



XXI Commonwealth Games

Gold Coast, Australia

4 – 15 April 2018

Nomination Policy and Consideration Standards

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Athletics NI
Team Northern Ireland 2018: Gold Coast Commonwealth Games
Athletics Nomination Policy and Consideration Standards

INTRODUCTION

1. This nomination policy has been agreed by the Board of Athletics NI and Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council (NICGC). It includes Commonwealth Games Consideration Standards. This policy provides detail on the process by which Athletics NI will arrive at athlete nominations. These will be submitted to NICGC for consideration and for final selection to Team Northern Ireland 2018.

Achievement by an athlete of individual Consideration Standards, detailed in this document, is only the first step by which nomination can be considered. The final selection decision to the 2018 Commonwealth Games team lies with NICGC.

ATHLETICS NI GENERAL NOMINATION POLICY AIM

2. Athletics NI will nominate a team with the intention of achieving the highest possible number of top 8 finishes at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in the Gold Coast.

SELECTION PANEL

3. Nominations will be made by the Athletics NI selection panel comprising:

- Athletics NI Chairman (with casting vote)
- Athletics NI Director of Coach and Athlete Development (voting)
- A representative of the Athletics NI Track and Field Committee (voting).

This panel will be assisted by

- A representative of the Athletics NI Cross Country and Road Running Committee (non-voting).

The Chairman of the Panel may also (at his/her discretion) seek assistance (in a non-voting capacity) from anyone else he/she feels may be of help.

4. The nomination of athletes for ratification by NICGC shall be conducted by the Selection Panel in accordance with the selection process outlined in Part 1 of this policy, and with reference to the Athletics NI Consideration Standards (set out in Part 2) and the Athletics NI Conditions (set out in Part 3).
5. Athletics NI may amend this selection policy and shall publicise any change made to it at the earliest opportunity.

ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

6. The eligibility criteria of the Commonwealth Games Federation, Article 24, must be met by all nominees (see Appendix 1).

6.1. Where prospective team members do not automatically comply with the above, in terms of birth or parent's birth, they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior approval from the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) under their guidelines.

6.2. No applications will be considered after 1 March 2017 to allow any case sufficient time for review and any submission to the CGF.

7. In addition, to be considered for selection athletes must:

7.1. agree to and comply with a pre-games preparation policy, which will be published nearer the time and determined by the Head Coach at their absolute discretion; and

7.2. in the case of athletes in para sport events, hold a permanent international IPC classification.

COMPETITION FORMAT

8. The Athletics competition comprises the events listed below. Note that some para events are only contested by men or women.

Men		Women
✓	100m	✓
✓	100m T11/T12 (Visual Impairment)	✗
✗	100m T35 (CP)	✓
✓	100m T45-47 (Amputee)	✓
✓	200m	✓
✓	400m	✓
✓	800m	✓
✓	1500m	✓
✓	1500m T53/54 (Wheelchair Racing)	✓
✓	5000m	✓
✓	10000m	✓
✓	Marathon	✓
✓	Marathon T53/54 (Wheelchair Racing)	✓
✓	20k Walk	✓
✓	3000m Steeplechase	✓
✓	110m/100m Hurdles	✓
✓	400m Hurdles	✓
✓	High Jump	✓
✓	Pole Vault	✓
✓	Long Jump	✓
✗	Long Jump T37/38 (CP)	✓
✓	Triple Jump	✓
✓	Shot	✓

✓	Shot F37/F38 (CP)	✗
✓	Discus	✓
✓	Hammer	✓
✓	Javelin	✓
✗	Javelin F45/46 (Amputee)	✓
✓	Decathlon / Heptathlon	✓
✓	4 x 100m Relay	✓
✓	4 x 400m Relay	✓

8.1. The maximum number of athletes selected by any country for each individual event will be three for each gender.

8.2. The maximum number of relays selected by any country for each relay event will be one for each gender.

8.3. Para events do not count towards the maximum team size allocated to Athletics NI by the NICGC.

8.3.1. Para-Sport athletes will receive an invitation to compete from the CGF, based on a quota system adopted by the CGF in line with IPC Commonwealth rankings. Please note: this process is subject to change dependant on the CGF Quota System policy which will be confirmed later in 2016.

