



## NZOC SELECTION POLICY (V3)

### GOLD COAST 2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 **Purpose:** The purpose of this Policy is to set out the principles which the NZOC will apply in selecting its team (“Games Team”) to represent New Zealand at the 2018 Commonwealth Games to be held in Gold Coast, Australia from 4 April to 15 April 2018 (“Games”).
- 1.2 **High Entry Standard:** Performance at the Games represents the pinnacle of athletic achievement within the Commonwealth nations and this Policy reflects the need to ensure a high entry standard into the Games Team is maintained.
- 1.3 **NF Nomination Criteria:** This Policy is to be reflected in the nomination criteria to be adopted by each National Federation (“NF Nomination Criteria”) for all athletes wishing to be considered for nomination to the Games Team to compete in the Games.

#### 2 The Process

- 2.1 **NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation:** The process for nomination and selection for the Games Team is set out in the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation which is available on the NZOC website at [www.olympic.org.nz](http://www.olympic.org.nz).

#### 3 Over-Riding Selection Criteria

- 3.1 **Eligibility:** Any nominated athlete who wishes to be considered for selection to the Games Team must meet all eligibility requirements set out in the Commonwealth Games Federation Constitution and rules applicable to the Games, this Policy, the Nomination and Selection Regulation, the NF Nomination Criteria and any requirements of the sport.
- 3.2 **Criteria:** The NZOC will consider all eligible nominated athletes for selection in the Games Team against the criteria set out in this Policy for Individual Events, Team Events and Team Sports respectively. The criteria for Individual Events, Team Events and Team Sports are set out below in addition to the Other Factors listed in clause 4.
- 3.3 **Quota:** The Commonwealth Games Federation has introduced athlete quota restrictions for the Games. The initial quota places allocated to New Zealand by the Commonwealth Games Federation is 125 (excluding Team Sports, Para-Sports, Beach Volleyball and Weightlifting athletes, but subject to additional quota places being allocated to the NZOC by the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Organising Committee. Para-athletes, Beach Volleyball and Weightlifting athletes will have their own qualifying criteria (including quota restrictions) but are considered Individual Events for the purpose of this Policy. The NZOC have the sole right to

determine the quota places allocated to each National Federation for the purpose of nominating athletes for selection consideration in accordance with this Policy. Such determination, may (but not be limited to) take into consideration such factors as follows:

- Average of athletes participating in the previous three Commonwealth Games (Melbourne 2006, Delhi 2010 and Glasgow 2014);
- Medal success in the previous three Commonwealth Games;
- Achievement of the over-riding selection criteria for athletes in the previous three Commonwealth Games;
- The opportunity for all sports to be represented, subject to athletes achieving performance standards;
- How the sport operates (i.e. multi-disciplined, gender balance, ability to form a team); and
- How the sport is trending in its performance.

**3.4 Quota Reallocation:** Where an initial quota place is unable to be utilised by a National Federation or additional quotas are made available by the Commonwealth Games Federation, the NZOC will have the sole discretion to reallocate the quota place. Where quota places are available for reallocation, the NZOC may call for athlete nominations from National Federations who have athletes or teams competing in Individual Events and Team Events on a date notified by the NZOC. To be eligible, the nominations must be received by the NZOC no later than the date specified by the NZOC. When considering reallocation of a quota place, the NZOC may in its sole discretion (but subject to clause 3.5 and 3.6) consider some or all of the following factors:

- Medal capability of the nominated athlete;
- Ability for the nominated athlete to form a pair, crew or team (including relay team) with athletes already selected in the Games Team;
- Potential to achieve an Olympic Diploma (top 8 placing) at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and/or potential to medal at the Durban 2022 Commonwealth Games;
- The opportunity for all sports to be represented at the Games.

National Federations nominating multiple athletes and/or a team under a quota allocation are required to make a submission for each athlete and to rank them in the National Federation's order of preference for selection by the NZOC.

For the sake of clarity, the NZOC is not obliged to call for nominations for quota reallocations or select the maximum number of athletes permitted under the Commonwealth Games Federation quota allocation for New Zealand.

### **3.5 Individual Events**

**3.5.1 Definition:** For the purpose of this Policy, an "Individual Event" means an event in the Games in which an athlete competes either alone or in which athletes compete together in a game, race, heat or event up to a maximum of three (3) athletes (for example as a pair, crew, or relay team), and which is not a "Team Event" or a "Team Sport" as defined in this Policy.

