



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

GOALBALL AUSTRALIA

HANDBOOK

ABN 75011723437

Effective date November 2023

This Handbook contains an outline of Goalball Australia policy and procedures.

Compiled: Originally September 1993 (as ANGA) Date of this update: November 5 2023, Previous Update: September 2018, Dec 1993, 21/12/1995, 6/9/2000, 2/10/2002 14/6/2005, 26/9/2006, 6/6/2008

MISSION STATEMENT Goalball Australia will provide national governance and globally competitive pathways for the sport of Goalball in Australia.

VISION STATEMENT:

To put Goalball in the hearts and minds of all Australians and to be recognised as the blind & vision impaired sport of choice in Australia. We want to be visible within the Australian community and grow interest in this Paralympic sport for participation and opportunities whether as an athlete or official

Abbreviations/Definitions used in this document:



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

BSA - Blind Sports Australia

AGM - Annual General Meeting

AIS - Australian Institute of Sport

GA - Goalball Australia

AGC - Australian Goalball Championships

AIC - Australian Invitational Championships

ASC - Australian Sports Commission

IBSA - International Blind Sport Association

Vision Impaired - A Standard of vision determined from time to time by IBSA for eligibility for competitions sanctioned by that Federation.

Legally Blind - In receipt of a Blind Pension as defined by Australian Government legislation

This Handbook is to be read in conjunction, but is subordinate to:

- (i) GA Constitution; and (ii) IBSA Goalball Rules and Regulations

Contents

1. Junior and Youth Goalball	6
1.1 Definition	6



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

1.2 Development	6
1.3 National Youth Squads	8
1.3.1 Competition	9
1.3.2 Development camps	9
1.3.3 Travel	10
1.3.4 Uniforms	11
2.1 Definition	12
2.2 National Senior Squads	12
2.2.1 Competition	14
2.2.2 National Program Camps	14
2.2.3 Travel	15
2.2.4 Uniforms	16
3 Australian Goalball Championships	17
Section 3.1. Preamble	17
3.1.1. Aim	17
3.1.2. Mission	17
3.1.3. Definitions	18
Section 3.2. Hosting	18
3.2.2. Host Rotation	18
3.2.2.7. Local Organising Committee	19
3.2.2.8. Fees	21
Section 3. Minimum requirements for conducting AGCs	22
3.3.1. Teams	22
3.3.2. Athlete Eligibility	22
3.3.2.3. Team Nomination Process	24
3.3.2.4. Divisions with Age Restrictions	25
3.3.2.5. Nomination Fees	26
Section 3.4. Format	27
Section 3.5. Awards	29



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.5.1. Team Based Awards	29
3.5.2. Individual Awards	30
3.5.3. Process for Awarding the MVP and All Star Team	30
3.5.4. Process for Awarding the Highest Goal Scorer	32
3.5.5. Hall of Fame.....	32
Section 3.6. Venue	33
3.6.6. Corporate Promotions	34
Section 3.7. Referees, Officials, and Volunteers	35
3.7.1. Full Time Referees	35
3.7.1.6. Referee Appointments	36
3.7.1.7. Referee Clinic.....	36
3.7.2. Volunteers	36
Section 3.8. Accommodation and Meals	37
Section 3.9. Ground Transport	38
Section 3.10. Medical	38
Section 3.11. Equipment	39
3.11.5. Eye Patches and Eye Shades	39
Section 3.12. Presentation Function.....	40
Section 3.13. Conclusion of AGCs	41
4 Australian Invitational Championships.....	42
4.1 Hosts	42
4.2 Timing	42
4.3 Format.....	43
5. Classification / Medical.....	44
5.1 Classification	44
5.2 Medical	44
5.3 Insurance.....	44
6. Referees	46
6.1 Referee Development.....	46



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

7. Coaching.....	48
7.1 National Coaches	48
7.2 Coach Development	49
8. GA Executive	50
8.1 Operations.....	50
8.2 Blind Sports Australia contact	50
8.3 GA General meetings	50
8.4 Annual General Meeting (AGM).....	51
8.5 Audit.....	52
8.7 Fundraising.....	52
8.8 Website and Social Media	53
8.9 Correspondence.....	53
8.10 Hall of Fame	53
9 Appendices	55
9.1 Code of Conduct.....	55
9.2 Medical Form.....	58
9.3 National Selection Criteria	60
9.4 Member Protection Policy	62
9.5 Nomination Kit.....	63
9.6 Round Robin Calculation table	63



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

1. Junior and Youth Goalball

1.1 Definition

- There are two categories of Goalball athletes in these divisions. A youth athlete shall be 19 years and under years at the first day of a nominated competition within the GA sanctioned event. A junior athlete can be 14 years and under at the first day of competition within the GA sanctioned event. Events to include:
 - Australian Goalball Championships
 - Australian Invitational Championships
- If possible at both GA sanctioned events a youth competition for youth girls, junior girls, youth boys and junior boys shall occur. If this is not possible due to athlete numbers a joint competition of mixed girls and boys will be considered.
- Where possible these definitions shall be maintained. They may be combined for competition purposes if necessary, however build size and playing skill ability of athletes needs to be considered.
- Once a junior athlete steps up in a category they may not then go back into a sub aged category. The exception to this rule is if a junior athlete plays in a youth competition as a necessity for the team to field a side due to diminished athlete numbers.

1.2 Development

- Junior Development is the responsibility of state Goalball Associations, with assistance / advice from GA as required.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

- Each state/territory should be working with their state/territory school sports department to foster the development of junior and youth Goalball.
- All state/territory associations are encouraged to have regular school demonstrations at schools where a vision-impaired student attends. If the state/territory Goalball body does not have capacity to deliver this, the body should work with the recognised State/territory blind sporting organisation to partner on objectives within school demonstration delivery.
- GA will endeavour to provide resources including an easy-to-use guide for instructors and physical education teachers who are enthusiastic about starting a Goalball program in their school.
- State/territory bodies such as Guide Dogs and Vision Australia should be contacted to work in conjunction with client services to identify avenues where calendar mail outs and flyers can be sent to clients.
- A GA youth and junior pathway will be created through the National youth coaches and ratified by the GA executive.
- All GA-sanctioned junior tournaments will use the 900 gram junior ball.
- GA will not coordinate a formal National Junior Program, however from time to time Junior aged athletes may be invited to participate in National Youth Squad Camps or other activities, particularly where this is seen as beneficial to support their transition from the junior to the youth age group.
- A national junior age competition will be held annually as part of the AGCs



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

- States are encouraged to include junior age competition within their state championship events

1.3 National Youth Squads

GA will coordinate and oversee a National Youth Girls and a National Youth Boys program in order to foster the development of these athletes for transition into senior squads. This includes but is not limited to:

- Appointment of coaches and other relevant program staff.
- All national youth coaching appointments will be made for a period of up to 2 years (ie the conclusion of the next World Youth Championships)
- Appointment of a Youth Program Manager to coordinate all of the program logistics. This is not specifically a traveling position, however the Program Manager may also apply for another staff position such as Assistant Coach, Team Manager or Medical. This appointment will also be for a period of up to 2 years
- Approval of program of camps and competitions as developed by coaches
- Fostering links between the Youth and Senior Programs
- Development of guidelines and policies around the involvement of athletes and staff in the squads
- Appointment of Assistant Coach, Manager, Escort positions



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

for all camps and competitions as required

1.3.1 Competition

- A national youth competition will be held annually, as part of the AGCs
- Selected youth athletes will be invited to play as part of the AICs event, when held
- GA will provide a least 1 International Youth competition opportunity annually – dependant on available competitions and budget constraints

1.3.2 Development camps

- GA youth coaches will set an annual calendar of camps and competition, with a minimum of three development camps per year. These camps will assist in developing skill-based training that can be utilised within states by state coaches under the continued review of a GA youth coach.
- The initial camp of each year will be an open camp for all affiliate member youth athletes to attend and be evaluated. Subsequent camps will be for invited squad members.
- All camps will be cost shared by all athletes, so as not to provide a financial disadvantage to athletes living in other states. These may include the additional cost share of GA coaches and support staff.
- Identified national youth squad members will (from time to time) be invited to attend national senior camps, particularly where this



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

will be beneficial to aid in their transition from youth age to open competition.

1.3.3 Travel

- Travel for national program activities will be coordinated by the relevant Program Manager and booked through GA’s designated Travel Agent – Flight Centre
- Only Program Managers and the GA President are authorised to make bookings on the GA account with flight centre (the relevant Flight Centre account manager will be advised the names of authorised people)
- All travel invoices will be emailed directly to the GA Treasurer for payment
- Any extensions for travel must be advised to the Program Manager in advance of bookings being finalised and any extra costs incurred are payable by the individual directly to Flight Centre
- All members of Australian Youth teams traveling to international tournaments must depart Australia with a member of team staff (or their parent/ legal guardian). This may require team members to travel first to an different domestic location than their home port
- Where possible, all team members should arrive at the final international destination at the same time.. This may require the team departing Australia from home ports and meeting on route; or may require all meeting in the same domestic city for international departure together. If it is not possible to arrive on the same flight, arrivals in the final destination should be within 3



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

hours of each other. Budget will also be taken into consideration for final decisions on travel.

- Where possible, GA will make flight bookings on behalf of supporters traveling with the team; however in some cases this may not be possible. Supporters are responsible for paying their own flight costs in full
- Travel insurance will also be booked on behalf of all team members when traveling to international competitions

1.3.4 Uniforms

- All members of Australian squads will have an official squad polo shirt to be worn on all official squad activities.
- Travelling teams will have uniform polos, tracksuits and playing strip (light and dark) as a minimum.
- Other items may be added depending on the event, however keeping costs to a minimum should be front of mind.
- All uniform orders are to be placed directly with Joust via the GA link. Please note, orders will only be filled by Joust at the time of specified competitions as advised to them by the Program Manager or GA Secretary



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

2. Seniors

2.1 Definition

- Seniors' shall include all athletes over nineteen years of age as at first day of competition.
- In the case that a youth or junior athlete (any division) wishes to compete as a 'senior', it is the State's responsibility to ensure :
 - (i) The athlete is physically and mentally capable of playing at that level;
 - (ii) It will be beneficial for the athlete's development to do so.
 - (iii) If the athlete plays in a senior category for any other purpose than to make up team numbers in order to field a team (3/4 team members), that athlete will continue to play in that category and not be eligible to go back to their previous youth or junior category in future years
- After playing up in senior level competition at the AGCs, a athlete is not able to return to national youth competition in future years; though they are still eligible to represent Australia at international Youth competition until their age prohibits them from doing so

2.2 National Senior Squads

Since 2015, the APC has endorsed GA to manage and oversee the national High Performance Program (HPP). In line with APC advice and instruction, GA will coordinate and oversee a National Mens and a National Womens program in order to foster the development of these athletes with the aim of developing teams capable of winning medals at World Championships and Paralympic Games. This includes but is



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

not limited to:

- Managing the High Performance Program Budget as determined by the ASC and APC
- Appointment of coaches and other relevant program staff. In line with other Paralympic sports, national senior coaching and staff appointments will be made for a period of up to 4 years (ie from Paralympics to Paralympics), subject to successful annual review. This allows the appointed coaches and program manager to facilitate and implement a medium to long term plan.
- Appointment of a Senior Program Manager will be responsible for liaising between Head Coaches and the GA Executive, including the management of program budget (inclusive of any High Performance funding provided by ASC / APC), coordination of logistics for all program activities, and compiling monthly program reports for GA
- Approval of program of camps and competitions as developed by coaches
- Fostering links between the Youth and Senior Programs
- Development of guidelines and policies around the involvement of athletes and staff in the squads, including Selection Criteria endorsed by the APC
- Appointment of medical and other ancillary staff as required by specific events



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

2.2.1 Competition

- National Senior competition (Mens and Womens) will be held annually, as part of the AGCs
- Where possible within calendar and budget constraints, the AICs will be held for the top 12 male and top 12 female athletes in the country
- National Senior Squads will compete in at least one international competition each year, within calendar and budget constraints
- Where possible, within calendar and budget constraints, Australian development teams will compete in at least one international development competition each year. These teams may be a combination of youth and senior athletes
- Where possible within calendar and budget constraints members of National squads will compete in state championship events each year

2.2.2 National Program Camps

- GA senior coaches will set an annual calendar of camps and competition. At least one camp or competition will be held approximately every 6 weeks, dependant on dates for international tournaments.
- Senior camps will be open to identified national squad members.
- All camps will be cost shared by all athletes, so as not to provide



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

a financial disadvantage to athletes living in other states. These may include the additional cost share of GA coaches and support staff.

- In consultation with national youth coaches, identified national youth squad members will (from time to time) be invited to attend national senior camps, particularly where this will be beneficial to aid in their transition from youth age to open competition.

2.2.3 Travel

- Travel for national program activities will be coordinated by the relevant Program Manager and booked through GA’s designated Travel Agent – Flight Centre
- Only Program Managers and the GA President are authorised to make bookings on the GA account with flight centre (the relevant Flight Centre account manager will be advised the names of authorised people)
- All travel invoices will be emailed directly to the GA Treasurer for payment
- Any extensions for travel must be advised to the Program Manager in advance of bookings being finalised and any extra costs incurred are payable by the individual directly to Flight Centre
- Where possible, all team members should arrive at the final international destination at the same time.. This may require the team departing Australia from home ports and meeting on route; or may require all meeting in the same domestic city for international departure together. If it is not possible to arrive on



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

the same flight, arrivals in the final destination should be within 3 hours of each other. Budget will also be taken into consideration for final decisions on travel.