QUALIFYING PERFORMANCES

9. The following sets out the conditions which shall determine whether a performance is a qualifying performance for the purpose of the Selection Process:

9.1. Where an athlete achieves multiple performances in the same individual event in a single day the following shall apply:

9.1.1. At an official Championships of UK/Ireland national level or higher all performances will be counted

9.1.2. In a field event only the best trial in the final and the best trial in the pool, if held, will count.

9.2. In all other cases only one performance per day will be counted as follows:

9.2.1. In track events only the fastest legal result of the day will be counted

9.2.2. In throwing events only the best legal trial of the first competition of the day will be counted

9.2.3. In horizontal jumping events only the best legal trial of the first competition of the day will be counted unless every mark achieved by the athlete was windy in

which case the best trial in a second competition held under legal conditions will count

9.2.4. In vertical jumping events only the result of the first competition of the day will be counted unless the competition was abandoned for safety reasons in which case a second competition held under safer conditions will count.

10. Performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised by the IPC, IAAF, its Area Associations or its Member Federations. Domestic competition performances will only be recognised if they are achieved in a British Athletics Level 2 Permit competition or higher, or in an Area or County Championship.

10.1. See <http://www.britishathletics.org.uk/competitions/rules/> for an explanation of British Athletics' competition permit levels.

10.2. Marathon and race walking qualification performances must be achieved on IAAF accredited courses (as listed on the IAAF website).

10.3. Performances at non-IPC sanctioned National Disability Sport Organization (NDSO) competitions will not be accepted.

10.4. Performances in mixed events between male and female participants, held completely in a stadium, may be accepted under specific circumstances (see IAAF rule 147): <http://www.iaaf.org/competitions/technical/regulations/index.html>.

10.5. Wind assisted performances shall not be accepted. For the combined events the total score may be accepted even though some of the results had a tail wind of more than 2.0 m/s. The maximum limit is 4.0 m/s for any one event, but 2.0 m/s on average across all applicable disciplines.

10.6. Hand timed performances shall not be accepted in any event.

10.7. Indoor performances for all field events and for races of 400m or longer shall be accepted.

PART 1: SELECTION PROCESS

QUALIFICATION PERIOD

11. Athletics NI will consider athletes for nomination on the basis of performances achieved in the Qualification Period, which shall commence on 1 January 2017 and expire at midnight (BST) on 30th September 2017.

11.1. The only exceptions to this will be Decathlon, Heptathlon and Marathons, which shall commence on 1 September 2016 and expire at midnight (BST) on 30th September 2017.

ATHLETE NOMINATIONS AND OVERALL TEAM SIZE

12. NICGC will allocate Athletics NI a maximum team size covering all disciplines listed in section 8 but not including the six para sport events, which will be outside of the NICGC allocation.

12.1. Within the spirit of this policy, Northern Ireland will nominate to NICGC the maximum possible number of athletes, prioritising those athletes who have achieved the Consideration Standards and are most likely to contribute to our aim of achieving the maximum number of top 8 finishes.

12.2. The number of athletes nominated both per event and overall will be in accordance with the NI Commonwealth Games Council (NICGC) allocation.

12.3. Should more athletes achieve the Consideration Standards than the total number of places allocated by NICGC, then Athletics NI will rank athletes in priority order in accordance with its overall policy aims and nomination criteria outlined in section 13. The final decision on team selection will then lie with NICGC.

12.4. The choice and prioritisation of athletes will be decided at a single selection meeting. This meeting will be held on 1st October 2017. Places for the marathon will also be decided at this meeting. The nominated athletes for team places and reserves will be announced immediately after the selection meeting. The final team nominations will be given to NICGC on the 4 January 2018. Final selection will be made by NICGC.

