



Selection Policy

This policy applies for selections related to all national representation teams for Athletics.

1. **SELECTION PHILOSOPHY**

- 1.1 This selection philosophy is issued by Athletics Cook Islands ("ACI") and sets out the basis on which the ACI selectors will consider athletes for selection to represent the Cook Islands at regional or international events.
- 1.2 Selection will be based on athletes who have demonstrated the ability to achieve a high standard of performance and are tracking towards competing at a high level of competition going forward.
- 1.3 In addition to this policy, there may be specific guidance or criteria issued for a particular event.

This policy along with the specific guidance will form the basis for the selectors decision.

2. **SELECTION PANEL**

- 2.1 The selection panel will consist of 3 members within the following criteria
 - The 3 person panel to be approved by the ACI Board.
 - The convenor will be the Athletics Cook Islands President. If unavailable the President will delegate to another ACI board member
 - 2nd & 3rd panellists will be technical experts which may be an ACI executive board member or an external person
 - Conflicts of interest must be declared and will be considered before appointing the selection panel. Generally, coaches and close family members of athletes being considered for selection will not be included in the selection panel to avoid any appearance of or unintended bias.
 - Where a conflict of interest exists, the conflicted member will not participate in discussion or decision-making relating to that athlete.

3. **CONDITIONS OF SELECTION**

- 3.1 As a condition of selection for the representative team an athlete must:
 - (a) Meet criteria for national representation as detailed in **schedule A** AND
 - (b) Have passport that is valid at least up 6 months of departure from the country of competition or be in the process of applying/renewing, copy will be requested; AND
 - (c) Have parental permission if under 18 years old; AND
 - (d) Have competed at one of the trials held or another qualifying event (if any) in the qualification period prior to application closing date.
 - (e) Qualifying events are any events included on the official Athletics NZ, Athletics Australia or Oceania Athletics calendar of events in the period specified for each selection. Refer separate attachments.
 - (f) Any other event that you wish to be included as a qualifying event should be pre-approved by the selection panel.
 - (g) At the qualifying meet has met the Cook Islands Qualification standard for at least one event they will enter as detailed in **schedule B**. Athletes meeting minimum standard in one event and close in other events may be able to register for the other

events at the discretion of the selection panel, taking into account coach's recommendation.

- (h) Enter into an athlete agreement with ACI (the "Athlete agreement") as detailed in **schedule C** AND
- (i) Be and remain in "good standing" with ACI. This includes being a current financial member, having no outstanding debts with ACI, at all times comply with ACI code of conduct and regulations and the terms and conditions of the Athlete agreement and otherwise conduct themselves in a way that doesn't bring the sport or the team into disrepute; AND

Athletes should be aware that failure to comply with any of the requirements set out in clause 3.1 may render them ineligible for selection.

- 3.2** Meeting the conditions of selection in clause 3.1 does not guarantee an athlete selection. Final selection will be made at the sole discretion of the panel inline with this policy, taking into account any team size constraints, specific criteria for each competition and ACI strategic priorities. In exercising discretion and making its decision, the selection panel may take into account performance, fitness, team balance, competition entry limits and ACI strategic priorities.
- 3.3** Selection of the team will be made as soon as practical following the completion of the qualifying meets inline with timetable that will be provided for each competition.
- 3.4** All injuries or potential medical information that may affect the athlete traveling and or competing must be disclosed prior to trial and selection.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1** Generally, travel arrangements will be managed centrally by Athletics Cook Islands. Each athlete will be required to make a personal contribution, usually between \$300 - \$1,000 depending on the travel costs and funding available for this event.
- 4.2** The first \$300 installment of the athlete contribution is due upon confirmation of selection. Selection will be confirmed on receipt of the first installment.
- 4.3** The balance of the costs will be covered by grants, sponsorship, group fundraising and Athletics Cook Islands funds. We expect athletes (or their families) to be available to support group fundraising where possible.
- 4.4** If an athlete requires an entry visa for the country of competition, the application and related costs are the responsibility of the athlete. ACI will assist with the process where possible.

