



SHORT TRACK SELECTION POLICY

Introduction

This selection policy criteria applies to all athletes wishing to be considered for selection for international representation (For example, at the World Cup Events and World Championships and other events where skaters represent New Zealand) and for the New Zealand Development Team.

Overriding Criteria

The objective of the ISSNZ Selection policy is twofold:

1. To develop skaters' talent, and in so doing to increase the range (e.g., level of skating performance and number of skaters) and the capability of an individual skater's talent.
2. To ensure that the best possible teams and competitors are selected to represent New Zealand.

With the intention of developing and growing the speed skating community in New Zealand, ISSNZ will provide three tiers for which members will be selected.

- New Zealand Development Team (NZDT)
- New Zealand Next Generation Team (NZNG)
- New Zealand Racing Pool (NZRP).

Philosophy

To develop and encourage the growth of the skater pool within each category to:

1. Develop skaters' talent, and in so doing to increase the range (level of skating performance and number of skaters) and the capability of an individual skater's talent.
2. Increase the skater pool within each age group and category.
3. Encourage skaters to remain in the sport.
4. Ensure that the best possible teams and competitors are selected to represent New Zealand.

New Zealand Development Team

Skaters identified with potential based on times (see Appendix A) will be selected into the New Zealand Development team (NZDT) and are encouraged to participate in camps outside of their home region, including National Development Camps. The identified skaters are also encouraged to participate in the New Zealand Open Short Track Championship, even if outside of their home region.

New Zealand Next Generation Team

NZ Next Generation (NZNG) skaters are skaters who have shown the potential to compete internationally based on times (see Appendix B). They are expected to train both on and off ice and are encouraged to attend camps outside of their home regions. The premier target events for NZNG skaters are the New Zealand Open Short Track Championship, the Australian Open Championship, and the SEA Open Short Track Trophy Singapore. These skaters are also encouraged but not required to seek training opportunities outside of New Zealand.

New Zealand Racing Pool

The New Zealand Racing Pool (NZRP) are the skaters who are ready to compete at higher speed events at international competitions based on times (see Appendix 1). NZRP skaters are expected to train both on and off ice and will participate in events that are time entry restricted. Being a member of the pool does not guarantee a racing slot, skaters need to meet specific time requirements to receive an ISU Senior or Junior event allocation. There is an expectation to train overseas during the ISU international competition season.

Members of the Racing Pool will be referred to HPSNZ for consideration for inclusion in their High-Performance Program. HPSNZ has their own criteria for additional funding and support.

Selection Criteria

General eligibility

General and specific criteria frame decision making. Broadly, to meet the criteria for consideration for selection the skater must:

- Be in good standing with ISSNZ - registration and fees paid.
- Be registered with a ISSNZ registered club.
- Be nominated by their club coach.
- Participate in races in the current season.
- Participate in time trials, when arranged, for tie breaking purposes.
- Sign (including the return of signed documentation to ISSNZ) and abide by the terms and expectations of the Athletes Agreement.

New Zealand Development team (NZDT)

Membership in this team is for 2 years. There is no limit to the number of skaters that can be nominated and accepted.

For selection to this team the following criteria must be met:

- Nomination by the skater's club coach
 - Times achieved based on age (Appendix A) with a focus on the 500m.
- Review and acceptance by selection committee.

New Zealand Next Generation Team (NZNG)

Membership in this team is for 2 years. There is no limit to the number of skaters that can be nominated and accepted.

For selection to this team the following criteria must be met:

- Nomination by the skater's club coach
 - Times achieved based on age (Appendix B) with a focus on the 500m.
 - Eligible to represent New Zealand according to ISU Regulations i.e., New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Review and acceptance by selection committee.

New Zealand Racing Pool (NZRP)

For selection to this team the following criteria must be met:

- Member of the NZRP the previous season if the skater has a World Ranking in the previous season.
- Currently identified as Active, by High Performance Sport New Zealand. HPSNZ will maintain a skater as active during injury recovery. Once HPSNZ deems the skater Inactive, the athlete will have to requalify via skated time standards.
- Times that meet ISU standards (Appendix C) for either Junior or Senior events, depending on age. Times have a duration of validity.
- Eligible to represent New Zealand according to ISU Regulations i.e., New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident
- In compliance with WADA and ISU regulations
- Review and acceptance by selection committee.

The Racing Pool Category is ranked. Ranking may affect international assignments. Ranking within the pool will be based on the following criteria:

1. World Championship Ranking
2. World Ranking Overall
3. HPSNZ Injured Reserve
4. Times at qualifying events (Appendix C) during the current season
 - a. 500m time (first)
 - b. 1500m time (second)
 - c. 1000m time (third).

International representation

Selection to specific international events will be based on the Campaign Document. Selection to the Racing Pool does not guarantee a New Zealand International Team allotment.

Overriding Discretion

Selection for International events will consider:

- The skater's current level of fitness and skill
- Commitment to train at an overseas training facility
- Commitment for Senior skaters to participate in a minimum of 4 World Cups and the 4 Continents Championship
- Commitment to participate in the World Junior Championship for junior skaters.
 - Junior aged skaters will be allocated a racing spot based on performance.
- Commitment to skate in a New Zealand Relay Team if numbers allow, either single gender or mixed relay
- Commitment to attend allocated events.
- Agreement to abide by World Championship allocations as defined in the Campaign Document
- Demonstrated attitude and commitment to work as a team member.
- Current injury or condition that will limit the skater's ability to perform at a consistent level.
- Agreement to the terms and conditions in the campaign document
- Abide by WADA rules, forfeit all funding in the event of a WADA doping violation.

