

TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES
NOMINATION CRITERIA FOR SOFTBALL EVENTS

New Zealand Softball Association (Inc)

1. Application of this Nomination Criteria

- 1.1 This Nomination Criteria is issued by the Board of Softball NZ.
- 1.2 This Nomination Criteria shall take effect from 22 June, 2018.
- 1.3 This Nomination Criteria applies to:
- (a) All Athletes wishing to be considered for nomination to the Games Team to compete in the Games in a Softball Event; and
 - (b) Softball NZ, including its Selectors that wish to nominate a Team to NZOC to be selected to the Games Team for the Games.

2. Selectors

- 2.1 **Composition:** The Selectors shall be appointed by Softball NZ utilising policy B023 – Appointment of Officials. The Selectors who will consider nomination of the Team and its Athletes to NZOC for consideration of selection in the Games Team are:
- NZ White Sox Head Coach
NZ White Sox Assistant Coach

3. Nomination Procedure

- 3.1 **Conditions of Nomination:** The Selectors may only consider an Athlete for nomination as part of a Team if the Athlete has satisfied the following conditions of nomination:
- (a) Returned a completed Athlete Application to the NZOC, in the form prescribed by the NZOC by the following dates (“Application Date”):
 - i. no later than 5.00pm Friday 24 September 2019; and
 - ii. in exceptional circumstances where Softball NZ provides NZOC with evidence that demonstrates that the Athlete could not have been reasonably in contemplation before 24 January 2020 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board).
 - (b) Returned a completed Athlete Agreement to the NZOC in the form prescribed by the NZOC prior to the Nomination Date; and

- (c) Demonstrated to the satisfaction of Softball NZ that they are not suffering any physical or mental impairment that would prevent them from competing in the Games to the highest possible standard; and
 - (d) Acted in such a manner so as not to bring the Athlete, the Team, the sport, Softball NZ or the NZOC into public disrepute; and
 - (e) to Softball NZ's knowledge has not used or administered any substance which, if it had been detected as being present in the Athlete's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted doping, or used any prohibited method or committed any other doping offence as defined in Softball NZ's, the WBSC's or NZOC's Integrity Regulation; and
 - (f) Have reached her 16th birthday at any time prior to the day before the Softball Event at the Games.
 - (g) From 24 January 2020 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board) has provided their name and contact address details to NZOC for the purpose of out of competition drug testing with Drug Free Sport New Zealand.
- 3.2 **Qualification:** New Zealand must qualify for places in a Softball Event in accordance with the WBSC's Qualification System for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games ("WBSC Qualification System") and/or WBSC's requirements for the Games. Qualification for a place in any Softball Event by a Team does not guarantee that Team will be nominated or selected to compete in the Softball Event at the Games.
- 3.3 **Nomination if Nomination Criteria Met:** Provided the requirements set out in clause 3.1 and 3.2 are met, the Selectors shall nominate those Athletes it considers meet the Nomination Criteria set out below.

4. Nomination Criteria

- 4.1 **Nomination Criteria:** The Softball NZ Nomination Criteria for nomination to the Games Team is made up of two parts:
- (a) The Over-Riding Nomination Criteria specified in clause 4.2; and
 - (b) The Specific Nomination Factors specified in clause 4.3.
- 4.2 **Over-Riding Nomination Criteria:**
- (a) In determining whether or not to nominate a Team to a Softball Event, the Selectors must be satisfied overall that:
 - i. the Team has qualified a team place at the Games in accordance with the WBSC Qualification System; and

- ii. all Athletes available and eligible to compete in the Team are an equal or higher standard and quality to the athletes who comprised the Team during qualification; and
 - iii. the Athletes in the Team have a track record of sufficient quality and depth that the NZOC believes demonstrates the Team will be competitive at the Games and will perform creditably.
- (b) In determining whether or not the Team has met the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria for Softball Events in clause 4.2(a) above, the Selectors shall consider the Team and each Athlete's performances and results in the Softball Event at which they seek to be selected for the Games in the following Key Events during the period 1 August 2018 to 31 March 2020:
- 2018 WBSC Women's World Championship,
 - 2019 Asia-Pacific Cup,
 - 2019 WBSC Regional Olympic Qualifier,
 - 2020 National Fastpitch Championship

4.3 **Specific Nomination Factors:** When considering the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria above, the Selectors may also take into account any one or more of the following factors about an Athlete:

- (a) any other performances or results in competitions / events in addition to the Key Events;
- (b) adequate fitness and a commitment to maintain a fitness and training programme as agreed with the applicable coach(es);
- (c) demonstrated good behaviour, including a commitment to training and attendance at training camps;
- (d) demonstrated compatibility with others in a team environment;
- (e) demonstrated compliance with the rules of events and competitions;
- (f) understanding and respect for the obligations that accompany being a member of a New Zealand team when competing at the Games, including respect for team members and support staff;
- (g) willingness to promote Softball NZ in a positive manner;
- (h) demonstrated ability to take personal responsibility for self and their results;
- (i) proven ability to be reliable; and
- (j) any other factor(s) the Selectors consider relevant

- 4.4 **Own Enquiries:** In considering any one or more of the above factors, the Selectors may make such enquiries of the Athlete, or other persons, as they see fit.
- 4.5 **Weight to be given to Specific Nomination Factors:** The Selectors may give weight to any one or more of the Specific Nomination Factors and, if it does, to apply such weighting to one or more Athletes. No particular factor shall be weighted more or less significantly by reason only of the order in which that factor appears in this Nomination Criteria.
- 4.6 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In any decision regarding the nomination of Athletes to the Team, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, take into account any extenuating circumstances in accordance with clause 5 below.
- 4.7 **Nomination Procedure:** After consideration of this Nomination Criteria, the Selectors shall follow the procedure set out in clause 9 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

