

DAKAR 2026 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES
NOMINATION CRITERIA FOR ATHLETICS EVENTS

ATHLETICS NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED (ATHLETICS NZ)

1. Application of this Nomination Criteria

- 1.1 **Status:** This Nomination Criteria is issued by the Board of Athletics NZ (Athletics NZ Board) and shall take effect from 3/02/2025. This Nomination Criteria supersedes any previous correspondence, discussions and representations (whether written or oral) by Athletics NZ 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 an Athletics Event; and
 - (b) Athletics NZ, including its Nominators, that wish to nominate Athletes to the New Zealand Olympic Committee (NZOC) to be considered for selection to the Games Team for the Games.
- 1.3 **Process:** Selection to the Games Team in an Athletics Event is a three-step process:
- (a) each Athlete must be eligible in accordance with clause 3 of this Nomination Criteria;
 - (b) Athletics NZ 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. Nominators

- 2.1 **Composition:** The Nominators have been appointed by the Athletics NZ Board. The Nominators who will consider nomination of Athletes to NZOC to be considered for selection in the Games Team are:
- (a) Craig Motley (Convenor)
 - (b) Alec McNab
 - (c) Portia Bing
- 2.2 The Board reserves the right to change a Nominator at any time in its absolute discretion prior to the Nomination Date. In such case, it will publish the change of Nominator on the Athletics NZ website.

3. Eligibility

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

- (a) be on the Athletics NZ Long List by submitting an [Application for the NZOC Long List](#) on the Athletics NZ website by 5pm Wednesday 25 February 2026; and
- (b) 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 5pm, 30 April 2026; or
 - ii. in exceptional circumstances, such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board where Athletics NZ provides the NZOC with evidence that demonstrates the Athlete could not have been reasonably in contention on 30 April 2026; and
- (c) have been born between 1 January 2009 and 31 December 2010; and
- (d) have returned a completed Team Agreement in the manner prescribed by the NZOC to NZOC prior to the Nomination Date; and
- (e) be a member of Athletics NZ or one of its affiliates; and
- (f) be a New Zealand citizen and have a New Zealand passport; and
- (g) have demonstrated to the satisfaction of Athletics NZ that they are not suffering any physical or psychological condition that would compromise the Athlete’s ability to compete at the Games to the selection standard set out in the NZOC Selection Policy or may compromise the health and safety of themselves, a NZ Team member or another participant at the Games; and
- (h) have acted in such a manner so as not to bring the Athlete, the sport, Athletics NZ or the NZOC into public disrepute; and
- (i) not be under investigation for any breach of any part of the Athletics NZ and World Athletics’ anti-doping regulations, the Sports Anti-Doping Rules and/or the NZOC Integrity Regulation; and
- (j) have competed internationally (outside of their place of residence); and
- (k) no later than 30 April 2026 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board), have provided their name and contact address details to NZOC for the purpose of out of competition drug testing with the Sport Integrity Commission.

3.2 **Quota Allocation:** New Zealand must be allocated a quota place in an Athletics Event(s) by IOC invitation to the NZOC and in accordance with the IOC’s sport specific and World Athletics requirements for the Games. Quota allocation for a place in any Athletics Event(s) by an Athlete does not guarantee that the Athletes will be nominated or selected to compete in the Athletics 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 Nominators shall nominate to NZOC for consideration of selection, those Athletes it considers meet the Nomination Criteria set out below.
- 3.4 **Reserve Athletes:** Provided the requirements set out in clauses in 3.1 and 3.2 are met, the Nominators may nominate to the NZOC for consideration of selection as a Reserve Athlete, those Athletes it considers meet the Nomination Criteria set out below in the event a selected Athlete is unable to attend the Games.

4. Nomination Criteria

- 4.1 **Nomination Criteria:** In considering any Athlete for nomination to the NZOC, the Nominators shall consider:
- (a) the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria specified in clause 5.1; and
 - (b) the evidence provided in accordance with clause 5.2; and
 - (c) Specific Nomination Factors specified in clause 5.3; and
 - (d) any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with clause 6.
- 4.2 **Relevance and Weighting:** The Nominators may determine the relevance and weight 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 weighted 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 Nominators 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 the Compulsory Nomination Competition, the Nominators 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 Nominators 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

- 5.1 **Over-Riding Nomination Criteria:**
- (a) In determining whether or not to nominate an Athlete to an Athletics Event, the Nominators must be satisfied overall that the Athlete:
 - i. is competing in an Athletics Event where a quota place has been allocated to the NZOC by the IOC;

- ii. has a high national ranking (e.g. top 3) or has placed in the top 3 of the most recent National age group championships (in the eligible age group and discipline the Athlete is seeking nomination for);
- iii. will be competitive at the Games; and
- iv. has met the eligibility criteria set out in clause 3.1 of this Nomination Criteria.

