

**BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES**  
**NOMINATION CRITERIA FOR BEACH VOLLEYBALL EVENTS**

**VOLLEYBALL NEW ZEALAND (VNZ)**

**1. Application of this Nomination Criteria**

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- 1.1 **Status:** This Nomination Criteria is issued by the Board and shall take effect from 1 June 2021 and was amended 1 December 2021. This Nomination Criteria supersedes any previous correspondence, discussions and representations (whether written or oral) by VNZ regarding nomination and selection for the Games.
- 1.2 **Scope:** 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 Beach Volleyball Event; and
  - (b) VNZ, including its Selectors, that wish to nominate Athletes to NZOC to be considered for selection to the Games Team for the Games.
- 1.3 **Process:** Selection to the Games Team in a Beach Volleyball Event is a three step process:
- (a) each Athlete must be eligible in accordance with clause 3 of this Nomination Criteria;
  - (b) VNZ nominates Athletes to the NZOC in accordance with this Nomination Criteria and the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation; and
  - (c) the NZOC selects Athletes to the Games Team in accordance with the NZOC Selection Policy and the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

**2. Selectors**

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- 2.1 **Composition:** The Selectors have been appointed by the Board. The Selectors who will consider nomination of Athletes to NZOC to be considered for selection in the Games Team are:
- Greg Lindsay, Susan Blundell Dorrington, and Warren Smith*
- 2.2 The Board reserves the right to change a Selector at any time in its absolute discretion prior to the Nomination Date. In such case, it will publish the change of Selector on the VNZ website.

### 3. Eligibility

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3.1 **Athlete Eligibility:** To be eligible to be nominated to the NZOC by VNZ, an Athlete must:

- (a) have 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, 28 July 2021, where an Athlete is not a regular member of VNZ at this date; or
  - ii. no later than 5.00pm, 26 November 2021, where an Athlete is a regular member of VNZ; or
  - iii. in exceptional circumstances before 5.00pm, 28 January 2022 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board) where VNZ provides the NZOC with evidence that demonstrates that Athlete could not have been reasonably in contemplation before 26 November 2021, provided the Athlete is a regular member of VNZ; and
- (b) have returned a completed Athlete Agreement in the manner prescribed by the NZOC to NZOC prior to the Nomination Date; and
- (c) be a member of VNZ or one of its affiliates; and
- (d) be a New Zealand citizen and have a New Zealand passport; and
- (e) have demonstrated to the satisfaction of VNZ that they are not suffering any physical or psychological impairment that would prevent them from competing in the Games to the highest possible standard; and
- (f) have acted in such a manner so as not to bring the Athlete, the sport, VNZ or the NZOC into public disrepute; and
- (g) not be under investigation for any breach of any part of the VNZ and FIVB’s anti-doping regulations, the Sports Anti-Doping Rules and/or the NZOC Integrity Regulation; and
- (h) no later than 28 July 2021 where the Athlete is not a regular member of VNZ or 28 January 2022 (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 Beach Volleyball Event in accordance with the Birmingham 2020 Games Manual, CGF Athlete Allocation System and/or FIVB requirements for the Games. Qualification for a place in any Beach Volleyball Event by a pair of Athletes does not guarantee that the pair of Athletes will be nominated or selected to compete in the Beach Volleyball Event(s) at the Games.

3.3 **Nomination if Nomination Criteria Met:** Provided the requirements set out in clauses 3.1 and 3.2 are met, the Selectors shall nominate to NZOC for consideration of selection, those Athletes it considers meet the Nomination Criteria set out below.

3.4 **Reserve Athletes:** The Selectors may nominate Reserve Athletes to the NZOC for any Beach Volleyball Event.

#### **4. Nomination Criteria**

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4.1 **Nomination Criteria:** In considering any Athlete for nomination to the NZOC, the Selectors shall consider:

- (a) the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria specified in clause 5.1; and
- (b) the Specific Nomination Factors specified in clause 5.2; and
- (c) any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with clause 6.

4.2 **Relevance and Weighting:** The Selectors may determine the relevance and weight that they wish to place on any Specific Nomination Factor(s) and any Extenuating Circumstances(s) as they consider appropriate. No particular Specific Nomination Factor shall be weighed more or less significantly based on the order in which it appears in this Nomination Criteria unless expressly specified otherwise.

4.3 **Own Enquiries:** In considering the Specific Nomination Factors, the Selectors may make such enquiries of the Athlete, or other persons, as they see fit.

4.4 **Conditions:** In considering any results and performances of an Athlete at any Key Events, the Selectors may, but do not have to, take into account the conditions in which the results and performances were obtained such as, but not limited to, the weather conditions and the field of competition.

