

PARENT FORUMS NORTH & SOUTH WALES 2016

**Q & A Parent/player forum – Wrexham – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016**

Q	Commitment level - Are there any changes for squad players?
A	WSRB informed all Academy Players in September, responsibility falls on the player to enter Key tournaments and National squads/Academy squads. If you have any questions you should enquire directly with their age group HPC.
Q	What is the selection process for national representation?
A	The selection policy can be found <a href="#">here</a>
Q	From what age can a player receive funding?
A	From U13 boys and girls – players are selected by 4 HPCs and nominated to Sport Wales. Funding is then at their discretion and based on performance criteria. WSRB have no control over who does and does receive funding once players are submitted for consideration. All players who meet the criteria will be submitted for consideration. Criteria can be found <a href="#">here</a>
Q	What level of funding is available and how can individuals get it?
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Q	What representational events are there?
A	U13/15 Five Nations, U15, U17 European team champs, U19 European Team & individual champs.
Q	Is there anything that can be done about the cost of representation?
A	Players are requested to contribute towards the cost of representation. This cost is significantly subsidised by WSRB and costs are lower than last year. Payments plans can be made available is required.
Q	If a national squad players parent has a query or question, who do they ask?
A	They should speak to their respective age group national coach in first instance. This is to encourage a two-way communication between coach and player throughout the training process. Should you be unable to contact the HPC you can contact <a href="mailto:mike.workman@wsrb.co.uk">mike.workman@wsrb.co.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:Gareth.hall@wsrb.co.uk">Gareth.hall@wsrb.co.uk</a>
Q	Can ranking points be gained for tournaments outside Wales
A	For 2017/17WSRB are trialling a web based ranking system , which will do just that – If juniors play events outside Wales , send results to Age group HPC - rankings can be found <a href="#">here</a>
Q	Can selection reasoning be better communicated to non-selected children?
A	Yes, for 2016/2017 both selected and non-selected players will receive communication with the reasoning behind all decisions. Similarly we encourage players to talk with their relevant HPC to discuss the selection and what they need to do in order to improve their performance going forward.
Q	We have completed our National squad training diaries and no feedback has been received, are they necessary?
A	Training diaries are part of a players education towards becoming a better informed and better prepared athlete. Levels of completion and feedback should be gained directly from the HPC who will discuss necessary levels of completion and what is required.

Q	There is inconsistency between the coaching of welsh athletes at events, can you please clarify it?
A	WSRB policy from Sept 2016: 1 – Where a player is playing an individual from a country other than Wales, they may receive coaching from a HPC where present. 2 - Where two Welsh Players are playing each other, neither players shall receive coaching from a HPC.
Q	Why only 2 days national squad training in the summer – parents are happy to contribute for more days?
A	Simply put we are trying to utilise available budgets to the best benefit of all players. Due to the success of the training days we did do, WSRB will look at player contributions for opportunities for more contact time next summer.
Q	Why is England squash are asking for a £10 membership fee for entering the British Closed?
A	WSRB have left messages for CEO England squash. The response from England – Welsh players don't have to pay. English Squash are looking at the software to enable welsh players to enter. When we have a definitive solution we will contact all players directly.
Q	What happens if Jnr players are selected for a foreign event and cannot make it? (for financial reasons)
A	WSRB are happy to discuss and agree a payment plan – Please contact your age group HPC.
Q	Can we include silver events into welsh rankings?
A	Yes the latest rankings will take results from all events in and outside Wales. If you can forward all results to your age group HPC.
Q	Can we work better with England over tournament entries and rankings?
A	The relationship is currently positive; however, England squash are in the process of changing their tournament staff. WSRB will endeavour to ensure the relationship is built upon to ensure all Welsh players are treated fairly.
Q	How do the new Welsh rankings work?
A	All match results inside and outside wales will go into the ranking software. Details of the Welsh rankings can be found <a href="#">here</a>
Q	Can we avoid other major Cardiff events with our own events (i.e. 6 nations)?
A	WSRB make every effort to ensure all events don't clash, unfortunately other sports do move their events on dates we use and there is more often than not some sort of event in the capital. That said however we will continue to do our best with event scheduling and give everybody as much notice of confirmed dates as possible.
Q	Why is the cost of the Welsh Open so high?
A	WSRB have follow the guidelines for all European events. The U11 age group remains at £12
Q	Can Welsh Players pay less for Welsh events?
A	Unfortunately, not, this is neither ethical nor in line with the guidance for European events. U11 players pay less for WJO – Junior members don't pay the full cost.
Q	Why was the medal so poor for the Welsh Closed?
A	WSRB trialled a Bronze, Silver and Gold medal and bought a better quality performance shirt. We have taken the feedback on board and will look at this for next year.
Q	Should full feedback (coach to athlete) happen at all levels / ages?
A	Feedback is provided in all areas of the player pathway and on

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Q	Will there be a specific training squad prior to the intercounties?
A	All Academy players receive weekly academy squads. We will look at running a specific squad for the event is practical to do so.
Q	Can we pre-check clothing sizes to ensure better fit for players at representative events? Can we add info to a form?
A	We have taken the feedback on board and will include a referred size checkbox onto all forms.
Q	Why were there no coaches at north Wales events?
A	A decision was made to direct HPC cost into more contact /coaching and less attendance at all tournaments. We have to operate on a limited budget and endeavour to spend money where we deem it is best directed to develop the players. As ever this and all decisions are in a state of review and we will continue to make decisions based on what we believe is best for the players.
Q	What is being done to ensure no inter club rivalries are present at events?
A	All players sign up to the code of conduct. In addition to this we endeavour to monitor all live situations and foster a whole team attitude, regardless of club affiliations. If we become aware of any specific incidences of problems they will be addressed directly by WSRB.
Q	Why do some players not have a personal development plan?
A	WSRB receive additional talent support funding for players who reach the criteria outlined by Sport Wales. This is invested in additional coach time and this is used in part to develop detailed, personalised development plans for these players. Criteria to receive talent support funding can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
Q	Why are some players on squads treated differently / preferentially from others?
A	WSRB receive additional talent support funding for players who reach the criteria outlined by Sport Wales. This additional funding is invested in added coaching and support for those selected. Criteria to receive talent support funding can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
Q	There was S&C sessions on a Sunday, what has happened to them and who may attend?
A	These were delivered using additional support funding given for talent support funded players. As attendance was poor, funding was diverted to deliver S&C sessions in a different manner for those individuals. Criteria to receive talent support funding can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
Q	Why do squads always fly from Birmingham?
A	The geographical spread of representational players has widened to North Wales, Aberystwyth and Powys, as such Birmingham is the most central. Where we have two groups leaving with adequate adult representation we will endeavour to send two groups, one from the north one from the south.