

UIPM

**UIPM SPORTS
NATIONAL TEAM
ATHLETE
SELECTION
GUIDELINES**

1. INTRODUCTION

In order to ensure transparency and fairness of selection decision making, the UIPM ***strongly recommends*** all Member Federations to have a Selection Policy, which is available to all athletes in content for selection, at any level.

This document sets out Guidelines and recommended practices for Federations to include ***when developing their own national selection policies***. The purpose of these Guidelines is to provide recommended content to ensure a clear, transparent, and fair process for athlete selection, ensuring that the most suitable athletes are chosen to achieve international success while also supporting long-term athlete development and any other relevant Federation objectives.

Selection Policies developed and approved by Federations should apply to all athletes seeking selection and should be binding on the National Federation, the selection panel, and all other relevant stakeholders.

2. PRINCIPLES

The guiding principles of a selection policy should be:

- **Fairness** – All eligible athletes will be given a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate their ability;
- **Transparency** – The policy, criteria, and procedures, including when any changes are made, will be clearly communicated to athletes and coaches well in advance;
- **Consistency** – Selection decisions will be made in accordance with the published criteria and procedures;
- **Performance Focus** – Selections aim to maximise success at international competitions and prepare athletes for future performance goals.

3. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for national team selection, athletes must:

- Meet the nationality and age requirements of the UIPM;
- Be a registered and active member of the National Federation;
- Comply with the Federation's code of conduct and all anti-doping regulations;
- Sign and return an official team agreement before participation.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA

Athletes should be assessed against a combination of objective and subjective criteria.

4.1. SELECTION CRITERIA

- Results in designated national and international competitions;
- National and/or UIPM rankings as of the specified cut-off date;
- Achievement of published qualifying standards.

4.2. SUBJECTIVE CRITERIA

- Demonstrated potential to succeed at international level;
- Consistency of performance over time;
- Contribution to team spirit, discipline, and positive environment;
- Readiness for competition (physical and mental);
- Assessment by coaches and technical staff.

4.3. EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

Selectors may take into account valid reasons (injury, illness, force majeure) for missed competitions or trials, supported by appropriate evidence (e.g., medical certificate).

5. SELECTION PROCESS

- **Publication of Events:** The Federation will publish a list of designated selection events, trials, and deadlines at the start of each season;
- **Evaluation:** Athletes' performances will be assessed against both objective and subjective criteria;
- **Selection Panel:** A selection panel, appointed by the Federation's Board will make selection decisions. This panel should include at least one independent member, and any conflicts of interest should be considered and declared before deliberation begins;
- **Reserves:** Reserve athletes may be nominated to cover cases of injury, illness, or withdrawal;
- **De-selection:** Selected athletes may be removed if they fail to maintain performance, fitness, or conduct standards.

6. COMMUNICATION

- The full policy should be published on the Federation's website and all eligible athletes and coaches should be informed in a timely manner;
- Selection decisions will be communicated individually to athletes before any public announcement;
- Non-selected athletes may request feedback from the Chair of the selection panel or head coach;
- Public announcements will follow once individual notifications are complete.

7. APPEALS

Athletes may appeal selection decisions on procedural grounds only (e.g., criteria not properly applied).

- Appeals must be submitted in writing within 72 hours of receiving notification;
- Appeals should be reviewed by an independent appeals committee appointed by the Federation Board. This committee should not include any members of the original selection panel, and all conflicts of interest should be declared;
- The appeal committee may uphold or reject the appeal. Its decision is final.

Coaches have no right of appeal for non-selection.

8. DE-SELECTION

An athlete already selected may be removed if:

- They suffer injury or illness preventing expected performance;
- Their performance or fitness falls significantly below required standards;
- They breach the Code of Conduct or team rules.

Replacements will be made in line with the published criteria, typically from named reserves.

9. REVIEW OF POLICY

- Following each major competition cycle, the selection policy should be reviewed by the Federation;
- Feedback should be collected from athletes, coaches, and selectors.

Updates will be approved by the Board and published in advance of the next cycle.

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