gateball, they may terminate this Agreement upon fourteen (14) days' notice in writing to Gateball Australia via email at [info@gateball.com.au](mailto:info@gateball.com.au)