



## Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games General Selection Policy

Competing for Scotland at a Commonwealth Games is a highlight of any athlete's career. Furthermore, the opportunity to compete at a Games is a privilege experienced by few athletes.

Over the last four Games cycles, Team Scotland has had increasing success, largely as a result of a robust, clear, consistent selection policy and a strong Team Scotland ethos culminating in having our most successful ever team at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

This approach will continue, providing every opportunity to enhance individual performances and building 17 sports into one team. Each athlete will be assured of the support of their team mates in the knowledge that all have deserved the honour of representing Scotland at the Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast in 2018.

### Selection Aim: Team Scotland 2018

Scotland selects a team that performs with distinction in 2018, achieving our highest ever number of medals at a Games out with Scotland and overall have a higher percentage of athletes meeting the selection standards when competing at these Games than in 2014.

### Broad Selection Principles

1. The team selected will be considered as comprising athletes, coaches, sport team managers, general team management, athlete support staff including carers, sport specific sports scientists and general medical team personnel (doctors, physiotherapists and sports scientists). ***Support personnel may be accredited or non-accredited depending on Gold Coast 2018 accreditation allocations.***
2. The team size will be based on the quality of potential performance as shown by achievement of agreed objective selection standards and conditions. It may be dependent on final Games Village or sports entry numbers and Team Scotland members may need to be located both within and outwith the official Games Village. Team Scotland management and support staff will be appointed on the basis of ensuring the best balance of support for all athletes.
3. Team Scotland represents Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS), not individual Scottish Governing Body (SGB) constituent members. Membership of Team Scotland will be considered as being from the point of selection or

appointment by CGS. All Team Scotland members will be responsible to CGS, through the Chef de Mission, for all Games related matters.

4. General selection principles as detailed in this document are designed to ensure that athlete selection criteria are as consistent as possible across and within sports.
5. Team Scotland members will at all times adhere to the CGS Team Member Agreement, Team Respect Policy and other relevant policies and be in good financial standing with both CGS and their sport as a condition of selection or appointment.

CGS retains the authority to deselect any Team Member for breach of the above policies, but will liaise closely with, and consider the advice of, the team member's own SGB in doing so.

6. CGS will not select or appoint anyone to the Team who:
  - 6.1 is barred from regulated work with children under the PVG (Scotland) Act 2007.
  - 6.2 is under 'consideration for listing' under the PVG (Scotland) Act 2007, until the matter is fully resolved.
  - 6.3 is deemed unsuitable for a specific role with CGS following the CGS Recruitment and Selection procedures.
  - 6.4 if deemed to be carrying out regulated work, does not agree to become a member of the PVG Scheme or agree to a Scheme Record Update in line with CGS procedures.

As a condition of selection, all staff will be required to sign a Team Scotland Member Agreement which will include compliance with all appropriate Vulnerable Group Protection policies and procedures and any agreed Code of Conduct.

7. Once selection standards are signed off, individual SGBs must keep CGS informed of prospective athlete names and performance records, by maintaining an information database on these athletes and facilitating CGS access to this information, as required.
8. Athletes will only be selected where it is clear that performance at the Games has been made a competitive priority during the selection period and their preparation programmes are directed at the best possible performance. All SGBs will be asked to state how the Games will be prioritised and identify competition or preparation conflicts with other events well in advance.
9. Subject to complying with all the above principles:
  - 9.1 All individual sports will be represented by up to four athletes for each of the individual sports on the 2018 Programme. Criteria for any

athletes nominated on this basis will be developed and published in line with the purpose and priority for that sport, as agreed by CGS.

- 9.2 All Team sports who receive an invitation from the CGF are not automatically guaranteed representation. However, they will be represented by a minimum of one team of that sport based on the superior objective performance profile
- 9.3 CGS may be subject to entry quota restrictions on total team or by sport or event which CGS must comply and therefore, in certain circumstances, entries may have to be restricted or prioritised.

### **Eligibility and Conditions for Representation**

10. Athlete eligibility and conditions for representing Scotland will be as outlined in the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) Constitution and Regulations. Please see Appendix 1 for the current regulations. Should these change the most recent version will be used.
11. All nominations for selection must fulfil the requirements as outlined above, and in addition, be members of, or affiliated to, the SGB of the sport by which they are nominated either directly, or indirectly, through their club or other such organisation.
12. SGBs are asked to identify, as early as possible, any athletes with whom there maybe any potential issues with the eligibility criteria as stated. This will allow these to be addressed by CGS or the CGF if required, prior to commencement of the selection period. No applications will be considered after 1 March 2017 to allow any case sufficient time for review and any submission to the CGF.