4.5 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In any decision regarding the nomination of Athletes to the Games Team, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, take into account any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with clause 6 below.

#### **5. Over-Riding Nomination Criteria and Specific Nomination Factors**

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5.1 **Over-Riding Nomination Criteria:**

- (a) In determining whether or not to nominate an Athlete pairing to a Beach Volleyball Event, the Selectors must be satisfied overall that the Athlete pairing:
  - (i) are capable of achieving a top 6 placing at the Games in the Beach Volleyball Event, and

(ii) have a track record of sufficient quality and depth that the NZOC believes demonstrates that the Nominated Athlete pairing will be competitive at the Games and will perform creditably in that Beach Volleyball Event.

(b) In considering whether an Athlete pairing will be nominated to NZOC, the Selectors will consider nomination of Athletes to the NZOC in accordance with the following priority order:

(i) **Primary Criteria**

As the Primary Criteria, subject to clauses 3 and 5.3 of this Criteria, an Athlete pairing must:

- as a pair, be ranked in the top 6 athlete pairings from Commonwealth countries on the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking List as at 23 May 2022. The top 6 places shall be determined by excluding athlete pairs from non-Commonwealth countries. Only one pairing per country, excluding NZ, shall be counted in the top 6 athlete pairs' rankings; **AND**
- as a pair, together have participated in a minimum of eight tournaments within the tours/competitions listed below in the Qualification Period, four of which must be outside the Oceania region:
  - 2021 and 2022 FIVB World Tour
  - 2021 and 2022 FIVB Asian Tour
  - 2021 and 2022 Oceania Beach Volleyball Games
  - 2021 and 2022 FIVB Sanctioned National Tour EventsCollectively the “**Key Events**”: **THEN**

(ii) **Secondary Criteria:**

In the event there are remaining quota places after the Primary Criteria in clause 5.1(b)(i) has been applied, and subject to clauses 3 and 5.3 of this Criteria, the Athlete pairing who have the highest Ranking Points overall in their respective gender on the 2022 New Zealand Beach Tour will be nominated **PROVIDED THAT** the Selectors are satisfied that the pair of Athletes have demonstrated they are capable in such Athlete pairing of a top 6 placing at the Games in the Beach Volleyball Event. Such capability will be based on the Athlete pairing's performances at the Key Events; **THEN**

(iii) **Final Criteria**

Subject to clauses 3 and 5.3, where any quota places are available but not filled through the Primary and Secondary Criteria above, then as a Final Criteria, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion nominate a pair of Athletes who have demonstrated they are capable of a top 6 placing at the Games in the Beach Volleyball Event based on their performances and results as an Athlete pairing from the 2022 Key Events.

5.2 **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 within the Qualification Period:

- (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 Games Team members;
- (g) willingness to promote VNZ 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.

5.3 **Ranking:** The Selectors shall, no later than 25 May 2022, examine the credentials of all Athlete pairings for Beach Volleyball Events. If there are more Athlete pairs who meet the Over-riding Criteria set out in clause 5.1 available any of the relevant Primary, Secondary and Final Criteria than quota places available, then nomination will be decided by the Selectors having regard to one or more of the following factors:

- (a) the pairs' ability to medal;
- (b) the pairs' Ranking Points on the 2022 New Zealand Beach Tour; and
- (d) any other information the Selectors consider relevant.

## 6. **Extenuating Circumstances**

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6.1 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In considering the nomination of Athletes 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.

6.2 **Athlete to Advise:** Athletes unable to compete at Key Events, trials, or other attendances required under this Nomination Criteria, must advise the CEO 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 Key Event or other attendance. If the CEO is not notified of any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with this Nomination Criteria, then the Selectors have no obligation to rely on such circumstances.

6.3 **Medical Certificate:** In the case of injury or illness, Athletes may be required by the CEO to provide a medical certificate and/or to undergo an examination by a health practitioner/s nominated by the CEO, 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.

6.4 **Case by Case:** In the case of any Extenuating Circumstance/s, the Selectors will make a decision on a case-by-case basis.

## 7. Nomination and Selection

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7.1 **Nomination to NZOC:** VNZ will nominate Athletes (“Nominated Athletes”) and any Reserve Athletes to the NZOC by the Nomination Date.

7.2 **Nomination with Conditions:** VNZ may nominate an Athlete with any conditions, for example, conditions relating to recovery from injury or continuing to meet specified performance levels. If the conditions are not met to the satisfaction of the Selectors, they will not be eligible for selection, unless the NZOC decides to select the Nominated Athlete subject to those or other conditions.

