

2017 WORLD MOUNTAIN RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION POLICY; 30 July, Premana, Italy

1. NOMINATION/SELECTION PHILOSOPHY

- 1.1 This Selection Policy sets out the basis on which the Athletics New Zealand (“Athletics NZ”) Selectors (refer to clause 2.1) will consider athletes for selection for the 2017 World Mountain Running Championships (the “2017 WMRCs”).
- 1.2 The *Selectors* will nominate athletes for selection and nominations will be subject to ratification by the Board of Athletics NZ (the “*Board*”).
- 1.3 The 2017 WMRCs is an Athletics NZ “Silver” Singlet competition (i.e., a competition other than an Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games or IAAF World Track & Field Championship).

2. SELECTION PANEL

- 2.1 The Athletics NZ *Board* endorsed Selection Panel (the “*Selectors*”) and the *Convenor* appointed to nominate athletes for selection for the 2017 WMRCs are:
 - a) Warren Drought (*Convenor*)
 - b) John Muskett
 - c) Barry Ellis
- 2.2 The *Board* reserves the right to replace any member of the *Selectors* at any time for any reason.

3. CONDITIONS OF NOMINATION

- 3.1 As a condition of nomination for the 2017 WMRCs, an athlete must:
 - a) Have achieved a *Qualifying Performance* (see clause 6) within the following *Qualification Period*; AND

Categories/Events	Qualification Period
All athletes	1-Aug-2016 to 26-March-2017

Note: Achieving a *Qualifying Performance* does not give any athlete a right to, or a guarantee of, nomination or selection.

- b) Be a registered member of Athletics NZ at the time of achieving their *Qualifying Performance* (refer clause 6); AND
- c) Submit an online [Application for Selection Form](#) and pay a \$250.00 Bond (refer clause 13.6) by 5pm Monday 27 March 2017; AND
- d) Have competed at the Compulsory Selection Trial which is the 2017 Athletics NZ Mountain Running Championships, Ben Lomond, Queenstown on 25 March 2017 or have sought dispensation from this competition (Refer to Clause 7); AND
- e) Have satisfied all World Mountain Running Association (“WMRA”) eligibility, nationality, participation and the Local Organising Committee (“LOC”) entry requirements; AND
- f) Enter into an athlete agreement with Athletics NZ; AND
- g) Be and remain in “good standing” with Athletics NZ and at all times comply with any established code of conduct and the terms and conditions of the athlete agreement of Athletics NZ and otherwise conduct themselves in a way that does not bring their sport or the team into disrepute; AND

- h) To *Athletics NZ's* knowledge, not have 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 *Athletics NZ* or IAAF Anti-Regulations.

4. **ELIGIBILITY**

- 4.1 For *Team Events*, nominations will be considered by reference to the overall requirement that in order to be nominated, a team must be considered capable of achieving a *Top 8* placing at the Championships.
- 4.2 For *Individual Events*, nominations will be considered by reference to the overall requirement that in order to be nominated, an individual must be considered capable of achieving a *Top 32* placing at the Championships.
- 4.3 In any category where the *Selectors* decide that a *Top 8 Team Event* placing is not realistic, then they may nominate up to:
- Two (2) athletes to compete in the *Individual Event* in the Senior Men's category
 - Two (2) athletes to compete in the *Individual Event* in the Senior Women's category
 - Two (2) athletes to compete in the *Individual Event* in the Junior Men's category, and
 - Two (2) athletes to compete in the *Individual Event* in the Junior Women's category.

Note: Any athlete selected as part of the *Team Event* is eligible for *Individual Event* honours as well as *Team Event* honours (i.e. the *Individual Event* and the *Team Event* are contested concurrently for each category).

5. **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

- 5.1 Athletics NZ entries must comply with WMRA Technical Regulations and LOC Entry Requirements.

