

2024-2025

# WALES RPDC

SELECTION POLICY



WALES  
RPDC

# Player Selection Process

WORK RATE HONESTY HUMILITY DISCIPLINE  
*'Better Players, Better People'*



**WALES**  
**RPDC**

## Wales RPDC Player Selection Policy

Wales RPDC aims to provide a competitive sporting experience that inspires excellence and develops character. The goal is 'better players, better people'. We seek to place athletes, with similar desires and abilities, together to maximise their enjoyment and development. We are committed to creating an environment that promotes our cultural values of 'work rate, honesty, humility and discipline'.

Our player selection process sets out to provide players with the best possible fit in an environment where they can grow as athletes and people. It is important to recognise that the RPDC's goal is not only to produce players of the highest level but to keep players in the game and to ensure they have a positive sporting experience. In order to achieve this we have responsibility to place young athletes in appropriate training set up's that suits their abilities, desired level of commitment and social needs.

We recognise that children develop physically, emotionally and mentally at different rates and this needs to be taken into consideration when going through the player selection process. Players who are placed into environments that far exceed their technical, tactical, physical and mental abilities are more likely to have a negative experience and leave the sport. While players (and parents) may be upset in the short term if they are not placed in an RPDC of their desired level, in the long run, it will facilitate their continued love of, and participation in, the sport if they are placed in a training environment of the most appropriate level.

Wales RPDC has a maximum capacity of 12 players per year. Selections will be made by our player selection committee (PSC). The PSC is a four to six- member committee established to select players in a consistent, fair, transparent way using a standardised approach that is free of conflict of interest. The PSC will first work off a longlist of players provided by the LTA National Performance Team. The longlist of players within the South Wales Region will automatically be invited to an open day. If players on the longlist outside of the Region wish to express interest, contact must be made with Head Coach Francesca Lewis by mid July and the players may join the open day. Assessments will then work to identify if Wales RPDC would provide an appropriate development pathway for each player. The PSC will consider the following criteria during the decision making process.

- 1) Current playing level
- 2) Potential to move onto the next stage of the National pathway
- 3) Showing a super strength (either physical, mental, tactical or technical)
- 4) Showing qualities that are consistent with the RPDC's values (work rate, honesty, humility, discipline)
- 5) Showing the desire to commit to a full time RPDC programme and comprehensive tournament schedule

Once a selection decision has been made regarding a player this will be communicated via either a selection or non selection letter in a timely manner in order to allow players sufficient time to find an alternative, appropriate training venue if necessary.