PRIORITISATION OF NOMINATED ATHLETES – 1 OCTOBER 2017

13. In the event that the numbers of athletes achieving the consideration standards (on the required numbers of occasions, within the Qualification Period, and at suitable events), exceeds the numbers of Athletics team places available, Athletics NI will use the criteria below to prioritise athletes for nomination. The factors are ranked in order of significance from most important to least important:

13.1. Commonwealth ranking on the 1 October 2017. This ranking will take into consideration the fact that each country can take a limited number of athletes in each event. For example, if an athlete is ranked 9th in the Commonwealth but there are six athletes from a single country ahead of them then they are effectively ranked sixth

13.2. Percentage of Consideration Standards, see section 22

13.3. Consistency of performances judged by considering the average of an athlete's top three performances during the Qualification Period, where such performances exist, except in the marathon and walks where the average of only the top two performances shall be considered, where such performances exist

13.4. Current form. Performances achieved closer to the selection date are given increased priority

13.5. Performance history at major championships (Irish and UK championship level and above)

13.6. Head to head performances for athletes in the same event. Priority is given to head to head races that occur at major championships.

14. At the end of the nomination meeting, Athletics NI will rank athletes in priority order from highest priority to lowest priority as outlined in section 13. The nomination quota will then be filled by athletes in priority order. Athletes that fall outside the quota will be reserves, ranked in priority order. Reserves will be called upon in the case of injury, see section 19.

15. The Selection Panel will select and rank athletes for nomination in four rounds as follows:

Round 1: Most realistic top 8 contenders

15.1. In the first round the Selection Panel will consider (but not necessarily nominate for selection) the following:

15.1.1. For individual events, athletes who have:

- Achieved two or more standards during the Qualification Period, with priority given to those athletes holding current standard(s).

15.1.2. For the combined events, marathon and 10,000m, athletes who have:

- Achieved at least one standard during the Qualification Period.

Round 2: Other realistic top 8 contenders

15.2. If, after round 1, there are still places in the team, the Selection Panel will consider (but not necessarily nominate for selection) the following:

15.2.1. For individual events, athletes who:

- Achieved one Consideration Standard during the Qualification Period.

Round 3: (Relays)

15.3. The selection panel may add athletes to the team to create relay squads for the men's and women's 4x100m and 4x400m at this stage. Relay runners do not need to hold the individual qualification guideline standard. Teams will be selected on the basis of top 8 potential as with individual selections. Further details of the relay selection procedure can be found in Appendix 2.

Round 4: Remaining spaces on the team and reserves

15.4. After rounds 2 and 3, if there are still places in the team, the Selection Panel will consider athletes who have not achieved the Consideration Standards using the same criteria outlined in section 13.

15.5. Consideration will then be given to athletes who wish to enter additional events other than their primary discipline. They will be allowed to do so only if in the Head Coach's

opinion this will not detract from their performance in their primary event, including the relays.

15.6. A reserve list will then be compiled based on the previously outlined principles.

15.7. Following the meeting athletes will be informed if they are to be nominated for team selection or if they are on the reserve list. However, the actual submission of the final team will not occur until 4 January 2018.

FINAL TEAM NOMINATION – 4 JANUARY 2018

16. On 4 January 2018 Athletics NI will submit our final list of nominations to the NICGC. All athletes chosen for the team on the 1 October 2017 will be nominated provided they can show fitness.

17. If the NICGC accept an athlete's nomination that athlete will have been selected for the team.

WITHDRAWAL AND REPLACEMENTS

18. Athletes who become unfit due to illness or injury at any time following their nomination must notify Athletics NI immediately and will be required to undertake a full medical examination by SINI Medical Staff, which may result in the athlete being de-selected from the team at the complete discretion of the Head Coach.

18.1. Athletes may be subjected to training observation sessions and/or medical tests at any time following their nomination and/or selection. Any athlete judged to be unfit by Athletics NI, following tests conducted by Athletics NI, or their authorised representatives, may be de-selected from the team at the complete discretion of the Head Coach.