Categories and Distances

- 5.2 Teams can be entered in the following categories:
- Junior Women: Up to four athletes with three to score
 - Junior Men: Up to four athletes with three to score
 - Senior Women: Up to four athletes with three to score
 - Senior Men: Up to four athletes with three to score

- 5.3 Races at the Championships will be contested over the following approximate distances:

	Up & Down	
	Distance	Ascent/Descent
Junior Women	6.5	430m
Junior Men	6.5	430m
Senior Women	13km	930m
Senior Men	13km	930m

Age Requirements for each Category

- 5.4 Any athlete aged 18 or 19 years on 31 December of the year of the competition (i.e. for the 2017 Championships born in 1998 or 1999) may compete in the senior category or the junior category.
- 5.5 Any athlete aged 16 or 17 years on 31 December of the year of the competition (i.e. for the 2017 Championships born in 2000 or 2001) may only compete in the junior category.
- 5.6 No athlete younger than 16 years on 31 December in the year of the competition (i.e. for the 2017 Championships, born in 2002 or later) may be entered.

6. QUALIFICATION PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

- 6.1 The Qualification Performance requirements for an athlete to be nominated for the 2017 WMRCs based on results achieved in NZ during the *Qualification Period* are:
- For a *Team Event*, an athlete should have finished in the “Top 5” in a NZ mountain running race; AND/OR
 - For an *Individual Event* in a category where the Selectors decide not to nominate a team, then an athlete should have finished in the “Top 3” in a NZ mountain running race.
- 6.2 The Qualification Performance requirements for an athlete to be nominated for the 2017 WMRCs based on results achieved outside of NZ during the *Qualification Period* are:
- For a *Team Event*, an athlete should have finished in the “Top 20” in at least one mountain running race during the *Qualification Period* which was sanctioned by the WMRA, the International Sky Running Federation and/or the European Mountain Grand Prix circuit.
 - For an *Individual Event* in a category where the Selectors decide not to nominate a team, then an athlete should have finished in the “Top 10” in a mountain running race during the *Qualification Period* which was sanctioned by the WMRA, the International Sky Running Federation and/or the European Mountain Grand Prix circuit.

Note: Achieving a Qualification Performance gives no right or guarantee of nomination or selection.

7. COMPULSORY SELECTION TRIAL

- 7.1 The *Compulsory Selection Trial* for the 2017 WMRCs is the 2017 Athletics NZ Mountain Running Championships at Ben Lomond, Queenstown on 25 March 2017.
- 7.2 All athletes seeking selection for the 2017 WMRCs must have either:
- Competed in the *Compulsory Selection Trial* (refer Clause 7.1); OR
 - Received dispensation from the *Compulsory Selection Trial*; OR
 - Received a medical exemption from the *Compulsory Selection Trial* as a result of injury or illness that occurred during the competition, or during the 10 days before the competition, that can be verified by the provision of a Medical Certificate.

Dispensation from Compulsory Selection Trial/s

- 7.3 Athletes seeking dispensation from the *Compulsory Selection Trial* (other than a medical exemption covered by clause 7.5) must make a request by e-mail to the *Convenor* [Warren Drought](#), no later than ten (10) days prior to the *Compulsory Selection Trial*.
- 7.4 Dispensations from the *Compulsory Selection Trial* will be at the sole discretion of the *Convenor* and will generally only be granted to athletes in exceptional circumstances.

Medical Exemption from Compulsory Selection Trial

- 7.5 Athletes who are unable to effectively compete at the *Compulsory Selection Trial* as a result of injury or illness that occurred during the *Compulsory Selection Trial* or during the ten (10) days immediately prior to the start of their event at that *Compulsory Selection Trial*, must make a request for a Medical Exemption in writing, preferably by e-mail to the *Convenor* [Warren Drought](#), accompanied by a copy of a Medical Certificate from a doctor acceptable to the *Selectors* to verify their circumstances, as soon as they are aware of their situation, but no later than 48 hours after the conclusion of the *Compulsory Selection Trial*.

Requirements for athletes granted a Dispensations or a Medical Exemption.

- 7.6 Athletes who are granted a dispensation or a medical exemption from competing in the *Compulsory Selection Trial* will generally be required to complete an alternative *Proof of Fitness* trial by a date agreed between the athlete, their personal coach (if applicable) and the 2017 WMRCs *Convenor* in consultation with the 2017 WMRCs *Team Leader* (refer clause 13.7).