### **Entries**

13. Entries will be made by CGS after athletes are selected by CGS based on agreed achievement of selection standards. Once selected in the event in which they have met the agreed selection standards, athletes may also be entered in other events:
  - a) should there be spaces available; and,
  - b) if, after discussion with the athlete's sport, CGS agrees the athlete's focus remains on the primary events they have qualified in, or in other team events such as relays to which they have been committed, and other athletes have been selected for.
14. All entries will comply with the CGF entries and eligibility criteria. In particular, the requirement that all SGBs confirm that all individual athletes conform to the eligibility regulations of the International Federation of the sport concerned, and that the SGB itself is properly affiliated either directly or indirectly to the International Federation recognised by the CGF.

### **Nomination and Selection**

15. Draft sport specific selection standards, detailing how athletes in each sport can meet the requirements of the CGS General Selection Policy, will be produced. These will be developed and agreed between the SGB and CGS staff, and must be signed off by the SGB Board, and then finally by the CGS Board. These must be based on relevant objective standards, for example weights, times, distances, scores, rankings, competition results, selection events, or similar, as agreed appropriate.

Any proposed changes to weights, times, distances, scores, rankings, competition results or selection events or similar after selection standards sign off by CGS must be submitted to CGS for approval. Without approval, no such proposed changes will stand. Unless otherwise agreed, the 2014 Games results and entry numbers or alternatively Commonwealth and/or World rankings will be used as the core benchmarks for discussions. If there are no available Commonwealth rankings, minimum of top 2 rankings in Britain **may** be considered as the core benchmark for discussion. Once signed off, selection standards will be posted by CGS on its website [www.cgcs.org.uk](http://www.cgcs.org.uk). It is the responsibility of SGBs to inform all potential athletes and their coaches of the agreed standards, nominations to CGS, and selections once confirmed by CGS.

16. All athlete nominations will be submitted by the SGB to CGS. The nominations must be supported with validated objective evidence of the athlete's and/or team's performance record over the selection period compared to the CGS selection policy and the agreed sport specific selection standards and conditions. These must be submitted on the CGS nomination template which must be signed and endorsed by the SGB (see Appendix 2). If an issue arises, not specifically detailed by the sport specific selection standards, the CGS selection policy will take precedence. Nominations are the responsibility of the SGBs. The number of athletes nominated may not exceed the maximum number in any sport or event. Reserves may be nominated with prior approval by CGS but shall be clearly identified as such, with replacements conditions agreed with CGS. The final decision on whether or not reserves will be selected is entirely the responsibility of CGS in line with entry and replacement CGF regulations. All selected reserves will be non-travelling as accreditation will not be possible and there will be no access to Games village or Games training facilities.
17. Should Team size or event restrictions take place all athletes nominations may be required to be listed in priority order by the SGB.

18. Any appeals against non-nomination to CGS by a SGB are entirely a matter for the athlete and the SGB concerned. These should be held in accordance with the SGB's own appeal procedures, but taking into consideration only the CGS selection policy and agreed sport specific selections standards and conditions.
19. Once nominations are received by CGS they will be assessed by a CGS Selection Panel, drawn from CGS Board members, against both the CGS selection policy and the agreed sport specific selection standards and conditions. If an issue arises that is not specifically detailed by or in conflict with the sport specific standards, the CGS general selection policy will take precedence. The decisions of the CGS Selection Panel will be advised to the SGBs along with any specific conditions.
20. Any appeals against CGS non-selection on behalf of an athlete may only be submitted by their SGB and not by any individual athlete. If an appeal is submitted to CGS by a SGB, an Appeal Panel comprising of different CGS Board members from those involved in the Selection Panel will consider each case along with any additional information provided. Unless previously agreed, all appeals must be made in writing within one week of notification of selection recommendations to the sport concerned by CGS. The decisions of the CGS Appeals Panel will be advised to the SGB along with any specific conditions.
21. Any further consideration of these appeal recommendations will, on written request containing an outline of the reasons for the request, be referred to an independent arbiter selected by CGS from a list identified from Sports Resolutions UK. Such arbitration will only consider issues of CGS compliance with the selection procedures.

### **Time Frames and Communication**

22. SGBs are required to sign off sport specific selection standards by no later than 1 December 2016. If this date is not met, CGS reserves the right to produce the sport specific standards. If standards significantly change or selection events are cancelled or postponed as outlined in section 15, alterations may subsequently be made to the agreed policy but only by CGS, following a review with the SGB.
23. The Games selection period will start from 1 April 2017, although in recognising the competition scheduling of some sports/events may change, some flexibility may be approved following discussions with CGS and the SGB.
24. Nominations may be made at any stage between a period of six months after the start of the agreed selection period and the final nomination date. If it is agreed, between the SGB and CGS, that athletes can be selected and announced prior to the final nomination date, that place in the events for which they are selected will no longer be available to other Scottish Athletes. The final nomination date will be 14 February 2018 for all sports, unless otherwise agreed and detailed within the sport specific selection standards.
25. All selections and final entries will be dependent on:

- a) evidence of maintenance of form and fitness from point of selection; and,
- b) completion of the necessary CGS, CGF and Gold Coast 2018 agreements, policies and adherence to these conditions outlined within, along with submission of the necessary information as requested.
- c) entry places being available in the sports or events selected for, in accordance with entry procedures or any CGF quotas.

