

ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA
NOMINATION CRITERIA POLICY
2020 OLYMPIC GAMES
TOKYO, JAPAN 23rd July to 8th AUGUST 2021



Introduction

This document sets out the basis on which Athletics Australia (AA) will nominate athletes to the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) for selection to participate in the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan, 23rd July to 8th August 2021.

Aims

The aims of AA's Nomination Criteria Policy (**Aims**) are to nominate Athletes:

- (a) to form the most competitive possible athletics team to represent Australia at the Games; and
- (b) that AA considers:
 - (i) have the potential to win a medal or finish in the top 8 at the Games;
 - (ii) are potential medalists at the 2022 Commonwealth Games;
 - (ii) are potential medalists or top 8 finishers at one or more of the 2022 (Eugene, USA) and/or 2023 (Budapest, HUN) World Athletics Championships and/or the 2024 Olympic Games.

1 Definitions and Interpretation

1.1 Definitions

Unless otherwise defined below, capitalised terms in this Nomination Criteria Policy have the meaning given to them in the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law, some of which have been reproduced below for the sake of convenience.

AOC means the Australian Olympic Committee Inc and any of its officers, employees or agents and any committee it convenes including the AOC Selection Committee.

AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law means the document adopted by the Executive which governs, among other things, the nomination and selection of Athletes to a team for an Olympic Games or Olympic Winter Games.

AOC Selection Committee means the committee established by the AOC to send athletes and appoint officials to the Australian Olympic team for the Games.

AOC Selection Criteria means the criteria adopted by the AOC in respect of the Games which outlines the requirements for an athlete to be selected by the AOC to participate in the Games.

Athlete means a person who:

- (a) participates in the Sport; and
- (b) is recognised by the National Federation or the AOC as eligible for nomination to the AOC for selection to the Team pursuant to this Nomination Criteria.

Australian Championships means the relevant Australian Championship for each event as nominated by Athletics Australia.

Automatic Nomination means all Athletes nominated by the National Federation to the AOC under clause 8.1.

Direct Quota Places means the Quota Places that are made available by the International Federation to those athletes who, at the end of the Qualification Period, have qualified for the Games (as outlined in clause 5.1) plus qualified relay teams.

Discretionary Nomination means all Athletes nominated by the National Federation to the AOC, other than those Athletes receiving an Automatic Nomination.

Executive means the Executive of the AOC.

Extenuating Circumstances means any factors the National Federation considers have impacted on an Athlete's availability or performance in the Qualification Period, based on the recommendations of the Selection Committee. The National Federation will assess extenuating circumstances in its absolute discretion and on a case by case basis. Examples of some matters which may be considered "extenuating circumstances" include:

- (a) injury or illness;
- (b) equipment failure;
- (c) travel delays;
- (d) bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member, which means a spouse, de facto partner, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling; and
- (e) any other factors considered by the National Federation to constitute extenuating circumstances.

Event means an event in the Sport at the Games.

Games means the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

International Federation means World Athletics (WA), formerly known as the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).

National Federation means Athletics Australia

Nomination Criteria Policy means this document.

Nomination Date means:

- (a) 31 May 2021 for Marathon and 50km Race Walk; and
- (b) 29 June 2021 all other Events other than Marathon and 50km Race Walk.

P Alternate Athlete has the meaning given in the Qualification System.

Qualification Period means:

- (a) 1 January 2019 to 5 April 2020 and 1 September 2020 to 31 May 2021 for Marathon and 50km Race Walk;
- (b) 1 January 2019 to 5 April 2020 and 1 September 2020 to 29 June 2021 for the 20km Race Walk;
- (c) 1 January 2019 to 5 April 2020 and 1 December 2020 to 29 June 2021 for 10,000m, Combined Events and Relays; and
- (d) 1 May 2019 to 5 April 2020 and 1 December 2020 to 29 June 2021 for all other events.

