

**PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC GAMES**  
**NOMINATION CRITERIA FOR WATER POLO EVENTS**

**New Zealand Water Polo**

**1. Application of this Nomination Criteria**

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1.1 **Status:** This Nomination Criteria is issued by the Board and shall take effect from 1 January 2023. This Nomination Criteria supersedes any previous correspondence, discussions and representations (whether written or oral) by NZ Water Polo 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 a Water Polo Event; and
- (b) NZ Water Polo including its Selectors, that wish to nominate Athletes to NZOC to be considered for selection to the Games Team for the Games.

1.3 **Process:** Selection to the Games Team in a Water Polo Event is a three step process:

- (a) All Athletes must be eligible in accordance with clause 3 of this Nomination Criteria;
- (b) NZ Water Polo nominates Athletes to the NZOC in accordance with this Nomination Criteria and the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation; and
- (c) the NZOC selects the Athletes to the Games Team in accordance with the NZOC Selection Policy and the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

**2. Selectors**

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2.1 **Composition:** The Selectors have been appointed by the Board. The Selectors who will consider nomination of the Team and its Athletes to NZOC to be considered for selection in the Games Team are:

*Steve Johns, Eelco Uri, Fabian Wanrooij*

2.2 **Change of Selectors:** The Board reserves the right to change a Selector at any time in its absolute discretion prior to the Nomination Date. In such case, it will publish the change of Selector on the NZ Water Polo website.

**3. Eligibility**

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

- (a) 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 5.00pm, 26 July 2023, where an Athlete is not a regular member of NZ Water Polo at this date; or
  - ii. no later than 5.00pm, 24 November 2023, where the Athlete is a regular member of NZ Water Polo; and
  - ii. in exceptional circumstances before 5.00pm, 26 January 2024 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board) where NZ Water Polo provides the NZOC with evidence that demonstrates that Athlete could not have been reasonably in contemplation on 24 November 2023, provided the Athlete is a regular member of NZ Water Polo; and
- (b) have returned a completed Athlete Agreement in the manner prescribed by the NZOC to NZOC prior to the Nomination Date; and
- (c) be a member of NZ Water Polo or one of its affiliates; and
- (d) be a New Zealand citizen and has a New Zealand passport; and
- (e) have demonstrated to the satisfaction of NZ Water Polo that they are not suffering any physical or psychological impairment that would prevent them from competing in the Games to the highest possible standard; and
- (f) have acted in such a manner so as not to bring the Athlete, the sport, NZ Water Polo or the NZOC into public disrepute; and
- (g) not be under investigation for any breach of any part of the NZ Water Polo and International Federation’s anti-doping regulations, the Sports Anti-Doping Rules and/or the NZOC Integrity Regulation; and
- (h) no later than 26 July 2023, where the Athlete is not a regular member of the NZ Water Polo and 26 January 2024 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board), where the Athlete is a regular member of the NZ Water Polo has provided their name and contact address details to NZOC for the purpose of out of competition drug testing with Drug Free Sport New Zealand.

3.2 **Qualification:** New Zealand must qualify for places in a Water Polo Event in accordance with WAQ’s Qualification System for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games (“WAQ Qualification System”) and/or WAQ requirements for the Games. Qualification for a place in any Water Polo Event by a group of Athletes does not guarantee that the group of Athletes will be nominated or selected to compete in the Water Polo Event 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 Selectors shall nominate to NZOC for consideration of selection, those Athletes it considers meet the Nomination Criteria set out below.

3.4 **Reserve Athletes:** The Selectors may nominate Reserve Athletes to the NZOC for any Water Polo Event.

#### **4. Nomination Criteria**

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- 4.1 **Nomination Criteria:** In considering any Athlete for nomination to the NZOC, the Selectors shall consider:
- (a) the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria specified in clause 5.1; and
  - (b) the evidential requirements in clause 5.2; and
  - (c) the Specific Nomination Factors specified in clause 5.3; and
  - (d) any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with clause 6.
- 4.2 **Relevance and Weighting:** The Selectors may determine the relevance and weight that 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 weighed 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 Selectors 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 any Key Events and Trials, the Selectors 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 Selectors 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**

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##### **5.1 Over-Riding Nomination Criteria:**

In determining whether or not to nominate a group of Athletes to a Water Polo Event, the Selectors must be satisfied overall that:

- (a) the nominated Team has qualified a team place at the Games in accordance with the WAQ Qualification System; and
- (b) the nominated Team is capable of advancing beyond the first round of competition or is capable of achieving a top eight placing where there are no quarter finals; and
- (c) all athletes available and eligible to compete in the nominated Team at the Games are an equal or higher standard and quality to the athletes who comprised the Team during qualification; and

- (d) the athletes in the nominated Team have a track record of sufficient quality and depth that the Selectors believe demonstrates the nominated Team will be competitive at the Games and will perform creditably.

## 5.2 Evidence

In determining whether or not the group of Athletes in the Team to be nominated satisfy the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria in clause 5.1 above, the Selectors shall have regard to:

- (a) *Results and Performances*: any one or more of the results and performances of each Athlete at the following Key Events during the Qualification Period:
- World Cup Berlin, May 2023
  - Super Finals World Cup, (location to be confirmed) June 2023
  - 20<sup>th</sup> WAQ World Championships Fukuoka, Japan 2022 (held in July 2023)
  - 2023 Oceania Regional Olympic Qualification Event (date and location to be confirmed)
  - 21<sup>st</sup> WAQ World Championships Doha, Qatar 2024
- (b) *Trials*: In addition to the results and performances at the Key Events, the results and performance at any Trials held during the Qualification Period. To assist the Selectors in considering any nomination under this Nomination Criteria, the Selectors may in consultation with the CEO (or his/her authorised representative), decide that a Trial(s) will be held. The Selectors may invite any Athlete they consider appropriate to participate in a Trial, as long as they are eligible under clause 3 of this Nomination Criteria. The Selectors' decision on the invited Athletes is final and cannot be appealed. The nature and format of any Trial will be decided by the Selectors, in their discretion, in consultation with the CEO or authorised representative.

