



Tournament Player Eligibility Policy – Seniors

For a player to be eligible to compete in an official Australian Ozttag Ltd (AO) Senior Representative Tournament they must meet the below requirements. Associations who play in-eligible players will receive tough penalties.

These penalties are outlined at the end of this policy.

Player requirements to be eligible to compete in an Australian Ozttag Senior representative tournament

- Players must have a current Individual Registration Number with AO.
- Players must be entered onto the AO database prior to the closing date of nominations. They may still play after the closing date to achieve their seven games if the season concludes before the tournament.
- Players must be a registered Ozttag player for the Association / Region they are representing. To be eligible to play for that Association/ Region you must meet either of the following criteria:
 - Have played 7 games in ONE TEAM per season in either of the preceding * two seasons prior to the tournament. Eg A player would play in a team playing one game per week over a seven week period.

** The Preceding two seasons are any senior domestic competitions offered by the Association they are representing that has a minimum of 10 competition rounds plus semi-final & grand finals that is scheduled to be or has been completed by the first day of the tournament. A player playing in several divisions on several nights does not accumulate the 7 games this way. Only one team in one competition counts.*

- An exception will be made for players who are still eligible (15 years +) to play both juniors & seniors, but don't have a senior domestic competition in their area. If this is the case they must be a registered player at the Junior Competition. In this instance a Junior Association would be permitted to enter a Senior Team in a Senior AOL Representative Tournament.
- **If there is a senior domestic competition offered by the Association / Region you are representing you must be a registered player in this senior competition to represent at a senior Tournament.**
- **If there is a senior competition offered in the area then a junior Association is not permitted to enter teams in a senior representative tournament.**

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- If there is both a Senior Association and a Junior Association in the same area (LGA), whether a single person holds the licence to operate both or 2 different people hold the licence, players must be registered in the Senior competition to be eligible to compete in a Senior Representative tournament. Only being registered in the Junior competition does not qualify a player for a Senior Representative Tournament, regardless of the players age.
- Players who have not played the seven games due to extenuating circumstances may apply in writing to the tournament director for permission to play. E.g. injury, returning from overseas, the domestic competition doesn't finish before the tournament is played etc. Players need to submit their request in writing. If a player is granted an exemption they may only qualify to represent an Association / Region at which they have previously played.

Age eligibility requirements for each division

Mens/ Womens / Mixed 20's: Players can't turn 21 on the first day of the tournament or before.

Mens / Women's / Mixed Open: Players must be a minimum of 15 years of age.

Women's seniors: Players must be 27 years or older by 31st December of the year of the tournament.

Women's masters: Players must be 35 years or older by 31st December of the year of the tournament. This division has the exception of allowing 2 players aged 30-34 to play while the division is growing.

Mixed Seniors: Women must be 30 years or older by 31st December of the year of the tournament, men must be 33 years or older by 31st December of the year of the tournament.

Men's 30's, 35's, 40's, 45's: Players must be the age of the division they are playing in or older by 31st December the year of the tournament.

Men's 50's: Players must be 50 years or older by 31st December of the year of the tournament. This division has the exception of allowing 2 players that turn 50 by 31st December the following year (i.e. they may be 49 during the tournament)

Men's 55's: Players must be 55 years or older by 31st December of the year of the tournament. This division has the exception of allowing 2 players that turn 55 by 31st December the following year (i.e. they may be 54 during the tournament)

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Proof of age – if a player’s age is questioned a birth certificate, passport or other identification must be supplied upon request within seven days of the tournament. If it is proven after the conclusion of the tournament, a title if won will be stripped from the Association and no winner will be awarded for that division. Other penalties outlined in this policy will also apply.

Complaints

Any Association / coach / player wishing to make an official complaint regarding the tournament are required to fill out the complaints form and submit it to the tournament director. Once a complaint has been received the Tournament Director will investigate the eligibility of the player. Associations who cannot provide evidence at the time of the complaint will have seven days after the tournament to produce the evidence to show the player was eligible to play.

Penalties

First Offence: Any team playing an ineligible player will be disqualified from the tournament. If it is proven after the conclusion of the tournament, a title if won will be stripped from the Association / Region and the runners up will be awarded that division. The coach, manager and players associated with the team will be suspended from playing / coaching at any representative level for any association / region for a period of 12 months. This disqualification will include the same tournament if it falls outside the 12 months the following year. **THE ONUS IS ON THE COACH AND MANAGER TO ENSURE ALL PLAYERS ARE ELIGIBLE.**

Second Offence: Should an association / region be found guilty of playing unregistered players or players of the wrong age a second time they will be restricted from entering team/s in that division for a period of 12 months including the same tournament the following year.

Third Offence: If an association / region is caught on 3 separate occasions of playing ineligible players the association / region may be disqualified from entering teams in any division at any AO tournament for 12 months or a period set by the AO.

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