For the avoidance of doubt and notwithstanding clause 1.2(c), for the purpose of determining whether a particular competition falls within the Qualification Period, the date and time of the competition is taken to be the local date and time at the place where the competition occurred.

Qualification System means the eligibility, participation and qualification criteria for the Sport in respect of the Games issued by the International Federation from time to time which, at the time of publishing this Nomination Criteria Policy, was [available here](#).

Quota Places has the meaning set out in clause 5.3.

Reserve Athlete means competing athletes who have been selected by the AOC in the Team for a specific Event and may be entered in a different Event to replace another Athlete. A Reserve Athlete must:

- (a) be nominated as a reserve for that Event at the time of the Sports Entry Deadline; and
- (b) have achieved the Entry Standard or qualified by virtue of their World Athletics Rankings position.

Selection Committee means the Selection Committee appointed by the National Federation's Board from time to time under its By-Laws.

Sport means Athletics.

Sport Entries Deadline means the date on which entries to a Games must be submitted by the AOC.

Team means the team of Athletes and officials selected by the AOC to participate in the Sport at the Games.

Unused Quota Places has the meaning set out in clause 5.5.

World Athletics Entry Standards means the performance standards listed in the Qualification System.

1.2 Interpretation

- (a) Unless the context otherwise requires, reference to:
 - (i) a clause is to a clause of this Nomination Criteria;
 - (ii) the singular includes the plural and the converse also applies;
 - (iii) persons include incorporated and unincorporated bodies, partnerships, joint ventures and associations and vice versa and their legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns and substitutes; and
 - (iv) a party includes the party's executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns and substitutes.
- (b) If a person to whom this Nomination Criteria Policy applies consists of more than one person, then this Nomination Criteria Policy binds them jointly and severally.
- (c) A reference to time, day or date is to time, day or date of Sydney, Australia.
- (d) Headings are for convenience only and do not form part of this Nomination Criteria Policy or affect its interpretation.

2 General

- 2.1 This Nomination Criteria Policy is issued by the board of the National Federation. The National Federation must provide, or otherwise make available, this Nomination Criteria Policy to all Athletes.
- 2.2 The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC in accordance with this Nomination Criteria Policy.
- 2.3 Regardless of the date it is formally approved, this Nomination Criteria Policy will be deemed to have taken effect on and from 1 January 2019 and will cease to have effect at the conclusion of the Games.
- 2.4 This Nomination Criteria Policy applies to:
 - (a) all Athletes;
 - (b) the National Federation;
 - (c) and the AOC.
- 2.5 The terms of the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law are incorporated by reference into this Nomination Criteria. The National Federation must provide, or otherwise make available, the [AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law](#) to all Athletes.

3 Long List

- 3.1 For the purpose only of identifying prospective members of the Team, the National Federation or AOC may maintain a Long List of Athletes.
- 3.2 For the avoidance of doubt, membership of the National Federation's or the AOC's Long List does not increase, decrease or otherwise affect an Athlete's prospects of being nominated by the National Federation, or being selected by the AOC, to the Team.

4 Athlete Quota Positions

- 4.1 The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC for selection to the Team where, pursuant to the Qualification System, the International Federation has awarded the AOC or the National Federation athlete quota positions. Details of the Qualification System are set out in clause 5, and the National Federation will be guided by the requirements of the Qualification System when making its nomination decisions under clauses 7 to 12.
- 4.2 The National Federation may not nominate more Athletes than are permitted to be nominated by the AOC under the Qualification System.
- 4.3 The National Federation may, in its absolute discretion, nominate less Athletes than the maximum permitted under the Qualification System.

