

2018 WORLD MOUNTAIN RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION POLICY: 16 September, Canillo, Andorra

Please Note: IAAF are yet to send us this competition circular, therefore the following details are subject to change.

1. NOMINATION/SELECTION PHILOSOPHY

- 1.1 This Selection Policy is issued by the Board of Athletics New Zealand (“*Athletics NZ Board*”) and sets out the basis on which the (“*Athletics NZ*”) Selectors (refer to clause 2.1) will consider athletes for nomination to the *Athletics NZ Board* for the 2018 World Mountain Running Championships (the “*2018 WMRCs*”).
- 1.2 The *2018 WMRCs* is an *Athletics NZ* “Silver” Singlet competition (i.e., an IAAF, IAU, FISU or WMRA World Championship other than an Olympic Games, IAAF World Track & Field Championship or Commonwealth Games).
- 1.3 Athletes must note that the *2018 WMRCs* is an athlete-funded competition and athletes seeking selection in accordance with this Selection Policy will have to cover any costs incurred (i.e. athletes will participate at no-cost to *Athletics NZ*).

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 *2018 WMRCs* are:
 - a) John Bowden (*Convenor*)
 - b) Warren Drought
 - c) Barry Ellis
- 2.2 The *Athletics NZ 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 *2018 WMRCs*, an athlete must:
 - a) Have achieved a *Performance Standard* that is listed on the official *Athletics NZ* Rankings website within the following *Qualification Period*; AND

Categories/Events	Qualification Period
All athletes	1 August 2017 to 29 April 2018

- b) Be a registered member of *Athletics NZ* at the time of achieving their *Performance Standard*; AND
- c) Have submitted an online [Application for Selection Form](#) and pay a \$250 bond (refer clause 13.6, 13.7 a-e) by 5pm Sunday 29 April 2018; AND
- d) Have competed at the *Compulsory Selection Trial* (refer to clause 7) or have been granted dispensation from that competition; 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-doping Regulations.

4. ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 For *Individual Events*, for categories where *Athletics NZ* are not nominating a “Team”, the *Selectors* may nominate athletes deemed capable of achieving a Top 32 placing at the 2018 *WMRCs*.
- 4.2 For *Team Events*, the *Selectors* may nominate teams deemed capable of achieving a Top 8 placing at the 2018 *WMRCs*.
- 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:
 - a) Two (2) athletes to compete in the *Individual Event* in the Senior Men’s category;
 - b) Two (2) athletes to compete in the *Individual Event* in the Senior Women’s category;
 - c) Two (2) athletes to compete in the *Individual Event* in the Junior Men’s category; and
 - d) Two (2) athletes to compete in the *Individual Event* in the Junior Women’s category

Please Note: All athletes competing as part of a “Team”, are eligible for selection for any *Individual Event* where *Athletics NZ* is entitled to enter an Individual as well.

5. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 Entries must comply with *WMRA* Technical Regulations and *LOC* Entry Requirements.

Categories and Distances

- 5.2 Teams can be entered in the following categories:
 - a) Junior Women: Up to four athletes with three to score
 - b) Junior Men: Up to four athletes with three to score
 - c) Senior Women: Up to four athletes with three to score
 - d) 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 2018 Championships born in 1999 or 2000) 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 2018 Championships born in 2001 or 2002) 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 2018 Championships, born in 2003 or later) may be entered.

6. **PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

- 6.1 For an athlete to be considered for nomination for the 2018 WMRCs based on results achieved in New Zealand during the *Qualification Period*, they must have achieved one (1) of the following:
- 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 For an athlete to be considered for nomination for the 2018 WMRCs based on results achieved outside of New Zealand during the *Qualification Period*, they must have achieved one (1) of the following:
- 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.

Please Note: Achieving a *Performance Standard* gives no right or guarantee of nomination or selection.

7. **COMPULSORY SELECTION TRIAL**

- 7.1 The *Compulsory Selection Trial* for the 2018 WMRCs is the *Athletics NZ Mountain Running Championships* in Wanaka, 17 March 2018.
- 7.2 All athletes seeking selection for the 2018 WMRCs must have either:
- Competed in the *Compulsory Selection Trial* (refer clause 7.1); OR
 - Have received dispensation from the *Compulsory Selection Trial* (refer to clauses 7.4 and 7.5); OR
 - Have 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 (refer to clause 7.6).

Dispensation from Compulsory Selection Trial

- 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 no later than ten (10) days prior to the competition, to the [Convenor](#).
- 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 by e-mail. This must be accompanied by a copy of a Medical Certificate to verify their situation, as soon as they are aware of their situation, but no later than 48 hours after the conclusion of the *Compulsory Selection Trial*, to the [Convenor](#).

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 *Convenor* in consultation with the *2018 WMRCs Team Leader*.