- Where possible, GA will make flight bookings on behalf of supporters traveling with the team; however in some cases this may not be possible. Supporters are responsible for paying their own flight costs in full
- Travel insurance will also be booked on behalf of all team members when traveling to international competitions

2.2.4 Uniforms

- All members of Australian squads will have an official squad polo shirt to be worn on all official squad activities.
- Travelling teams will have uniform polos, tracksuits and playing strip (light and dark) as a minimum.
- Other items may be added depending on the event, however keeping costs to a minimum should be front of mind.
- All uniform orders are to be placed directly with Joust via the GA link. Please note, orders will only be filled by Joust at the time of specified competitions as advised to them by the Program Manager or GA Secretary



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3 Australian Goalball Championships

Section 3.1. Preamble

3.1.1. Aim

The Australian Goalball Championships are to be the pinnacle national competition and facilitated by Goalball Australia each year. The Championships primarily focus on state teams competing against each other to determine the strongest state team in each division (Men, Women, Youth and Juniors). The high standards of the event are intended to provide further opportunities for athletes and officials to develop and grow.

3.1.2. Mission

- (i) To encourage states to develop programs and regulations to support athletes and officials to strive towards being selected to represent their own state at these national championships
- (ii) To support high achieving athletes and officials in preparation for international competition
- (iii) To further showcase the sport of goalball in Australia through promotion of the sport to a broader audience via the pinnacle national competition, with the aim to increase awareness and participation at each State level
- (iv) In the case of Junior Divisions, a stronger emphasis should be placed on participation and keeping the fun in fundamentals



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.1.3. Definitions

AGCs - Australian Goalball Championships

GA - Goalball Australia

LOC - Local Organising Committee

Member - Goalball Australia State Association

Section 3.2. Hosting

3.2.1. Goalball will generally be considered to be a winter sport with the season running from February/March through to the Australian Goalball Championships which should be held in the School Holiday Period between Term 3 and Term 4 each year; provided this does not conflict with any international tournaments for national teams

3.2.2. Host Rotation

3.2.2.1. The AGCs will be hosted by each member on a rotational basis. The order of continuous rotation shall be: New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland.

3.2.2.2. Should an additional State or Territory become a member of GA, this new member will not be required to host an AGCs until this new member has been a part of GA for five (5) continuous years.

3.2.2.3. In the event a member is not able to host the AGCs, the following GA member in rotation will be requested to host a year ahead. If they indicate that they are also unable to host, all



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

members will be invited to nominate to host for that given year with GA to make a ruling on which member will host.

3.2.2.4. If all GA members are not in a position to host AGCs, then no AGCs shall be played in that year.

3.2.2.5. For the purposes of hosting cycles, the member originally scheduled to host any year's AGCs that does not take place shall be considered as having hosted that year's AGCs with the next member in the cycle to host the AGCs the following year.

3.2.2.6. Any member that agrees to host the AGCs will have that year of hosting counted as their turn in rotation to host. In such instances, the rotation cycle will be updated to reflect the new hosting order.

3.2.2.7. Local Organising Committee

3.2.2.7.1. The host Member will appoint a Local Organising Committee (LOC) to organise the AGCs for the year on behalf of the host member and in conjunction with GA. Anyone who is a part of the host member and wishes to help with the organising of the AGCs can become involved with the LOC.

3.2.2.7.2. The LOC Chairperson should be a member of the host member's committee.

3.2.2.7.3. The LOC Chairperson can then delegate tasks for the organising of the AGCs to other LOC members.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.2.2.7.4. The LOC will appoint a Tournament Director. The Tournament Director’s role is to ensure the competition follows the current protocols and rules for this event as set down by the GA Handbook and IBSA Goalball Rules and Regulations.

3.2.2.7.5. The LOC shall supply to GA a budget and event plan six (6) months before the commencement of competition for feedback and advice.

3.2.2.7.6. A representative of the LOC will provide an update on planning at each subsequent GA Executive Meeting, either personally, including via online / video conferencing services or via a written report.

3.2.2.7.7. The LOC may request a representative from Goalball Australia to attend any related planning meetings or act as a direct contact for any situations that require the support or direction of Goalball Australia. This member of Goalball Australia is to have prior experience with the running of AGCs

3.2.2.7.8. The budget is developed by the LOC. Items to include are:

- (i) Venue
- (ii) accommodation
- (iii) lunches
- (iv) airport transfer costings
- (v) referee costings as per GA handbook regulations (see Section 3.3.2.)



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

- (vi) medals
- (vii) equipment including balls, etc
- (viii) media including photography and streaming
- (ix) first aid
- (x) referee clinics either hosted by GA or IBSA depending on the year
- (xi) AGCs incidentals including printing, etc.

3.2.2.8. Fees

3.2.2.8.1. All reasonable costs of hosting the AGCs shall be taken into account when determining nomination fees. The LOC should take all reasonable steps to off-set the costs through grants, sponsorships, etc.

3.2.2.8.2. A nomination kit as found in Appendix A will be forwarded by the LOC, with the closing date for nominations to be five (5) months prior to the commencement of the AGCs. A \$250 nomination fee per individual team entered into any division shall apply.

3.2.2.8.3. All invited members will be notified of final nomination fees and the inclusions a minimum of four (4) months prior to commencement of the AGCs. In the event of a AGCs or division cancellation, all payments are to be returned six (6) weeks prior to the scheduled start date of AGCs. The LOC will also notify all members of a division cancellation no



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

later than two (2) months prior to the scheduled start date of AGCs, to allow members to plan their own team selections.

3.2.2.8.4. The LOC reserves the right to refuse nominations or impose late fees for teams or individuals should forms and / or payments not be received by the due dates.

Section 3. Minimum requirements for conducting AGCs

3.3.1. Teams

3.3.1.1. All current GA members will be invited to enter teams in any division of the AGCs.

3.3.1.2. Overseas teams may also be invited to enter in the AGCs at the discretion of the LOC in consultation with the GA Committee. These teams will not be eligible to win the “National Championships” or AGCs individual awards. The inclusion of non-Australian teams should not detract from the opportunity the AGCs provide to Australian athletes

3.3.2. Athlete Eligibility

3.3.2.1. If an athlete has represented Australia at an international tournament in an official Australian squad, then that athlete cannot play in a lower equivalent division at AGCs unless otherwise deemed by Goalball Australia

3.3.2.2. Process for Athlete clearance from affiliated members



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.3.2.2.1. Athlete Membership

3.3.2.2.1.1. If there is a GA member in an athlete’s State or Territory of residence, an athlete must be a financial member of that member and must apply to play for that member first and foremost.

3.3.2.2.2. Members have the right to make their own selection criteria.

3.3.2.2.3. If an athlete meets a member’s selection criteria and makes it into a member’s team but wishes to be released from that member’s team, it is up to the discretion of that member to grant that release.

3.3.2.2.4. If an athlete is not selected for their member, the member must release that athlete.

3.3.2.2.5. GA has the final decision on the eligibility of an athlete to participate in the AGCs..

3.3.2.2.6. Athletes released from their member shall be allocated to either a pool team or to other member teams that are lacking athletes at the direction of GA in conjunction with the LOC.

