



### **BY-LAW 13.1 – STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**13.1** Softball Queensland Inc (SQI) may organise and conduct State Championships each year at such times and places as are determined by the Board.

13.1.1 State Championships shall be open to teams representing each District Association provided that all members of a District Association representative team are:-

- (a) registered with Softball Queensland Inc;
- (b) not unfinancial with any District Association;
- (c) not under suspension;
- (d) have, for the immediate six (6) months prior to the relevant State Championship, been a registered participant of the District Association they represent or are a new registration with Softball Queensland Inc or with the exception of umpires, have a Championship Release issued in accordance with the rules of their home association.

Exceptions concerning residential relocation within the six (6) month criteria, will be considered by the Board upon receipt of written application from the District Association to which the participant is transferring.

- (e) in the case of interstate/overseas players, have forwarded a copy of a clearance/permit to the SQI Inc. office to have arrived not less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the first day of the relevant championship.

#### **STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RELEASE – Players and Officials (other than Umpires)**

A District Association may issue a State Championship Release to a person wishing to participate in a State Championship for a District Association other than his/her Home Association provided that:-

Either: (a) the person has made him/herself available for selection in their Home Association trials and has been unsuccessful in the selection process OR (b) the Championship Release is issued in accordance with the Home Association Rules/By-Laws/Policies OR (c) the person's Home Association will not be fielding a team in the relevant State Championship;

AND: There is agreement between both the Home Association and the District Association to which he/she is released to play and By-Law 13.1 is adhered to.

#### **AGE GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA**

Players must meet the age guidelines and criteria as described below to be eligible to participate in Underage State Championships:

**(a) Under 15 State Championships**

Only players 12, 13 & 14 years of age, as at 31 December in year of Championship, are permitted to compete in the Under 15 Championships.

**(b) Under 17 State Championships**

Only players 14, 15 & 16 years of age, as at 31 December in year of Championship, are permitted to compete in the Under 17 Championships.

**(c) Under 19 State Championships**

Only players 15, 16, 17 & 18 years of age, as at 31 December in year of Championship, are permitted to compete in the Under 19 Championships.

District Associations are to consider the following criteria when selecting the youngest eligibly aged players in their representative teams (ie 12year olds in the U15 State Championships, 14 year olds in the Under 17 State Championships and 15 year olds in the Under 19 State Championships). This is to ensure that the player can effectively compete in the relevant championship:

- The maturity level of the player
- The physical strength of the player
- The skill level of the player
- The positions to be played
- The players level of game knowledge

**Note:** The parent/guardian of a player Under 18 years of age must sign the Championship Release Form, in addition to the District Associations Secretaries, in order for an underage player to participate on Championship Release to another Association.