**3.5.2 Criteria:** Any nominated athlete wishing to be selected for the Games Team in an Individual Event(s) must demonstrate to the NZOC's satisfaction that:

- the nominated athlete, or

- the nominated athletes collectively, in the case of a pair, crew, team or other game, race, heat or event where more than one athlete competes together, which is not a Team Event or a Team Sport,

**Top 6**

- a. is or are capable of achieving a top 6 placing in the Games in that Individual Event; and
- b. has or have a track record of sufficient quality and depth that the NZOC believes demonstrates the nominated athlete(s) will be competitive at the Games and will perform creditably in that Individual Event(s).

or

**Potential Top 16**

- c. If clause 3.5.3 applies, has or have the potential capability to achieve a top 16 placing in the 2020 Olympic Games in that Individual Event; and
- d. has or have a track record of sufficient quality and depth that the NZOC believes demonstrates that the nominated athlete(s) will be competitive at the Games and will perform creditably in that Individual Event(s).

3.5.3 **Discretion:** The criteria in clause 3.5.2(c) and (d), shall only apply if the NZOC decides in its complete discretion that it can be included in an NF's Nomination Criteria. Such decision, may only be made in rare circumstances, where:

- a. the NZOC considers that the level of competitiveness of the expected field of competitors in an Individual Event at the Games is likely to be the same or higher than the level of competitiveness of the expected field of competitors in the same Individual Event at the 2020 Olympic Games, and
- b. that such disparity would otherwise exclude the athlete(s) from being selected to compete in the Games.

*Explanatory Note: The purpose of this discretionary clause is to enable the NZOC to consider an athlete for selection that would meet the 2020 Olympic Games criteria (top 16) but who would not meet the Games criteria (top 6), due to the difference in the fields of competition between the two events. This is based on the general principle that the NZOC would expect an athlete who is at a level to compete at an Olympic Games (which is a pinnacle world event) would also be at a level to compete at the Games.*

3.5.4 **Application:** A National Federation seeking to include the criteria in clause 3.5.2(c) and (d) in their NF Nomination Criteria must make an application to the NZOC with an explanation of the disparity that would arise, with detailed evidence of the expected fields of competitors, and their likely level of competitiveness, in an Individual Event at the Games compared to the same Individual Event at the 2020 Olympic Games.

3.5.5 **Evidence:** To demonstrate satisfaction of the criteria by nominated athletes for Individual Events in clause 3.5.2 above, satisfactory evidence must be produced to the NZOC by the National Federation of the nominated athlete(s)' performances and results in Key Events (see clause 3.8) in the Individual Event(s) at which they seek to be selected for the Games. This evidence shall include the performance and results of the likely competitors in the Individual

Event at the Games. This evidence may also include an individual performance plan (“IPP”) approved by High Performance Sport New Zealand (“HPSNZ”) and/or the National Federation for the nominated athlete(s) and evidence on the progress of the nominated athlete(s) against that IPP.

### 3.6 Team Events

3.6.1 **Definition:** For the purposes of this Policy, a “Team Event” means an event in the Games, in which a group of four (4) or more athletes compete together in a game, race, heat or event but excludes Team Sports.

3.6.2 **Criteria:** A group of athletes competing in a Team Event wishing to be selected for the Games Team must demonstrate to the NZOC’s satisfaction that:

- a. the group of nominated athletes is capable of achieving a top 3 placing in the Games in that Team Event; and
- b. the group of nominated athletes have a track record of sufficient quality and depth that the NZOC believes demonstrates the group of nominated athletes will be competitive at the Games and will perform creditably in that Team Event.

3.6.3 **Evidence:** To demonstrate satisfaction of the criteria for a Team Event in clause 3.6.2 above, satisfactory evidence must be produced to the NZOC by the National Federation of the performances and results as part of the group of nominated athletes in Key Events (see clause 3.8) at which the group of nominated athletes seeks to be selected to compete at the Games. This evidence shall include the performance and results of the likely competitor groups of athletes in the Team Event at the Games. This evidence may include IPPs approved by HPSNZ and/or the National Federation for the group of nominated athletes and evidence on the progress of the group of nominated athletes against their IPPs.

### 3.7 Team Sports

3.7.1 **Definition:** For the purposes of this Policy, a “Team Sport” means an event in the Games, where a team of athletes (including reserves or substitutes) compete together in a game, race, heat or event in the following sports:

- Basketball (men and women)
- Hockey (men and women)
- Netball
- Rugby 7s (men and women)

3.7.2 **Criteria:** A Team Sport wishing to be selected for the Games Team must demonstrate to the NZOC’s satisfaction that:

- a. the team is capable of achieving a top 3 placing in the Games in that Team Sport; and
- b. the nominated 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 in that Team Sport.

