



VII Commonwealth Youth Games

Trinidad & Tobago

4-7 August 2023


Athletics Athlete Selection Policy

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Sign off

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INTRODUCTION

1. This selection policy has been agreed by the Athletics Northern Ireland Management Board. It provides detail on the process by which Athletics Northern Ireland will arrive at nominations for selection of athletes within the Northern Ireland Team for Trinidad & Tobago 2023. The names of these athletes will be submitted to Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland (CGNI) for consideration.
2. In all cases, selection by Athletics NI represents only a nomination to CGNI for ratification. The final decision on selection to the 2023 Youth Games lies with CGNI. The expected number of places available for the Athletics team will be between two and four athletes but with a maximum of two athletes per male and female event.
3. Please note to be eligible for consideration athletes must be born in either 2006 or 2007. Athletics NI will nominate only those athletes that have qualified under the eligibility criteria stated in this policy and have competed at least once in Northern Ireland in 2023.

SELECTION POLICY AIM

4. Athletics NI will nominate a team of athletes capable of competing with distinction for Northern Ireland at the 2023 Commonwealth Youth Games and who have potential to achieve a top 8 position in future Commonwealth Games

NORTHERN IRELAND COMMONWEALTH GAMES ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

5. To be eligible to compete for Northern Ireland in the Commonwealth Youth Games in Trinidad & Tobago the eligibility criteria of the Commonwealth Games Federation, Byelaw 17 must be met by all nominees (see Appendix 1).
6. Where prospective team members do not automatically comply with the above criteria, they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior approval from the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) under their guidelines.

COMPETITION FORMAT

7. The Commonwealth Youth Games 2023 will include athletics events in the following disciplines:
 - **Men's: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m 1500m, 3000m, 110m Hurdles, 400m Hurdles, High Jump, Long Jump, Shot Put, Discus, Javelin**
 - **Women's: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m 1500m, 3000m, 100m Hurdles, 400m Hurdles, High Jump, Long Jump, Shot Put, Discus, Javelin**
 - **Mixed Relays: 4x100m, 4x200m, 4x400m**
 - **Maximum of two athletes per event and four for relays**

- Relay athletes will only be nominated from individually selected athletes. No additional athletes will be selected for relays

ATHLETICS SELECTION CRITERIA

8. The qualifying period is 1st January 2023 to 11th June 2023 (at 23.59 GMT) for all events.

Table 1: Athletics NI Consideration standards

Male	Event	Female
10.70s	100m	11.85s
21.60s	200m	24.30s
48.20s	400m	55.10s
1:51.53	800m	2:08.6s
3:52.80	1500m	4:26.90
8:27.0	3000m	9:40.4
	100mh (76.2cm)	13.88
13.88	(91.4cm) 110mh	
53.8	(84cm) 400mh (76.2cm)	61.37
2.05m	High Jump	1.74m
7.15m	Long Jump	5.9m
17.99m	(5kg) shot (3kg)	15.35m
54.65m	(1.5kg) Discus (1kg)	44.75m
65.88m	(700g) Javelin (500g)	48.00m

OTHER FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION

9. Any athlete achieving one eligible standard from the above table within the qualifying period will be considered for nomination.
10. Athletics NI may also consider athletes who have not achieved the standard.
11. Eligible Performances must comply with the following conditions:

- Wind-assisted performances (or performances achieved at events where wind measurement was not available) will not be accepted.
- Performances achieved in mixed events held completely in a stadium will not be accepted. This includes male paced, female distance events.
- Hand-timed performances in 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 100m/110m Hurdles and 400m Hurdles will not be accepted;
- Indoor performances for all field events will be accepted
- Indoor performances for races of 400m or longer will be accepted provided they are not hand timed

12. Performances will only be accepted if they are achieved within an official competition organised as follows:

- Competitions will only be accepted if they are achieved in License Level 2 competition OR any of the following License Level 1 competitions:
 - Team Trophy meeting
 - Any Athletics NI Open
 - Any Lagan Valley Open Meeting
 - Annadale Striders Night of 3000m meeting
 - The Daphne Hamill Memorial Track Meeting
 - All Provincial and Home Countries Schools' Championships
 - Ulster Secondary Schools Association Final
 - NI & Ulster Age Group Championships
 - All English County Schools' Championships
 - All divisions of the National Athletics League (UK)
 - All divisions of the National League (IRL)
 - All premier division UK Youth Development League (YDL) matches (upper age group).

Level 1 license competitions not listed above will NOT be valid for qualification purposes.

13. Any athlete/coach who is unsure as to which competitions will be acceptable for qualification purposes are advised to review the competition calendar on the Athletics NI website ([Athletics Fixtures in Northern Ireland | Athletics Northern Ireland \(athleticsni.org\)](https://athleticsni.org)) or contact Amy Foster – Team NI Athletics Performance Lead – amy.foster@athleticsni.org at the earliest opportunity.