Extenuating Circumstances

Requests for consideration of extenuating circumstances need to be made in writing and be timely. The selectors may consider extenuating circumstances in making their selection policy arising from:

- Injury or illness of the athlete
- Equipment failure
- Travel delays
- Bereavement
- Any other factor that the selectors consider relevant in the circumstances that can be presented by the athlete.

Athletes who are unable to compete in or attend events, time trials or other required attendances, must advise the ISSNZ Director of Selection in writing detailing the reasons before the commencement of the event. Documentary evidence must be provided. In the case of injury or illness, skaters must provide a medical certificate.

Right to appeal

Appeals on selection may be made in writing to the Director of Selection. Appeals must be lodged within 7 days of the confirmed announcement of selections to the Racing Pool. Selections will be considered provisional and could change once all appeals have been heard and decided. Appeals will be heard within 14 days of the selection announcement.

Notification of Selection

- Selection decisions, including selection for New Zealand representation at international events are notified to individual skaters directly as well as their affiliated Clubs.
- Nominations for the NZDT and NZNG must be received by 30 October of the preceding year.
- Notifications for the racing pool (NZRP) and placings for the next season will be made by **July 1** of the competition year.

Additional Racing Pool selection timeframes:

- Notification announcements for international racing slot allocations align with the specifics for those events. The Racing Pool needs to be set before **July 1** in any given season. In exceptional circumstances, a skater could be added to the Racing Pool after July 1. However, that may require ISU Approval
- Allocation to an ISU event will be made 30 days prior to the event and will only consider members of the current NZRP. Allocation will include primary and alternate athletes.
- Allocation to the 4 Continents and World Championships will be determined by the [Campaign Document](#).

Olympic Qualifying

- In an Olympic qualifying year, the skater who earns the spot has the first right of refusal of that spot with the next ranked skater in that distance as an alternate
- Olympic Qualifier participants will be determined by the same ranking as the World Championships rankings.
- Qualifier rules will be adjusted once official Olympic criteria are published.

Removal From Team

Any skater who no longer qualifies for NZDT, NZNG or ISU time standards must requalify. Time standards are valid for 2 years before the current season.

APPENDIX A: Development Team Qualifying Times

In addition to being within 7.5s of the age-class record, the placing in events within the New Zealand domestic racing season will be used as part of the recommendation.

APPENDIX B: New Zealand Next Gen Team Qualifying Times

These times ensure that skaters are tracking well ahead of their age group domestically. As such skaters need to be within 10% of the 500m record, or within 5s of the 500m record whichever is larger. This does not merit endorsement or entry in the racing pool. Times may be achieved overseas; however, race protocol needs to be present, including conditions of timing, 0.2s may be added for non-digital timing.

Examples

- Male Junior Next Gen qualifying time would be 49.055s, however a racing pool spot would be 48.400s
- Female Junior Next Gen qualifying time would be 54.422s, and a racing pool spot would be at 49.480s.

Current domestic records 2022

LEVEL	AGE	MALE	FEMALE
Primary	<9	59.458	1.13.118
Juvenile	9-12	53.136	53.712
Sub junior	12-15	47.602	50.033
Junior	15-18	44.055	49.422
Senior	19+	43.832	49.915

Master document takes precedence in case of conflict times.

APPENDIX C: New Zealand Racing Pool Qualifying Times

Times for ISU qualifying must have been achieved in the previous season as per ISU dates. If there are more than two skaters that have made the minimum qualifying standard, the faster skater in the 500m will have priority for allocation of a racing slot, however both will be in the racing pool ranked in order of time.

ISU Definition of a Junior

The definitions adopted are those set by the ISU. A junior is a skater who has not reached the age of 19 before July 1st preceding the championships and who has reached the age of 14 before July 1st preceding the championships.

ISU Definition of a Senior

For ISU Senior Championships, Olympic Winter Games and International Senior competitions only skaters may compete who have reached at least the age of 15 before July 1st preceding these events.

ISU Qualifying Time Standards

Times are presented here for reference only, refer to ISU rules.

Time Standards for 4 Continents, World Championships

If only 1 skater, 500m:

Female: 49.48s Male: 46.62s

Two or more skaters, 500m:

Female: 47.81s Male: 45.04s

Time Standards for Junior World Championships and Junior World Cups

If only 1 skater, 500m:

Female: 51.85s Male: 48.40s

Two or more skaters, 500m:

Female: 50.13s Male: 46.78s

APPENDIX D: Selectors

The Selectors in accordance with the policies and process approved by the Board will select skaters for international representation and for the New Zealand Development team 2023. The Selectors for 2023-24 are:

- Brett McCormack (Director of Selections)
- Steven MacDonald (High performance manager)
- Ben Whiteside (National Team Coach).

The ISSNZ Board will notify the athletes of the selection decisions in writing once recommendations of the selection committee are ratified by the ISSNZ Board.