26. In the first instance, a designated SGB official will be the point of contact on matters of team selection. Once appointed, the Sport Team Manager, if different, will be a secondary point of contact.

***All announcements regarding nominations and selections to Team Scotland will be made by CGS, in consultation with the SGBs. SGBs will not make public announcements regarding nominations and selections. When advising athletes of the outcomes of nomination they will confirm to the athlete that the selection process is not complete until formally notified and announced by the CGS.***

## **Selection Guidelines for Athletes**

### **Individual Sports**

#### **27. Category 1 - Individual (including knockout) Events**

- 27.1 Validated objective evidence of ability to achieve a top six finish at the Games or of being in the top half placing in the anticipated field, whichever is the tighter standard. This standard may be tightened where smaller, high quality fields are anticipated by CGS.

#### **28. Category 2 - Team and Relay Events in Individual Sports** (Athletics, Badminton, Cycling, Gymnastics, Table Tennis, Swimming)

Minimum and maximum numbers of athletes in each Team event and Relay are as outlined by the CGF for each sport.

- 28.1 Team events and Relays may be entered based on validated objective evidence of ability of the nominated team or relay to achieve a top six finish. This will guarantee the minimum required number of athletes.

- 28.2 The maximum numbers of athletes can be entered if all athletes have individually qualified as per category 1 or 3.

- 28.3 Numbers above the minimum may only be selected:

- a) if competing in the team event is required to qualify for individual events (gymnastics); or,
- b) if there are identified competition schedule conflicts for those athletes who are individual event medal prospects or have qualified individually and it can be shown via validated objective evidence that the final result

in the team event is likely to be improved by the individuals proposed being added.

28.4 Once an entry is agreed, the team or relay composition for each preliminary or medal round and the competing order is at the discretion of each Sport Team Management, but individual team or relay commitments for each athlete will be stated when nominations are made. Agreement to compete in team or relay events as required will be a condition of the selection of each athlete, unless the athlete is injured or a replacement is made with the agreement of the Sport Team Management.

28.5 Selection in these events will only be considered where, if opportunities are available, the sport enters equivalent events outwith the Games showing validated evidence of a likely performance outcome.

29. **Category 3 - Doubles/Pairs and other Multiple Member Events in Individual Sports** (Badminton, Bowls, Cycling, Shooting, Squash, Table Tennis)

29.1 All combinations will show validated objective evidence of ability to achieve a top six finish at the Games or of being in the top half placing in the anticipated field, whichever is the tighter standard, as the combination selected.

29.2 In circumstances where nominated combinations have not competed together regularly or at all, each individual athlete must show that they can perform at the necessary standard, through objective assessments which are relevant to the sport and that the combination is not only compatible but could perform together at the required standards. Should this person replace another athlete, that athlete shall be deselected.

## Team Sports

30. **Category 4 - Team Sports** (Hockey, Netball, Basketball, Rugby 7s)

Numbers of teams and number of athletes in each team are as outlined by the CGF for each sport.

30.1 All invitations for teams will be accepted subject to evidence of performance showing potential to place in the top six in the Commonwealth.

30.2 Team composition will be determined by the SGB on the basis that the athletes selected are from the best suitable players available, with the Commonwealth Games taking precedence over club or other international commitments, for these players, under control of the SGB at this time.

30.3 Once selected, athletes may not be replaced, unless it is with the agreement of CGS and CGF under agreed replacements policies.

31. **Category 5 - Medal Support**

31.1 Consideration will be given by CGS to selecting athletes if they are entered for the sole reason of providing support to a named athlete in a

race of a tactical nature. The named athlete must be a potential medal winner and can show objective evidence of a ranking in the top four in the Commonwealth or equivalent. Support athletes nominated under this category must be identified as such and meet general criteria of showing validated objective evidence of ability to perform this role. A separate written agreement to perform this role will be required at the time of nomination.

- 31.2 SGB must discuss with CGS, not later than six months in advance of nominations, if any athlete is likely to be proposed on this basis.
- 31.3 If the athlete, for whom medal support is being provided, withdraws from the event then those athletes selected in a medal support capacity may also be withdrawn, at the discretion of Team Scotland General Team Management following consultation with the Sport Team Management.
- 31.4 Specific criteria on which medal support may be considered must be detailed in the sport specific standards.