7.3 **Selection by NZOC:** Selection to the Games Team by the NZOC will be made in accordance with the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

## 8. Appeal Procedure

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8.1 **Non-Nomination Appeals:** An Athlete may appeal to VNZ against their non-nomination to the NZOC by the VNZ provided that the Athlete:

- (a) is on the VNZ long list for the Games; and
- (b) meets the eligibility criteria under clause 3 of this Criteria.

- 8.2 **Procedures for Non-Nomination Appeals:** Any appeal under criteria 8.1 of this Criteria must be made in accordance with the procedures set out in clause 13 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.
- 8.3 **Procedures for Non-Selection Appeals:** If a Nominated Athlete is not selected by the NZOC, the Nominated Athlete may appeal the non-selection in accordance with the procedures set out in clause 14 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation provided that the Nominated Athlete:
- (a) is on the VNZ long list for the Games; and
  - (b) meets the eligibility criteria under clause 3 of this Criteria.

## 9. Inconsistencies

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- 9.1 **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.
- 9.2 **CGF Athlete Allocation System:** If this Nomination Criteria imposes a higher qualification standard or a lesser number of participants than stated by the CGF Athlete Allocation System, this shall not be regarded as an inconsistency.

## 10. Amendments to this Nomination Criteria

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- 10.1 **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.
- 10.2 **Notice:** The Board will give as much notice as possible of any amendment/s or supplement/s made under clause 10.1 to this Nomination Criteria, to persons it considers may be affected by any such amendment/s or supplement/s.

## 11. Definitions

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- 11.1 **Application Date** means the dates set out in clause 3.1(a) of this Criteria, by which Athletes must submit to NZOC a completed Athlete Application in accordance with clause 8.3 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.
- 11.2 **Athlete** means a person who wishes to be considered for nomination to the Games Team.
- 11.3 **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.
- 11.4 **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.

- 11.5 **Beach Volleyball Event** means an event in the Games in which an Athlete competes together with another Athlete as a pair in a men's or women's 12 team tournament.
- 11.6 **Board** means the Board of VNZ as constituted under the Constitution.
- 11.7 **CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer of VNZ and includes his / her nominee.
- 11.8 **CGF** means the Commonwealth Games Federation.
- 11.9 **Constitution** means the Constitution of VNZ.
- 11.10 **Extenuating Circumstances** means the inability to perform at an optimum level arising from one or more of the reasons set out in clause 6.1.
- 11.11 **Games** means the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games to be held in Birmingham, England between 28 July – 8 August 2022.
- 11.12 **Games Team** means the New Zealand Team at the Games selected in accordance with the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games.
- 11.13 **FIVB** means the International Volleyball Federation.
- 11.14 **Key Events** means an international, continental or national competition listed in clause 5.2(b)(i).
- 11.15 **Nominated Athlete** means an Athlete who has been nominated by VNZ to the NZOC for consideration of selection to the Games Team.
- 11.16 **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**".
- 11.17 **Nomination Date** means on or before 30 May 2022 (and includes any alternative date as agreed between NZOC and VNZ), by which VNZ must submit any Nominated Athletes to the NZOC.
- 11.18 **NZOC** means the New Zealand Olympic Committee Incorporated.
- 11.19 **NZOC Integrity Regulation** means the NZOC Integrity Regulation available at <http://www.olympic.org.nz/about-the-nzoc/governance-documents/>.
- 11.20 **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, available at <http://www.olympic.org.nz/about-the-nzoc/governance-documents/>.
- 11.21 **NZOC Selection Policy** means the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games, available at <http://www.olympic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Birmingham-2022-Selection-Policy-Final.pdf>.
- 11.22 **Over-Riding Nomination Criteria** means the criteria set out in clause 5.1.



- 11.23 **Qualification Period** means the period between 1 June 2021 and 22 May 2022.
- 11.24 **Ranking Points** for the sake of this Policy mean points of which 100% will be attributed to the each of 5 qualification events of the 2022 New Zealand Beach Tour, with 110% attributed to the 2022 New Zealand Beach Tour finals. A pairing's best four events from the six events on the 2022 New Zealand Beach Tour will be used to calculate their Ranking Points.
- 11.25 **Reserve Athletes** means a travelling and/or non-travelling reserve, as designated by the Selectors.
- 11.26 **Specific Nomination Factors** means the factors listed in clause 5.2 which the Selectors may take into account when applying the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria.
- 11.27 **Selectors** means the selectors appointed by VNZ in accordance with clause 2 of this Nomination Criteria.
- 11.28 **2022 New Zealand Beach Tour** means the 2022 Beach Volleyball Beach Tour which features New Zealand's top beach volleyball athletes competing over 6 different events in New Zealand between 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – 20<sup>th</sup> February 2022, culminating in the 2022 New Zealand Beach Tour finals on 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- 11.29 **VNZ** means Volleyball New Zealand Incorporated.