

2021 WORLD ATHLETICS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION POLICY: 20 March, Bathurst, Australia

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

Note: Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, we acknowledge that there may be postponements/cancellations of competitions in which athletes wish to attempt a Performance Standard. Athletes are encouraged to contact the Convenor in this situation.

1. SELECTION PHILOSOPHY

- 1.1 This Selection Policy is issued by the Athletics New Zealand Inc. (“**Athletics NZ**”) and sets out the basis on which the Athletics NZ Selectors (refer to clause 2.1) will consider athletes for selection to compete at the 2021 World Athletics Cross Country Championships (“**2021 WXCCs**”).
- 1.2 The 2021 WXCCs is an Athletics NZ “Silver” Singlet competition, i.e., a World Athletics (“**WA**”), an International Association for Ultrarunners (“**IAU**”) or World Mountain Running Association (“**WMRA**”) World Championship other than an Olympic Games, World Athletics Track & Field Championship or Commonwealth Games.
- 1.3 Selections of:
 - a) Individual athletes for this team will be those deemed capable of a Top 32 placing at the 2021 WXCCs; and
 - b) Teams will be those deemed capable of achieving a Top 8 placing at the 2021 WXCCs.
- 1.4 The 2021 WXCCs 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 (refer to clause 11).

2. SELECTION PANEL

- 2.1 The board of Athletics NZ (“**Athletics NZ Board**”) has endorsed the following Selection Panel (“**Selectors**”) to consider and select athletes for the 2021 WXCCs are:
 - a) John Bowden (Convenor)
 - b) Craig Motley
 - c) Sarah Biss
- 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 SELECTION

- 3.1 As a condition of selection for the 2021 WXCCs, an athlete must:
 - a) Have achieved at least one (1) Performance Standard (refer to clause 4) that is listed on the official Athletics NZ rankings website and that is achieved within the following Qualification Period; and

Categories/Events	Qualification Period
All athletes	1 October 2019 – 10 January 2021

- 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 a-e) by 5pm Sunday 10 January 2021; and
- d) Have competed at the Compulsory Selection Trial (refer to clause 6) or have been granted dispensation from that competition; and
- e) Have satisfied all WA and Local Organising Committee (“**LOC**”) eligibility, nationality, participation and entry requirements; and
- a) Enter into an athlete agreement with Athletics NZ (“**Athlete Agreement**”)
 - Note:** This agreement will be distributed upon selection; and
- b) Be and remain in “good standing” with Athletics NZ and at all times comply with all Athletics NZ codes of conduct/regulations, WA codes of conduct/regulations, the terms and conditions of the Athlete Agreement and otherwise conduct themselves in a way that does not bring the sport or the team into disrepute; and
- c) 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 any applicable Athletics NZ or WA anti-doping or related rules or regulations.

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

Note: Nothing in this Selection Policy obliges Athletics NZ to select a full contingent of athletes in any event, regardless of the OAA and/or World Athletics Technical Regulations or the 2021 WXCCs LOC entry requirements.

4. SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 For an athlete to be considered for selection in an individual event for the 2021 WXCCs based on results during the Qualification Period, they must have achieved the following relevant Performance Standard:

Categories/Events	Performance Standard
Junior Women (5km)	17:25
Junior Men (10km)	32:00
Senior Women (10km)	34:30
Senior Men (10km)	29:45

- 4.2 For an athlete to be considered for selection in the mixed relay team event for the 2021 WXCCs based on results during the Qualification Period, they must have achieved the following relevant Performance Standard:

Categories	Performance Standard
Senior Women	9:50 (3000m)
	17:00 (5000m)
Senior Men	8:20 (3000m)
	14:15 (5000m)

- 4.3 Track performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised in conformity with rules set by WA, its Area Associations, or its Member Federations.
- 4.4 Road performances must be achieved at WA and/or Association of International Marathon and Road Races (“**AIMS**”) Certified competitions.

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

5. **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Age Requirements

- 5.1 Any athlete aged 18 or 19 years on 31 December of the year of the competition (i.e. for the 2021 Championships born in 2002 or 2003) may compete in the senior category or the junior category.
- 5.2 Any athlete aged 16 or 17 years on 31 December of the year of the competition (i.e. for the 2021 Championships born in 2004 or 2005) may only compete in the junior category.
- 5.3 No athlete younger than 16 years on 31 December in the year of the competition (i.e. for the 2021 Championships, born in 2006 or later) may be entered.