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 *2018 Athletics NZ Mountain Running Championships* in Wanaka, 17 March 2018) will be automatic nominations for that category at the *2018 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 *2018 WMRCs* will be made by the *Selectors*.
- 9.2 Notwithstanding the provisions outlined in this Selection Policy, the *Selectors* have an overriding discretion to nominate any eligible athlete for the *2018 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 considering athletes for nomination, the *Selectors* may consider any factor or combination of factors that they deem relevant to their decision whether or not to nominate an athlete for the *2018 WMRCs*, including but not limited to the athlete’s:
 - a) Performance at the *2018 Athletics NZ Mountain Running Championships*, Wanaka on 17 March 2018;
 - b) Potential to be highly competitive at the *2018 WMRCs*;
 - c) Competitive record against other athletes under consideration for selection in the same event;
 - d) Quality and consistency of performances in other mountain running races during the Qualification Period;
 - e) Commitment and focus on competing at the *2018 WMRCs*;
 - f) History of performances at previous selected individual or team events;
 - g) Any other factors reasonably considered by the *Selectors* to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- 9.5 In any decision regarding the nomination of athletes for the *2018 WMRCs*, the *Selectors* may, in their sole discretion, also take into account any extenuating circumstances, including but not limited to:
 - a) Injury or illness;
 - b) Travel delays;
 - c) Equipment failure;
 - d) Bereavement or personal misfortune; and/or
 - e) Any other factors reasonably considered by the *Selectors* to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- 9.6 Athletes unable to compete at competitions relevant to meeting the requirements outlined in this Selection Policy, must advise the *Convenor* of the extenuating circumstances and reasons (accompanied by a medical certificate if applicable) or other such details, in writing, as soon as the extenuating circumstances is known (or at least within 7 days). If the *Convenor* is not notified of any extenuating circumstances in accordance with this Selection Policy then the *Selectors* have no obligation to rely on such circumstances.

10. **SELECTION PROCESS**

- 10.1 *Athletics NZ* will select *Individual(s)* and/or *Team(s)* based on nominations from the *Selectors* in accordance with 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 *2018 WMRCs* will be published on the *Athletics NZ* website by 5pm on Wednesday 9 May 2018.

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](#) (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 Wednesday 9 May 2018 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 *Athletics NZ 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* ([Hamish Grey](#)) within 72 hours of the decision of the *Athletics NZ 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 By-Laws of *Athletics NZ* will not apply.

12. **VILLAGE PRE-ENTRY PROOF OF FITNESS**

- 12.1 All selections for the *2018 WMRCs* remain conditional until each athlete has met their Village Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness.
- 12.2 All Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness will be confirmed by the *Convenor* and/or *2018 WMRCs* Team Leader in consultation with the athlete and their coach
- 12.3 The time frame for all athletes to achieve specific Village Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness will be at the discretion of the *Convenor* and/or the *2018 WMRCs* Team Leader. However, generally it will be prior to them leaving for the *2018 WMRCs* from New Zealand or their place of residence.
- 12.4 Generally, failure by a selected athlete to meet the Village Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness may result in that athlete who has been selected to the team being withdrawn from the *2018 WMRCs*. Such a decision is at the discretion of the *Convenor* in consultation with the *2018 WMRCs* Team Leader and the *Selectors*.
- 12.5 *Athletics NZ* reserves the right to select a replacement athlete if any athlete is withdrawn or otherwise fails to meet the requirements set out in this Selection Policy.

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 *2018 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 *2018 WMRCs* should plan their funding and budgets early. The trip cost is expected to be around NZ \$6,000 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 *2018 WMRCs* Team Leader and/or support staff (if applicable).

13.5 For athlete-funded competitions, two (2) weeks prior to the departure of “the team” from New Zealand all athlete-funding components must be paid in full to *Athletics NZ*.

Please Note: Non-payment of the athlete-funded component 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 *2018 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 *2018 WMRCs* will be required to pay a Bond of \$250.00 along with their [Application for Selection Form](#) by 5pm Sunday 29 April 2018. The conditions associated with Bond are:

- a) The Bond should either be paid by:
 - i. depositing cleared funds into 12-3192-0002433-00 noting “*2018 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 2018. The cheque must be accompanied with a note recording the athlete’s name and that the payment is made as a bond for the *2018 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 4.2% 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 [Jess Jones](#) 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 \$100 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 *2018 WMRCs* team (i.e., it is not an “extra” fee/levy).

Team Leader /Coach/Staff Appointment

- 13.7 In some instances, when there is a need for an *Athletics NZ* High Performance staff member to fill a team management position, at the discretion of the *Athletics NZ High Performance Director* and approval of the *Athletics NZ Board*, team management appointments will not be advertised.
- 13.8 If required, expressions of interest for the position of *2018 WMRCs* Team Leader, will be advertised by Monday 30 April 2018.
- 13.9 If required, additional support staff and/or coaches, will be advertised by Monday 14 May 2018.
- 13.10 For further information regarding staff appointments contact [Jess Jones](#).

14. ADDITIONAL COMPETITION INFORMATION

- 14.1 For further information regarding the *2018 WMRCs* refer to the [website](#) or contact [Jess Jones](#).