

**ICE SPEED SKATING NZ
VANCOUVER 2010 NOMINATION AND SELECTION POLICY**

POLICY BACKGROUND

This nomination criteria applies to all athletes wishing to be considered for nomination by Ice Speed Skating New Zealand (ISSNZ) to the NZOC for consideration for selection in the New Zealand team to compete in the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics.

This Policy applies to all ISSNZ representatives (speed skating and short track athletes)

1. NOMINATION PANEL

1.1 **Appointment of Nomination Panel:** the nomination panel consisting of four selectors who shall be responsible to the Director of Selection and the ISSNZ Board, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting

1.2 **Nomination Panel Members:** Matthew Biggs (Director of Selection), Athol Garth, Garry Copsey, Haru Lee and Mike McMillen

2. SELECTION PROCESS

Selection Process: The process for selection to the NZOC's Olympic Team has 2 stages. The stages are as follows.

(a) **Nomination by sport nomination panel:** The ISSNZ selectors will nominate athletes they consider worthy of selection for nomination in accordance with the ISSNZ Selection Policy. The nomination panel will decide, in its sole and absolute discretion, whether or not to nominate to the NZOC any athlete. The ISSNZ Director of Selection will inform the NZOC of their nomination decisions.

(b) **Selection by NZOC:** The NZOC will consider those athletes nominated to it by the ISSNZ and will decide whether or not to select any nominated athlete for the New Zealand Olympic Team. Selection by the NZOC will be conducted in accordance with the NZOC's own selection criteria that can be found on the NZOC website www.olympic.org.nz.

3. ELIGIBILITY FOR NOMINATION

3.1 **International Federation's Eligibility Rules:** International Skating Union (ISU) criteria will be adhered to for athletes representing ISSNZ in international events.

3.2 **Citizenship Requirements:**
Athletes must be citizens of New Zealand with a valid New Zealand passport at the time of nomination in order to be considered.

3.3 **Must meet Eligibility Criteria:** In order to be nominated by the ISSNZ, athletes must first meet the eligibility criteria outlined in this Policy.

- 3.4 **Performance Standards:**
SHORT TRACK: To become eligible under this clause, athletes must:
- (a) Have competed in World Cups 1 or 2 and have placed in the top 50% of the field **or** within a 3% variation of the 2009 World Championships best times of:

Men -	500m	41.218	Women -	500m	43.182
	1000m	01:26.1		1000m	01:29.9
	1500m	02:14.6		1500m	02:21.4

OR

- (b) **and** have qualified under the ISU criteria at World Cups 3 and 4
- (c) Have competed in World Cups 3 and 4 and have placed in the top 50% of the "Qualified" field (ie 16 or better of 32 in 500m and 1000m or 18 or better of 36 in 1500m)
- (d) **and** have qualified under the ISU criteria

- 3.5 **Discretionary Criteria:** Notwithstanding clause 3.3 above, the nomination panel may deem any athlete eligible if the athlete has:

- (a) Competed in World Cups 1 or 2 and has placed in the top 75% of the field **or** within a 4% variation of the 2009 World Championships best times
- (b) **and** have qualified under the ISU criteria at World Cups 3 and 4
- (c) **and** the ISSNZ nomination panel, in its sole and absolute discretion, considers the athlete to have the potential to finish in the top half of the field at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics or the potential to compete with distinction in 2014.

- 3.6 **SPEED SKATING:** To become eligible under this clause, athletes must:

- (d) have achieved the ISU qualifying times in the period between 1 July 2009 and the deadline for entry for the Vancouver Olympic Games
- (e) **and** have qualified under the ISU criteria

The applicable qualifying time standards and conditions for approval of achieved qualifying times will be announced in an ISU Communication, no later than 1 July 2009

- 3.7 **No Guarantee:** Notwithstanding the above eligibility criteria, it should be noted that simply achieving the eligibility criteria will not ensure selection.

4. **Decision Making:** In addition to the nomination and performance criteria, the following factors, in no particular order, may be taken into account at the discretion of the ISSNZ:

- (a) the athletes ability to represent Ice Speed Skating as an ambassador and role model to young athletes
- (b) past and present conduct of the athlete

- (c) current level of fitness of the athlete
- (d) past and predicted future performance

In consequence ISSNZ reserves the right to replace athletes and/or alter team composition (subject to such NZOC approval as may be required) at any time after selection.

5. **Nomination Decision Final:** Subject to clause 4 above, once the nomination panel have made a nomination decision, this decision is final and, subject to the right to appeal under clause 8, no further correspondence will be entered into.

6. **NOTIFICATION / ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Director of Selection will notify the athlete(s) in writing, of the decision being made.

All team announcements will be individually released to the media from, and authorised by the NZOC, in full consultation with the ISSNZ. While it is accepted that the team announcement date may have to be changed, it is anticipated that the team announcement will be made on (or before) 20 January 2010.

7. **WITHDRAWAL/SUBSTITUTION**

- 7.1 **Notify:** Any withdrawal from availability for consideration by an athlete must be notified in writing to the ISSNZ Director of Selection as soon as possible after the decision to withdraw is made.

- 7.2 **Teams:** Where the withdrawing athlete is a member of a team, the withdrawal of that athlete will be deemed to be the withdrawal of the team in which the athlete is a member, unless the nomination panel, in their sole and absolute discretion, approve of the substitution of the withdrawing athlete with another athlete.

- 7.3 **Discretion:** The Nomination Panel may, but are not obliged to, agree to substitute another athlete for any athlete or athletes who withdraw pursuant to clause 7 above.

8. **APPEALS**

- 8.1 **Mediation:** Process 1) a review of the nomination decision will be completed by the selection panel internally, 2) an independent mediator will be appointed through the ISSNZ and with input from the NZOC

- 8.2 **Sports Disputes Tribunal:** Where resolution by the Mediator has failed, the dispute will be referred to the New Zealand Sports Disputes Tribunal.

- 8.3 **Lodging Disputes:** Timely resolution of any dispute is essential to both parties. Disputes with respect to this Policy must be made in writing to the ISSNZ Executive Director, within 10 days of the disputed nomination having being announced personally to the athlete.

10) **EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES**

In considering the performances of an athlete at an event, the ISSNZ may, in their discretion, give bearing to extenuating circumstances. For the purpose of this

Nomination Criteria, "extenuating circumstances" means an inability of the athlete to compete in and/or attend an event arising from:

- injury of illness of the athlete,
- equipment failure,
- travel delays,
- bereavement, or
- such other circumstances as the Nomination panel reasonably consider to constitute extenuating circumstances

An athlete who is unable to compete in and/or attend an event that may impact on nomination must advise the Director of Selection in writing of this fact with related reasoning regarding non-attendance prior to commencement of the event or any other required attendance. If the extenuating circumstance arises within 48 hours of the event, attendance, notification via phone or email should be submitted as soon as realistically possible after it arises.

In the case of injury or illness, athletes will be required to undergo a medical assessment by a Doctor or Doctor(s) nominated by the ISSNZ, before the Nomination Panel can give bearing to any extenuating circumstances.