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INDIVIDUAL/TEAM: DISCRETIONARY SELECTION POLICY – COMMONWEALTH MOUNTAIN RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS, NORTH WALES, 23-25 SEPTEMBER 2011

These criteria are to be read in conjunction with the Athletics New Zealand General Selection Policy for New Zealand Representative Teams. Where there is any conflict with the provisions in the General Policy the Event Criteria will prevail.

1. SELECTION POLICY PERFORMANCE CONDITIONS:

1.1 Performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised in conformity with rules set by the IAAF, its Area Associations or its Member Federations.

2. ENTRY RULES:

2.1 Member Federation entries must comply with the local organizing committee (LOC) competition entry requirements and entry rules.

3. SELECTION/NOMINATION PHILOSOPHY:

3.1 An athlete selected/nominated to compete under the Discretionary Selection Policy as an individual is expected to participate and represent Athletics New Zealand with distinction.

4. SELECTION PROCESS:

Participation Criteria

4.1 Nothing in this Policy obliges Athletics New Zealand to select a full contingent of individuals in any particular event regardless of the entry rules set by the local organizing committee (LOC). Athletics New Zealand will select/nominate Individual(s)/Team according to the discretionary criteria set out in this Policy as allowed by entry rules for the event being selected for.

Eligibility

4.2 In order to be eligible for selection/nomination all athletes must:

4.2.1 Satisfy all IAAF eligibility and nationality participation rules.

4.2.2 Be a registered member of Athletics New Zealand.

4.2.3 Submit an online expression of interest (EOI) at http://performance.athletics.org.nz.

4.2.4 Remain in "good standing" with Athletics New Zealand and at all times comply with any established code of conduct or athlete agreement and otherwise conduct themselves in a way that does not bring their sport or the team into disrepute.

4.2.5 "Where required," athletes seeking dispensation for an event must **request in writing** (letter, fax, preferably by email) to the Convenor of Selectors under stadia (tfselectors@athletics.org.nz) or non-stadia (osselectors@athletics.org.nz) events.

4.2.6 Dispensations will be at the sole discretion of the Selectors and will generally only be granted to athletes in exceptional circumstances.

Performance Period

4.3 Selection will be based on performances achieved 25 July 2010 to 24 June 2011. The performance period is subject to change upon release of final information from the Commonwealth Mountain Running and Ultra Distance Association.

Selection Criteria

4.4 The New Zealand Mountain Running Championships in Wellington on 16th April 2010 will be viewed by the selectors as a key selection trial for the New Zealand team to compete at the 2011 Commonwealth Mountain Running Championships. Performances achieved at other events within the performance period will also be taken into account in the selection of this team.

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4.5 Notwithstanding the provisions of clause 4.4 and any other provision in these selection criteria, the Selectors have an overriding discretion to select any eligible athlete to a Team or an event if they believe it is in the best interests of Athletics New Zealand to do so. In exercising this discretion the Selectors may consider any other factor or combination of factors that are, in the opinion of the Selectors, relevant to their decision whether to select an athlete under this clause. Without in any way limiting the discretion of the Selectors, the Selectors may consider the following:

4.5.1 Potential to be highly competitive at the competition;
4.5.2 Competitive record against other athletes under consideration for selection in the same event with emphasis on results in the New Zealand Championships, New Zealand Secondary Schools Championships, and the North Island-South Island Secondary Schools Championships, and where applicable, Australian National Championships;
4.5.3 Consistency of performances during the qualifying period;
4.5.4 History of performances at previous selected individual or team events.

After Selection

4.6 Athletes selected as an individual or to a team, **may be required** by the Selectors/Team Manager to prove their fitness to compete in a selected event.

4.6.1 The fitness standard (if applicable) or some other appropriate performance will be agreed between the athlete and/or coach and the Selectors and Team Manager.
4.6.2 The time frame for all athletes to achieve the fitness standard will be at the discretion of the Selectors and/or Team Manager.
4.6.3 The fitness standard will be communicated to athletes in writing as part of their letter of confirmation of selection/nomination.
4.6.4 Failure by a selected athlete to meet the fitness standard (if applicable) will, at the discretion of the Selectors and/or Team Manager, result in an athlete who has been selected to the team being withdrawn from the competition.
4.6.5 For the purposes of clarity, it is the intended operation of this Policy (if applicable) that **all selections in the team remain conditional** until the athlete has achieved the fitness standard set by the Selectors and/or Team Manager.

Selectors Meetings

4.7 Selectors meetings will be held to select athletes as follows:

4.7.1 2 May 2011: Initial nominations
4.7.2 24 June 2011: Final nominations

Notification of Selection

4.8 The Board of Athletics New Zealand will confirm all nominations after each selection meeting.

4.9 Athletics New Zealand will endeavor to announce selected team members in the week following each selection meeting.

5. GENERAL INFORMATION:

5.1 The criteria may be amended at any time by the Directors of Athletics New Zealand, if Athletics New Zealand is of the opinion that such amendment is necessary in the best interests of Athletics New Zealand or as a result of any change in participation rules and/or guidelines. Any amendment to the criteria will be published on the Athletics New Zealand website**.**

Funding

5.2 It will be expected that athletes wishing to attend an event under the Discretionary Policy will have to participate at no-cost to Athletics New Zealand unless funds are provided by the (LOC). The competitions for which athletes are selected/nominated under this policy will be athlete-funded events. Additionally, cost may be charged across all athletes above the cost of travel, accommodation and food to assist with cost of the team manager (if applicable).

5.3 In athlete-funded events, two weeks prior to the departure of "the team" from New Zealand all athlete-funding components must be paid to Athletics New Zealand. Non-payment of the athlete-funding components will result in removal from the team.