19. If an athlete is de-selected from the team prior to the final nominations being submitted to the NICGC on 4 January 2018, then the highest priority athlete on the reserve list will be nominated to take their place.

20. Once the final team is selected by the NICGC on 4 January 2018, late replacements may only be made in the same event and gender that the withdrawing athlete was entered in.

20.1. The late replacement of a de-selected athlete after this date will be at the complete discretion of the Head Coach if viewed to be in the best interest of the overall team performance.

20.2. When selecting late replacements priority will be given to athletes on the reserve list drawn up during round four, see section 15.4.

20.3. When selecting late replacements no athlete will be selected who has not achieved the minimum allowable performance set out in section 22 since the start of the Qualification Period.

APPEALS

21. Athletes may appeal their non-selection but only after the prioritisation and nomination of athletes on the 1 October 2016 and only according to the procedure laid out in the 'Athletics NI Selection and Nomination "Fast" Appeals Policy' which can be found on the Athletics NI website.

PART 2: ATHLETICS NI CONSIDERATION STANDARDS

22. The Athletics NI Consideration Standards for the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast are shown below. The conditions surrounding how these standards will be used and what counts as an eligible mark are set out in Part 1: the "Selection Process" and Part 3: "Athletics NI Conditions".

MEN Consideration Standard	Event	WOMEN Consideration Standard
10.26	100m	11.44
20.77	200m	23.54
45.68	400m	52.72
1:47.50	800m	2:02.70
3:41.10	1500m	4:08.20
3:57.60	Mile	4:25.70
13:30.00	5000m	15:39.00
28:37.00	10000m	33:06.00
2:16:30	Marathon	2:37:00
1:28:30	20k Walk	1:42:00
8:43.30	3000SC	9:54.00
13.80	110mH/100mH	13.45
50.15	400mH	57.30
2.19	HJ	1.82
5.20	PV	4.16
7.78	LJ	6.33
16.18	TJ	13.25
18.10	SP	16.30
58.50	DT	55.60
68.20	HT	61.50
72.90	JT	53.80
7370	Dec/Hept	5550
39.70	4x100m	44.50
3:06.90	4x400m	3:36.50

- 22.1. Achieving a Consideration Standard in no way guarantees selection. Consideration Standards will be used to select the first and second round of athletes as per our selection

process. They will also be used to help decide selections and compare athletes in subsequent rounds, see section 20.

22.2. If there is an official electronic 1500m split in a mile race then the 1500m time will be taken, not the mile time.

23. In the event of a late replacement being added to the team after 4 January 2018 this individual must have achieved the following Minimum Standards since the start of the Qualification Period:

MEN Minimum Standard	Event	WOMEN Minimum Standard
10.42	100m	11.61
21.09	200m	23.90
46.38	400m	53.54
1:49.13	800m	2:04.57
3:44.42	1500m	4:11.98
4:01.20	Mile	4:30.00
13:42.34	5000m	15:53.30
29:03.15	10000m	33:36.24
2:18:00	Marathon	2:39:00
1:30:00	20k Walk	1:44:00
8:51.30	3000SC	10:03.20
14.01	110mH/100mH	13.65
50.90	400mH	58.20
2.14	HJ	1.77
5.07	PV	4.05
7.60	LJ	6.15
15.70	TJ	12.90
17.50	SP	15.90
57.00	DT	54.00
66.00	HT	60.00
70.00	JT	52.40
7185	Dec/Hept	5250
40.30	4x100m	45.20
3:09.75	4x400m	3:39.75

PART 3: ATHLETICS NI CONDITIONS

NI & ULSTER SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

24. Any athlete wishing to be selected onto the Athletics NI Commonwealth Games Team must compete at the 2017 NI & Ulster Senior Championships. Dispensation requests for not competing must be received by the Director of Coaching & Athlete Development in writing no

later than one week before the championships. Dispensation from not competing will be at the discretion of the selection panel and will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

ANTI-DOPING

25. Athletes suspended by their governing body as a result of ongoing or concluded anti-doping violation allegations, will not be considered for selection, and if previously selected, will be deselected from the team.