3.7.3 **Evidence:** To demonstrate satisfaction of the criteria for a Team Sport in clause 3.7.2 above, satisfactory evidence must be produced to the NZOC by the National Federation of the performances and results as part of a team in Key Events (see clause 3.8) at which the team seeks to be selected to compete at the Games. This evidence shall include the performance and results of the likely competitor teams in the Team Sport at the Games. This evidence may include IPPs approved by HPSNZ and/or the National Federation for the athletes in the Team and evidence on the progress of the athletes in the team against their IPPs.

### 3.8 **Key Events**

3.8.1 **Definition:** For the purposes of this Policy, “Key Events” means an international, continental or national competition which is a major or pinnacle event or are at least the equivalent of a Commonwealth Championship and have an equivalent or higher field of competitors to that which is likely to occur at the Games.

*Examples of “Key Events” include World Cups, World Championships, Oceania Championships and Trans-Tasman Championships.*

3.8.2 **Key Events:** The Key Events must be agreed between the National Federation and NZOC and be listed in the NF Nomination Criteria. Generally, the Key Events must be held within the 24 month period prior to the commencement of the Games or as otherwise agreed between the NZOC and the National Federation in the NF Nomination Criteria.

## 4 **Other Factors**

4.1 **Considerations:** The selection of athletes or teams into the Games Team may be based on not only the sports performance of the nominated athletes or teams, but also on the athlete’s or team’s ability to serve as an example to the sporting youth of New Zealand. Any actions of athletes or teams that reflect badly upon or which have brought the NZOC or any Games sport into disrepute (or which has the potential to do so) can be taken into account when assessing the suitability of any athlete, team, coach, or other person to be selected by the NZOC for the Games Team.

4.2 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In considering the performance of nominated athletes or teams at Key Events, the NZOC may in its sole discretion take into account extenuating circumstances and therefore waive or vary some or all of its criteria. National Federations must supply detailed evidence to support consideration of extenuating circumstances under this clause. For the purpose of this Policy, "extenuating circumstances" means the inability of an athlete or team to compete or perform to an optimum level due to factors such as:

- a. injury or illness of an athlete;
- b. equipment failure;
- c. travel delays;
- d. bereavement or personal misfortune; and
- e. such other circumstances as the selectors reasonably consider constitute “extenuating circumstances”.

- 4.3 **Additional Circumstances:** In considering the performance of nominated athlete(s) at Key Events, the NZOC may, in its sole discretion, waive or vary some or all of its criteria to take into account athletes who have demonstrated they are capable of having a positive impact on another nominated athlete's medal success at the Games. Such nominated athlete's primary role will be to support the nominated medal capable athlete prior to and during competition to effectively enhance the chances of medal success.
- 4.4 **Conduct:** The Games Team must operate as a harmonious and constructive unit and the NZOC may therefore also take into consideration any history of ability (or inability) of any athlete to function appropriately in the Games Team environment.
- 4.5 **Anti-Doping Compliance:** The NZOC will only select nominated athletes to the Games Team who have fully complied with the NZOC Integrity Regulation – Part A Anti-Doping (as per clauses 6 and 7) which is available on the NZOC website at [www.olympic.org.nz](http://www.olympic.org.nz), including but not limited to:
- a. for those athletes who are NOT regular members of a National Federation, being available for sample collection and providing accurate, up to date whereabouts information as part of a national registered testing pool during the year prior to the date of commencement of the Games and notified to DFSNZ by the National Federation; and
  - b. being included on the list of athletes that are to be considered for selection to the Games (maintained by the NZOC and notified to DFSNZ, known as the "Long List") at least six months before the date of commencement of the Games.

## **5 Additional Matters**

- 5.1 **Qualification:** The mere fact that a nominated athlete, group of athletes or team has qualified a placing for an event at the Games or has been allocated a quota by the National Federation will not guarantee selection of the nominated athlete, group of athletes or the team into the Games Team.
- 5.2 **Acceptance of Quota Places:** The NZOC will not be obliged to accept places (if any) in the Games offered by the Commonwealth Games Federation (e.g. universality places, quota places or invitation places). Any such acceptance will be solely at the discretion of the NZOC and in accordance with this Policy.
- 5.3 **NZOC Selectors:** The NZOC have determined that the following individuals will act as selectors on its behalf under this Policy:
- **Simon Wickham;**
  - **Tony Hall;**
  - **Lesley Rumball; and**
  - **Mike Kernaghan**
- 5.4 **Variation:** The Board of NZOC reserves the right to amend this Policy from time to time in its sole discretion, where it considers there is a genuine and reasonable need to do so.

**Approved by the NZOC Board – 2 July 2015**  
**Amended by the NZOC Board – 15 October 2015**  
**Amended by the NZOC Board – 5 May 2016**  
**Amended by the NZOC Board – 9 February 2016**