3.3.2.2.7. If there is an athlete that resides in a State or Territory that does not have a State or Territory body that is a member of GA, or is an athlete from overseas, then these athletes shall be allocated to either a pool team or to other member teams that are lacking athletes at the direction of GA in conjunction with the LOC.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.3.2.2.8. All athlete allocations performed by GA in conjunction with the LOC should be done in order to create the most evenly balanced competition as possible.

3.3.2.2.9. All athletes and officials participating in an AGCs must have signed a GA AGC Code of Conduct form for their member association, and also be deemed medically fit to contest the AGCs

3.3.2.3. Team Nomination Process

3.3.2.3.1. Each member is to indicate what teams will compete in each division by no later than four (4) months prior to the AGCs commencing.

3.3.2.3.2. Each member will initially only be able to place one (1) team in each division.

3.3.2.3.3. Any additional athletes eligible for a division that a member releases are to be made known to GA and the LOC by four (4) months prior to the tournament commencement. A member should also advise if they are interested in receiving additional athletes for their member teams in a particular division at this time

3.3.2.3.4. If a member has enough numbers to submit an additional team for any given division, the member may place this request with GA and the LOC when the member releases their additional athletes.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.3.2.3.5. The LOC in conjunction with GA shall hold the right to determine whether a member may enter an additional team into a division or if one (1) or more pool teams are to be formed or if athletes are to be reallocated to other existing teams.

3.3.2.3.6. In order for a team to be recognised as a State or Territory team eligible for collecting points on the shield, the team can only include a maximum of one (1) athlete not from that State or Territory

3.3.2.4. Divisions with Age Restrictions

3.3.2.4.1. Athletes and members need to abide by the GA age restrictions. Athletes may play up an age division, but not down. Athletes can only play in one division for the duration of the AGCs.

3.3.2.4.2. The age limitations on divisions are as follows:

(i) Juniors - 14 years and under by the 31st of December of the AGCs year

(ii) Youth - 19 years and under by the 31st of December of the AGCs year

3.3.2.4.3. If a member's athletes are unable to participate in an AGCs year due to lack of numbers after exhausting all available options including combining with other members or clearing their athletes to the GA pool, then an athlete outside of the age restrictions may be brought in to enable participation. In such circumstances, teams



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

with athletes outside of the age restrictions will not be eligible to earn points for the member’s shield, with the exception of juniors. This allows participation whilst also not allowing for unfair advantages.

3.3.2.4.4. Cases of an athlete participating outside of the age restrictions must be approved by GA.

3.3.2.4.5. If a member feels that there are other exceptional circumstances not catered for in the above, then the member is to bring these concerns to the attention of GA in writing for GA to discuss and decide. GA must divulge to all members the reason for their decision for transparency purposes.

3.3.2.4.6. A team must start each game with three (3) athletes on court, but can play designated games with a minimum of two athletes, should others be unable to play due to medical or other reasons.

3.3.2.4.7. All team bench staff must be registered for the event for the purposes of insurance and in line with international procedures

3.3.2.5. Nomination Fees

3.3.2.5.1. Team and individual nomination fees should be calculated to cover the real costs of the AGCs excluding any sponsorships or grants the LOC is able to attain towards these costs.

3.3.2.5.2. AGCs fees should be charged for both athletes and team staff. AGCs fees should also be charged to supporting



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

persons that wish to be included in AGCs expenses such as airport transfers, accommodation, meal packages and inclusion at ticketed events such as AGCs functions.

3.3.2.5.3. Nomination packages should be constructed so as to provide a fee inclusive of airport transfers and a different fee excluding airport transfers.

Section 3.4. Format

3.4.1. The various rules, handbooks, procedure manuals and protocols published by IBSA in relation to the playing rules and regulations of the sport of Goalball are to be the first point of reference when conducting the AGCs. These documents are available at <https://goalball.sport/about-goalball/>. Deviation from the above named documents should only take place where indicated below. If an item of this document is in direct contradiction with an IBSA document, then the ruling within this document shall be followed to the extent in which a contradiction applies.

3.4.2. The length of the AGCs will be three (3) to four (4) days, dependent on the number of divisions that can be run and team nominations received.

3.4.3. The AGCs shall be an integrated competition, which includes sighted athletes as well as athletes with a vision-impairment. However, preference should always be given to athletes with a vision impairment when members are selecting their teams.

3.4.4. the AGCs should be offered in the following divisions, with a minimum of three (3) teams required for the division to run:

- (i) Men



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

- (ii) Women
- (iii) Youth Boys
- (iv) Youth Girls
- (v) Junior Boys
- (vi) Junior Girls

3.4.5. Where athlete numbers across the country do not permit a minimum of three (3) teams in Junior or Youth. divisions, they will be combined and run as Mixed Youth / Mixed Junior divisions as applicable.

3.4.6. Each division will structure the initial competition as a round robin, with the aim of teams playing five (5) to six (6) games. The exact structure of a division will be dependent on the number of teams in said division as determined by the table in Appendix B: Round Robin Calculation Table. Time available, numbers of divisional teams and numbers of available officials should also be taken into account. The LOC will do the best they can to accommodate a high standard event.

3.4.7. Where appropriate, divisions may be combined in the round robin phase to allow athletes to face greater numbers of opposition. In such circumstances, Finals series will still be played as separate divisions.

3.4.8. Games should not start prior to 8am on any given competition day. The last match scheduled on any given day should also start no later than 6pm. All Junior division games should conclude by 6pm.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.4.9. A minimum of seventy (70) minutes should be allowed per game to allow multiple courts to run times parallel to each other. An additional five (5) minutes should be allotted for games that involve March Ins.

3.4.11. Results of AGCs games will be posted on the GA website and the GA Facebook page.

3.4.12. At the conclusion of the AGCs results of all games, team awards, individual awards, and Hall of Fame inductee names are to be sent to the GA Historian and stored on the GA Secretry.

Section 3.5. Awards

3.5.1. Team Based Awards

3.5.1.1. The Australian Goalball Championships will award:

- (i) Gold Medals for the highest ranked Australian team in a division
- (ii) Silver Medals for the second highest ranked Australian team in a division
- (iii) Bronze Medals for the third highest ranked Australian team in a division

3.5.1.1.2. These medals will only be awarded where there are four (4) or more teams competing in the following divisions:

- (i) Mens



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

- (ii) Womens
- (iii) Youth Boys
- (iv) Youth Girls
- (v) Combined Youth

3.5.1.1.3. All teams in the Junior Division shall receive a participation medal.

3.5.1.1.4. The LOC may choose to award winning international teams if there are more than one non-Australian teams competing in any division where medals are awarded.