26. All nominated athletes and reserves must undertake anti-doping education provided by Athletics NI before the 4 January 2018. Athletes who fail to attend this compulsory anti-doping education (or refuse to follow up by way of webinar if out of the country for legitimate training or competition reasons) will not be nominated for selection to the NICGC.

27. Late replacements to the team appointed after 4 January 2018 must undertake anti-doping education before flying to Australia.

ATHLETE AGREEMENT

28. All nominated athletes and reserves must sign the Athletics NI Commonwealth Games Athlete Agreement. In signing the agreement, athletes commit to attending mandatory team meetings, anti-doping education, and abiding by all policies related to the games including those associated with the use of social media and holding camp attendance. Athletes who do not agree to be bound by the terms of this agreement will not be nominated for selection to the NICGC.

AMMENDMENT

29. Athletics NI reserves the right to amend this policy at its sole discretion and will make any amended version publicly available (including the date on which any amendment was made) at www.athleticsni.org.

APPENDIX 1

The eligibility requirements are set out at Article 25 of the Commonwealth Games Federation's Constitution. Please see the federation's website for full details: <http://www.thecgf.com/about/constitution.pdf>.

ARTICLE 25 – ELIGIBILITY

1. Subject to Article 25(2), as a condition of entry to compete in the Commonwealth Games, all competitors must be citizens or subjects of the Commonwealth Country that enters them and must:
 - (a) not be currently under disqualification or suspension by the Federation, or their respective Affiliated CGA or IF or under the World Anti-Doping Code; 16
 - (b) comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federation, their respective IFs and the World Anti-Doping Code as may be modified and applied by the Federation to ensure that the overriding principles of the Commonwealth Games are observed.
2. Subject to Article 25(3), where a competitor was born in a Commonwealth Country that has common citizenship/passport with other Commonwealth Countries, the competitor may initially represent either the competitor's Commonwealth Country of birth; or the Commonwealth Country of birth of his or her father or mother that shares the same citizenship/passport.
3. After having represented one Commonwealth Country at the Commonwealth Games, a competitor may not represent another Commonwealth Country unless he or she receives the approval of the Federation, the relevant IF and the Affiliated CGAs of the two Commonwealth Countries concerned. Applications under this article must be submitted to the Executive Board at least 12 months prior to the commencement of the Games.
4. It is the responsibility of all Affiliated CGAs to ensure that their competitors are fully aware of and comply with the eligibility rules of the Federation.
5. The Executive Board shall have the power to waive the provisions of Articles 25 (1-3) in its discretion.

APPENDIX 2

RELAY TEAMS

When selecting a relay team:

1. Relay teams are selected in Round 3 after all athletes who have achieved a Consideration Standard have been evaluated. Therefore, athletes who have not achieved individual Consideration Standards will not be taken in the relay ahead of an athlete with an individual Consideration Standard.
2. A relay team may be nominated if it can be made up of athletes who have already been nominated for individual events.
3. If during Round 3 there are still places available on the team then athletes without individual Consideration Standards can be nominated to make up a relay team that is capable of achieving a top 8 finish, in line with the aims of this nomination policy, see section 2.
4. For a team to be selected that includes one athlete who has not achieved an individual Consideration Standard:
 - 4.1. The team must have achieved the relay Consideration Standard during the Qualification Period.
5. For a team to be selected that includes two athletes who has not achieved an individual Consideration Standard:
 - 5.1. The team must have achieved the relay Consideration Standard during the Qualification Period and be ranked two places higher in the Commonwealth than any individual athlete who has not achieved the Consideration Standard. For example, if an individual athlete is ranked 8th in the Commonwealth the relay team must be ranked 6th to be nominated ahead of the individual.
6. A team will not be selected if it requires more than two athletes who have not already achieved individual Consideration Standards.

APPENDIX 3

NOMINATION POLICY TIMELINE

Please read from top to bottom.

