



Milano-Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games 2026

Nomination Criteria

Speed Skating

&

Short Track

Purpose

The objective of the Ice Speed Skating New Zealand Incorporated (ISSNZ) Nomination Criteria is to ensure the nomination of the best possible teams and athletes to the New Zealand Olympic Committee (NZOC) for consideration of selection to the Milano-Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games to be held in Milano-Cortina, Italy from 6-22 February 2026 (Milano 2026). This requires ISSNZ to establish nomination criteria for athletes to demonstrate the level of results required under the NZOC Selection Policy, New Zealand High Performance Strategy and the current ISSNZ Strategic Plan.

This Nomination Criteria is issued by the ISSNZ Board and shall take effect from 1 December 2024. This Nomination Criteria supersedes any previous correspondence, discussions and representations by ISSNZ regarding nomination and selection for Milano 2026.

This Nomination Criteria remains in force until amended or revoked by the ISSNZ Board in compliance with the ISSNZ's Constitution in relation to policies, provided that NZOC has approved the amendment or revocation and any such amendment/revocation is prior to the Nomination Date.

This Nomination Criteria will be made available on ISSNZ's website at <https://icespeedskating.org.nz/>.

Interpretation

1. Unless the context otherwise requires, terms used in this Nomination Criteria shall have the same meaning as in ISSNZ's Constitution and Regulations.
2. No nomination criteria will be weighted more or less significantly by reason of the order in which that criterion appears in this Nomination Criteria unless otherwise stated.

Selectors

3. The ISSNZ Selection Committee task is, in consultation with any designated coaches and other technical persons, to nominate athletes and teams to the NZOC for consideration of selection for the NZ Team at Milano 2026. The Selection Committee will make recommendations regarding nominations to the ISSNZ Board for approval prior to nomination to the NZOC.
4. The composition of the ISSNZ Selection Committee will be published on ISSNZ's website at <https://icespeedskating.org.nz/>. Any changes to the ISSNZ Selection Committee will be in accordance with the ISSNZ Constitution and Regulations.

Eligibility

5. To be eligible for nomination, all athletes must:
 - (a) be a member of an ISSNZ affiliated club and be registered with ISSNZ; and
 - (b) comply with ISU Rule 109 'Participation in ISU Championships, ISU Events and International Competitions' and any other rule(s) set down by the ISU from time to time.
 - (c) have returned a completed Athlete Application to the NZOC, in the form prescribed by the NZOC by the following dates ("Application Date"):
 - (i) no later than 5.00pm, 4 April 2025; or
 - (ii) in exceptional circumstances before 5.00pm, 6 August 2025 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board) where ISSNZ provides the NZOC with evidence that demonstrates that athlete could not have been reasonably in contemplation on 4 April 2025; and
 - (d) have returned a completed Athlete Agreement in the manner prescribed by the NZOC to NZOC prior to the Nomination Date; and
 - (e) be a New Zealand citizen and has a New Zealand passport; and

- (f) for Speed Skating Events only, have achieved the ISU qualifying time standards as directed by the ISU; and
 - (g) be born before 1 July 2008; and
 - (h) have demonstrated to the satisfaction of ISSNZ that they are not suffering any physical or psychological impairment that would prevent them from competing in the Games to the highest possible standard; and
 - (i) have acted in such a manner so as not to bring the athlete, the sport, ISSNZ or the NZOC into public disrepute; and
 - (j) not be under investigation for any breach of any part of the ISSNZ and ISU's anti-doping regulations, the Sports Anti-Doping Rules and/or the NZOC Integrity Regulation; and
 - (k) no later than 6 August 2025 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board) has provided their name and contact address details to NZOC for the purpose of out of competition drug testing with the Sport Integrity Commission; and
 - (l) sign and comply with the ISSNZ's Athletes' Code of Conduct.
6. New Zealand must qualify for places in an Ice Speed Skating Event in accordance with the ISU's Qualification System for Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games ("ISU Qualification System") and/or ISU requirements for the Games. Qualification for a place in any Ice Speed Skating Event(s) by an athlete or team does not guarantee that athlete or team will be nominated or selected to compete in the Ice Speed Skating at the Games.
7. Provided the requirements set out in paragraphs 5 and 6 above are met, the ISSNZ Selection Committee shall nominate to NZOC for consideration of selection, those athletes it considers meet the Nomination Criteria set out below.

Nomination Criteria

8. In considering any athlete or team for nomination to the NZOC, the ISSNZ Selection Committee will consider:
- (a) the Overriding criteria in paragraph 9; and
 - (b) the Evidential Requirements in paragraph 12; and
 - (c) the Minimum Performance Standards in paragraph 15; and
 - (d) the Specific Nomination Factors in paragraph 17; and
 - (e) any extenuating circumstances in paragraph 18.

