



## **Intercounty Team Policy**

### **1. Background**

- 1.1. This document is a guide for the management of the CPA (Cambridgeshire Pool Association) Intercounty teams playing in the EPA (English Pool Association) annual events and aims to ensure transparency and fairness to management and players.

### **2. Management**

- 2.1. Each team will elect their own Captain and Vice-Captain (if needed) and may re-elect at any time. The names of Captains and Vice-Captains will be forwarded to the county Secretary.
- 2.2. The Under 18's team will include a Team Manager adult as appointed by the CPA.
- 2.3. The Under 18's Team Manager will be responsible for safeguarding and general management of the team.
- 2.4. The Under 18's Team Manager will be DBS checked to the Enhanced level (child workforce), and this will be funded by the CPA.
- 2.5. The management of all teams will fall under the overall responsibility of the CPA Committee, with the overall Team Manager (CPA Officer) being the first line of communication between the Committee, the teams and the players.
- 2.6. Any team squad that operates at least 2 teams (i.e. A and B teams in separate divisions) may also chose to elect a manager to help control the overall management of the relevant teams if they wish.

### **3. Player Retention & Trials**

- 3.1. At the end of each EPA playing season (January to December), each intercounty team or section will retain the best performing players for the following season and offer re-trial spaces to all others at the trials for the following season.
- 3.2. Trial places will further be offered to qualifying players from all CPA Affiliated local leagues.
- 3.3. Any current EPA England team squad members on 1<sup>st</sup> January each year will be automatically retained regardless of their performance in the qualifying season to offer them every possibility to achieve the attendance required for the England teams by the EPA in the incoming season as defined in the EPA Byelaws.
- 3.4. Player performance is quantified using only the EPA county rankings statistics published on the EPA website. Players noting any discrepancies in the data should contact the CPA Secretary with the details of the inaccuracies and this will be taken up with the EPA Regional Collator.

- 3.5. The aim of the trials is to ensure the squad quota contains the best possible players for the new season from the county recognised sources.
- 3.6. Each captain may use no more than one free choice 'Captain's Pick' of a player of their choice to bring into their team if they wish. This player will take up a spot from the squad's quota if used.
- 3.7. If any players from the current squad or team who are retained but do not accept their place for the new season will open up the offer to the next available player down the rankings list so that the specified number of retained players can still be achieved.
- 3.8. Players ageing out of the Under 18's team with minimum 70% attendance in their last season with the Under 18's will be offered a place in the Under 23's or Ladies squads. Others may also be included if required by the captains. These will be taken out of the squad quota.
- 3.9. The number of players retained for each section or team and the nominal squad size will be as listed below. Retentions are without exception, regardless of professional status, captain's position, international team membership or any other reasons unless qualifying under rule 3.3.
- Any section running 2 divisions of 11 player team format – no more than places 1 to 18 retained, minimum attendance 70%, squad size 28.
  - Any section running 1 division of 11 player team format – top 8, squad size 14.
  - Any section running 1 division of 9 player team format – top 7, squad size 12.
  - Any section running 2 teams of 5 player team format – top 6, squad size 14.
  - Any section running 1 team of 5 player team format – top 3, squad size 7.
  - Any division running less than 5 player team format – no stipulation.
- 3.10. All trials will aim to take into the team/squad the required squad size minus any retained England players as described in 3.3, minus the captain's free pick if used, minus (for the Open or Ladies sections only) any players qualifying under rule 3.8.
- 3.11. Any section running 2 divisions of 11 player team format will run trials in 2 sessions:
- Session 1 only for non-re-trial players to this squad, open to all players from affiliated leagues at the time of the trials. Six will qualify from this trial for session 2.
  - Session 2 includes the six qualifiers from session 1 and the re-trialists choosing to attend. The required number to fill the quota will qualify for the squad from this trial.
- 3.12. All sections running 1 division of 5 players in a team or more will run trials. If numbers are extreme, the team may apply for dispensation from the committee.

3.13. Trials style can be agreed annually by section/squad prior to the trial dates.

3.14. Trials will be held at the current county venue or in the event of a venue change between seasons, at the new county venue.