



## NATIONAL SQUAD POLICY

This updated policy will select the National Squad for the 2026 calendar year on going .

### NATIONAL SQUAD POLICY

#### OBJECTIVES

- To provide the pool of athletes from which National teams are selected.
- To create a competitive environment for athletes to get an invitation to the squad.
- To create a policy which clearly sets out how an invitation to the squad is achieved.
- To increase the bowling knowledge and skills of Squad members to prepare them for International representation.

#### GUIDELINES

- A National Squad will be created for the following divisions.  
TBNZ18 Boys and Girls,           TBNZ21 Men and Women  
Open Men and Women,           TBNZ50 Men and Women
- Expressions of interest will be requested from TBNZ65 bowlers that wish to be considered for selection at such time as there is an International event that TBNZ will send a team to that requires a selection process.
- Invitations to the National Squad will be sent to qualified athletes in January of each year.
- Confirmation in writing that the athlete accepts their invitation into the National Squad is required within 72 hours.
- Following acceptance, documents setting out what is required as a National Squad member are to be completed and signed off by the athlete. These documents will be required to be returned within 72 hours of receipt.
- Once the squad is complete with all forms correctly returned, TBNZ will post the National Squads on the website.
- Athletes who receive their invitation by way of ranking or are invited to the squad by the national team selection panel will hold their place in the squad for the calendar year.
- Athletes who receive their invitations by way of their National Championships or National Teams' Championships will hold their place in the squad for twelve months from the last day of that event.

## SQUAD INVITATIONS

Squad invitations will be provided to the following:

- First three placings at the National Championships for each division.
- First three All Star placings at the National Teams' Championships for each division. For TBNZ21 NTC the three highest placed athletes on the All Stars list receive TBNZ21 Squad invites and the three highest placed TBNZ18 eligible bowlers receive invites to the TBNZ18 Squad.
- First six ranked on the National rankings list as at 31 December each year.
- For each division the selection panel, in consultation with the CEO, may invite athletes into the squad from the ranking list to extend the squad. Consideration will be given to those who, because of age, move from the TBNZ18 to TBNZ21, from TBNZ21 to Open and from Open to TBNZ50.
- Declining an invitation to the National Squad does not preclude an athlete who qualifies at a later date by way of Ranking, Nationals or National Teams' Championships from accepting a new invitation, regardless of the time between the invitations being offered. It is accepted that a person's circumstances that led to declining the invitation may have changed.

## OVERSEAS BASED ATHLETES

- Athletes in this category will be able to apply to the CEO for entry to the National Squad as they have, by virtue of being based overseas, been unable to gain entry to the Squad through the normal process . The application for a National Squad place must be received in writing by 31 December for the next calendar year beginning 1 January for which the entry is sought.
- The granting of National Squad entry will be recommended by the selection panel for that division using the applicable criteria contained in the National Team Selection Policy.
- The addition of an overseas based athlete to the National Squad must be ratified by the Board.
- The selection panel may place requirements for competing, training or communication on the applicant which will be conditions for granting the National Squad entry. These will be in writing and signed off.
- Entry to the National Squad will be for twelve months and the athlete is eligible to be selected for a national team, if available.