5 Qualification System

- 5.1 The Qualification System allows an athlete to qualify for an Event at the Games by:
 - (i) achieving the Entry Standard for an Event within the relevant Qualification Period; or
 - (ii) their world ranking position in an Event at the end of the Qualification Period, with this world ranking position being determined by the International Federation.
 - 5.2 The Qualification System allows the AOC to enter one (1) team for each of the men's and women's 4x100m relay event, men's and women's 4x400m relay event, and the 4x400m mixed relay event.
 - (a) A total of five (5) Athletes may be entered for each of the men's and women's 4x100m and 4x400m relay events. Should the AOC have entered a relay team and individual Athletes in the corresponding individual event (that is, the 100m and 400m events), the entered individual Athletes must be included in the total of five (5) Athletes entered for that relay event.
 - (b) A total of four (4) Athletes, being two (2) men and two (2) women, may be entered for the 4x400m mixed relay event.
 - 5.3 Under the Qualification System, the International Federation will determine which individuals and nations will be allocated quota places according to the Qualification System (**Quota Places**). In general, the Quota Place is allocated to the athlete by name in individual Events (ie where that athlete has met one of the
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requirements set out in clause 5.1) and is therefore not transferrable. However, under the Qualification System, if the National Federation has more than three (3) qualified athletes in an individual Event, the National Federation is entitled to decide, in its absolute discretion, which of these Athletes (if any) will be nominated for the Quota Places. For the avoidance of doubt, as set out in clause 9.1, the Selection Committee will be responsible for this decision.

- 5.4 The International Federation will advise the National Federation of the list of Athletes qualified by Entry Standard and publish the World Athletics Rankings and qualified athletes on 2 June 2021 for the Marathon and 50km Race Walk, and on 1 July 2021 for all other events including qualified relay teams. These are the athletes eligible to be considered for "Direct Quota Places".
- 5.5 From 2 to 5 July 2021, the International Federation will reallocate all unused quota places for these events and advise the National Federation of the unused quota places allocated to the National Federation. These are referred to as the "Unused Quota Places".
- 5.6 Once the National Federation has nominated qualified Athletes to the AOC, the selection of Athletes to participate in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games will be conducted by the AOC. The AOC may select up to three (3) qualified athletes for each individual Event on the Sport program for the Games.

6 Eligibility Criteria

- 6.1 The National Federation will direct the Selection Committee not to nominate an Athlete to the AOC unless, as at the Nomination Date, the National Federation is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Athlete:
 - (a) is an Australian citizen;
 - (b) is a member of the National Federation;
 - (c) satisfies the Qualification System;
 - (d) is likely to satisfy the AOC Selection Criteria;
 - (e) has not breached the AOC Anti-Doping By-Law, unless the Athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed;
 - (f) does not, and is not likely to in the foreseeable future, suffer from any physical or mental impairment that would prevent the Athlete from competing at the Games to the highest possible standard for that Athlete;
 - (g) has nominated themselves for consideration for nomination by the Selection Committee;
 - (h) subject to clause 14, has competed in the Australian Championship in any and all Events in which the Athlete would like to be considered for nomination by the National Federation (with the exception of the marathon);
 - (i) agrees to undertake all education requested by the National Federation,
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including but not limited to ASADA e-learning modules level 1 & 2 and Sports Australia Match-fixing awareness course;

- (j) commits to abiding by the AA Code of Conduct, as amended from time to time;
- (k) has not at any time engaged in conduct (whether publicly known or not) which has brought, brings or would have the tendency to bring the Athlete or the Sport into disrepute or censure, or which is or would have the tendency to be inconsistent with, contrary to or prejudicial to the best interests, image or values of the National Federation.

