



Selection policy

Rationale for this policy

The rationale for such a policy has been discussed in different parts of the Lacrosse community in our country for some time. For clarity this document only focuses on Selection policy and not eligibility for representing Scotland. We as the Lacrosse Scotland Board wish to oversee a vibrant domestic game and an improving and successful national squad. As a responsible governing body, we cannot have national success at the detriment to the domestic game as we would be left with no home-based game. As members and partners can see in our 2020-2024 Strategic plan, we wish to develop the home-based game and grow participation numbers, awareness, and interest. Having the national squad as an avenue for home-based players, who make the effort to upskill themselves tactically, technically, mentally, and physically, to aspire to, is essential to our objectives being met. We as a sport must also be realistic and acknowledge that, in for example the men's national team programmes historically, we have often benefited greatly from Scots qualified players of North American birth, and this will, we hope continue in a managed way that adds value to our national squads but does not undermine them or our domestic game.

Consultation process undertaken

Membership engagement via a Webinar held in mid July 2020, which also allowed for questions to be submitted prior, saw much good debate and discussion in a relaxed but formal environment, facilitated by the Performance & Development Director Iain M Stewart. After so many discussions 'around the grounds' and in other forums, on this topic over the years it was a healthy turnout, with only a handful of sign ups not managing to make the webinar. This document takes cognisance of the views brought forward through the consultation, and is a working document. The Lacrosse Scotland Board seek to implement the policy for a three year period, although it will be monitored and discussed annually. An in depth assessment will take place in three years' time ahead of the next Lacrosse Scotland strategic plan work.

Who does this impact? Is there any flexibility in the policy?

This will apply to all Lacrosse Scotland national squads, which are currently, Men's Field, Women's Field, Men's Indoor and Junior Women. We wish to move incrementally as we are aware we have much development work to do in state and independent schools, particularly at secondary school age, to widen the base of our playing membership outside the student and club competition structures that are in place currently. We are committed to a growing a vibrant domestic game where players, who improve and make the sacrifices to earn being capped at full international level, can aspire to make squads for major championships without concerns of a full squad of eligible but imported personnel, taking the majority of the places in the squad.

Head Coach's are able to appeal to Lacrosse Scotland Board in *special circumstances*, to select a player that would impinge on the set %. The Board would view *special circumstances as one* such as no domestic player in that position having met that National Squad's more detailed selection criteria and therefore no eligible appropriate replacement is viable. The Lacrosse Scotland Board would need the evidence that the non-domestic player had met the National Squad selection criteria. The Lacrosse Scotland Board are committed to upholding the credibility of this policy and it



would only be in circumstances as outlined above it would consider and make judgement on a request from national Head Coach's with regard to the make-up of their final championship squad. A vibrant domestic game is at the heart of what we are about as an organisation.

Incremental introduction of selection policy

To be available for selection, all players, domestic or otherwise, must first meet the Lacrosse Scotland Eligibility criteria.

2020/21	<p>Minimum of 50% of domestic based players should make up the national squad</p> <p>Overseas players should attend at least two training sessions in Scotland/UK in the 2 years leading up to a European or World championship</p>
2021/22	<p>Minimum of 50% of domestic based players should make up the national squad</p> <p>Overseas players should attend at least two training sessions in Scotland/UK in the 2 years leading up to a European or World championship</p>
2022/23 main review year, ahead of next strategic cycle	<p>Minimum of 55% of domestic based players should make up the championship squad – maintain % to allow for continuity for coaching team going into a major championship.</p> <p>Overseas players should attend at least two training sessions in Scotland/UK in the 2 years leading up to a European or World championship</p>
2023/24	<p>This would be decided at end of 2022/23 season in terms of reviewing the % for that season, again with member consultation in terms of what this % should look like over the life of the next Lacrosse Scotland strategic plan 2024 – 2028 (this strategy would be being pulled together during the 2023/24 season)</p>

N.B. These would be Lacrosse Scotland Board 'minima', Head Coaches may enforce a higher threshold of domestic players should they so wish.

Definition of an eligible domestic based player

- A player who is resident and playing lacrosse in Scotland/UK

Definition of Overseas player

- A player who not domiciled in Scotland/UK and is playing lacrosse in their country of residence.