

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

1. Introduction

This nomination criteria applies to all athletes wishing to be considered for nomination by the **New Zealand Cross Country Ski Association (NZCCSA)** to the **New Zealand Olympic Committee (NZOC)** for consideration for selection in the NZ Team to compete in the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

The selectors who will determine the athletes to be nominated to the **NZOC**, on behalf of the **NZCCSA** are:

Alastair Smaill (convenor)
John Alexander
Sue Wales

2. Nomination Criteria

Athletes seeking nomination must satisfy the following nomination criteria:

2.1 Over riding Objective

The overriding objective is to have athletes meet the FIS/IOC "A" qualification standard.

2.2 IOC / IF requirements

The FIS/IOC qualification criteria are attached in full.

3. Performance Criteria

3.1 Candidates for nomination shall gain FIS points by racing in events listed in the FIS Calender, where FIS Points are awarded. These include, but are not limited to, World Cup, World Championships, Continental Cup competitions, and National Championships (where FIS points are awarded). Qualification is based on a special FIS points list published on 18 January 2010.

3.2 Only athletes who have achieved less than 100 FIS points on the FIS Distance List on 18 January 2010 will be considered for nomination in distance and/or sprints. Athletes who have achieved less than 120 FIS points on the FIS Sprint List on 18 January 2010 will be considered for sprint only. The qualifying period is from 1 July 2008 until the closing of the 18 January 2010 list. This is the "A" criteria as set out in the FIS/IOC document. Note

that the list points are the average of the athlete's best 5 performances.

Where more than one athlete meets the "A" criteria, the national quotas as outlined in the FIS/IOC qualifying criteria will apply. In this case athletes will be ranked by the selectors according to World Ranking on the FIS Points List following the World Cup on 18 January 2010. The quota criteria will then be applied to this list.

- 3.3 The NZCCSA will only nominate athletes who in the opinion of the selectors, are adequately prepared for high level international competition.

4. Overriding discretion

In addition to the performance criteria, the following factors may be taken into account, at the discretion of the selectors

- (a) the attitude and behaviour (past and current) of the Athlete
- (b) the Athlete's current level of skill and fitness
- (c) the Athlete's ability to achieve the overall objective in 2.1 above.

5. Extenuating Circumstances

5.1 In considering the performances of athletes at events required under this Nomination Criteria, the selectors may in their discretion give weight to extenuating circumstances. For the purpose of this Nomination Criteria, "extenuating circumstances" means an inability of the athlete to compete in and/or attend events, trials, training camps or other required attendances arising from:

- (a) injury or illness of the athlete;
- (b) equipment failure;
- (c) travel delays;
- (d) bereavement;
- (e) such other circumstances as the selectors reasonably consider constitute extenuating circumstances.

5.2 Athletes who are unable to compete in and/or attend event, trials, training camps or other required attendances, must advise the convenor of the selectors in writing of this fact and the reasons before the commencement of the event, trial, training camp or other required

attendance or, if it occurs within 12 hours prior to the event, as soon as possible after it arises.

5.3 In the case of injury or illness, athletes will be required to undergo a medical assessment by a doctor or doctors nominated by NZCCSA, before the selectors can give any weight to any extenuating circumstances.

6. Olympic Team Selection

The role of NZCCSA is to NOMINATE athletes to NZOC. SELECTION to the Olympic Team is at the sole discretion of the NZOC Olympic selectors. The NZOC Selection Policy for the Winter Olympic Games, Vancouver 2010 forms part of this document.

NZOC will not confirm any athlete selection unless:

- (a) The athlete is registered athlete with Snow Sports NZ, and has a valid FIS licence
- (b) The athlete has signed and returned their athlete agreement to NZOC
- (c) The athlete has been registered with Drug Free Sport NZ on the random drug testing list at least six months prior to the commencement of the Games
- (d) The athlete has signed and completed the IOC athlete eligibility document

7. Athlete Appeals

Athlete appeals relating to nominations by the NSO to the NZOC will be covered by the NSO's own appeals process.

Athlete appeals relating to selections by the NZOC will be covered by the Appeals resolution process outlined in Section 9 of the NZOC-NSO Agreement as posted on the NZOC website, <http://www.olympic.org.nz/Article.aspx?ID=8067>

8. Team Announcements

All team announcements will be individually released to the media from, and authorised by, the **NZOC**, in full consultation with NZCCSA. While it is accepted that the team announcement date may have to be changed, it is anticipated that the team announcement will be made on (or by) 25 January 2010.