7 Nomination Criteria

- 7.1 The National Federation will appoint the Selection Committee to make nomination recommendations to the National Federation in accordance with the Aims of this Nomination Criteria Policy.
- 7.2 Subject to clause 6.1, the National Federation will, based on the recommendations of the Selection Committee, nominate Athletes to the AOC for selection who, in the opinion of the National Federation will be most likely to further the Aims under this Nomination Criteria Policy.
- 7.3 An Athlete may be nominated under this Nomination Criteria Policy through Automatic Nomination or Discretionary Nomination.
- 7.4 Unless otherwise determined by the National Federation, the dates for nomination meetings are as follows:
 - (a) Automatic Nominations and Discretionary Nominations (subject to clause 10) as at 30 March 2020 **Week of 10 August 2020**
 - (b) Automatic Nominations and Discretionary Nominations (subject to clause 10) as at **end of 2021 Australian Championships Week TBC after Calendar Confirmation**
 - (c) Discretionary Nomination Marathon and 50km Walks **Week of 3 June 2021**
 - (d) Discretionary Nomination for all other event Direct Quota Places and any Automatic Nominations as at 1 July 2021 **1 July 2021**
 - (e) Discretionary Nomination for all Unused Quota Places **2-5 July 2021**

8 Automatic Nomination (for all events except the Marathon)

- 8.1 2020 Automatic Nomination – For consideration at 10 August 2020 Nomination Meeting
 - (a) An Athlete will be eligible for an Automatic Nomination in an Event if (subject to clause 13) they:
 - I. win the Australian Championship in that Event in 2020 (or 2019 in the case of the 10000m and 50km Walk); and
 - II. have qualified for a Direct Quota Place,
 - 8.2 2021 Automatic Nomination (for events where Australian Championships were not
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contested in 2020) – For consideration at Australian Championships Nomination Meeting

(a) An Athlete will be eligible for an Automatic Nomination in an Event if (subject to clause 13) they:

- I. win the Australian Championship in that Event in 2021; and
- II. have qualified for a Direct Quota Place,

This clause does not apply for the 5000m, 10000m, 20km Walk, 50km Walk, Decathlon and Heptathlon events

8.3 The nomination of an Athlete who is eligible for an Automatic Nomination by the National Federation to the AOC pursuant to clause 8.1 or clause 8.2, will be at the absolute discretion of the National Federation.

8.4 For the avoidance of doubt there is no Automatic Nomination for the Marathon events.

8.5 All nominations other than Automatic Nominations will be Discretionary Nominations.

9 Discretionary Nomination for Marathon, 50km Walks and all other event Direct Quota Places

9.1 Other than Athletes nominated under clause 8, the Selection Committee will exercise its discretion in deciding whether or not to nominate an Athlete for selection that has qualified for a Direct Quota Place. This includes deciding which Athletes to nominate for selection in circumstances where four or more Athletes have qualified for a Direct Quota Place in the same Event.

9.2 The Selection Committee will make their decision under clauses 9, 10 and 11 on a case by case basis, having regard to:

- (a) the Aims of this Nomination Criteria Policy
 - (b) world ranking lists;
 - (c) previous Olympic Games and World Championships results;
 - (d) repeat performances at or near the WA Entry Standard;
 - (e) finishing position at the Australian Championships;
 - (f) head-to-head record within the Qualification Period, particularly at the Australian Championships;
 - (g) other relevant head-to-head performances;
 - (h) performances against other Athletes;
 - (i) previous championships records which may include any WA championship, Olympic Games and Commonwealth Games;
 - (j) current form and fitness; and
 - (k) any other factor the Selection Committee considers relevant.
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For the avoidance of doubt, these matters are not listed in order of priority.

10 Discretionary Nominations

10.1 2020 Discretionary Nomination – for consideration at 10 August 2020 Nomination Meeting

(a) if an athlete has (subject to clause 13):

- ☐ qualified for a Direct Quota Place prior to the 30 March 2020 in an Event; and
- ☐ finished in the top 8 at the 2019 World Championships; and
- ☐ is otherwise eligible under this Nomination Criteria Policy

then at the Nomination Meeting the Selection Committee may exercise their discretion in deciding to nominate that athlete(s) to the AOC for selection in the Team.