3.5.2. Individual Awards

3.5.2.1. Each division will also include the following individual awards:

- (i) All Star Team containing a maximum of six (6) athletes
- (ii) Highest Goal Scorer (HGS)
- (iiI) Most Valuable Player (MVP)

3.5.3. Process for Awarding the MVP and All Star Team

3.5.3.1. The All Star Team shall only be made up of vision impaired athletes. An acknowledgement can be given to any non-vision impaired athlete who has excelled during the AGCs. In the event where a division does not have more than eight (8) vision impaired athletes, the All Star Team for that division may be



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

reduced to three (3) players. The coaching staff may also award one (1) vote to a member from their own team that the coaches believe to be their team’s most valuable player

3.5.3.2. MVP and All-Star Teams will be determined by votes from coaches of all teams competing in that division. Votes must be submitted to the TD by the end of round-robin matches. The coaching staff may also award one (1) vote to a member from their own team that the coaches believe to be their team’s most valuable player

3.5.3.3. At the end of the round robin phase of the tournament, each team’s coaching staff will vote for the best six (6) individuals from opposing teams. Teams’ coaches will award six (6) votes to the most valuable player, five (5) votes to the second most valuable player, four (4) votes to the third most valuable player and continue doing so until all votes have been awarded to players from different teams or until there are no longer individuals to award votes to.

3.5.3.4. All votes shall be tallied together and a maximum six (6) eligible individuals with the highest number of votes shall be named as the All Star Team.

3.5.3.5. In the event that one (1) or more individuals tie for the final spot in the All Star Team for a division, a selection panel may be convened to break the tie. This selection panel cannot include relatives or team staff of any player involved in tie breaker discussions. It is recommended that this panel include national coaches relevant to that division.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.5.3.6. The MVP shall be determined as the player that receives the most votes in the voting process whether vision impaired or not.

3.5.3.6.1 In the event that one (1) or more individuals tie with the highest number of votes for the MVP Award, the process to separate these individuals shall be the same as described in Section 5 1.3.5.

3.5.4. Process for Awarding the Highest Goal Scorer

- (i) This award is given to the player who scores the most goals, inclusive of penalties.
- (ii) All players are eligible for this award.
- (iii) Goals for Highest Goal Scorer should only be counted during the round robin phase of a tournament
- (iv) If there is a tie for the Highest Goal Scorer Award, goals scored in the finals phase of competition shall be counted. If there is still a tie after this process, then the award shall be shared

3.5.5. Hall of Fame

3.5.5.1. The GA Hall of Fame seeks to recognise and thank those who have contributed to the sport of Goalball in Australia for a significant number of years.

3.5.5.2. GA will announce calls for nominations to the Hall of Fame each year to members no later than three (3) months prior to the commencement of the AGCs each year. The members



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

will then have one (1) month to send their nominations to the GA Secretary by either post or email.

3.5.5.3. Only two (2) people are to be inducted into the Hall of Fame each year. If an AGCs are postponed for any reason then three (3) people may be inducted to the Hall of Fame the following year.

3.5.5.4. Potential inductees must have been involved in GA for a minimum of twenty (20) years. Potential inductees may have served GA in a variety of capacities throughout that period, including playing, coaching, and or held administrative positions within Goalball at either state or national level.

3.5.5.5. A panel of three (3) people will be appointed to oversee the selection of potential inductees each year. This panel must include a current member of the GA Committee, a previous Hall of Fame inductee, and another person from within the GA Community. The Selection Panel will then report their selections to the GA Committee for approval. Once approved by the GA Committee the new inductees will be announced during the presentation function to be held during the AGCs that year.

Section 3.6. Venue

3.6.1. The number of playing courts at a venue shall be based on ensuring the competition does not exceed four (4) days.

3.6.2. When multiple playing courts are required to run a competition, court configuration is to be in such a way that noise from one court or other spaces does not interfere with another court.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.6.3. When multiple courts are being used for the Championships, the distance between courts should not exceed three (3) minutes of walking from court entrance to court entrance.

3.6.4. Court surfaces should be wood, Taraflex, or any other equivalent surface.

3.6.5. The venue, should also include:

- (i) spaces for spectators
- (ii) spaces for social gatherings
- (iii) team warm up areas
- (iv) spaces for first aid personnel
- (v) spaces for media and live streaming
- (vi) space for the LOC
- (vi) Be wheelchair accessible
- (vii) Provide Guide Dog Toileting facilities

3.6.6. Corporate Promotions

3.6.6.1. GA can request the LOC for promotional space in the venue if GA has any corporate sponsors of any of its national programs that it wishes to promote at the AGCs



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.6.6.2. GA must ensure that these promotions do not clash with any LOC, BSA, or PA sponsors who may be promoted during the AGCs.

Section 3.7. Referees, Officials, and Volunteers

3.7.1. Full Time Referees

3.7.1.1. The LOC shall budget for and pay airfares, accommodation, ground transport and meal costs (including Presentation Functions) for all current IBSA registered referees who will be a full-time referee for the event, plus any additional Full Time referees required to ensure a minimum of six (6) Full Time referees per hall / court for the duration of the championships.

3.7.1.2. A minimum of six (6) Full Time referees per hall / court is required for the duration of the AGCs.

3.7.1.3. To be considered a Full Time referee and have costs met, an individual must play no other role during the AGCs including:

- (1) athlete
- (ii) coach
- (iii) team manager
- (iv) broadcaster

3.7.1.4. A pro-rata payment system will be negotiated by the LOC.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.7.1.5. New or trainee referees or international referees wishing to gain further experience will pay all of their own costs.

3.7.1.6. Referee Appointments

3.7.1.6.1. The appointment of referees for the AGCs should be done in consultation with the GA Head Referee

3.7.1.6.2. The GA Head Referee will be solely responsible for referee match appointments, including medal matches

3.7.1.7. Referee Clinic

3.7.1.7.1. GA in conjunction with the Head Referee will endeavour to fund and run a Level 1 IBSA Referees Clinic in conjunction with the AGCs, allowing current Referees to maintain accreditation and new referees to gain accreditation.

3.7.1.7.2. The LOC will be required to arrange a suitable training venue the day prior to the start of the AGCs.

3.7.2. Volunteers

3.7.2.1. The LOC is responsible for sourcing and training volunteers to fulfil the following roles for each game during the AGCs.:

- (i) goal judges
- (ii) score table staff



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

(iii) assisting with eye patching

3.7.2.2. GA recommends working with local universities, TAFEs, Schools, Lions, Rotary, family and friends, and other state based volunteer agencies to source volunteers.

Section 3.8. Accommodation and Meals

3.8.1. The LOC is responsible for recommending appropriate accommodation for the AGCs duration at a reasonable price that is also close to the playing venue. Members are then responsible for booking their own accommodation.

3.8.2. The LOC is responsible for sourcing appropriate accommodation for full time officials close to the playing venue.

3.8.3. Members may choose to make their own alternative accommodation arrangements.

3.8.4. The LOC will supply, at a minimum, lunch each day for all athletes, team staff, referees and volunteers. All other meals are the responsibility of individuals.