5. SELECTION PROCESS

- 5.1** The selection panel will select individuals in accordance with the criteria set out in this policy and any specific competition entry requirements.
- 5.2** Athletes must submit an application inline with the specific timetable provided to be eligible for selection. Application must include:
 - (a) Completed application form
 - (b) Copy of passport (if not provided previously)
 - (c) Coaches recommendation and
 - (d) Parental permission must be included if under 18.
- 5.3** To determine the top athlete or athletes, where there is limited number of places (i.e. Universality or Quota or other limitation set by Athletics CI Board) the World Athletics Rankings and Scoring tables will be used to compare athletes in different events.
If one or more of the athletes does not have a World Ranking, then MEMBER FEDERATION will use the athletes' best performance within the qualification period to determine the assigned score. The top performance score, either male or female, will be the selection.
- 5.4** To be selected in any Cook Islands Team to major Oceania and World Athletics'

competitions, there is an overriding requirement that athletes should have participated, where eligible and available, in

- National Championships
- Area Championships
- Other meetings designated by the Athletics Cook Islands

5.5 Athletes will be notified in writing of their selection as soon as practical.

5.6 Athletes selected for the team will need to confirm their acceptance within 48 hours by returning the signed athlete agreement and paying the first \$300 installment of the athlete contribution. Selection isn't confirmed without this first installment being paid.

6. COMPETITION TEAM

6.1 Any team officials including Team Manager , Team Coach and Medical support will be appointed by the Selection Panel.

6.2 Whilst athletes will have their own coaches, each of selected athletes will be assigned to one of ACI's national accredited coaches for general oversight for the competition preparation. Athlete coaches are expected to communicate and work with the national coach assigned.

6.3 If an athlete is injured or sick, they must notify the coach immediately for assessment for continued placement on the team to travel.

6.4 Any omission of health problems to ACI prior to departure will mean any resulting health costs incurred during travel or competing not covered by insurance will be the responsibility of the athlete.

6.5 Athletes who are found to be in breach of the athlete agreement may be removed from the team and will need to reimburse ACI for any costs unable to be recovered for cancelled travel, and bookings.

7. GENERAL INFORMATION

7.1 This selection policy may be amended at any time prior to the final selection announcement by the ACI Board.

7.2 Athletes can query their non-selection after the selection announcement by contacting the Convenor to seek clarification.

7.3 Appeals must be made in writing within 48 hours of selection announcement addressed to the Convenor. Appeal will be considered by the selection panel and result ratified by the ACI Board.

7.4 Appeals may only be made on the grounds that the selection process was not followed correctly or the published criteria were not applied.

Schedule A: National Representation Criteria

The national eligibility criteria applied is the same as the World Athletics national representative criteria as detailed in Rule C3.2 of World Athletics Rule. This has been summarized below:

1. An athlete must be a citizen of the Cook Islands by virtue of:

- (i) Having been born or having a parent or grandparent born in the Cook Islands; or
- (ii) Having resided in the country for at least 3 years consecutively or
- (iii) Being a Cook Islands Permanent Resident;

Athletes will need to supply certified documentation and reliable evidence by a valid passport and/or other official document(s) issued by the relevant authorities of the Cook Islands.

2. An athlete requesting national representation of the Cook Islands must apply in writing to Athletics Cook Islands Inc., setting out;

- (i) the basis for their claim to be eligible to compete on behalf of the Cook Islands in National Representative Competitions and/or (if applicable)
- (ii) the reasons for their proposed representation based on Citizenship acquired after birth, or for their proposed transfer of allegiance from another Country

3. Athletics Cook Islands Inc, the national federation will review all athlete eligibility case and requests. Approval and confirmation by Athletics Cook Islands will be determined by compliance with the federation's Constitution and in accordance with the relevant World Athletics Rules and Regulations.