8. AUTOMATIC NOMINATIONS

- 8.1 Subject to the entry and eligibility requirements stipulated in this *Selection Policy*, the winners of either the Junior Women, Junior Men, Senior Women or Senior Men categories at the Compulsory Selection Trial (i.e., The 2017 Athletics NZ Mountain Running Championships, Ben Lomond, Queenstown on 25 March 2017) will be automatic nominations for that category at the 2017 WMRCs, provided those athletes submit an Application for Selection Form as required by this *Selection Policy*.
- 8.2 Athletes that are automatic nominations must still satisfy the eligibility criteria and entry requirements set out in this *Selection Policy*, including complying with the form and “Village Pre-entry proof of Fitness” obligations set out in Clause 12.

9. DISCRETIONARY NOMINATIONS

- 9.1 Other than the athletes that achieve *automatic nomination* by winning their category at the *Compulsory Selection Trial*, all other athlete nominations for the 2017 WMRCs will be made by the *Selectors*.
- 9.2 Notwithstanding the provisions outlined in this *Selection Policy*, the 2017 WMRCs *Selectors* have an overriding discretion to nominate any eligible athlete for the 2017 WMRCs if they believe it is in the best interests of Athletics NZ to do so.
- 9.3 It is recognised that due to the nature of mountain running it is difficult to compare times across different distances and different courses. The *Selectors* will take a wide range of factors into consideration when nominating the team.
- 9.4 In exercising discretion the *Selectors* may consider any factor or combination of factors that are, in their opinion, relevant to their decision whether or not to nominate an athlete for the 2017 WMRCs, including but not limited to the athlete’s:
- a) Performance at the 2017 Athletics NZ Mountain Running Championships, Ben Lomond, Queenstown on 25 March 2017.
 - b) Competitive record against other athletes under consideration for selection in the same event.
 - c) The quality and consistency of performances during the Qualification Period.
 - d) Commitment and focus on competing at the 2017 WMRCs.
 - e) History of performances at previous selected individual or team events.
 - f) Performances in other mountain running races during the Qualification Period.
 - g) Recent injuries or illness.

10. SELECTION PROCESS

- 10.1 Athletics NZ will select *Individual(s)* and/or *Team(s)* based on nominations from the *Selectors* according to the criteria set out in this *Selection Policy* and as allowed by the WMRA Technical Regulations and the LOC entry requirements.
- 10.2 Nothing in this *Selection Policy* obliges Athletics NZ to select a full contingent of athletes in any particular event regardless of the WMRA Technical Regulations or the LOC entry requirements.

Ratification Review

- 10.3 The *Board* must ratify nominations prior to the *Selection Announcement*.

Selection Announcements

- 10.4 The *Selection Announcement* of the athletes selected for the 2017 WMRCs will be published on the Athletics NZ website by 5pm on Friday 7 April 2017.

11. NON-SELECTION QUERIES &/OR APPEALS PROCESS

11.1 Non-nominated athletes can query their non-selection after the *Selection Announcement* by contacting the *Convenor*, [Warren Drought](#) (i.e. to seek clarification regarding their non-selection).

Non-selection appeals process

11.2 The publishing of the *Selection Announcement* on Athletics NZ website by 5pm on Friday 7 April 2017 will be deemed to be the commencement of the 72 hour period to lodge non-selection appeals in accordance with this *Selection Policy*.

11.3 Any athlete whose selection is not ratified by the *Board* in accordance with this *Selection Policy* may appeal their non-selection to the New Zealand Sports Tribunal providing they:

- a) Have submitted an [Application for Selection Form](#) in accordance with timelines contained in this *Selection Policy*; AND
- b) Submit a notice of their intention to appeal their non-selection in writing to the CEO of Athletics NZ ([Linda Hamersley](#)) within 72 hours of the decision of the *Board* being published on the Athletics NZ website (i.e. the *Selection Announcement*).

11.4 Any appeal will be considered by the Sports Tribunal under its Rules and the grounds for an appeal will be as set out in those Rules. This provision will apply in relation to non-selection appeals. General provisions relating to appeals in the Constitution and Regulations of Athletics NZ will not apply.

12. VILLAGE PRE-ENTRY PROOF OF FITNESS

12.1 All selections for the 2017 WMRCs remain conditional until each athlete has met their *Village Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness Requirements*.

12.2 All selected athletes will be advised in writing of their specific *Village Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness Requirements* by the *Convenor* and/or the 2017 WMRCs Team Leader.

