

# **SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS ROWING UNION**

## **(“SASRU”)**

### **DEVELOPMENT TOUR POLICY DOCUMENT**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY**

- 1.1. ROWSA (Rowing South Africa) and SASRU (South African Schools Rowing Union) recognises that schools and clubs play an important role in the identification and development of junior rowers. So as to increase the standard of rowing at u19 level and increase medal prospects at the FISA Junior World Championships, the exposure of school rowers to whom this policy applies to international regattas of high standard is desirable.
- 1.2. ROWSA has sanctioned the undertaking of a "U16 Development Tour" by SASRU as set out below to those international regattas as determined by SASRU in consultation with the chairman of ROWSA's International Commission (“IC”) each year (“*the tour*”).
- 1.3. The tour is aimed at the development of top performing under 16 boys and under 16 girls (“*athletes*”).
- 1.4. SASRU also recognises that its pool of coaching talent must be developed and coaches who tour with athletes are given an opportunity to improve their skills; acquire new skills through exposure to international regattas.
- 1.5. The tour is also aimed, therefore, at the development of the coaches of athletes (“*coaches*”).
- 1.6. Participation in the tour is strictly on an invitation only basis.

#### **2. APPLICATION OF THIS POLICY**

This policy applies to:

- 2.1. Athletes who participated in the South African Schools Rowing Championships (“*the regatta*”) and who have satisfied the eligibility criteria; and
- 2.2. Coaches that coached athletes in the season leading up to the regatta and were responsible for the athletes' performance that satisfied the eligibility criteria at the regatta; and

- 2.3. Schools whose athletes participated in the regatta and satisfied the eligibility criteria; and in respect of which an invitation (referred to in clause 3 below) to participate in the tour has been extended.

### **3. INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOUR**

- 3.1. The chairperson of SASRU's International Commission shall extend a written invitation to the head of those schools ("*the invitation*") whose athletes satisfy the eligibility criteria by the first Wednesday after the conclusion of the regatta.
- 3.2. The invitation shall specify the boat class/es, as the case may be, in respect of which the invitation is extended.
- 3.3. The invitation to participate in the tour is an invitation to the coach employed by such school to participate in the tour with the crew that he or she, as the case may be, coached and in respect of which the eligibility criteria was satisfied.
- 3.4. The head of the school to whom the invitation has been extended shall accept or decline the invitation by the first Friday after the conclusion of the regatta.
- 3.5. In the event that the head of a school declines the invitation, they will not be substituted by an alternate crew from the same or a different school.
- 3.6. The President of SASRU may, in consultation with the IC, extend such further invitations as may be warranted provided that the purpose of this policy not be diluted or compromised.

### **4. ELIGIBILITY FOR AN INVITATION TO TOUR**

- 4.1. The invitation to participate in the tour shall be extended to school crews that win the gold medal in any boat class in respect of which athletes are entitled to participate at the regatta subject to the REGATTA.
- 4.2. Should schools win more than one boat class in respect of which the athletes participate at the regatta, the invitation shall be extended in respect of the biggest boat class save where 50% or more of the smaller boat class is not comprised of athletes that rowed in the bigger boat class.
- 4.3. Schools to whom an invitation made pursuant to clause 4.1 are required to include such spare athlete for the relevant boat class as may be necessary.

- 4.4. Once the gold medalists have been invited, selections will continue and will focus on selecting transformation athletes until the racial demographics within the touring squad reflect the demographics of the full athlete entry for the South African School Rowing Championships.
- 4.5. At a minimum, transformation athletes shall
  - 4.5.1. comprise 25% of the tour party; or
  - 4.5.2. include a minimum of 4 female and a minimum of 6 male athletes.
- 4.6. Appropriate transformation athletes will be required to:
  - 4.6.1. be nominated by their coaches who will submit the ergo times of their prospective athletes by the end of January and the end of February.
  - 4.6.2. achieve the following minimum ergo times:

Girls: 8:30  
Boys: 7:30
  - 4.6.3. participate at the South African School Rowing Championships where their performance will be monitored by the Junior IC. Based on this performance as well as participation throughout the season, the Junior IC may nominate "wildcard" transformation athletes.
- 4.7. Transformation athletes will be considered on their individual ability as a rower and not on the performance of their crew. For this reason, transformation athletes from junior rowing clubs may also be nominated.
- 4.8. Qualifying crews and nominated/wildcard athletes may be invited to a trial regatta/s on the Saturday following the South African Schools Rowing Championships.

## **5. EQUIPMENT**

- 5.1. Prior to the tour, schools are required to provide such equipment as is reasonably necessary to allow athletes and coaches to prepare for the tour.
- 5.2. Equipment on tour shall be rented by the SASRU Tour party from appropriate sources and shall, wherever reasonably

possible, be the same, similar or comparable to the equipment utilised by the athletes in their preparation.

## **6. TOUR MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1. Only fulltime staff at rowing schools will be appointed as coaches and managers of the SASRU Development tour.
- 6.2. The appointment of head coaches and managers will be through an application process overseen by the Junior IC.

An additional transformation coach may be included at the discretion of the Junior IC.

One male and one female manager shall accompany the touring party on the tour ("*the managers*"). The appointment of the managers will be at the discretion of the President of SASRU.

- 6.3. All coaches and managers must enjoy the confidence of their heads of school.
- 6.4. The coaches ' and managers' costs for the tour shall be shared *pro rata* amongst the schools participating in the tour.

## **7. COLOURS**

Athletes and coaches invited to participate in the tour and in respect of which the school has accepted the invitation shall be awarded SASRU colours.

## **8. DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF POLICY**

This policy shall apply to development tours to be undertaken by SASRU commencing in 2017.