

Details for players to be aware of ahead of the 2021 NAB AFL Mid-Season Rookie Draft

Nomination Process

Nominations will open on **Monday May 10 and close on 5pm (AEST) Tuesday May 25.**

Player Eligibility

Subject to any exemption as outlined below, a player is eligible for the MSRD under either of the following:

- A Player must have nominated for the most recent National Draft.
 - A Player who nominated for, and was not selected during the Draft and who committed for a further year as a 19-year-old Northern or NGA Academy Player is available to all Clubs should they nominate for the MSRD.
- Players must have previously been on the list of a Club (not required to nominate for the most recent Draft) refers to the following situations:
 - A Delisted Player

Note: A Player delisted by a Club cannot be reselected in the MSRD by the same Club in the period immediately following their delisting unless they nominated for the most recent Draft
 - A Retired Player and/or a Player who has delisted himself and has not been on an AFL List for one year or more. For example, Alex Rance retired in 2020 and as such he is **not** able to be selected in the 2021 MSRD.

Any player who does not meet the above criteria can be nominated by a representative of the AFL Talent Pathway, their AFLPA accredited agent or the player themselves and be considered for an exemption. Any requests for an exemption should be directed to Michelle.Thomson@afl.com.au

For the avoidance of doubt, a player in their 18th year or younger will not be eligible for an exemption.

Nomination of Contract Terms

Eligible players can nominate their terms at the point of registration as follows:

- A short-term contract ending on 31 October (\$50,000) in that year, with \$20,000 paid to the player if they are not re-signed by their current Club or selected in the National Draft, picked up as a delisted free agent or selected in the next SSP period (with the \$20,000 to be paid after the SSP period closes noting it will not be included in the TPP)
- A contract ending on 31 October in the following year, with the player treated as per any other player at the end of that contract.
- Either a or b, at the election of the club.
- Other terms as nominated by the player but no less than as set out in a or b.

The AFL will notify AFL Clubs and State Bodies of players who have nominated for the MSRD.

Relocation Benefits 2021

The following benefits and entitlements as set out in the CBA for relocated players are pro-rated at 50% for MSRD Players, being:

Player/Family Flights and Accommodation (1 Player and 4 Family flights and 4 nights accommodation)

Living Allowance (\$5,559 (plus FBT))

The following benefits and entitlements are at 100% for MSRD players, being:

Relocation (100% of relocation costs)

Household Items (\$6,895 (including FBT and GST)).

Should the player be recontracted, any remaining benefit from the above allowances will be rolled over to the second year (2022 season) and the player will be entitled to the remaining 50% of the Player/Family Flights and Accommodation and Living Allowance benefits.

Compensation Model

If a player is contracted to a State League Club and listed via the MSRD, the State League Club will be eligible for \$10,000 in compensation from the AFL Club.

Any compensation paid to a State League Club will not be counted in the Soft Cap.

State League Participation

Players who are selected in the MSRD that stay in their original State are subject to the following:

- They will not be permitted to play against their original Club unless otherwise agreed by all parties
- The player has the right to return to their original Club to participate in finals if their service is no longer required at their AFL Club

Medicals / Player Interviews

It is up to Clubs to determine whether they need to interview a player and/or conduct a medical assessment.

If a nominated player was medically screened as a part of the 2020 draft combine, their medical information can be available for AFL medical staff on request.

Frequently Asked Questions:

When is the NAB AFL Mid-Season Rookie Draft?

The evening of Wednesday, 2 June, in the week following round 11. Nominations for eligible players opens at 9am AEST on Monday, 10 May and close at 5pm AEST on Tuesday, 25 May.

So who is eligible for this draft?

Clubs are able to recruit any footballer who **nominated for the 2020 NAB AFL Draft**, or who was previously **delisted**.

Any player who was delisted at the end of 2020 cannot be re-selected by the club that delisted them, unless they nominated for the NAB AFL Draft.

What about players part of an AFL Academy?

If an eligible AFL Academy member – either through the **Northern Academies** or through **Next Generation Academies** – opts to nominate for the mid-season rookie draft, they can be selected by any club. However, if they elect against doing so – or if they're not picked up – they keep their eligibility for their respective Academy sides ahead of the end-of-season NAB AFL Draft.

How many picks can clubs have?

Clubs have the option of leaving list spots available after the previous season's trade and draft period, as well as after the Pre-Season Supplemental Selection Period. They can also open further list spots throughout the first half of the season, should they suffer a long-term injury or have a player prematurely retire from the game before the end of their contract.

How is the draft order determined?

Similar to the draft at season's end, the order for the mid-season rookie draft is determined in **reverse ladder position**. The order is taken after the completion of round 11. That means that should they have a list spot available, the team in 18th will pick first, the team in 17th will pick second, and so on.