



AUSTRALIA'S HIGH-PERFORMANCE BRIDGE JOURNEY

Representative Players & Aspiring Representatives

ANC Canberra | July 2026

Stronger preparation.
Stronger partnerships.
Clearer expectations.
World-class performance.

David Fryda

Executive Director
Australian Bridge Federation

THE CHALLENGE

Converting Size into Success

We have the talent and the numbers. We lack the high-performance infrastructure to convert potential into world-class results.

*Australia has
one of the
largest bridge
communities
in the world.*



THE OPPORTUNITY

Convert Australia's strength into stronger and more consistent international results.

The ECOSYSTEM OF EXCELLENCE

By 2035, Australia aims to have a representative system that consistently develops, prepares and supports players to compete with the world's best.



FIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STRONGER INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE

International Performance Review identified key opportunities to strengthen Australia’s representative performance environment:

RECOMMENDATION	WHAT IT MEANS?
01 Cultural Change	Shared commitment to performance
02 Partnership-Based Selection	Strong partnerships deliver stronger results
03 International Competition Exposure	More opportunities against world-class opposition
04 Dedicated Leadership	Clear accountability for international performance
05 Sustainable Funding	Long-term investment in representative success

INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS IS BUILT BEFORE TEAMS ARE SELECTED

At the highest level, success is built on:

- ◆ Strong partnerships
- ◆ Preparation
- ◆ Trust
- ◆ Consistency
- ◆ Performance under pressure



**International bridge
is won by
partnerships.**

WHY PAIRS PQPs WERE INTRODUCED

Pairs PQPs:



**Reward partnership
performance**



**Encourage stable
partnerships**



**Create a stronger
qualification pathway**



**Better align
qualification with
international
competition**

BETTER QUALIFICATION ALONE WILL NOT DELIVER BETTER RESULTS

To improve international performance we also need:

Better preparation

Stronger partnerships

Clearer expectations

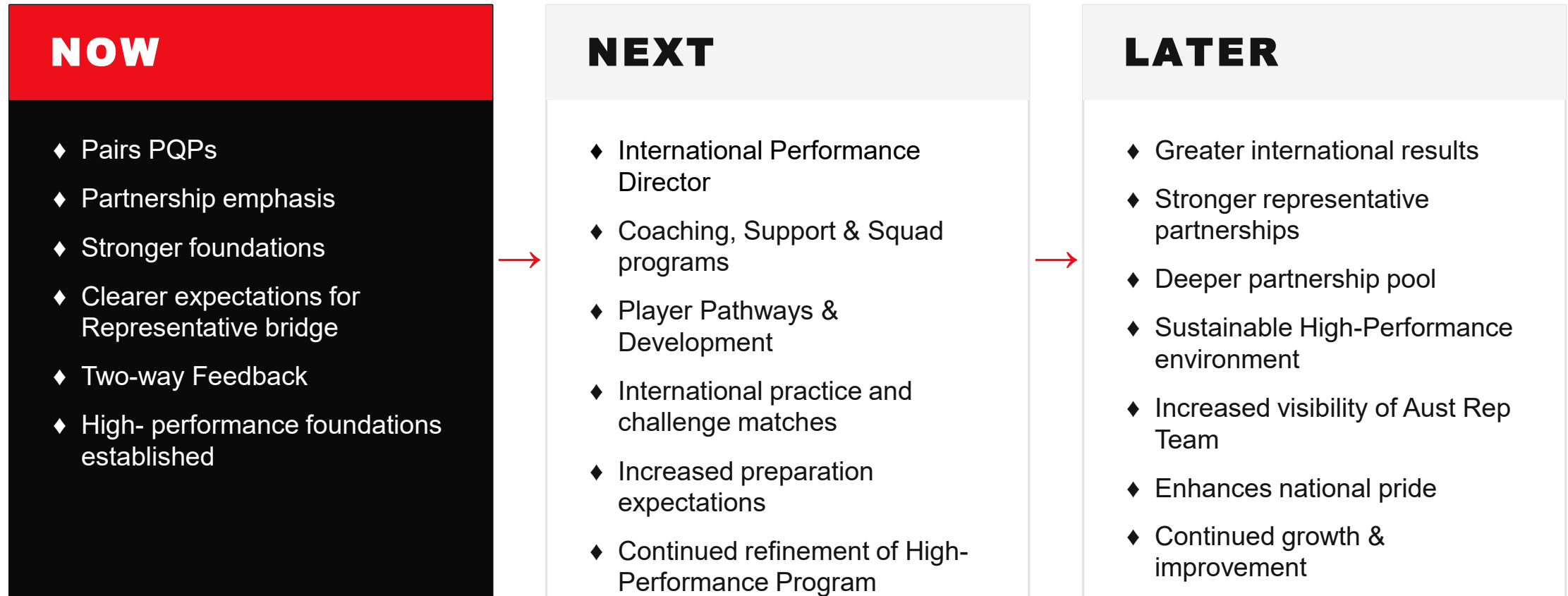
Greater support

Stronger pathways

Performance-focused leadership

WHAT'S CHANGING?