5. **Extenuating Circumstances**

- 5.1 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In considering the nomination of Athletes to a Team in accordance with this Nomination Criteria, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, give weight to any extenuating circumstances which may include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (a) injury or illness;
 - (b) travel delays;
 - (c) equipment failure;
 - (d) bereavement or personal misfortune; and/or
 - (e) any other factors reasonably considered by the Selectors to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- 5.2 **Athlete to Advise:** Athletes unable to compete at events, trials, or other attendances required under this Nomination Criteria, must advise the Chief Executive of the extenuating circumstances and reasons, in writing, with as much advance notice as possible and ideally seven (7) days prior to the commencement of the event, trial or other attendance. If the Chief Executive is not notified of any extenuating circumstances in accordance with this Nomination Criteria, then the Selectors have no obligation to rely on such circumstances.
- 5.3 **Medical Certificate:** In the case of injury or illness, Athletes may be required by the Selectors to provide a medical certificate and/or to undergo an examination by a health practitioner/s nominated by the Selectors, and to provide that opinion and/or report to the Selectors. Any failure to agree to such a request may result in the Selectors being unable to consider the injury or illness as an extenuating circumstance.
- 5.4 **Case by Case:** In the case of any extenuating circumstance/s, the Selectors will make a decision on a case-by-case basis.

6. Appeal Procedure

- 6.1 **Nomination Appeals:** An Athlete may appeal to Softball NZ against their non-nomination to the NZOC by the Selectors of Softball NZ provided that the Athlete has returned a completed:
- (a) Athlete Application to the NZOC by the Application Date; and
 - (b) Athlete Agreement to the NZOC by the Nomination Date.
- 6.2 **Procedures for Nomination Appeals:** Any appeal under paragraph 6.1 must be made in accordance with the procedures set out in clause 13 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

7. Inconsistencies

- 7.1 **NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation:** In the event there is any inconsistency between this Nomination Criteria and the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation, the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation shall prevail.
- 7.2 **WBSC Qualification System:** If this Nomination Criteria imposes a higher qualification standard or a lesser number of participants than stated by the WBSC Qualification System, this shall not be regarded as an inconsistency.

8. Amendments to this Nomination Criteria

- 8.1 **Prior to Nomination Date:** This Nomination Criteria may be amended or supplemented from time to time by the Board, before the Nomination Date, provided NZOC has approved the amendment/s and supplement/s.
- 8.2 **Notice:** The Board will give as much notice as possible of any amendment/s or supplement/s made under clause 8.1 to this Nomination Criteria, to persons it considers may be affected by any such amendment/s or supplement/s.

9. Definitions

- 9.1 **Application Date** means the dates set out in clause 3.1(a) by which Athletes must submit a completed Athlete Application in accordance with clause 8.3 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.
- 9.2 **Athlete** means a person who wishes to be considered for nomination to the Team for the Games.

- 9.3 **Athlete Agreement** means the agreement that must be completed by any Athlete wishing to be considered for nomination and selection to the Games Team in accordance with clause 8.4 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.
- 9.4 **Athlete Application** means the form set by the NZOC that must be completed by any Athlete applying to be nominated and selected to the Games Team.
- 9.5 **Board** means the Board of Softball NZ as constituted under the Constitution.
- 9.6 **Chief Executive** means the Chief Executive Officer of Softball NZ and includes his / her nominee.
- 9.7 **Constitution** means the Constitution of Softball NZ.
- 9.8 **Games** means the 2020 Olympic Games to be held in Tokyo, Japan from 24 July – 9 August 2020.
- 9.9 **Games Team** means the New Zealand Team at the Games selected in accordance with the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games.
- 9.10 **Key Events** mean international, continental or national competitions listed in clause 4.2(b) which is a major or pinnacle event for the sport or is at least the equivalent of a World Cup or World Championship, and have an equivalent field to that which is likely to occur at the Games.
- 9.11 **Nominated Athlete** means an Athlete who has been nominated to the NZOC as part of the Team by Softball NZ.
- 9.12 **Nomination Criteria** means the criteria made up of the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria and the Specific Nomination Factors, and is also referred to as “this Criteria”.
- 9.13 **Nomination Date** means on or before 31 May 2020 (and includes any alternative date as agreed between NZOC) and Softball NZ, by which Softball NZ must submit any Nominated Athletes to the NZOC.
- 9.14 **NZOC** means the New Zealand Olympic Committee Incorporated.
- 9.15 **NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation** means the regulation of NZOC relation to the nomination and selection process for all Olympic and Commonwealth games, including the Games.
- 9.16 **Over-Riding Nomination Criteria** means the criteria set out in clause 4.2.
- 9.17 **Selectors** means the selectors appointed by Softball NZ in accordance with clause 2 of this Nomination Criteria.
- 9.18 **Softball Event** means a women’s softball 6 team tournament at the Games.
- 9.19 **Softball NZ** means New Zealand Softball Association (Inc).

- 9.20 **Specific Nomination Factors** means the nomination factors set out in clause 4.3.
- 9.21 **Team** means a team of 15 Athletes (including substitutes) competing together in a Softball Event.
- 9.22 **WBSC** means the World Baseball Softball Confederation.