12.3 The time frame for all athletes to achieve specific *Village Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness Requirements* will be at the discretion of the *Convenor* and/or the 2017 WMRCs Team Leader. However, generally it will be prior to them leaving for the 2017 WMRCs from New Zealand or their place of residence.

12.4 Failure by a selected athlete to meet the *Village Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness Requirements* may result in that athlete who has been selected to the team being withdrawn from the 2017 WMRCs. Such a decision is at the discretion of the *Convenor* in consultation with the 2017 WMRCs Team Leader and the *Selectors*.

13. GENERAL INFORMATION

13.1 This *Selection Policy* may be amended at any time by the *Board*. Any amendment to this *Selection Policy* will be published on the Athletics NZ website.

Funding

13.2 The 2017 WMRCs is an athlete-funded competition and athletes seeking selection in accordance with this *Selection Policy* will have to participate at no-cost to Athletics NZ.

13.3 Athletes considering competing at the 2017 WMRCs should plan their funding and budgets early. The trip cost is expected to be around \$6,000NZD per athlete.

13.4 A management levy is likely to be charged across all athletes (i.e., above the cost of their own travel and accommodation) to assist with the cost of the 2017 WMRCs Team Leader and/or support staff (if applicable).

13.5 For athlete-funded competitions, two weeks prior to the departure of "the team" from New Zealand all athlete-funding components must be paid in full to Athletics NZ.

NOTE: Non-payment of the athlete-funding components in full by this date will result in removal of the athlete from the team and the withdrawal of that athlete's entry in the 2017 WMRCs. Unpaid amounts will remain outstanding and will be subject to collection in accordance with [Athletics NZ Debtors policy](#).

Bond

- 13.6 Athletes seeking selection for the *2017 WMRCs* will be required to pay a Bond of \$250.00 along with their [Application for Selection Form](#) by 5pm Monday 27 March 2017. The conditions associated with Bond are:
- a) The Bond should either be paid by:
 - i. depositing cleared funds into 12-3192-0002433-00 noting “*2017 WMRCs*” in the Particulars field and athlete’s name (e.g., “J A Bloggs”) in the Reference field in internet banking. The Payee is Athletics NZ; or
 - ii. sending a cheque made payable to Athletics NZ, P O Box 305 504 Triton Plaza, Auckland 0757 to be received no later than 5pm Monday 27 March 2017. The cheque must be accompanied with a note recording the athlete’s name and that the payment is made as a bond for the *2017 WMRCs* team.
 - iii. By credit card when completing the [Application for Selection Form](#). **Please Note:** paying via credit card within the Application for Selection Form incurs a non-refundable 4% Processing Fee.

Refund of Bond

- b) The full amount of the Bond paid will be refunded (without interest and any processing fee) if an athlete is not selected.
- c) If an athlete withdraws from the team after selection for any reason, they must notify [Kat Austin](#) in writing as soon as possible. A full refund of the Bond paid will not automatically be given in these circumstances. All refund requests will be considered on a “case-by-case” basis, including by reference to whether any costs have already been incurred or committed by Athletics NZ prior to the time of the withdrawal, as well as to the circumstances behind the withdrawal. In any case, an amount of not less than \$50 will be retained to defray costs.
- d) Any refund is subject to the athlete in question having included details for the refund payment (i.e., bank account details or address and payee for refund cheque) in their *Application for Selection*, otherwise the athlete must provide those details when he or she advises of the withdrawal of their *Application for Selection*. Refunds cannot be made without these details.

Application of Bond

- e) If selected the Bond will be applied by Athletics NZ to offset costs payable by that selected athlete as a member of the *2017 WMRCs* team (i.e., it is not an “extra” fee/levy).

Team Leader /Coach/Staff Appointment

- 13.7 [Expressions of Interest](#) for the position of *2017 WMRCs Team Leader* will be advertised by Monday 13 March 2017.
- 13.8 Any additional support staff and/or coaches required for the team, if deemed necessary, will be advertised at a later date. Further information will follow.
- 13.9 The team is estimated to be away from 19 July to 2 August 2017 but could be more or less (in consultation with the *2017 WMRCs Team Leader*) depending on an athlete’s buildup requirements.
- 13.10 For further information regarding staff appointments contact [Kat Austin](#).

Additional Competition Information

- 14.0 For further information regarding the *2017 WMRCs* refer to www.wmra.info