



## AUS GUIDELINE Eligibility of Competitors

Approved – 18 June 2008

### A. INTRODUCTION

One of the unique aspects of the athletes within the AUS sporting competitions is that they are all peers – current student athletes all studying.

This guideline outlines the AUS eligibility requirements of competitors in order to provide clarification for participants and AUS members alike, as it is the participant's and Member's responsibility to ensure that all athletes are eligible to attend and compete in the AUS event.

### B. WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A student in order to be eligible to compete in an AUS event, for the duration of the event must:

1. be a currently enrolled student
2. be proceeding towards a Certificate or higher award offered by the Member's university
3. be able to prove their identity, and must be able to prove their enrolment if requested
4. be covered by personal accident / injury insurance
5. have authorisation from the Member that the student is eligible to compete (Eligibility Certificate)
6. have signed and submitted the AUS Participation Agreement

#### **Note on point 1.**

For the purpose of defining a currently enrolled student the following clarifications shall apply:

- a. A student under a designated exchange scheme between an overseas university and the Member's university is eligible
- b. A student who is enrolled for an award at one university but is studying at another is said to be doing complementary work at the second university and is only eligible to represent the university at which the student is enrolled for an award.  
*See Appendices for an example.*
- c. Where a university has more than one campus and those campuses have separate bodies controlling sport which are AUS Members, a student who is studying on more than one of the campuses is only eligible to represent the campus on which the student is enrolled for the majority of the workload. If the workload is equally shared between campuses then the student may elect to represent the campus of his/her choice.  
*See Appendices for an example*
- d. Where a university has more than one campus and those campuses have separate bodies controlling sport which are AUS Members, a student who studies on one campus (the Home campus) but is a financial Member of a club on the other campus for which he/she competes regularly in recognised competition, that student may, in instances where the Home campus does not field a team in an Australian University Sport competition, elect to represent the campus team in which he/she plays regularly.  
*See Appendices for an example*



A person is not considered or ceases to be considered a currently enrolled student for the purposes of participating at an AUS event, if the person

- i. Immediately discontinues, suspends or postpones study\*, or
- ii. Two months following the submission of a post-graduate thesis, or
- iii. Is an enrolled student who is yet to commence study or recommence study after discontinuing, suspending or postponing study (That is, a person in May is currently enrolled for Semester Two but yet to commence study is not considered eligible for AUS events until Semester Two starts).

\* Extenuating Circumstances:

AUS recognises that there may be extenuating circumstances where an elite athlete suspends or postpones study due to representing their country on the world stage of sport. An application for special eligibility status for an elite athlete wishing to compete at an AUS regional or national competition may be submitted to the AUS Chief Executive Officer by the AUS member for consideration. The conditions for successful consideration are that:

- The athlete has represented Australia,
- The reason for deferment was solely represent Australia,
- There is intention to recommence study in the immediate future,
- The athlete competes in the sport that they represented Australia, and
- The application includes a copy of the deferment information and a declaration from the athlete that they will be returning to study in the immediate future.

**Note on point 2 – Be proceeding towards a Certificate or higher award:**

A Certificate is an award as defined by the Registrar of Australian Tertiary Education (RATE) and is listed in the relevant legislation of the university.

### **C. PROCEDURES AT AUS EVENTS**

**Note on point 3 - Proof of identity, and must be able to prove their enrolment if requested**

The competitor will be required to produce appropriate photographic identification such as the official student identification, driver's licence or Proof of Age card when requested by AUS event personnel prior to each competition together with their AUS event accreditation card (if produced by the event).

Should a competitor's eligibility be questioned, the competitor and AUS Member which this person is representing must be able to produce proof of their enrolment within a reasonable timeframe (24 hours would be considered reasonable in most circumstances).

**Note on point 4 – Be covered by personal accident / injury insurance**

The competitor or all persons entered into the AUS event must be covered by personal accident / injury insurance. The Member University may have coverage for the athletes representing their university or the individuals may be required to take out their own personal accident insurance.