4. All cases must be made in writing, addressed to the executive of Athletics Cook Islands Inc.

5. Athletics Cook Islands reserves the right to amend or clarify eligibility rules for national representation.

Schedule B: Cook Islands Qualification Standards

These are the minimum requirements. Meeting these standards doesn't guarantee selection.

	Women		Men	
	U18	Open	U18	Open
100m	13.7	12.7	11.95	11.40
200m	28.00	26.50	23.9	23.10
400m	62.00	59.00	56.00	51.50
800m	2.30.00	2.20.00	2.10.00	2.03.00
1500m	5.10.00	5.00.00	4.30.00	4.14.00
2000m				
Steeplechase	8.25.00		7.44.00	
3000m				
Steeplechase		13.00.00		11.00.00
3000m	11.00.00		10.00.00	
5000m		22.30.00		16.50.00
10000m		42.00.00		35.00.00
100m Hurdles	19.00	17.00		
110m Hurdles			17.00	17.00
400m Hurdles	76.00	68.00	68.00	60.00
5000m Walk	35.00	34.00	30.30	30.00
10000m Walk		62.00		56.00
Long Jump	4.90	5.00	6.00	6.20
Triple Jump	10.00	11.00	11.20	13.00
High Jump	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.85
Pole Vault	2.40	3.00	2.70	3.40
Discus	28.00	35.00	36.00	40.00
Hammer	30.00	32.00	30.00	40.00
Javelin	30.00	35.00	43.00	45.00
Shotput	11.00	12.00	12.00	13.20

N.B. All times are based on electronic times. For hand times add

0.24 to 100m, 110m and 200m and 0.14 to 400m

Schedule C: Example of Athlete Agreement

Will be issued to selected athletes

I _____ (PRINT NAME) agree to the following terms in representing the Cook Islands as a national representative at the XXXX.

1. I agree to represent Athletics Cook Islands (ACI) and the Cook Islands proudly, without any behavior that will bring disrepute to myself, ACI or my country.
2. I agree to respect my team members and Team Management.
3. I agree to do all I can to enhance my preparation in training for the event, and in full hearted competitive performance to my best ability.
4. I agree to plan my training schedule with my coach, (informing coach with good reason if not able to attend training) and in consultation with my Team Manager, honouring the commitment to best preparation and to report my progress as directed.
5. I will wear my Team Uniform proudly when directed and be mindful of appropriate clothing as a National Representative.
6. I will agree to any drug testing required from me under the requirements of World Athletics (WA). I have not used or administered any substance which, if it had been detected as being present in the athlete's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted doping, or used any prohibited method or committed any other doping offence as defined in WA Anti-doping Regulations. Note: Athletes should be aware that failure to comply with any of the requirements set out by WA may render an athlete ineligible for nomination and/or selection.
7. I agree to report any injury which will affect my performance as soon as possible so that all steps can be taken to treat and recover for this event.
8. I will not use social media or any other public platform to discredit Athletics Cook Islands, executive, coaches, managers or fellow athletes. Any concerns I have I will discuss directly with my coach or team manager.
9. If under any circumstances I am unable to fulfill my selection, I agree to let ACI know as soon as possible. I understand there may be financial penalty for withdrawal if refunds are not possible for costs already incurred.
10. I will attend all team meetings. If I am unable to attend for a valid reason I will ensure that both my coach and team manager have been informed in advance of the meeting.
11. I will be focused on Athletics as my primary sport from now until the competition. Any other sport competition or training I will first seek approval from my athletics coach.
12. I will make myself available for volunteering as an official for our in-country athletics competitions, if in country.
13. I understand my selection can be revoked at any time due to non-compliance with this agreement and the selection policy or any other matter at the discretion of ACI. I understand that if my selection is revoked I will be required to reimburse ACI for any costs incurred that can't be refunded.