SELECTION PROCESS

14. Selection Panel

Selections will be made by the Athletics Northern Ireland nomination panel comprising:

- **A Chairperson nominated by the Athletics NI Board (casting vote)**
- **2 members of Track and field Committee (voting)**
- **1 member of Road and Cross Country Committee (voting)**
- **1 independent coach (voting)**

15. Legal guidance and expert advice/statistics, where necessary, will be provided by:

- Relevant ANI coaching and development staff (**including The Commonwealth Youth Games Performance Lead (non -voting)**) and statisticians with a breadth and depth of knowledge in athlete trajectories and elite performance (non-voting)
- Independent legal advisor (non-voting)

16. The Chairman of the Panel may also (at his/her discretion) seek assistance (in a non-voting capacity) from anyone else he/she feels may be of help.
17. All selection panel members will be required to declare any conflicts of interest and will not participate in any discussions or vote relating to athletes with whom such a conflict has been declared.
18. To ensure a fair and transparent process, an independent observer will be in attendance (non –voting).
19. A minute taker (non-voting).

20. Procedure

Athletes will be nominated in two rounds.

- Round 1: Any athlete achieving one eligible standard from Table 1 within the qualifying period will be considered for nomination
 - Round 2: Athletes who do not have one eligible standard from the Table 1
21. The selection panel will develop a prioritised list of athletes to submit to CGNI, (in priority order) using the following criteria:
 - Commonwealth Youth Ranking (2 athletes per nation) based on 2023 performances.
 - 2023 performances (% of standard achieved)
 - Potential to medal.
 - Current form (outdoor performances weighted higher than indoor performances)
 - Head-to-head performance
 - Commonwealth youth ranking 2023 based on 2022 performances. (Only in exceptional circumstances to help differentiate between athletes)
 - Consistency of performance
 22. **The selection panel will not consider relay nominations as part of this process. Relays will only be entered following nomination, in the event CGNI can offer 4 or more places and there are sufficient track athletes to make up a mixed relay.**

23. Selection Timelines

Prospective athletes must submit long list information to amy@athleticsni.org ([cc tom@athleticsni.org](mailto:cc_tom@athleticsni.org)) by 23.59 on 9th May to comply with CGNI deadline.

Athletics Northern Ireland will forward final nominations to CGNI in priority order on 15th June 2023. CGNI will confirm final selections shortly afterwards.

Athletics Northern Ireland will contact all nominated athletes following the Athletics Northern Ireland nomination meeting and will also contact, in confidence those athletes who are considered to be close to selection but not successful.

24. Appeals Process

Athletes may appeal their non-selection but only after the prioritisation and nomination of athletes on the 12th June 2023 and only according to the procedure laid out in the Athletics Nomination Appeals Policy which can be found on the Athletics NI website.

ATHLETE AGREEMENT

25. All nominated athletes and any reserves must sign the Athletics NI Code of Conduct and Team NI Team Member Agreement.
26. In signing the agreement, athletes commit to attending mandatory team meetings, any anti-doping education, and abiding by all policies related to the games including those associated with the use of social media and late withdrawal from the team for reasons other than acute injury.
27. Athletes who do not agree to be bound by the terms of this agreement will not be nominated for selection to the CGNI.

SELECTION POLICY AMENDMENTS

28. Athletics NI reserves the right to amend this policy at its sole discretion and will make any amended version publicly available (including the date on which any amendment was made) at [Competition Opportunities for Athletes | Competition Opportunities | Athletes in Northern Ireland | Athletics Northern Ireland \(athleticsni.org\)](#)

Appendix 1

Eligibility Criteria for Trinbago 2023

Queries should be directed to tom.reynolds@athleticsni.org for clarification with CGNI