Individual Events

- 5.4 The program comprises 4 categories held over the following approximate distances:

- a) Junior Women: 6km
- b) Junior Men: 8km
- c) Senior Women: 10km
- d) Senior Men: 10km

Note: Each of the 4 categories will include Individual Event and a Team Event held concurrently.

- 5.5 Member Federations may enter a maximum of eight (8) athletes per category.
- 5.6 No more than six (6) athletes will be allowed to start in each category.
- 5.7 Teams Events results shall be decided by the aggregate of places recorded by scoring the first 4 athletes of each team.

Mixed Relay Event

- 5.8 The mixed relay event is composed of two (2) men and two (2) women per team running one 2km loop of the course in any given order of gender.
- 5.9 Member Federations may enter a maximum of one team in the Mixed Relay event.

6. **COMPULSORY SELECTION TRIAL**

- 6.1 The Compulsory Selection Trial for the 2021 WXCCs is the Athletics NZ Cross Country Championships in Otago, 29 August 2020.
- 6.2 There will be no Compulsory Selection Trial for the Mixed Relay event.
- 6.3 Other than the Mixed Relay event, athletes seeking selection for the 2021 WXCCs must have either:
 - a) Competed in the Compulsory Selection Trial; or
 - b) Have received written dispensation from the Convenor for the Compulsory Selection Trial (refer to clauses 6.3 and 6.4); or
 - c) 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 from a registered medical professional (refer to clause 6.5).

Dispensation from Compulsory Selection Trial

- 6.4 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 2 days prior to the competition, to the [Convenor](#).
- 6.5 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

- 6.6 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.

6.7 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 2021 WXCCs Team Leader.

7. ADDITIONAL SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 Notwithstanding the provisions outlined in this Selection Policy, the Selectors have an overriding discretion to select any eligible athlete for the 2021 WXCCs if they, in consultation with the Athletics NZ High Performance Director, believe it is in the best interests of Athletics NZ to do so.

Individual Event/s

7.2 Athletes will be given priority consideration for selection by the Selectors for the 2021 WXCCs as a result of achieving one of the following factors, which are in a ranked order:

a) Winning either the Senior Women's, Senior Men's, Junior Women's, or Junior Men's event/s at the Compulsory Selection Trial; or

Note: Winners of the Junior event/s will not have priority consideration if they are not age eligible (i.e. athletes will be classed as a Senior athlete at 31 December 2021) for the 2021 WXCCs. For these athletes to get priority consideration for selection under clause 7.1a, they will have to run in the senior grade at the Compulsory Selection Trial.

Note: Senior and Junior athletes that get priority consideration for selection under clause 7.1a will be exempt from clause 3.1a.

b) Get second place in either the Senior Women's, Senior Men's, Junior Women's, or Junior Men's event/s at the Compulsory Selection Trial.

Note: The placing and performance standard must both be achieved relevant to the age group the athlete will be at 31 December 2021 during the Qualification Period.

c) Get third place in either the Senior Women's, Senior Men's, Junior Women's, or Junior Men's event/s at the Compulsory Selection Trial.

Note: The placing and performance standard must both be achieved relevant to the age group the athlete will be at 31 December 2021 during the Qualification Period.

7.3 In considering athletes for selection, the Selectors may consider any factor or combination of factors that they deem relevant to their decision whether to select an athlete for the 2021 WXCCs, including but not limited to the athlete's:

a) Performance at the 2020 Athletics NZ Track and Field Championships, Christchurch on 6-8 March 2020;

b) Performance at the 2020 New Zealand Secondary Schools Athletics Association Cross Country Championships, TBC date and location;

c) Potential to be highly competitive at the 2021 WXCCs;

d) Competitive record against other athletes under consideration for selection in the same event;

e) Quality and consistency of performances in other races during the Qualification Period;

f) Commitment and focus on competing at the 2021 WXCCs;

g) History of performances at previous selected individual or team events; and/or

h) Any other factors reasonably considered by the Selectors to constitute extenuating circumstances.

7.4 In any decision regarding the selection of athletes for the 2021 WXCCs, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, also consider 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.
- 7.5 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.