### **31. Validated Objective Evidence**

- 31.1 This will be based on results achieved in competitions under international rules and as highlighted in section 15. CGS will agree with each SGB, via the sport specific selection standards, what will constitute validated evidence of performances consistent with these guidelines. These may be tighter than CGS principles.
- 31.2 A one off performance may not guarantee final selection and performances will be weighted in favour of those consistently achieved in environments, or against athletes, similar to those in which the Games events will be held.
- 31.3 It is recognised that over the selection time period there may be athletes in transition from junior to senior events, between sports or in events using different rules, equipment or scoring systems, which limit opportunities to achieve the selection standards. Validated results or scores at these events or sports may be used as background information to assist consideration. Such athletes will be identified, along with expected results or scores, prior to the start of the selection period to support nomination.
- 31.4 Subjective and anecdotal testimony will not be accepted as validated objective evidence, other than in areas such as illness or injury where opinion of experts such as medical advisors may be separately requested by the CGS. In such cases, results or scores at events outwith the selection timeframe or designated events may be used as background information to assist consideration.

### **32. Injury Management**

Where injury issues are identified at or after selection, a fitness test may be used to determine that the athlete is capable of performing to the level that they were selected for the Games. The format will be determined by CGS after discussion

with the Sport Team Management. This will be specific to each sport and the athlete's condition and may include input from CGS medical staff. Any selection or de-selection decision, following such a test, will be final.

33. **Discretion**

CGS reserves the right to vary these general selection principles based on changes to the competition format at the Games, the projected standard of each event, any essential changes to selection timeframes, issues of medal potential or any other associated items. CGS reserves the right to raise or lower the standard in relation to individual events should circumstances change within any sport. Such alteration would be discussed in advance with each SGB concerned and the decision of CGS will be final.

## Appendix 1

### ARTICLE 24

#### Eligibility

1. Subject to Article 24(2), as a condition of entry to compete in the Commonwealth Games, all athletes must be citizens or subjects of the Commonwealth Country that enters them and must:
  - (a) not be currently under disqualification or suspension by the Federation, or their respective Affiliated Commonwealth Games Association (CGA) or International Federation (IF) or under the World Anti Doping Code;
  - (b) comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federation, their respective IFs and the World Anti Doping Code as may be modified and applied by the Federation to ensure that the overriding principles of the Commonwealth Games are observed.
2. Subject to Article 24(3), where an athlete was born in a Commonwealth Country that has common citizenship/passport with other Commonwealth Countries, the athlete may initially represent either the athlete's Commonwealth Country of birth; or the Commonwealth Country of birth of his or her father or mother that shares the same citizenship/passport.
3. After having represented one Commonwealth Country at the Commonwealth Games, an athlete may not represent another Commonwealth Country unless he or she receives the approval of the Federation, the relevant IF and the affiliated CGAs of the two Commonwealth Countries concerned. Applications under this article must be submitted to the Executive Board at least 12 months prior to the commencement of the Games.
4. It is the responsibility of all affiliated CGAs to ensure that their athletes are fully aware of and comply with the eligibility rules of the Federation.
5. The Executive Board will have the power to waive the provisions of Articles 24 (1-3) in its discretion.

In relation this clause, the CGF Executive Board at its meeting in August 2004 gave the following guidelines:

- If an athlete has previously represented a country at a Commonwealth Games they may continue to represent that country at future Games.
- Athletes wishing to compete for a country on the basis of residency must show they have resided in that country for five years immediately prior to those Games.

Further guidelines were given in August 2005 as follows:

#### Athlete Eligibility - Athlete Dispensation Criteria

The General Assembly noted the Executive Board's decision that in accordance with Article 25 (5) dispensations would be granted to athletes where common

passports exist in that an athlete may represent the new country subject to having fulfilled all the requirements of the relevant International Federation.

## Appendix 2

### Final Selection for Commonwealth Games 2018: Nominations to Commonwealth Games Scotland

<b>Sport:</b>			
<b>Athlete Name:</b>			
<b>Date of Birth:</b>			
<b>Event Discipline:</b>			
		<b>Athlete ranking by sport?</b>	

<b>Eligibility:</b>	
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Selection Events	Policy Selection Standard	State the Selection Standard Achieved	Date	Any Additional Information
<b>Other Factors</b>				
<b>Further relevant background information e.g. proposed events, team combinations, conflicting commitments, other results, medical or injury details etc</b>				

<b>Submitted by:</b>		<b>Endorsed by:</b>	
<b>Position:</b>		<b>Position:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	

To be returned to Commonwealth Games Scotland by        :

[info@cgcs.org.uk](mailto:info@cgcs.org.uk) or Gannochy Sports Centre, University of Stirling Stirling FK9 4LA