10.2 2021 Discretionary Nomination – for consideration at Australian Championships Nomination Meeting

(a) if an athlete has (subject to clause 13):

- ☐ qualified for a Direct Quota Place prior to the Australian Championships Nomination Meeting in an Event; and
- ☐ at least two Quota Places are available for that event at the time of this meeting; and
- ☐ Is otherwise eligible under this Nomination Criteria Policy

then at the Nomination Meeting the Selection Committee may exercise their discretion in deciding to nominate that athlete(s) to the AOC for selection in the Team. In applying this discretion the Selectors will ensure at least one Quota Place in each event is retained for consideration at the 1 July 2021 Nomination Meeting.

10.3 2021 Discretionary Nomination – for consideration at 1 July 2021 Nomination Meeting

(a) if an athlete has (subject to clause 13):

- ☐ qualified for a Direct Quota Place; and
- ☐ at least one Quota Place is available for that event at the time of this meeting; and
- ☐ Is otherwise eligible under this Nomination Criteria Policy

then at the Nomination Meeting the Selection Committee may exercise their discretion in deciding to nominate that athlete(s) to the AOC for selection in the Team.

11 Discretionary Nomination for Unused Quota Places – for consideration at the 1 July

2021 Nomination Meeting

The Selection Committee will have absolute discretion in recommending to the National Federation whether to accept or reject any Unused Quota Places. The National Federation will act in accordance with the recommendations of the Selection Committee.

12 P Alternate Athletes and Reserve Athletes

- 12.1 If Australia receives Quota Places in accordance with the Qualification System, the National Federation may identify:
- (a) one P Alternate Athlete and one Reserve for each individual Event for which three Quota Places are received and accepted;
 - (b) one P Alternate Athlete and one Reserve for each of the 4x100 and 4x400 relay Events for which a Quota Place is received; and
 - (c) two P Alternate Athletes and two Reserves (being one male and one female) for the 4x400 mixed relay Event if a Quota Place is received.
- 12.2 The Athletes identified as the P Alternate Athletes and Reserves will be determined at the absolute discretion of the Selection Committee provided they meet the requirements set out in this Nomination Criteria Policy. The Selection Committee is not required to nominate P Alternate Athletes and/or Reserves for any Event.
- 12.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the Athletes identified as the P Alternate Athletes in accordance with this criteria will not be part of the Team unless and until they are selected to replace a previously selected Athlete.

13 Further Obligations

All Athletes who are eligible for, or are chosen for, nomination must comply with the provisions of this clause 13, to the satisfaction of the Selection Committee in order to remain eligible for nomination to the AOC.

13.1 Fitness, Injury and Illness Monitoring

All Athletes who have been nominated by the National Federation to the AOC must submit to injury and medical assessment examinations and fitness monitoring as follows:

- a) provide the name and contact details of all their relevant health care professionals (general practitioner, sports medical practitioner and physiotherapist) to the Head of High Performance Systems (HPS) within 7 days, or such later date as agreed with the HPS, of having been nominated to the AOC by operation of this criteria;
 - b) give permission to any of their nominated health care professionals to discuss and/or disclose confidential information to the Athletics Australia Chief Medical Officer in relation to their health or injury status as relevant to their performance in the Games
 - c) immediately inform the Athletics Australia Chief Medical Officer of any illness or injury that could reasonably impact on the Athlete's ability to perform at the level expected of the Athlete if selected to participate in the Games; and
 - d) at any time after an Athlete nominates themselves for consideration for nomination by Athletics Australia an Athlete may be required to attend for a medical examination at the discretion of the HPS or the Athletics Australia Chief Medical Officer. This medical examination will be at a place and time to be determined by the HPS or the Athletics Australia Chief Medical Officer taking into
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consideration the Athlete's training, travel and competition plans.

13.2 Illness or Injury

If an Athlete is assessed as injured or ill prior to nomination, to the extent that, in the opinion of the Athletics Australia Chief Medical Officer, either of the following circumstances exist:

- a) the Athlete will not be capable of performing in the Games, to the level at which the Athlete would be expected to perform if not affected by the illness or injury in question; or
- b) by competing with the illness or injury at the Games, the Athlete may suffer significant short or long term medical complications that pose an unacceptable risk to the Athlete,

then the Athlete may, at the discretion of the Chief Medical Officer be excluded from the list of Athletes to be nominated to the AOC for selection to the Team.