Mixed Relay Event

- 7.6 The Selectors may nominate relay team/s comprising up to six athletes, for the 2021 WXCCs provided that:
- a. They deem the relay team/s are capable of a Top 8 placing at the 2021 WXCCs; and
 - b. The composition of the athletes in the relay team/s meets the requirements set out in clause 3.
- 7.7 The Selectors may consider any combination of factors that they deem relevant to their decision whether or not to nominate an athlete into a relay team, including but not limited to the athlete's:
- a) Performance during the 2019/20/21 domestic season
 - b) Potential to be highly competitive in the Mixed Relay Event at the 2021 WXCCs;
 - c) Competitive record against other athletes under consideration for selection in the team;
 - d) Quality and consistency of performances during the Qualification Period;
 - e) Commitment and focus on competing at the 2021 WXCCs;
 - f) History of performances at previous selected individual or team events;
 - g) Performances in international competitions during the Qualification Period;
 - h) Recent injuries or illness; and/or
 - i) Any other factors reasonably considered by the Selectors to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- a.
- 7.8 In any decision regarding the selection of athletes for the relay team, 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.

8. SELECTION PROCESS

- 8.1 Athletics NZ will select athletes in accordance with the criteria set out in this Selection Policy and as allowed by the 2021 WXCCs Technical Regulations and the LOC entry requirements.
- 8.2 Nothing in this Selection Policy obliges Athletics NZ to select a full contingent of athletes in any particular event regardless of the 2021 WXCCs Technical Regulations or the LOC entry requirements.

Ratification Review

- 8.3 The Board must ratify selections prior to the Selection Announcement.

Selection Announcements

- 8.4 The Selection Announcement of the athletes selected for the 2021 WXCCs will be published on the Athletics NZ website by 5pm on Wednesday 20 January 2021.

9. NON-SELECTION QUERIES &/OR APPEALS PROCESS

9.1 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

9.2 The publishing of the Selection Announcement on Athletics NZ website by 5pm on Wednesday 20 January 2021 will be deemed to be the commencement of the 48-hour period to lodge non-selection appeals in accordance with this Selection Policy.

9.3 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 ([Peter Pfitzinger](#)) within 48 hours of the decision of the Athletics NZ Board being published on the Athletics NZ website (i.e. the Selection Announcement).

9.4 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.

10. VILLAGE PRE-ENTRY PROOF OF FITNESS

10.1 All selections for the 2021 WXCCs remain conditional until each athlete has met their Village Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness.

10.2 All Pre-Entry Proof of Fitness will be confirmed by the Convenor and/or 2021 WXCCs Team Leader in consultation with the athlete and their coach

10.3 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 2021 WXCCs Team Leader. However, generally it will be prior to them leaving for the 2021 WXCCs from New Zealand or their place of residence.

10.4 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 2021 WXCCs. Such a decision is at the discretion of the Convenor in consultation with the 2021 WXCCs Team Leader and the Selectors.

10.5 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.

11. GENERAL INFORMATION

11.1 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

11.2 The 2021 WXCCs 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.

11.3 Athletes considering competing at the 2021 WXCCs should plan their funding and budgets early. The trip cost is expected to be around NZ \$5,000 per athlete.

11.4 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 2021 WXCCs Team Leader and/or support staff (if applicable).

11.5 For athlete-funded competitions, 2 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-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 2021 WXCCs. Unpaid amounts will remain outstanding and will be subject to collection in accordance with [Athletics NZ Debtors policy](#).

Bond

11.6 Athletes seeking selection for the 2021 WXCCs will be required to pay a Bond of \$250.00 along with their [Application for Selection Form](#) by 5pm Sunday 10 January 2021. The conditions associated with Bond are:

- a) The Bond should either be paid by:
 - i. By credit card when completing the [Application for Selection Form](#). **Note:** paying via credit card within the Application for Selection Form incurs a non-refundable 4.2% processing fee; or
 - ii. Depositing cleared funds into 12-3192-0002433-00 noting "2021 WXCCs" 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.

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 [Brianna Maynard](#) 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 2021 WXCCs team (i.e., it is not an "extra" fee/levy).

Team Leader /Coach/Staff Appointment

- 11.7 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.
- 11.8 If required, expressions of interest for the position of 2021 WXCCs Team Leader, will be advertised by Friday 5 February 2021.
- 11.9 If required, additional support staff and/or coaches, will be advertised by Friday 5 February 2021.
- 11.10 For further information regarding staff appointments contact [Brianna Maynard](#).

12. ADDITIONAL COMPETITION INFORMATION

- 14.1 For further information regarding the 2021 WXCCs refer to the [website](#) or contact [Brianna Maynard](#).