3.8.5. The LOC will be required to cater for dietary requirements that are made known to them in advance through the nomination kits.

3.8.6. The LOC is also encouraged to have available a canteen for the purchase of snacks, as well as for supporters and spectators to purchase lunches.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

Section 3.9. Ground Transport

3.9.1. The LOC is responsible for providing ground transport between nominated accommodation, playing venue, and airport arrivals and departures each day.

3.9.2. Those staying at an alternative accommodation to the one provided by the LOC will be responsible for their own transport arrangements.

3.9.3. If the accommodation is within reasonable walking distance of the playing venue or adequate alternative transport is available, daily transport will not be required.

Section 3.10. Medical

3.10.1. The LOC is responsible for providing first aid staff and have first aid staff and areas clearly identifiable for the duration of the AGCs.

3.10.2. The LOC is responsible for providing a fully stocked first aid kit and access to ice packs for the duration of the AGCs.

3.10.3. At a minimum, there should be one qualified first aid person for each playing venue.

3.10.4. In addition to First Aid Officers and where possible, remedial massage or physiotherapists could also be made available.

3.10.5. The LOC is encouraged to alert their local ambulance services and hospital emergency rooms regarding the AGCs dates in advance.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

Section 3.11. Equipment

3.11.1. The LOC is responsible for ensuring all required equipment is available and in good working order for the duration of the AGCs.

3.11.2. There should be adequate numbers of balls for competition games with new balls for the finals. Members should be informed of ball choices and arrangements for warm up balls in initial information packs.

3.11.3. There should be adequate officials' table equipment available throughout the AGCs including:

- (i) working scoreboards
- (ii) brailled sub cards
- (iii) stopwatches
- (iv) squeaky toys

3.11.4. The LOC may sell commonly used personal goalball equipment to athletes including:

- (i) eye shades
- (ii) elbow and knee pads
- (iii) personal protections

3.11.5. Eye Patches and Eye Shades

3.11.5.1. Appropriately sized Eye Patches will be used at the AGCs for all athletes in all divisions



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.11.5.2. Eyepatches can be applied by team members (including staff) or designated volunteers supplied by the LOCt

3.11.5.3. Before a game commences, 10 Second Timers may also assist with patching

3.11.5.4. Should any athletes have allergies to the nominated eye patches, it is the responsibility of members to advise the LOC at least three (3) months prior to the commencement of competition so that other arrangements can be made. Alternatively, members can bring their own eye patches with them however, these must be presented to the Head Referee prior to the Opening Ceremony for approval

3.11.5.5. All athletes are required to wear IBSA approved eye shades or completely blacked out ski mask type eyeshades

3.11.5.6. Members should bring a supply of eye shades with them in the event an athlete's eye shades do not conform or require replacement during the AGCs.

3.11.5.7. Each team is required to have at least one (1) spare set of eye shades on the bench during every match in case a pair of eye shades in use needs to be replaced during the game.

Section 3.12.Presentation Function

3.12.1. The LOC is responsible for coordinating a presentation function at the conclusion of round robin matches. This could be either a luncheon or a dinner, depending on the LOC's choice.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

3.12.2. The cost of the presentation function should be kept reasonable.

3.12.3. Medal Presentations and Closing Ceremonies may be held either together with the Presentation Function or separately from the Presentation Function.

3.12.4. The Aim of the Presentation Function should be to present individual awards such as All Star Teams, MVPs and Highest Goal Scorers of each division as well as GA Hall of Fame presentations.

Section 3.13. Conclusion of AGCs

3.13.1. State and Territory flags will be passed onto the next LOC for use at the next AGCs Opening Ceremony.

3.13.2. All perpetual trophies will be provided back to GA, who will update the engravings on trophies to reflect the current National Champions.

3.13.3. The LOC will provide a thank you email to competing members, which will include competition results and any links to professional photography, videography, and any available live streamed coverage) of all teams captured during the AGCs.

3.13.4. The LOC may review the Goalball Australia handbook (Section 3) and propose any necessary resolutions in relation to barriers that the LOC encountered during the planning and running of the AGCs. The LOC shall have up to three (3) months after the conclusion of the AGCs to raise any concerns regarding this document that they have encountered during the running of the AGCs.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

4 Australian Invitational Championships

- Where possible within the calendar (giving consideration to the other commitments of national teams), the AICs will provide an additional domestic competition opportunity for our elite palyers
- The Australian Invitational Championships has been developed to provide three (3) primary outcomes:
 - (i) Invitation to the top 12 male and top 12 female athletes to train and play competitive games. This may include both senior and youth aged athletes. Invitees will be determined by the relevant national coaches in conjunction with GA;
 - (ii) Allow for referee development through the conduct of workshops, further refereeing of matches and peer critiquing; and;
 - (iii) Allow for coach development by providing the opportunity for training and feedback sessions with athletes, as well as coaching teams in the competition.

4.1 Hosts

GA will call for expressions of interest from states to host the AICs each year. All reasonable costs of hosting the championships shall be taken into account when determining nomination fees.

Travel costs should be cost shared amongst each division. GA will work closely with the host on organising all aspects of this event.

4.2 Timing

The preferred timing of the AICs each year is April, however this may



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

change dependant on the commitments of national teams to international competitions

4.3 Format

The format of the weekend is to include time for each squad to undertake training sessions, as well as to play matches within their division, under full competition rules.

The schedule should (where possible) also include a minimum of one referee workshop and time for referee peer review.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

5. Classification / Medical

5.1 Classification

- GA will follow the current IBSA Goalball requirements in relation to classification; with the exception of non-classified (including fully sighted) athletes being included in the AGCs.
- All members of national squads (youth and senior) must have a minimum national level classification prior to being able to take up their position within the squad

5.2 Medical

- All members of national squads and athletes entering GA sanctioned competitions are to be medically fit to fill all training and playing requirements
- National squad members will be required to complete an medical form annually and update it as required
- All participants in GA sanctioned events will be required to complete a medical form at the time of the event
- All information contained in medical forms will be treated as confidential and will only be used should a medical incident occur

5.3 Insurance

- All GA sanctioned activities (including training camps and competitions) will be covered by the BSA Public Liability Insurance up to the specified inclusions
- All member states will be provided with a copy of the Certificate of



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

Currency as it is renewed each year and they should make themselves familiar with the inclusions, exclusions and payout limits



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

6. Referees

6.1 Referee Development

- Ensure sufficient opportunities for the IBSA qualified referees to maintain their accreditation, ie four games each at two separate tournaments per year as per IBSA guidelines. Tournaments can include AGCs, AICs and state championship events
- GA undertakes to pay the annual specified IBSA accreditation fee on behalf of all Australian based referees who are maintaining accreditation. Referees will be required to pay their first year accreditation fee themselves
- GA will endeavour to run a national level referee update clinic each year in conjunction with the AGCs
- GA will endeavour to run an IBSA certification clinic once every four years at the AGCs. (NB. An annual formal IBSA re-certification is not required unless a referee is intending to apply to referee at IBSA sanctioned events);
- All affiliate member state championships shall be open to all GA and IBSA certified referees to attend and officiate at their own expense (or by negotiation with the host state)
- At the conclusion of any tournament (incl state championships), it is the responsibility of the event coordinator to forward the referee games list to the GA Head Referee. This should detail match duties performed (10 second timer, table side referee, off-side referee, scorer, goal judge etc). This ensures GA has a full and complete list of duties performed in order to sign off on referee passports