5.2 **Evidence:** In determining whether or not the Athlete satisfies the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria for Athletics Events in clause 5.1 above, the Nominators shall consider the results and performances at the following Compulsory Nomination Competition:

2026 New Zealand Track and Field Championships, Auckland (5-8 March)

5.3 **Specific Nomination Factors:** When considering the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria above, the Nominators 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 achieved in competitions or events, in addition to the Compulsory Nomination Competition;
- (b) performances at the 2026 Oceania Athletics Championships, Darwin, Australia (18-23 May);
- (c) potential to be highly competitive at the Games, even in demanding environments;
- (d) competitive record against other Athletes under consideration for nomination in the same event;
- (e) demonstrated ability to perform at international competitions;
- (f) adequate fitness and a commitment to maintain a fitness and training programme as agreed with the applicable coach(es);
- (g) demonstrated good behaviour, including a commitment to training and attendance at training camps;
- (h) demonstrated compatibility with others in a team environment;
- (i) demonstrated compliance with the rules of events and competitions;
- (j) 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;
- (k) willingness to promote Athletics NZ in a positive manner;
- (l) demonstrated ability to take personal responsibility for self and their results;
- (m) proven ability to be reliable; and

- (n) any other factor(s) the Nominators consider relevant.

6. Extenuating Circumstances

- 6.1 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In considering the nomination of Athletes in accordance with this Nomination Criteria, the Nominators 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 Nominators to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- 6.2 **Athlete to Advise:** Athletes unable to compete at the Compulsory Nomination Competition must advise the [Athletics NZ 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 Compulsory Nomination Competition. If the Athletics NZ CEO is not notified of any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with this Nomination Criteria, then the Nominators 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 Convenor 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 Nominators. Any failure to agree to such a request may result in the Nominators 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 Nominators will make a decision on a case-by-case basis.

7. Nomination and Selection

- 7.1 **Nomination to NZOC:** Athletics NZ will nominate Athletes ("Nominated Athletes") and any Reserve Athletes to the NZOC by the Nomination Date.
- 7.2 **Nomination with Conditions:** Athletics NZ 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 Nominators, 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

- 8.1 **Non-Nomination Appeals:** An Athlete may appeal to Athletics NZ against their non-nomination to the NZOC by the Athletics NZ provided the Athlete:
- (a) is on the Athletics NZ 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 the Nominated Athlete:
- (a) is on the Athletics NZ long list for the Games; and
 - (b) meets the eligibility criteria under clause 3 of this Criteria.

9. Inconsistencies

- 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.

10. Amendments to this Nomination Criteria

- 10.1 **Prior to Nomination Date:** This Nomination Criteria may be amended or supplemented from time to time by the Athletics NZ Board, before the Nomination Date, provided NZOC has approved the amendment/s and supplement/s.
- 10.2 **Notice:** The Athletics NZ 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

- 11.1 **Application Date** means the dates set out in clause 3.1(b) 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 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.

11.4 **Athletics Event** means the following events at the Games, noting the NZOC may only receive a quota for specific events from the below:

Men's	Women's
100m	100m
200m	200m
400m	400m
800m	800m
1500m	1500m
3000m	3000m
110m Hurdles	100m Hurdles
400m Hurdles	400m Hurdles
	2000m Steeplechase
High Jump	High Jump
Pole Vault	Pole Vault
Long Jump	Long Jump
Triple Jump	Triple Jump
Shot Put	Shot Put
Discus Throw	Discus Throw
Hammer Throw	Hammer Throw
Javelin Throw	Javelin Throw
	5km Race Walk

11.5 **Application for Nomination Form** means the form set by Athletics NZ that must be completed by any Athlete applying to be nominated to the NZOC.

11.6 **Athletics NZ** means Athletics New Zealand Incorporated.

11.7 **Athletics NZ Board** means the Board of Athletics New Zealand as constituted under the Constitution.

11.8 **Athletics NZ CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer of Athletics NZ and includes his / her nominee.

11.9 **Compulsory Nomination Competition** means the 2026 New Zealand Track and Field Championships, Auckland (5-8 March).

11.10 **Constitution** means the Constitution of Athletics NZ.

11.11 **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.

11.12 **Games** means the Youth Olympic Games held in Dakar, Senegal between 31 October and 13 November 2026.

- 11.13 **Games Team** means the New Zealand Team at the Games selected in accordance with the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games.
- 11.14 **IOC** means the International Olympic Committee.
- 11.15 **Nominated Athlete** means an Athlete who has been nominated by Athletics NZ to the NZOC for consideration of selection to the Games Team
- 11.16 **Nomination Criteria** means the criteria and is also referred to as “**this Criteria**”.
- 11.17 **Nomination Date** means on or before June 1, 2026 (and includes any alternative date as agreed between NZOC and Athletics NZ, by which Athletics NZ must submit any Nominated Athletes to the NZOC.
- 11.18 **Nominators** means the nominators appointed by Athletics NZ in accordance with clause 2 of this Nomination Criteria.
- 11.19 **NZOC** means the New Zealand Olympic Committee Incorporated.
- 11.20 **NZOC Integrity Regulation** means the NZOC Integrity Regulation available at <http://www.olympic.org.nz/about-the-nzoc/governance-documents/>.
- 11.21 **NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation** means the regulation of NZOC in 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/>.
- 11.22 **NZOC Selection Policy** means the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games, available at [NZOC Selection Policy Dakar 2026](#).
- 11.23 **Over-Riding Nomination Criteria** means the criteria set out in clause 5.1.
- 11.24 **Qualification Period** means the period between 1 July 2025 – 23 May 2026.
- 11.25 **Reserve Athletes** means a non-travelling reserve, as designated by the Nominators and in accordance with the Dakar 2026 Sport Entry Manual.
- 11.26 **Specific Nomination Factors** means the factors listed in clause 5.3 which the Nominators may take into account when applying the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria.
- 11.27 **Team 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.