Overriding Nomination Criteria

9. Any athlete or team seeking to be nominated for Milano 2026 in an Ice Speed Skating Event(s) must demonstrate to the ISSNZ Selection Committee's satisfaction that the athlete or team:
- is or are competing in an Ice Speed Skating Event where a quota place at Milano 2026 has been qualified in accordance with the ISU Qualification System; and
 - is or are capable of achieving a top 16 placing in Milano 2026 in that Ice Speed Skating Event, with the potential to win an Olympic Diploma (top 8 placing); and
 - has a track record of sufficient quality and depth that the ISSNZ Selection Committee believes demonstrates the nominated athlete or team will be competitive at the Games.

10. All athletes must respect and comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force, including but not limited to Rule 41 (Nationality of Competitors) and Rule 43 (World Anti-Doping Code and the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions).
11. The athlete must have a defined performance plan outlining how the athlete will prepare adequately for Milano 2026.

Evidential Requirements

12. In determining whether or not an athlete or a team satisfies the Overriding Nomination Criteria above, the ISSNZ Selection Committee shall have regard to results and performances in the Ice Speed Skating Event in which the athlete or team seeks nomination during the Qualification Period at the following Key Events:

For Short Track Events

- (a) ISU Short Track World Tour Events between 1 December 2024 and 5 December 2025
- (b) ISU World Championships 14-16 March 2025

For Speed Skating Events

- (a) ISU World Cups between September 1 December 2024 and 14 December 2025
- (b) ISU World Championships (Single Distances) 13-16 March 2025

13. **Provision of Data:** Data to support an application may be provided by each athlete or team and his or her coach or coaches directly to the ISSNZ Selection Committee as well as by ISSNZ. In addition, the ISSNZ Selection Committee may request an athlete/team or ISSNZ to provide data to assist with its consideration of that athlete or team. All data must be provided no later than the end of the Qualification Period or it cannot be considered by the ISSNZ Selection Committee (with the exception of any data that is provided to the ISSNZ Selection Committee at their request after that date).
14. Any results submitted in accordance with paragraph 13 must have been completed in accordance with ISU guidelines and can be verified independently on <https://speedskatingresults.com/> or www.ShorttrackOnLine.info, or the official protocol of the event.

Minimum performance requirement

15. To be considered for nomination by the ISSNZ Selection Committee, as a minimum performance requirement, the athlete or team must have:
 - (a) Competed in a minimum of three Key Events outside of Oceania during the Qualification Period; and
 - (b) Achieved at least one of the following performances in an Olympic context in the Ice Speed Skating Event the athlete or team is seeking nomination:
 - Short Track Individual Events a quarter final placing (top 20 placing)
 - Speed Skating Individual Events a top 16 placing
 - Speed Skating Mass Start a top 10 placing
 - Speed Skating Team Pursuit Events a top 8 placing

All rankings are in an Olympic context based on the country quota.

Tied Athletes

16. If more athletes meet the Overriding Nomination Criteria than quota places available, consideration will be given by the ISSNZ Selection Committee to the athletes who have achieved the fastest results at the Key Events, as well as the Specific Nomination Factors set out in paragraph 17 below.

Specific Nomination Factors

17. When considering the Overriding Nomination Criteria, the ISSNZ Selection Committee may also take into account any one or more of the following factors about an athlete or team:
- (a) consistency in standards of behaviour conducive to supporting the goals of the team and overall objectives of ISSNZ and NZOC.
 - (b) demonstrated and/or potential ability to work with ISSNZ Director of High Performance, team officials and other competitors or any other program facilitator engaged by ISSNZ and the NZOC.
 - (c) positive attitude demonstrated and commitment to ISSNZ Athlete Development Programs (or any other program) and the promotion of ISSNZ.
 - (d) current national and international performances during the Qualification Period.
 - (e) current New Zealand and international ranking.
 - (f) the athlete's current level of skill and physical fitness.
 - (g) any current injury or condition which will impair, inhibit or prevent the athletes' performance to the requisite level.
 - (h) any other factor they consider relevant in the circumstances.

Extenuating Circumstances

18. The ISSNZ Selection Committee may consider extenuating circumstances in reviewing nominations. The athlete must outline the extenuating circumstances and notify the General Secretary and Director of Selections in writing via email no later than 2 days following the Key Event the extenuating circumstances relate to, if practicable. The email should be accompanied by supporting documentation of the extenuating circumstances that they are claiming. Once notified, the Selection Committee will make a final recommendation to the ISSNZ Board who will notify the athlete of their decision within 72 hours.

