

# 2023 BUDAPEST WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION POLICY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*To be read in conjunction with the Athletics New Zealand ("Athletics NZ") 2023 Budapest World Athletics Championships ("Budapest23") Selection Policy published on Wednesday, 18 January 2023*

## **Why is there a "Top 16" placing expectation for athletes to be considered for selection? What does this actually mean?**

Athletics NZ has had a "Top 16" capability requirement for athletes selected for Black Singlet teams for over a decade now. This is to ensure that selected athletes are capable of competing at a truly world class level and with distinction at a Championships. The policy provides strong guidance of what "Top 16" actually means through the eligibility for selection triggers. i.e., entry standards and clear World Ranking expectations. Ultimately it is up to the Selection Panel to apply their interpretation of the policy and "Top 16" capability requirement in making their selections. The policy also provides a list of factors that the Selection Panel may take into account when considering selections.

## **What are some of the key changes from the 2022 Eugene World Champs Selection Policy to this one?**

The selection requirements are almost identical to the 2022 Eugene World Championships ("Eugene22") selection policy. However, in the interests of making the policy document more easily understood, consistent across all events and as succinct as possible, this policy is four pages shorter than the Eugene22 selection policy. This has been achieved by making many of the clauses more concise and providing greater consistency across events, requiring less clauses.

In addition to this some other changes of note are:

- Only competitions listed on the [World Athletics Global Calendar](#) are eligible to have performances recorded for World Ranking purposes
- First time or emerging athletes age has changed by a year to 22
- Athletics NZ World Ranking selection triggers are now Top 30 or Top 38
- Greater clarity on where the Athletics NZ qualification period exceptional circumstances extension can apply
- Returning athletes in either the Marathon, 35km Race Walk, 20km Race Walk, 10,000m, 5,000m or the 3,000m steeplechase events are afforded the same qualification opportunities as returning athletes for all other events.
- All selections are conditional until the final selection announcement on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023

## **Why do only certain meets count towards achieving an entry standard or points towards my World Ranking?**

World Athletics has introduced a new competitions requirement for competitions to be eligible to have their performances count towards world rankings. Only competitions listed on the [World Athletics Global Calendar](#) are eligible to have performances recorded for World Ranking purposes. Athletes and coaches will need to consider this carefully when considering which meets to enter. If the meet is not on the calendar, performances will not count for World Rankings.

**Why are the Athletics NZ World Ranking selection triggers/requirements now Top 30 or Top 38 and not 32 and 40 as was the case for Eugene22 and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games (“Tokyo20”)?**  
When the 32/40 World Ranking levels were introduced a few years ago as selection eligibility triggers, this was done under the new World Rankings and new global competition qualification systems. There was therefore no data at the time to advise how pre-Championship World Rankings related to our long-standing

“Top 16 capability” requirement. Therefore, we simply had to use an estimation of appropriate ranking levels. With two major Championships now behind us (Tokyo20 and Eugene22) we now have significant data upon which to assess the top 16 capability expectations of how athlete’s pre-Championship ranking levels relate to actual performance at the Championships.

Profiling Analysts at High Performance Sport New Zealand (“HPSNZ”) have undertaken analysis of the results at Tokyo20 and Eugene22 and this analysis has been used to determine the 30<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> ranking levels as Top 16 capable at a Championships. As it transpires, Top 32 and 40 for Tokyo20 and Eugene22, were perhaps a little generous, but not too far off.

**What are some examples of Exceptional Circumstances? How is this different to Extenuating Circumstances?**

An example of an Exceptional Circumstance would be an external factor that is generally outside the control of the athlete. For example, a cancelled flight may mean an athlete misses a meet that they were targeting and therefore they perhaps don’t have quite enough ranking points and therefore high enough ranking to be considered for selection. In such circumstance the athlete could apply to the Convenor of Selectors for a qualification period extension, to allow the athlete the ability to compete at another meet and potentially achieve the rankings points required to be considered for selection.

An athlete being based offshore for example, is not an Exceptional Circumstance. This is a decision made by the athlete.

Extenuating circumstances are generally something that has directly impacted an athlete’s performance at a meet. For example, this could be, injury, recent bereavement, etc.

**Why do you have two different selection announcements?**

The initial selection announcement is at the end of the domestic summer season and an early announcement of conditional selections is to provide athletes that meet the criteria at that point some level of certainty and therefore ability to focus on an appropriate build-up for Budapest23.

**Why are only a maximum of 2 athletes being named at the initial selection announcement?**

As only a maximum of three athletes per Federation can be entered in any event, this allows space for a third athlete to be selected at the final selection date. This approach doesn’t close off the opportunity for additional athletes to stake their claim before final selection.

**Why are all selections conditional until the final announcement?**

Based on information from World Athletics, we will not receive confirmation as to whom we are able to enter until such date. In addition, the selectors need to confirm any conditions they have placed on athletes, have in fact been met before confirmation of selection.

**Dated: Wednesday, 18 January 2023**