

## 2024 WORLD ATHLETICS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION POLICY:

30 March 2024, Belgrade, Serbia

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

**Note:** The wellbeing and safety of Athletics New Zealand members and staff is of key importance. The final decision whether to send a team to the 2024 World Athletics Cross Country Championships will be at the discretion of the Board of Athletics New Zealand following consultation with the Chief Executive Officer and any other personnel that the Board deems appropriate and after consideration of all relevant factors as determined by the Board, including then current overseas travel advice of the New Zealand Government.

### 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 2024 World Athletics Cross Country Championships (“**2024 WAXCCs**”).
- 1.2 The 2024 WAXCCs 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.
- 1.3 The 2024 WAXCCs is an Out of Stadia opportunity for New Zealand athletes to represent New Zealand for the below purposes:
  - a) Under 20: To provide an international competition opportunity for U20 (Junior) athletes to represent New Zealand in 2024; and
  - b) Senior representation: To provide an on-going opportunity for athletes to represent New Zealand as a senior athlete (i.e., to encourage them to stay in the sport).
- 1.4 The 2024 WAXCCs 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 2024 WAXCCs:
  - a) John Bowden (Convenor).
  - b) Craig Motley; and
  - c) Kate McIlroy
- 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 2024 WAXCCs, an athlete must:

- a) Have achieved at least one Performance Standard (refer to clause 4) that is listed on the official Athletics NZ rankings website or on a verified international competitions results page and that is achieved within the following Qualification Period; and

Categories/Events	Qualification Period
All athletes	3 September 2022 – 14 January 2024

- 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](#) by 5pm Sunday 18 December 2023; 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
- f) Enter into an athlete agreement with Athletics NZ (“**Athlete Agreement**”)
  - Note:** This agreement will be distributed upon selection; and
- g) 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
- h) 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 World Athletics Technical Regulations or the 2024 WAXCCs LOC entry requirements.

#### 4. SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 For an athlete to be considered for selection in an individual event for the 2024 WAXCCs 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)	34:35
Senior Men (10km)	29:30

- 4.2 For an athlete to be considered for selection in the mixed relay team event for the 2024 WAXCCs based on results during the Qualification Period, they must have achieved one of the following relevant Performance Standards:

Categories	Performance Standard
Senior Women	9:50 (3000m)
	4:35 (1500m)
Senior Men	8:20 (3000m)
	3:52 (1500m)

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 2024 Championships born in 2005 or 2006) 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 2024 Championships born in 2007 or 2008) 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 2024 Championships, born in 2009 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 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 men and two 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 2024 WAXCCs is the Athletics NZ Cross Country Championships in Taupo, 29 July 2023.
- 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 2024 WAXCCs 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 6.4 and 6.5); 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 6.6).

### **Dispensation from Compulsory Selection Trial**

- 6.4 Athletes seeking dispensation from the Compulsory Selection Trial (other than a medical exemption covered by clause 6.6) must make a request by e-mail no later than ten (10) 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 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 Dispensation 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 2024 WAXCCs 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 2024 WAXCCs if they, in consultation with the Athletics NZ Community Manager, 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 2024 WAXCCs 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 U20 Women's, or Junior U20 Men's event/s at the Compulsory Selection Trial; or  
**Note:** Winners of the Junior U20 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 2024) for the 2024 WAXCCs. For these athletes to get priority consideration for selection under clause 7.2a, 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 7.2a will be exempt from clause 3.1a.
- b) Get second place in either the Senior Women's, Senior Men's, Junior U20 Women's, or Junior U20 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 on 31 December 2024 during the Qualification Period.
- c) Get third place in either the Senior Women's, Senior Men's, Junior U20 Women's, or Junior U20 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 on 31 December 2024 during the Qualification Period.
- d) Winning either the Senior Girls' or Senior Boy's event/s at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Association Cross Country Championships 17 June 2023 in Palmerston North, and the athletes are current members registered with Athletics NZ on the day of competition.

