



Olympic Weightlifting New Zealand's Selection Policy for Youth, Junior & Senior 2018 International Weightlifting Events

1. Introduction

- a) **Scope:** This Policy sets out how OWNZ will consider athletes for selection into New Zealand teams to compete in Youth, Junior & Senior 2018 International Weightlifting Events. Subject to this policy, these International Events include:
- 2018 Australian Open
 - 2018 Oceania (Youth, Junior & Senior) Championships;
 - 2018 IWF Junior World Championships;
 - 2018 FISU World University Games;
 - 2018 Youth Olympic Games;
 - 2018 IWF Senior World Championships
 - 2018 Pacific International Cup
- b) **Application:** This Policy applies to all Youth, Junior & Senior athletes wishing to be considered by OWNZ to a New Zealand Team to compete in Youth, Junior & Senior 2018 International Weightlifting Events.
- c) **2018 Youth Olympic Games:** In order to be considered for nomination by OWNZ to the NZOC for selection to the 2018 Youth Olympic Games the athlete must meet the clauses stated in the Nomination criteria which can be found on the OWNZ website.
- The 2018 Oceania Youth Championships is the YOG qualification event.

2 Eligibility

- a) **Eligibility:** To be eligible to be considered for selection to a New Zealand Team by OWNZ under this policy, an athlete must:
- For a Youth athlete be between 13 and 17 years of age;
 - For a Junior athlete be between 15 and 20 years of age;
 - For a Senior athlete be 15 years or older;
 - Be a New Zealand citizen with a NZ passport;
 - Be a current financial member of OWNZ;
 - Not be under investigation for any breach of, nor to have breached and serving a period of ineligibility under, any rule under the OWNZ Constitution, or any rules or regulations of the IWF, the IOC or the NZOC;
 - Not be under investigation for any breach of, or anti-doping rule violation under, any part of the OWNZ Anti-Doping Regulation (which includes the Sports Anti-Doping Rules), the IWF Anti Doping Regulations, or the WADA Code and serving a period of ineligibility for such breach or violation;

- h) Not have used or administered any substance which, if it had been detected as being present in the Athlete's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted doping, or used any prohibited method or committed any other doping offence as defined in the Sports Anti-Doping Rules, the IWF Anti-Doping Regulations, or the WADA Code;
- i) Not be under investigation for, charged with, or convicted of any criminal offence, unless any sentence imposed has been served by the Athlete; and
- j) Have provided OWNZ with key contact details for communication purposes (including current physical address, email address and telephone number).

b) UTSNZ Eligibility: To be eligible to be considered for selection into the 2018 FISU World University New Zealand Team by OWNZ under this policy, an athlete must meet the UTSNZ Appendix One: Eligibility & Participation in International Events. Appendix One may be found on the OWNZ website. Note that FISU have announced a change in age limit for all FISU World University events, this is now from 17 to 25 years old and comes into effect from 1 January 2018.

c) No Consideration: The Selectors may not consider an Athlete for selection under this Policy if the Athlete does not meet all of the eligibility requirements specified in clause 2.

3 International Events

a) International Events: The International Events applicable to this Policy include:

2018 Dates	Event	Location
24 th & 25 th February	2018 Australian Open	Melbourne, Australia
26 th – 30 th June	2018 Oceania (Youth, Junior & Senior) Championships	Mont Dore, New Caledonia
6 th – 14 th July	2018 IWF Junior World Championships	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
20 th – 23 rd September	2018 FISU World University Games	Biala Podlaska, Poland
6 th – 18 th October	2018 Youth Olympic Games	Buenos Aires, Argentina
24 th November – 3 rd December	2018 IWF Senior World Championships	Ashgabat, Turkmenistan
15 th December	2018 Pacific International Cup	Mont Dore, New Caledonia

b) Changes: The OWNZ Executive Group (after consultation with the Selectors), or the Selectors, may decide in their discretion:

- a) Not to send a New Zealand Team, or any athletes at all, to any one or more of the International Events listed in the table in Clause 3.1;

4 Selectors

- a) The OWNZ Executive Group will appoint selectors (on such terms and conditions as it considers appropriate), to consider and select athletes in accordance with this Policy. The current OWNZ selectors are: Tony Ebert, Jodie Mason & Jason Fanning.

