



## **NATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION POLICY**

This policy will apply for teams selected from 1 January 2026.

### **NATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION POLICY**

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- To select the best possible team of athletes to represent New Zealand at international tournaments in each division.
- To provide a framework for selection that is transparent, free of bias and clearly understood by all who aspire to be selected to represent New Zealand.
- To ensure selectors follow selection guidelines as set out in this policy to be recognised as “due process”.

#### **SELECTION PANEL**

- A selection panel for each division will be appointed by the TBNZ Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- Each selection panel shall have a Convenor appointed by the CEO.
- The selection panel shall have three members and a recognised Coach for that division.
- All members of selection panels will be ineligible to be selected for the division that they are selecting on.
- No member of a selection panel is able to participate in any stage of the selection process for any team where a family member is an eligible candidate.
- The names of the Selectors for each division’s panel shall be listed on the TBNZ website.

## SELECTOR GUIDELINES

- The CEO shall provide the selection panel with the list of athletes who are eligible to be selected for a given international event and set out those that have automatic selection as per the terms of this policy.
- The CEO shall provide the selection panel with a copy of the nearest year end ranking list and the nearest quarter ended ranking. The selection panel shall first select those that have an automatic place as per the policy.
- The balance of the team shall be made up from the relevant divisional National Squad using the following criteria:
  - Current and past performances up to a period of 12 months prior.
  - Past international results.
  - Must have bowled a minimum of one ranked event outside of their recognised geographic region, the regions are defined as Taupo North (Auckland, Bay of Plenty) and Taupo South (Hawkes Bay, Palmerston North, Wellington).  
**For overseas-based athletes, this includes travel to tournaments outside their home city or back to New Zealand.**
  - The ability to be a positive factor in building rapport, confidence and a winning attitude amongst the team members.
  - Coachability of individual athletes.
  - Physical game i.e. approach, swing, timing, ability to play different angles and lane patterns.
  - Commitment of dedication to training and competition.
  - Must have a standard of behavior and sportsmanship expected of a New Zealand Representative.
  - Must be a member of TBNZ in good standing.
  - Must be a NZ citizen for those tournaments that require it.
- If the pool of available athletes within the National Squad does not fill all places in the team then the selection panel shall fill that team with athletes outside the National Squad using the criteria above.
- Should the selection panel be deadlocked over a selection then the Convenor shall have the casting vote.
- A non-travelling / medical reserve may be named and they will have all the benefits of the selected team
- Should any athlete withdraw after confirmed selection, the non-travelling / medical reserve would have first option to fill the vacant spot. A replacement for the reserve will be selected by the selection panel using the criteria above.
- **A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is required within seven days of the team announcement. These funds will be allocated toward team expenses. In the event of withdrawal, only the Board may approve a refund of the deposit, which must be requested in writing with a stated reason.**

## **AUTOMATIC SELECTION POSITIONS**

- Those athletes who qualify for an automatic team spot must have accepted their invitation into the National Squad to be eligible to take up that automatic selection.
- **An automatic selection spot will lapse once the team has been announced.**
- Should the winner of an automatic selection spot not accept that place in the team it does not transfer and instead becomes a selected position.
- 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.

### OPEN DIVISION

#### **Walter Rachuig Trophy**

Automatically selected are the most recent mens and womens All Star Champions at the most recent National Teams' Championships and the number one ranked open man and open woman for the most recent 31 December quarter.

#### **IBF World Championships/Federation Championships**

Automatically selected are the highest ranked athlete for the closest quarter ended prior to selection (Quarters are months ended 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, 31 December). If the team requires more than four players then the second highest ranked athlete as above will also be an automatic selection.

### TBNZ18/ TBNZ21 TEAM

#### **President's Shield**

Automatically selected are the most recent TBNZ18 Boys and Girls National Champions and the highest placed TBNZ18 Boy and Girl in the All Star rankings at the most recent National Youth Teams Championships.

#### **Australian Youth Teams' Tournament**

Automatically selected are the most recent Youth Mens' and Womens' National Champion and the men's and women's All Star Champions at the most recent National Youth Teams' Championships (NYTC).

#### **IBF World Championships/Federation Championships**

Automatically selected are the highest ranked athlete for the closest quarter ended prior to selection (Quarters are months ended 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, 31 December). If the team requires more than four players then the second highest ranked athlete as above will also be an automatic selection.

For all of the teams listed above should an automatically selected bowler age out so that they are no longer eligible for selection for that team that position will become a selected one from the National Squad.

## TBNZ50 TEAM

### **Australian Senior Teams' Challenge**

Automatically selected are the most recent Men's and Women's TBNZ50 National Champion and the number one ranked TBNZ50 man and woman for the most recent 31 March quarter.

### **IBF World Championships/Federation Championships**

Automatically selected are the highest ranked athlete for the closest quarter ended prior to selection (Quarters are months ended 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, 31 December). If the team requires more than four players then the second highest ranked athlete as above will also be an automatic selection.

## TBNZ65 TEAM

For any TBNZ65 team to be selected the automatic selections are the highest ranked TBNZ65 man and woman athlete on the TBNZ50 Ranking list for the closest quarter ended prior to selection (Quarters are months ended 31 March, 30 June, 30 September, 31 December). The remaining members of the team will be selected by the TBNZ50 Selection Panel.

## **SELECTION DATE TIME FRAMES**

- The CEO and TBNZ Board will confer to approve International events that New Zealand will participate in. Once participation is approved the dates by which the team(s) are to be selected by, will be published on the TBNZ website.
- Team selection dates will be set to meet tournament rule requirements and to allow the team to properly prepare. Ideally this will be at least four months before the tournament commences.

## **RATIFICATION OF SELECTED TEAMS**

- The Convenor of each selection panel shall send a report to the CEO setting out who was selected and why for ratification by the CEO.
- Should the CEO have a selection conflict with a team for him/herself or their immediate family then that team will be ratified by the Board.
- The TBNZ Board will only be required to ratify the selection of any athlete from outside the National Squad or if the selection panel wishes to not select an Automatic Selection. In which case a report setting out the reasons for those decisions shall be sent to the Board.

## **NOTIFICATION/APPEALS PROCESS**

- The team selected shall first be ratified as per above. Once ratified the CEO shall contact the successful athletes individually to inform them of their selection. No other information as to which athletes were successful or not will be divulged. Successful athletes are required to maintain the confidentiality of their selection until advised by the CEO that the selection process is completed.
- An official letter of offer containing budget information will be sent to those athletes who have verbally confirmed acceptance. These will be required to be signed and returned within 72 hours of receipt.
- Once all received the unsuccessful athletes will be contacted by the CEO to advise them they did not get selected.
- Unsuccessful athletes will have 24 hours within which to lodge a protest. Appeals must be lodged in writing and addressed to the Chair, Board of Directors, TBNZ. The sole ground for any appeal is that the National Team Selection Policy and its criteria were not followed.

- Should an appeal be lodged, the status of the team shall remain unconfirmed.
- All communications between an appellant and TBNZ shall be in writing.
- The TBNZ Board shall determine the outcome of the appeal and its decision shall be final. Once the 24 hours appeal period has passed or a TBNZ Board decision on any appeal is reached. The appellant and any athlete whose place in the team is affected will be informed. The team can then be officially confirmed.
- All successful team members will be advised by the CEO that the team is confirmed and an official TBNZ announcement will be made.