**Note:** The placing and performance standard must both be achieved relevant to the age group the athlete will be on 31 December 2023 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 2024 WAXCCs, including but not limited to the athlete's:

- a) Performance at the 2023 Compulsory Trial at the Athletics NZ Cross Country Championships, Taupo on 29 July with the placing of the athlete being of major significance.
- b) Performance at the 2023 Athletics NZ Track and Field Championships, Wellington on 2 - 5 March.
- c) Performance at the 2023 New Zealand Secondary Schools Athletics Association Cross Country Championships, Palmerston North, 17-18 June.
- d) Performances at the 2023 North Island Cross Country Championships, Taupo, 1 July and South Island Cross Country Championships, Christchurch 15 July.

- e) Potential to be highly competitive at the 2024 WAXCCs.
  - f) Competitive record against other athletes under consideration for selection in the same event.
  - g) Quality and consistency of performances in other races during the Qualification Period.
  - h) Commitment and focus on competing at the 2024 WAXCCs.
  - i) History of performances at previous selected individual or team events; and/or
  - j) Any other factors reasonably considered by the Selectors to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- 7.4 In any decision regarding the selection of athletes for the 2024 WAXCCs, 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 select relay team/s comprising up to six athletes, for the 2024 WAXCCs provided that:
- a. 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 select an athlete into a relay team, including but not limited to the athlete's:
- a) Performance during the 2022 and 2023 domestic season
  - b) Potential to be highly competitive in the Mixed Relay Event at the 2024 WAXCCs;
  - 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 2024 WAXCCs;
  - 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.



- 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 2024 WAXCCs 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 2024 WAXCCs Technical Regulations or the LOC
- 8.3 Non -travelling reserves for Senior Men, Senior Women, Junior Men and Junior Women will be named (if the athletes have qualified) in ranking order to replace the selected athletes who possibly could withdraw due to Covid, other illnesses and injury.

### **Ratification Review**

- 8.4 The Athletics NZ Board must ratify selections prior to the Selection Announcement.

### **Selection Announcements**

- 8.5 The initial Selection Announcement of the athletes selected for the 2024 WAXCCs will be published on the Athletics NZ website by 5pm on Thursday 21 December 2023.
- 8.6 The final Selection Announcement of the athletes selected for the 2024 WAXCCs will be published on the Athletics NZ website by 5pm on Thursday 18 January 2024.

## **9. NON-SELECTION QUERIES &/OR APPEALS PROCESS**

- 9.1 Non-selected 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 time of publishing of the Selection Announcement on Athletics NZ website 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 Cam Mitchell ([cam@athletics.org.nz](mailto:cam@athletics.org.nz)) 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 2024 WAXCCs 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 2024 WAXCCs 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 2024 WAXCCs Team Leader. However, generally it will be prior to them leaving for the 2024 WAXCCs 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 2024 WAXCCs. Such a decision is at the discretion of the Convenor in consultation with the 2024 WAXCCs 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 2024 WAXCCs 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 2024 WAXCCs should plan their funding and budgets early. The trip cost is expected to be around NZ \$6,500 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 2024 WAXCCs 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 2024 WAXCCs. Unpaid amounts will remain outstanding and will be subject to collection in accordance with [Athletics NZ Debtors policy](#).**



### **Team Leader /Coach/Staff Appointment**

- 11.6 In some instances, when there is a need for an Athletics NZ staff member to fill a team management position, at the discretion of the Athletics NZ Community Manager and approval of the Athletics NZ Board, team management appointments will not be advertised.
- 11.7 If required, expressions of interest for the position of 2024 WAXCCs Team Leader, will be advertised by Wednesday 20 December 2023.
- 11.8 If required, additional support staff and/or coaches, will be advertised by Wednesday 24 January 2024.
- 11.9 For further information regarding staff appointments contact [John Bowden](#).

## **12. ADDITIONAL COMPETITION INFORMATION**

- 12.1 For further information regarding the 2024 WAXCCs refer to the website or contact [John Bowden](#).