**Note on point 5 - Have authorisation from the Member university that the student is eligible to compete – Eligibility Certificate**

Eligibility to represent a Member university in a competition conducted under the jurisdiction of AUS, shall be restricted to persons listed on a fully completed Eligibility Certificate which has been presented to the organiser of the AUS event by the time and date specified by the organiser, provided that the person listed can at all times throughout the competition prove their identity (as per Note on point 3).



When an Eligibility Certificate has been received and processed by the organiser of the AUS event, eligibility is deemed to be finalised.

A completed eligibility or supplementary eligibility certificate is one which states:-

- a. The gender specific sport for which the eligibility certificate applies, plus
- b. Each person's first name, surname and student ID number, plus
- c. The total number of persons listed, and
- d. Is signed by the Member University's Executive Officer or his/her nominee.

In addition the organiser of the AUS event may require that the Member provide details of management personnel (coaches, managers, or sports medicine personnel) and other details of the participants entering the competition.

The Member University may be asked to provide authorisation of the student eligibility by submitting their entry via the appropriate entry information and by submitting the AUS Eligibility Certificate.

**Note on point 6 - Have signed and submitted the AUS Participation Agreement**

All participants (competitors and management personnel) representing the Member at the AUS event must complete, sign and submit prior to the commencement of competition an AUS Participant Agreement. Failure to provide this agreement prior to the commencement of the competition may result in the participant not being permitted to compete or participate in the AUS event.

**D. PENALTIES FOR BREACHES OF THE ELIGIBILITY**

In a circumstance where it is discovered that a competitor within an AUS event is found to be not eligible as outlined in this guideline, the following penalties will be implemented:

- a. Person NOT Eligible
  - (i) Team Sport: If a person listed or not listed on an entry eligibility form / certificate is subsequently found not to be eligible then the team which the person was to compete in, or did compete in, shall be disqualified from the competition.
  - (ii) Individual Sport: If a person listed or not listed on an entry Eligibility form / certificate is subsequently found not to be eligible then the team which the person was to compete in, or did compete in, shall be disqualified from the competition.
- b. Person eligible but not listed on the entry Eligibility form/ certificate
  - (i) Team Sport with non-quantifiable contribution: If, in a team sport such as basketball, netball, soccer etc, where the contribution of an individual participant is not quantifiable, the team uses a person who is eligible but not listed on the eligibility form or plays someone using the name of someone else who is listed on the eligibility form, then the team shall forfeit\* the game in which the breach was discovered and any other games in which the said player or person's name was recorded on a score/team sheet.  
*\* This forfeit will result in the team being relegated to the bottom of the pool.*
  - (ii) Team Sport with quantifiable contribution: If, in the team sport such as tennis, squash etc, where the contribution of an individual participant is quantifiable, the team uses a person who is eligible but not listed on the



eligibility form, then the team shall forfeit twice the number of rubbers in which the said player or person's name was recorded on a score/team sheet.

(iii) Individual Sport: If a person who is eligible but not listed on the eligibility form or a person who is eligible but uses the name of someone else who is listed on the eligibility form, competes in a non team event eg. athletics, swimming, etc, then twice the number of points scored by that person will be deducted from the team's overall score. Events in which the ineligible person competed will not be re-scored.

- d. Intentional breach: In a circumstance where a participant is not eligible to compete, and where a participant and /or Member is believed to have intentionally breached this eligibility guideline, the participant will be disqualified from the competition and if the participant is within a team sport, the team will be disqualified from competition. In addition an intentional breach will be viewed as bringing AUS into disrepute and a breach of the AUS Code of Behaviour may be submitted.

## **APPENDIX ONE - EXAMPLES**

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The following examples are to assist understanding for the purpose of defining a currently enrolled student.

### Example – Point 1 b.

A student enrolled with Monash University but is studying complementary work at RMIT University. This student is eligible for Monash University.

### Example – Point 1c

A student is undertaking a workload equally shared between University of Tasmania - Hobart and University of Tasmania - Launceston, may choose to represent either university. Should the majority of the workload be conducted at University of Tasmania - Launceston, then the student is eligible to compete only for this university.

### Example – Point 1d

A student studying at LTU Bendigo but is a financial member of the LTU Bundoora Hockey club and regularly competes in the state league, may compete for LTU Bundoora in a regional or national AUS sporting event so long as LTU Bendigo does not field a team in that sport.