Athlete Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____
If athlete is under 18 yr

Schedule D: Registration for Athletics Cook Islands Membership

PERSONAL DETAILS

First Name _____ Surname _____ Gender (circle one) M F

Residential Address _____

Date of Birth _____ Mobile _____ email _____

Attach a copy of the photo page of your Passport

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Nationalities _____

Have you represented any other country in Athletics at any regional or international event? Yes / No

If Yes, which country and when did you last compete for that country _____

On what basis are you eligible to represent the Cook Islands (tick one only)

- ☐ **Descent** – you, or your Parent or Grandparent were born in the Cook Islands
Attach relevant Birth Certificates
- ☐ **Residency** – you have Permanent Residency status or have lived in the Cook Islands for at least 3 years
Attach copy of PR stamp or evidence of living in Cook Islands for more than 3 years

ATHLETIC INFORMATION

Coach Name: _____ Email: _____

Athletics Club (if any): _____

Athletics Disciplines you compete in: _____

Personal Bests

Event	Performance	Meet Achieved
e.g. 100m	11.15s	CI Games 2024

PARENT/GUARDIAN DETAILS (if under 18)

First Name _____ Surname _____

Mobile _____ Email _____

ATHLETE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I acknowledge all information included in this form is accurate and I will abide by the rules and regulations of Athletics Cook Islands

Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature (if under 18) _____ Date: _____

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED Please ensure you have included the correct attachments

- ☐ Photo page of Passport (required)
- ☐ Birth Certificates (if applicable)
- ☐ PR Stamp (if applicable)
- ☐ Evidence of living in the Cook Islands for more than 3 years (if applicable)

Please return completed form along with attachments to athleticsci@gmail.com

Schedule E: Application for Selection for Competition

If you haven't already represented Athletics Cook Islands, please also complete Schedule D: Registration for Athletics Cook Islands Membership

Competition/s you are applying for:

- ☐ NZ Champs & Polynesian Champs 5-8 March Auckland, NZ
- ☐ Oceania Champs 18-23 May Darwin, Australia
- ☐ Commonwealth Games 27 Jul – 1 Aug Glasgow, Scotland
- ☐ World Athletics U20 Champs 5-9 Aug Oregon, USA
- ☐ Youth Olympic Games 30 Oct – 5 Nov Dakar, Senegal
- ☐ NZ Secondary School Champs 11-13 Dec Wanganui, NZ

PERSONAL DETAILS

First Name _____ Surname _____

Are you on any medication? Yes / No If Yes, please provide details _____

Any other medical issues _____

EVENTS Circle the events you are applying for:

100 200 400 800 1,500 5,000 10,000 SprintH 400H ½ Marathon
 Long Jump Triple Jump High Jump Shotput Discus Hammer Javelin
 Pole Vault Heptathlon Decathlon

QUALIFYING RESULTS Include details of results below that you would like to be included:

We will give you an opportunity to submit updated results to the end of the qualification period at a later date

Event	Performance	Meet Achieved
e.g. 100m	11.15s	CI Games 2024

Training History	
Previous International Competitions (if any)	
What are your athletics goals for the next 1-3 years?	

COACH ENDORSEMENT *to be completed by your coach*

Coach Name: _____ Ph No: _____ Signature: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN DETAILS (If athlete is under 18 years of age)

First Name _____ Surname _____ Relationship to Athlete _____

Phone Home _____ Mobile _____ Email _____

I confirm I support _____ application for national representation. I have read and understood the selection policy and will support _____ to comply with the requirements.

Signed by Parent/Guardian:

ATHLETE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Please ensure you read each statement carefully and tick each one to confirm your understanding.

I acknowledge :

- ☐ All information included in this form is accurate.
- ☐ I have read the selection policy and understand meeting the minimum qualification standard doesn't guarantee my selection in the team.
- ☐ I am medically fit and committed to training under the direction of the team coach working in conjunction with my own coach.
- ☐ If I am unable to attend training, I will notify my coach as soon as practical, and provide medical certificate if required.
- ☐ I will actively take part in any fundraising activities required.
- ☐ I am aware if selected, I will need make the first \$300 payment for athlete contribution within 48 hours to confirm my selection.
- ☐ I have a passport that is valid for at least 6 months after the event and have provided a copy to Athletics CI

Athlete Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____