13.3 Fitness Trial

If the Head of High Performance and Coaching (HPC) is of the view that an Athlete may, by reason of injury or illness or other circumstances, no longer be capable of achieving the fitness level required by that Athlete for participation in the Games, the HPC may require the Athlete to perform one or more fitness trials. Those trials may be a designated race or an arranged trial to suit the requirements of the Event of the Athlete whose fitness is under consideration.

If a trial is to be held as set out above, it will be at a place and time to be determined by the HPC giving consideration to the Athlete's travel, training and competition schedule.

If in the opinion of the HPC the result of any trial conducted according to this clause 13.3 indicates that the Athlete in question will not be capable of performing in the Games to the level at which the Athlete would have been expected to perform at the Games then that Athlete may, at the discretion of the HPC, be excluded from the final list of Athletes to be nominated to the AOC for selection in the 2020 Australian Olympic Team

13.4 Athlete Replacement

Subject to compliance with the Late Athlete Replacement policy and any other relevant TOCOG or IOC policy, the National Federation may substitute an Athlete for a P Alternate Athlete or Reserve Athlete at the National Federation's absolute discretion at any time prior to the commencement of competition.

14 Extenuating circumstances

14.1 In determining whether an Athlete has satisfied the criteria set out in clause 6.1(h) the National Federation Selection Committee may, in its absolute discretion have regard to Extenuating Circumstances.

14.2 If an Athlete determines that he or she is unable to satisfy clause 6.1(h) by competing in the Australian Championships in any and all Events that that Athlete would like to be considered for nomination for the Games, that Athlete must notify the National Federation of his or her absence in writing, providing specific reasons, as soon as practicable. The National Federation may consider an Athlete's non-

participation at the Australian Championships to be an Extenuating Circumstance in its absolute discretion. The National Federation may require an Athlete to provide evidence to validate their absence from the Australian Championships, which may include undergoing a medical examination.

15 Submission of Nominations

- 15.1 The National Federation hereby notifies Athletes that the Nomination Date is 3 July 2021.
- 15.2 The AOC may, in its absolute discretion extend the Nomination Date for any reason.
- 15.3 The National Federation must inform Athletes of their nomination or non-nomination by 9am on the Nomination Date.
- 15.4 The National Federation must nominate Athletes to the AOC by 12pm on the Nomination Date.
- 15.5 Nominations submitted to the AOC must be in the form prescribed by the AOC or in a form that is otherwise acceptable to the AOC and include any such information that is required pursuant to the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law.
- 15.6 The AOC may accept a nomination submitted after the Nomination Date where it is submitted by the National Federation as a result of accepting an Unused Quota Place.
- 15.7 If the National Federation nominates Athletes prior to the Nomination Date, then the National Federation must inform those eligible Athletes in the relevant event, of their nomination or non-nomination 48 hours prior to nomination to the AOC.
- 15.8 The AOC may accept a nomination submitted after the Nomination Date where it is submitted by the National Federation as a result of an appeal brought in accordance with the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law.

16 Appeals

- 16.1 All Athletes have the right of appeal under the Olympic Team Selection By-Law section 9 Appeal Process.

17 Amendments

- 17.1 This Nomination Criteria Policy may be amended with the written consent of the AOC Selection Committee.

18 Governing Law

- 18.1 This Nomination Criteria Policy is governed by the laws of the State of New South Wales.
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19 Priority of Documents

19.1 To the extent of any inconsistency, the following documents shall be given the following descending order of precedence:

- a) the AOC Constitution;
 - b) the AOC Olympic Team Selection By-Law;
 - c) the Selection Criteria;
 - d) this Nomination Criteria.
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