Nomination Procedure

19. All athletes wishing to be considered for review and inclusion in the Games Long List must submit a completed **Athlete Nomination Form (Appendix A)** to the General Secretary and Director of Selections by 31 January 2025.
20. The ISSNZ Selection Committee will nominate athletes or teams ("Nominated Athletes") and any Reserve Athletes to the NZOC by the Nomination Date.
21. The General Secretary will inform all athletes of their nomination or otherwise via email, phone or in person.
22. The ISSNZ Selection Committee may nominate an athlete with any conditions, for example, conditions relating to recovery from injury or continuing to meet specified performance levels. If the conditions are not met to the satisfaction of the ISSNZ Selection Committee, they will not be eligible for selection, unless the NZOC decides to select the Nominated Athlete subject to those or other conditions.
23. Selection to the Milano 2026 NZ Team by the NZOC will be made in accordance with the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

Appeal Procedure

24. An athlete may appeal to ISSNZ against their non-nomination to the NZOC by the ISSNZ Selection Committee provided that the athlete:
- is on the ISSNZ long list for the Games; and

- meets the eligibility criteria under paragraphs 5 and 6 of this Nomination Criteria.
25. Any appeal under paragraph 24 of this Nomination Criteria must be made in accordance with the procedures set out in clause 13 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.
26. If a Nominated Athlete is not selected by the NZOC, the Nominated Athlete may appeal the non-selection in accordance with the procedures set out in clause 14 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation provided that the Nominated Athlete:
- is on the ISSNZ long list for the Games; and
 - meets the eligibility criteria under paragraphs 5 and 6 of this Nomination Criteria.

Inconsistencies

27. In the event there is any inconsistency between this Nomination Criteria and the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation, the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation shall prevail.
28. If this Nomination Criteria imposes a higher qualification standard or a lesser number of participants than stated by the ISU Qualification System, this shall not be regarded as an inconsistency.

Definitions

Application Date means the dates set out in paragraph 5(c) of this Nomination Criteria, by which athletes must submit to NZOC a completed Athlete Application in accordance with clause 8.3 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

Athlete Agreement means the agreement that must be completed by any athlete wishing to be considered for nomination and selection to the Milano 2026 NZ Team in accordance with clause 8.4 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

Athlete Application means the form set by the NZOC that must be completed by any Athlete applying to be nominated and selected to the Milano 2026 NZ Team

Ice Speed Skating Event means one of the following events at Milano 2026:

Short Track Events		
Men's	Women's	Mixed
500m	500m	Team Relay 2000m
1000m	1000m	
1500m	1500m	
5000m Relay	3000m Relay	
Speed Skating Events		
Men's	Women's	Mixed
500m	500m	N/A
1000m	1000m	
1500m	1500m	
5000m	3000m	
10000m	5000m	
Mass Start	Mass Start	
Team Pursuit	Team Pursuit	

ISSNZ means Ice Speed Skating New Zealand Incorporated.

ISU means the International Skating Union.

Key Events means the international competitions listed in paragraph 12.

Nomination Date means on or before 15 December 2025 for Short Track Events and 22 December 2025 for Speed Skating Events (and includes any alternative date as agreed between NZOC and ISSNZ, by which ISSNZ must submit any Nominated Athletes to the NZOC.

NZOC means the New Zealand Olympic Committee Incorporated.

NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation means the regulation of NZOC relation to the nomination and selection Process for all Olympic and Commonwealth games, including the Games, available at [New Zealand Olympic Team](#).

NZOC Selection Policy means the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games, and any updates or amendments to that policy, available at [Milan Cortina 2026 Selection process | New Zealand Olympic Team](#).

Over-Riding Nomination Criteria means the criteria set out in paragraph 9.

Qualification Period means

- Short Track Events: 1 December 2024 and 5 December 2025.
- Speed Skating Events: 1 December 2024 and 14 December 2025

Secretary General means the Secretary General of ISSNZ and includes his / her nominee.

Specific Nomination Factors means the factors listed in paragraph 17 which the ISSNZ Selection Committee may take into account when applying the Overriding Nomination Criteria.

ATHLETE NOMINATION FORM

I [Insert name]

Of [Insert address]

am nominating for consideration for nomination to the NZOC selection for the Milano 2026 Olympic Winter Games in *(please complete)*:

- 5 Speed Skating: Men Individual – distance(s)
- 5 Speed Skating: Women Individual – distance(s).....
- 5 Speed Skating: Mass Start
- 5 Speed Skating: Team Pursuit
- 5 Short Track: Men – distance(s).....
- 5 Short Tract: Women – distance(s).....

By signing this document, I agree and acknowledge that:

- 1. I have been provided access to a copy of the ISSNZ Nomination Criteria for Milano 2026, which I have read and understood.
- 2. I agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the ISSNZ Nomination Criteria for Milano 2026, the ISSNZ Constitution and Regulations the ISSNZ Codes of Conduct, and the NZOC.
- 3. By signing this form, I warrant that I am eligible for selection in accordance with the eligibility criteria set out in the ISSNZ Nomination Criteria for Milano 2026.
- 4. I will advise ISSNZ now, and at all times in the future, of any injury or illness that may affect my selection or impair, inhibit or prevent my performance at the requisite level or fulfilling the terms and conditions of this agreement or the ISSNZ Nomination Criteria for Milano 2026 and I agree to abide by all anti-doping policies of ISSNZ, the ISU, NZOC and Sport Integrity Commission and any other anti- doping agency empowered to monitor the sport.

Name.....

Date.....

Signature.....

Please email to generalsecretary@icespeedskating.org.nz and selections@icespeedskating.org.nz