A phased transition allowing players to manage partnership commitments effectively:



REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS

WHAT YOU GAIN

- ♦ Greater clarity and transparency
- ♦ Improved preparation and support
- ♦ Stronger partnerships
- ♦ Better pathways
- ♦ A more structured performance environment
- ♦ Improved financial support

WHAT IS EXPECTED

- ♦ Commitment to partnership development
- ♦ Preparation
- ♦ Accountability
- ♦ Engagement
- ♦ Consistent performance
- ♦ Community involvement

Representative bridge requires commitment from both the organisation and players.

WHAT IS NOT CHANGING?



Playoffs remain



**Performance
remains central**



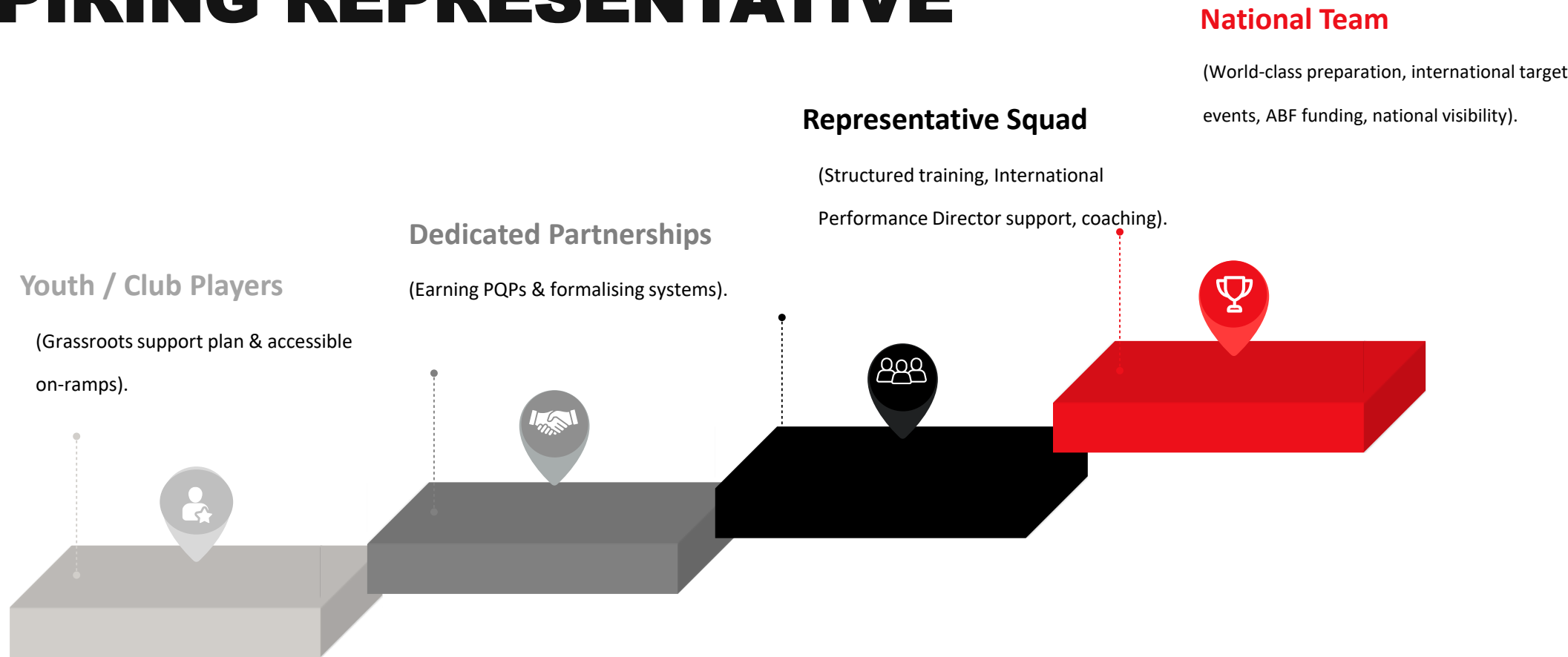
**Selection remains
performance-based**



**Excellence remains
the objective**

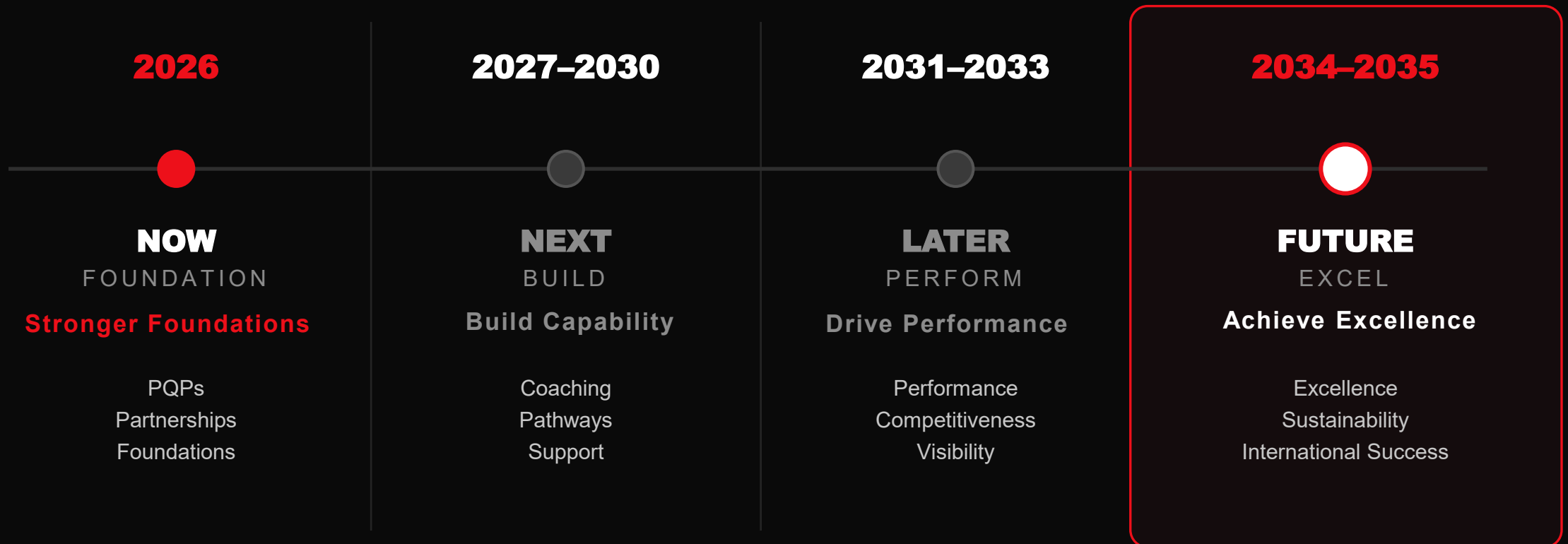
A CLEARER PATHWAY

A CLEARER PATHWAY FOR EVERY ASPIRING REPRESENTATIVE



THE ROADMAP

AUSTRALIA'S HIGH-PERFORMANCE JOURNEY



HELP SHAPE AUSTRALIA'S REPRESENTATIVE FUTURE

The High-Performance Program will be developed collaboratively with the representative bridge community.

WE WANT

- ◆ Questions
- ◆ Ideas
- ◆ Feedback
- ◆ Discussion
- ◆ Ongoing involvement



HOW TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK

- ◆ ANC Discussion
- ◆ Aust Rep High-Performance webpage
- ◆ FAQs
- ◆ Feedback form
- ◆ Future forums and webinars
- ◆ Future engagement opportunities
- ◆ Direct feedback to David Fryda and Stephen Fischer

DISCUSSION & FEEDBACK SESSION



- ♦ **What excites you?**
- ♦ **What concerns you?**
- ♦ **What should we prioritise?**
- ♦ **What would help Australian representative bridge most?**
- ♦ **What would improve Australia's international performance?**



THANK YOU

THANK YOU

Stronger preparation.

Stronger partnerships.

Clearer expectations.

World-class performance.

Building a High-Performance system to convert Australia's strength into world-class results on the international stage.

Pairs PQPs are an important first step in that journey.



Questions?

Feedback?

Ideas?