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

- The GA Head Referee shall maintain a database of current GA and IBSA certified referees. It is the responsibility of each member state to advise the GA Head Referee of any new trainee referees in their state, as well as updates on their progression



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

7. Coaching

7.1 National Coaches

- GA will be responsible for the appointment and management of national coaches (incl Assistant Coaches) for senior and youth squads
- National Senior coaches will be appointed for a period of up to four years through until the next scheduled to Paralympic Games, in consultation with the APC and BSA
- National Youth coaches will be appointed for a period of up to two years through until the next scheduled Youth World Championships
- Coaching positions will be reviewed on an annual basis and should any member of the coaching staff be deemed to be not meeting the required performance and/or conduct standards, their position will be terminated immediately
- At the end of the coaching appointment period (ie Youth World Championships or Paralympic Games), a full program review will be conducted by GA. Pending this review the coaches may be immediately re-appointed for another term or the position may be vacated and a new recruitment process will commence
- Where GA decides to undertake a new recruitment process, the previous coach will be entitled and apply again for the position
- Where a recruitment process is undertaking, GA will call for applications from any interested parties. Current Human Resourcing national protocols will be followed for recruitment, including Position Descriptions, advertising for applications, shortlisting and formal interview process



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

- National coaches will be required to keep the GA executive updated at all times on their relevant program activities, specifically highlighting any potential issues
- National coaches will be responsible for setting their program calendar of events, including camps and competitions

7.2 Coach Development

- State Goalball Associations are responsible for the initial recruitment and introductory training of new coaches
- GA will assist, where possible, states to provide further development opportunities to state coaches
- At a minimum coaches must complete the ASC Community Coaching General Principles online course before they will be considered for any national coaching role
- From time to time, state coaches will be invited to attend and assist with national program camps at their own costs. These invitations will be at the discretion of the relevant head coach



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

8. GA Executive

8.1 Operations

- As an incorporated association, GA is bound by rules set down by the GA constitution
- The GA Executive shall be elected each year at the AGM – all positions are declared vacant each year, current members may re-nominate

8.2 Blind Sports Australia contact

- By default the GA President will be the delegate to BSA and will keep affiliated members up to date with all BSA information

8.3 GA General meetings

- As a incorporated association, a minimum of four GA Executive meetings must be held each year. The executive may seek to meet every four to six weeks via Skype. Minutes from these meetings will be distributed via the GA website, once they have been confirmed at the following meeting
- Upcoming meeting dates will be advertised on the GA website
- Affiliated member associations may submit items to be discussed by the GA Executive at any meeting. These must be submitted in writing to the Secretary no later than 1 week prior to the meeting
- From time to time, state representatives may be invited to GA Executive meetings as an observer only. These invitations are at the



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

discretion of the GA President

- From time to time, GA may request an affiliate member or specific person to attend a meeting either in full or for discussion around a particular topic

8.4 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- The AGM will be held each year at the AGCs in a meeting or function room organised by the host state
- Notice of the AGM will be provided to all member states at least 6 weeks prior to the AGM. This notice will provide the date of the meeting, along with nomination forms for committee positions
- Member states are entitled to submit agenda items and motions, no later than 3 weeks prior to the AGM. The state submitting the item must be prepared to speak to it at the meeting
- Each member state must provide a written report on the past 12 months no later than 3 weeks prior to the AGM
- Each member state will have one voting representative. The name of this representative is to be notified to the GA Secretary no later than 3 weeks prior to the date of the AGM
- Other interested parties may also attend the AGM and contribute constructively to any discussion, but they will not have any voting rights
- The AGM Agenda and copies of state reports will be sent, by the GA Secretary to all member states no later than 2 weeks prior to AGM.



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

8.5 Audit

- The audited accounts of GA will be available by the AGM each year
 - Due to the current turnover of funds, GA is required to have the accounts audited by an independent auditor. This will be done at a reasonable cost
- #### 8.6 Membership

- Membership of GA is open to all states and territories of Australia
- The current annual membership fee is \$400 and is to be invoiced and paid prior to the AGM each year. Members who have not paid their membership fees will be unable to vote at the AGM and may also have their member athletes excluded from GA activities until such time as fees have been paid

8.7 Fundraising

- GA will seek all available funding from all and any source available to offset the cost of GA operations as well as costs associated with national program squad activities
- This may include the consideration of a professional grant writer who may receive a percentage of the grant upon a successful application
- GA has an ongoing fundraiser operating via the Australian Sports Foundation and from time to time will set up project specific fundraisers on this site



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

8.8 Website and Social Media

- GA will designate 2 people to be responsible for maintaining the official website with current information. States are encouraged to contribute to the website by submitting content via the GA secretary.
- Costs for the website will be borne by GA from general funds
- GA will designate up to 3 people to be responsible for managing all official GA social media accounts.
- Social media includes but is not limited to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Passwords are to be changed when designated people are changed
- Members maintaining their own social networking accounts should ensure that any views expressed should be of a professional nature, so as not to bring the sport or GA into disrepute.

8.9 Correspondence

- All official GA correspondence should be sent via email to / from the official email account australiangoalball@gmail.com The GA Secretary and President will have access to and are responsible for monitoring this email address
- Passwords should be changed whenever there is a change of personnel

8.10 Hall of Fame

- GA believes it is important to continue to recognise and remember



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

the many people, whose contributions over the years have built this great sport. We therefore developed the GA Hall of Fame, with the first members being inducted in 2014

- Minimum criteria for Hall of Fame inductees:

1. Australian Citizen

2. Must have been involved with Goalball in Australia for a minimum of 20 years

- A maximum of 2 people will be inducted each year

- A Hall of Fame Selection committee will be appointed each year by GA. The committee will consist of a current member of the GA Executive, a previously inducted member of the Hall of Fame and one other member

- New inductees will be presented at the AGCs Presentation Function each year and will received a medallion, along with a framed certificate

- All inductees will also be recognised on the GA website



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

9 Appendices

9.1 Code of Conduct

Goalball Australia Code of Conduct (to be completed by all players, team staff and escorts)

Goalball Australia (GA) is the national body for the sport of Goalball in Australia. Athletes, staff and volunteers who are involved with GA programs and events (including but not limited to Australian Goalball Championships, Australian Invitational Championships, national team training camps and international competitions) are considered representatives of Goalball Australia and as such are required to uphold the high standards of conduct required to maintain GA's reputation. Our values are respect, integrity and striving for excellence at all times. In line with our values, every individual has a responsibility to uphold each of the expectations below, whilst involved in GA activities and programs, or whilst attending external events on behalf of GA:

- I recognise my role as a representative of GA and of the team and activity in which I participate
- I will act in a professional and courteous manner at all times
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all involved with the programs and events, regardless of gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- I will abide by all rules governing the program or event; including any team specific rules that have been set
- I will respect and show my appreciation to officials and volunteers



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

- I will refrain from the use of offensive language or behavior
- I will refrain from alcohol consumption unless permission has been granted by the GA Executive member or team staff member responsible for the event or team
- I will abide with all anti-doping policies, including avoiding the consumption of any illegal recreational drugs at any time
- I will refrain from any gambling activity
- I will abide by all relevant smoking laws and regulations
- I will give my best effort at all times
- I will promote GA in a positive manner at all times
- I will communicate with all GA representatives in a respectful and constructive manner, and express any concerns I have confidentially to a relevant GA Executive member

I have read, understand and agree to adhere to the expectations as outlined above. I understand my role as a representative of Goalball Australia and understand that failure to meet any of the above expectations could result in my participation in Goalball activities being suspended or cancelled. In some circumstances GA may also request the return of any financial support that has been provided to me.

Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

If Under 18, Parent/Guardian: **Name:**



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

Signature: _____ Date: _____



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

9.2 Medical Form

GOALBALL AUSTRALIA

ABN 75011723437

MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM

CONFIDENTIAL!

Name: _____

Please list any current medical conditions / injuries and how it is being managed

Please list any current medications or natural remedies you are currently taking

Please list any allergies you have (food, medications, stings etc)



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

If you have a regular doctor in Australia, please provide name and contact number:



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

9.3 National Selection Criteria

Australian Goalball Selection Criteria

The purpose of this Selection Criteria is to outline the requirements for selection in Australian Women’s (Belles) and Men’s (Storm) Goalball teams in preparation for the best possible chance of a medal result at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games. Key qualification events are the 2019 Paralympic Qualifying Tournament and the 2019 Asia Oceania Regional Championships.

The Selection Criteria have been developed in consultation with Program Head Coaches, the Australian Paralympic Committee and Blind Sports Australia, and may be amended or supplemented by the Head Coach, Program Manager or Goalball Australia Executive, particularly where a situation arises that has not been provided for within this document. Any changes or updates will be communicated to athletes as soon as possible.

National Squad Lists

Program Head Coaches will nominate a list of athletes to be included in their National Squad List, who will be invited to relevant training camps and other identified squad activities. National squads may also include national youth players who are preparing to transition into senior squads. Senior Program Head Coaches will liaise with National Youth Program Coaches to outline the commitments required of these players so that their optimum development is paramount and that their work load is managed without compromise. In order to maintain their position on the National Squad List, players will be required to fulfil the following criteria at a minimum:

- Current playing member of their state goalball association;
- Training a minimum of 5 sessions a week (including on-court, cross-training, and strength and conditioning sessions);



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

- Play at the Australian Goalball Championships;
- Attend a minimum of 80% of squad activities;
- Have no outstanding debts to Goalball Australia;
- Maintain individual training programs and complete their online AMS weekly;
- Demonstrated commitment to setting and achieving personal goals in consultation with the Program Head Coach;
- Maintain regular communication with Program Head Coach and Program Manager;
- Ensure medically fit to fulfil all obligations. Any illness or injury is to be reported to the Program Head Coach as soon as the athlete is aware of it.

Where a player's current circumstances may prohibit them from fulfilling some of these commitments, as a result of injury or conflicting commitments, this must be discussed with the Program Head Coach and Program Manager in advance. The athletes' responsibility is to outline their circumstances and communicate a clear plan on how they will prepare to ensure that they can contribute effectively and be fully prepared to play goalball at an elite level. Dispensation is at the discretion of the Head Coach and Program Manager.

Selection to Specific Tournaments

The selection of teams to contest specific tournaments (eg : Regional Championships, World Championships) will be made by the Program Head Coach. Names will be submitted to Goalball Australia and all players and team staff must be ratified by Goalball Australia and Blind Sports Australia (as the IBSA member) prior to be formalised. Selections for the 2020 Tokyo



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

Paralympic team will also follow the Australian Paralympic Committee Selections Policy that is in place at that time. The following will be considered by the Program Coach when selecting teams for other tournaments, including those listed as qualification tournaments:

- Individual athletes and the team combination will assist in achieving the best possible team result;
- Athletes must have demonstrated a commitment to ensure both their skills and conditioning have them in the best possible position to perform at elite standard;
- Athletes must have shown a consistent rate of improvement in their daily training environment or through competition performance;
- Athletes must demonstrate the ability to work effectively and supportively within the team ;
- Athletes must fulfil all obligations required of them in relation to the National Goalball Squad as per the minimum criteria listed above.

Appeals

All appeals in relation to the selection or non-selection by the Program Head Coach must be submitted in writing to the Goalball Australia Executive Committee within 10 days of team selections being advised. An appeals panel consisting of a representative from each of Goalball Australia, Blind Sports Australia and the Australian Paralympic Committee will be convened as soon as possible to hear the appeal and make a final ruling on selection.

9.4 Member Protection Policy



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

9.5 Nomination Kit

To be filled in by the Western Australian LOC once kit is sourced

9.6 Round Robin Calculation table

No. of Teams	Rounds to complete Round Robin	Games per Team	No. of Round Robins	Final Series	Total Min and Max Games per Team	Total Number of Games per Division
3	3	2	3	Gold Medal Only (1 v 2) Gold and Silver to be awarded	Min 6 Max 7	10
4	3	3	2	Semi Final (2 v 3) and Winner plays 1 in Final. Gold, Silver and Bronze to be awarded	Min 6 Max 8	14
5	5	4	1.5	At the conclusion of the first full Round Robin, Ranking of teams on the ladder shall be noted and teams shall play against the sides ranked directly above and below them as according to the ladder at the conclusion of the first full Round Robin. The teams that finish first and last will play each other in this process. The ladder will then be recalculated for Semi Finals which will consist of (2 v 3) and Winner plays 1 in Final. Gold, Silver and Bronze to be awarded	Min 6 Max 8	17
6	5	5	1	Preliminary Finals (1 v 2 - Winner Progresses to Final, Runner Up Progresses to Semi Final 1. 3 v 4 -	Min 6 Max 8	22



THE “ORIGINAL” BLIND PARALYMPIC TEAM SPORT

E: secretary@goalballaustralia.org – ABN 75011723437

				Winner Progresses to Semi Final 1, Runner Up Progresses to Semi Final 2 and 5 v 6 - Winner Progresses to Semi Final 2 and Runner Up is eliminated). Semi Finals (SF 1 - Winner Progresses to Final, Runner Up Progresses to Bronze Medal. Semi Final 2 - Winner Progresses to Bronze Medal and Runner Up is eliminated), Bronze Medal and Final. Gold, Silver and Bronze to be awarded		