CGF Byelaw 17 Eligibility
1. It is the responsibility of all Affiliated CGAs to ensure that their competitors are fully aware of and comply with Byelaw 17.
2. Primacy
2.1 Subject to Byelaw 17(4) 17(5) 17(6) and 17(7), a competitor shall be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them where they satisfy at least one of the following requirements: a) Are in possession of a current valid passport of the Commonwealth Country which enters them; or b) Are a subject who can demonstrate 'Belonger Status' in Great Britain or relevant British Overseas Territory of the Commonwealth Country which enters them c) In respect of the following Affiliated CGAs: - i. Guernsey, Jersey, and Isle of Man. The governments of these three Crown Dependencies do not define citizenship. For these Affiliated CGAs, citizenship shall be defined as three (3) years continuous residency immediately prior to the Commonwealth Games. For the avoidance of doubt, the immediately prior three-year period shall mean the three-year period that immediately precedes the "final entries deadline"* date of the relevant Games as determined by the respective Organising Committee ("Continuous Residency") and the competitor must be in possession of a current valid UK passport. ii. Northern Ireland. Byelaw 17 will defer to the Belfast Agreement (1998). Northern Ireland athletes who meet birth right criteria are to be treated equally regardless of their possession of either a current valid UK or Irish passport (but must hold one of these). This right is enshrined within the Constitution Issues (iv) of the 1998 Belfast Agreement. iii. Norfolk Island. Any individual who was in possession of a current valid New Zealand passport and was also deemed eligible to compete at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games for Norfolk Islands may continue to compete for Norfolk Islands at future iterations of the Games.
3. Secondary
3.1 Subject to Byelaw 17(4) 17(5) 17(6) and 17(7), where a competitor was born in a Commonwealth Country which has common citizenship/passport with other Commonwealth Countries, the competitor may represent either: a) the Commonwealth Country of their birth; or b) the Commonwealth Country of birth of their parent; or

c) where the relevant IF recognises grandparents as part of its eligibility criteria, the competitor may represent the Commonwealth Country of birth of their grandparent;
or

d) the Commonwealth Country where they have completed a minimum period of three (3) years continuous residency immediately prior to the Commonwealth Games. For the avoidance of doubt, the immediately prior three-year period shall mean the three-year period that immediately precedes the “final entries deadline”* of the relevant Games as determined by the respective Organising Committee.

3.2 Subject to the other provisions of this Byelaw 17, where a competitor is eligible to represent more than one Affiliated CGA due to common passport privileges they may choose which Affiliated CGA to represent. For the avoidance of doubt, if an individual has competed at a Commonwealth Youth Games this will not be deemed to be a choice of country, and the competitor may choose to represent a different Affiliated CGA at a Commonwealth Games.

3.3 For the avoidance of doubt subject to Byelaw 17(4) and 17(5) any competitor of a common passport area who competes for their common passport country (i.e. Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia) at either the Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games and/or any World Championships or any other major sporting event shall be entitled to choose to represent their home Affiliated CGA (e.g. Turks and Caicos) at the Commonwealth Games.

4. Disqualifications and Suspensions

4.1 A competitor shall not be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them if they:

a) are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by the Federation;
and/or

b) are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by their respective Affiliated CGA;

and/or

c) are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by their respective IF, National Federation;

and/or

d) are currently under disqualification or suspension under the World Anti-Doping Code.

5. Compliance with applicable rules and regulations

5.1 A competitor shall only be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them if they:

a) Satisfy and comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federation;
and

b) Satisfy and comply their respective IF rules and regulations (including but not limited to, complying with respective IF eligibility rules as applied within each respective edition of the Commonwealth Games Athlete Allocation Systems);

and

c) Satisfy and comply with the World Anti-Doping Code as applied within the Federation Anti-Doping Standard to ensure that the overriding principles of the Commonwealth Games are observed.

5.2 For the avoidance of doubt, where there is an inconsistency between respective IF Nationality rules and regulations and those of the Commonwealth Games Federation, the Commonwealth Games Federation Bye Law 17 shall prevail.

6 Transfer of Allegiance

6.1 After having established eligibility status under this Byelaw 17 a competitor who has previously represented one Commonwealth Country at a Commonwealth Games may not represent another Commonwealth Country unless they also receive the prior approval of the Federation, the relevant IF and the relevant previously represented Affiliated CGA. For the avoidance of doubt, this Byelaw shall not apply if an individual has represented a Commonwealth Country at a Commonwealth Youth Games. Applications under this Byelaw 17(6) must be submitted to the Executive Board two calendar months before the “final entries deadline”* for the respective Commonwealth Games. Applications must include formal confirmation of the prior approval of the relevant IF and the relevant previously represented Affiliated CGA.

6.2 All applications for transfer of allegiance under Byelaw 17(6) and/or discretionary eligibility dispensation under Byelaw 17(7) including all relevant paperwork and documentation must be submitted no later than two calendar months prior to the published “final entries deadline”*, as outlined by the respective Organising Committee.

7 Dispensations

7.1 The Executive Board shall delegate authority to the Governance and Integrity Committee (GIC) who have the power to grant dispensations to Byelaw 17 in exceptional circumstances and to consider any matters relating generally to Byelaw 17. Each application for dispensation under Byelaw 17 shall be considered on its own merits and will not create a precedent for any future applications. Decisions made by GIC are subject to the right of appeal directly to the Executive Board, whose decision shall be final and binding.

*“final entries deadline” means the final date that an individual athlete may be entered in a particular event(s) for the relevant Commonwealth Games, usually completed via an online entry system. Such date to be communicated for each relevant Commonwealth Games in the Sport Handbook