

DVE Relay Management Policy

Purpose

The objective of the Relay and Team Selection Policy and the process it establishes is to ensure the best possible teams are selected to represent the DVE Aquatic at State Age, State Open and National level swimming championships whilst having regard to the swimmers' availabilities and participation interest. It is expected that selected team members will act with integrity and represent DVE in line with the DVE swimming values of respect, team spirit, hardworking and perseverance.

In the interests of all DVE swimming members, this policy also serves to provide clarity and transparency as to the selection process.

Policy Principles

Policy has been developed using the following principles and guidelines:

- DVE recognises that coaches training the swimmers are in the best position to provide advice on the team selection by taking into account swimmers' progression, performance and current physical and mental condition.
- Relay teams will be finalised by the Selection Panel consisting of Head coach or a nominated alternate, Vice President, Swimming and Competition sub-committee coordinator or alternate.
- Swimmers and their carers need to have an opportunity to indicate their willingness to participate in the relays
- A sense of fairness, responsibility and accountability must be considered.
- Selection must align to the DVE Aquatic By-Laws
- The policy will only be utilised for the State, Open and National level competitions. For meets of lower level, it is recommended that the policy intent is generally followed.
- This policy will be reviewed at the start of each swimming season or as required by the swimming subcommittee.
- All athletes wishing to be considered for selection must meet the membership criteria of DVE.
- The process of selecting State Age or State Open relay teams will incorporate the general selection principles, but first consideration will be given to the athletes who have qualified and entered in an individual event.
- The National Relay team will generally consist of athletes who have qualified for individual events at Nationals. Athletes qualified for individual events must agree to be part of a relay team, taking into account the demands of their individual program. Relay-only swimmers at Nationals will be finalised in line with the Selection Process Steps.

- DVE Aquatic will cover all entry costs relating to State Open and National Championship relays. All other relays i.e. State Age, Metropolitan, District or Club Level, will be charged to the swimmer directly.

Selection Process

1. The DVE Competition sub-committee coordinator or an appointed representative will determine the pool of initial swimmers (and reserves) being selected for the teams.
2. Competition sub-committee members must declare any conflict of interest, which must be managed accordingly. If it cannot be managed, then consideration will be given to replacing that committee member with an alternate committee member.
3. The decision of the Selection Panel is final and must be determined no later than 1 week prior to meet closing timeframe.
4. Information surrounding prospective or final teams and/or deliberations of teams remains confidential until an official announcement is conducted.

Selection Process Steps

The process steps required for the selection are outlined below.

1. Competition sub-committee coordinator or alternate will populate an initial list of athletes ranked in order of approved times using the latest Swim Central results. Swimmers' and carers' input on the participation in the relays will be sought at this point. Draft teams will be initially formed by competitiveness and age grouping combinations.
2. Recording of any conflict of interest is required to be undertaken and managed from this point onwards.
3. Vice President, Swimming, Competition sub-committee coordinator or alternate and any other member of the Swimming sub-committee are required to review the draft teams proposed.
4. Changes made should have the justifications noted, taking into consideration all available information regarding particular events, and the overall needs of the team. These include but not limited to:
 - Splits not included in Swim Central
 - Athletes behaviour with respect to the DVE Swimming values
 - Athletes must demonstrate a consistent commitment to their training, particularly in the lead up to State and National meets (attendance will verified with the Coaching Team)
 - The time elapsed since time was achieved
 - Timing of event with respect to the individual events for the athlete
 - Team competitiveness
 - Age grouping
 - Athlete availability
 - Close attention will be paid to ensuring no athlete has been overlooked
5. Planning for reserves will also take place.

6. Competition sub-committee coordinator or alternate will present the list to the Selection Panel no later than 1 week prior to meet closing timeframe and post the latest DVE targeted meet where practicable. The Panel is to take into account the proposed teams, conflict of interest, changes grounds and latest results where applicable. **The panel decision is final.**
7. Carers' of the athletes or athletes for those 18+ yo will be notified formally via **email** of their selection. Athletes who were unsuccessful in being selected will be notified as well.
8. DVE athletes or parents who wish to provide feedback regarding the team selections after being notified may do so in writing to Vice President, Swimming.
9. If the selected athletes become unable to attend the meet after the selection process is finalised, the Vice President, Swimming should be notified as soon as possible. Additional athletes will then be selected with priority given to the reserves in the first instance.

Evaluation

The policy is to be officially reviewed no less than every three years or as required.

This policy was created on 18th July 2023 and is scheduled for review in July 2026.

DVE Swimming Sub-Committee

July 2023