5.3 **Specific Nomination Factors**: When considering the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria above, the Selectors may also take into account any one or more of the following factors about a Team and its Athletes within the Qualification Period:

- (a) any other performances or results in competitions / events in addition to the Key Events;
- (b) adequate fitness and a commitment to maintain a fitness and training programme as agreed with the applicable coach(es);
- (c) demonstrated good behaviour, including a commitment to training and attendance at training camps;
- (d) demonstrated compatibility with others in a Team environment;
- (e) demonstrated compliance with the rules of events and competitions;

- (f) 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;
- (g) willingness to promote NZ Water Polo in a positive manner;
- (h) demonstrated ability to take personal responsibility for self and their results;
- (i) proven ability to be reliable;
- (j) adherence to the NZ Water Polo National Women's Squad Criteria 2023-2024 document;
- (k) ability to fulfil specific positional requirements outlined by the NZ Water Polo Head Coaches style of play; and
- (l) ability to follow Head Coaches' instructions, tactics and strategy during games.

## 6. Extenuating Circumstances

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6.1 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In considering the nomination of Athletes in accordance with this Nomination Criteria, the Selectors 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 Selectors to constitute extenuating circumstances.

6.2 **Athlete to Advise:** Athletes unable to compete at Key Events, Trials, or other attendances required under this Nomination Criteria, must advise the 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 the Key Event, Trial or other attendance. If the CEO is not notified of any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with this Nomination Criteria, then the Selectors 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 CEO 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 Selectors. Any failure to agree to such a request may result in the Selectors 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 Selectors will make a decision on a case-by-case basis.

## **7. Nomination and Selection**

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7.1 **Nomination to NZOC:** NZ Water Polo will nominate Athletes (“Nominated Athletes”) and any Reserve Athletes to the NZOC by the Nomination Date.

7.2 **Nomination with Conditions:** NZ Water Polo 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 Selectors, 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**

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8.1 **Non-Nomination Appeals:** An Athlete may appeal to NZ Water Polo against their non-nomination to the NZOC by the Selectors provided that the Athlete:

- (a) is on the NZ Water Polo 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 paragraph 8.1 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 NZ Water Polo long list for the Games; and
- (b) meets the eligibility criteria under clause 3 of this Criteria.

## **9. Inconsistencies**

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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.

9.2 **WAQ Qualification System:** If this Nomination Criteria imposes a higher qualification standard or a lesser number of participants than stated by the WAQ Qualification System, this shall not be regarded as an inconsistency.

## 10. Amendments to this Nomination Criteria

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

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- 11.1 **Application Date** means the dates set out in clause 3.1(a) 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 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.
- 11.4 **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.
- 11.5 **Board** means the Board of NZ Water Polo as constituted under the NZ Water Polo constitution.
- 11.6 **CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer of NZ Water Polo and includes his / her nominee.
- 11.7 **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.
- 11.8 **Games** means the Games of the XXXIII Olympiad to be held in Paris, France from 26 July to 11 August 2024.
- 11.9 **Games Team** means the New Zealand Team at the Games selected in accordance with the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games.
- 11.10 **Key Events** means an international competitions listed in clause 5.2.
- 11.11 **Nominated Athlete** means an Athlete who has been nominated to the NZOC for consideration of selection as part of a Team by NZ Water Polo.
- 11.12 **Nomination Criteria** means the criteria made up of the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria and the Specific Nomination Factors, and is also referred to as “**this Criteria**”.

- 11.13 **Nomination Date** means on or before 10 June 2024 (and includes any alternative date as agreed between NZOC and NZ Water Polo by which NZ Water Polo must submit any Nominated Athletes to the NZOC.
- 11.14 **NZOC** means the New Zealand Olympic Committee Incorporated.
- 11.15 **NZOC Integrity Regulation** means the NZOC Integrity Regulation available at <http://www.olympic.org.nz/about-the-nzoc/governance-documents/>.
- 11.16 **NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation** means the regulation of NZOC 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/>.
- 11.17 **NZOC Selection Policy** means the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games, available at <https://www.olympic.org.nz/assets/NZOC-Selection-Policy-Paris-Final-1-September-2022.pdf>.
- 11.18 **NZ Water Polo** means the New Zealand Water Polo Association
- 11.19 **Over-Riding Nomination Criteria** means the criteria set out in clause 5.1.
- 11.20 **Qualification Period** means the period between 1 January 2023 – 9 June 2024.
- 11.21 **Reserve Athletes** means a travelling (including AP athletes) and/or non-travelling reserve, as designated by the Selectors and in accordance with the WAQ Qualification System and the Paris 2024 Sport Entry Manual.
- 11.22 **Specific Nomination Factors** means the factors listed in clause 5.3 which the Selectors may take into account when applying the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria.
- 11.23 **Selectors** means the selectors appointed by NZ Water Polo in accordance with clause 2 of this Nomination Criteria.
- 11.24 **Team** means a team of 12 Athletes (including substitutes) competing together in a Water Polo Event.
- 11.25 **Trial** means a race or competition pursuant to clause 5.2(b), on a date and at a venue determined by NZ Water Polo and notified to Athletes invited to the Trial.
- 11.26 **WAQ** means the International Swimming Federation.
- 11.27 **Water Polo Event** means 12 Team Men’s tournament and a 10 Team Women’s tournament at the Games.