5 Selection Criteria

- a) In considering any athlete into the New Zealand Team to each International Event under this policy, the Selectors shall:
 - a) Only consider athletes who are eligible under clause 2 and have met the pre-conditions under clause 6.1 (unless granted dispensation under clause 6.2 and 6.3);
 - b) Only consider athletes who satisfy the applicable qualifying standards for the specific international event (as specified in clause 7.1) with the athlete with the higher ranked total at the end of the qualification period being selected over a lower ranked athlete.
 - c) Regard to the factors specified in clause 8.1 and 8.2
 - d) Take into account any Extenuating Circumstances, Injury or Illness, as specified in clause 9.

6 Pre-Conditions

- a) **Pre-conditions to Selection:** In addition to meeting the qualification standards in Clause 7.1, an athlete seeking selection into a New Zealand Team must also meet the pre-conditions set out below:

2018 Event	Pre-Conditions for Athletes
2018 Australian Open	<p>This is not a targeted event in OWNZ's High Performance Plan; OWNZ has the right not to send a NZ Team or any athlete to this event. Athletes are encouraged to attend either the 2018 Auckland Championships or the 2018 Dunedin Meet held in early March.</p> <p>Senior athletes must obtain the criteria as set out in 7.1 at an OWNZ sanctioned event in the bodyweight class they look to be selected in for this event.</p> <p>If there is an athlete that wishes to attend this event and has met the criteria, then they must submit in writing to the General Manager of OWNZ the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reasons why competing at this international event will benefit your athletic career; b) Confirm that you understand that all trip costs will be self-funded; c) Confirm who will attend this event with you as your Coach; d) Confirm that your Coach understands that all trip costs will be self-funded; e) Confirm that you understand OWNZ has the right to decline your expression of interest for this event.

<p>2018 Oceania (Youth, Junior & Senior) Championships</p>	<p>Senior & Junior athletes must obtain the criteria as set out in 7.1 at one of the following events in the bodyweight class they look to be selected in for this event;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 2017 National Championships b) 2017 Pacific Mini Games c) 2018 Auckland Championships d) 2018 Dunedin Meet e) 2018 Commonwealth Games <p>Youth athletes must obtain the criteria as set out in 7.1 at an OWNZ Sanctioned event in the bodyweight class they look to be selected in for this event.</p> <p>The selectors have the right to select Youth athletes outside of these criteria to enable maximum team points when competing at this event, as this is our Youth Olympic Games Qualifier.</p>
<p>2018 IWF Junior World Championships</p>	<p>Junior athletes must obtain the criteria as set out in 7.1 at one of the following events in the bodyweight class they look to be selected in for this event;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 2017 National Championships b) 2017 Pacific Mini Games c) 2018 Auckland Championships d) 2018 Dunedin Meet
<p>2018 FISU World University Games</p>	<p>Athletes must express interest to attend this event by March 1st 2018 using the online EOI form which can be found on the OWNZ website.</p> <p>Athletes must obtain the criteria as set out in 7.1 at one of the following events in the bodyweight class they look to be selected in for this event;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 2018 Auckland Championships b) 2018 Dunedin Meet c) 2018 North or South Island Championships <p>(Note the qualification period for this event is TBC, this will most likely be the last day of competition of either the 2018 North or South Island Championships as we must submit entries mid August)</p>
<p>2018 Youth Olympic Games</p>	<p>Must have been selected to compete in the 2018 Oceania Championships</p>
<p>2018 IWF Senior World Championships</p>	<p>Senior athletes must obtain the criteria as set out in 7.1 at one of the following events in the bodyweight class they look to be selected in for this event;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 2018 Auckland Championships b) 2018 Dunedin Meet c) 2018 Commonwealth Games d) 2018 Oceania Champs e) 2018 North or South Island Champs f) 2018 National Championships

2018 Pacific International Cup	TBC. Athletes must obtain the criteria, which is still to be confirmed at specified events once the qualification period is confirmed in the bodyweight class they look to be selected in for this event.
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- b) **Dispensation Application:** If an athlete(s) considers there are Exceptional circumstances, which means they are not able to fulfil a pre-condition, the athlete must seek, and be granted, dispensation for that pre-condition. An application for dispensation must be made, to the Executive Group (EG) of OWNZ, by the end of the qualification period of that event for which dispensation is sought.
- c) The EG decide, acting reasonably, whether or not to grant such dispensation for a pre-condition and their decision shall be final and cannot be appealed. The EG's decision will be communicated to the athlete concerned by email as soon as practicable after their decision.
- d) Unless dispensation has been granted for a pre-condition under clause 6.2 and 6.3, an athlete who has not satisfied all of the pre-conditions for the Event/s in which they seek to be selected shall not be considered for selection under this Policy by the Selectors.

7 Qualification

- a) **Standards & Periods:** Each athlete seeking selection under this policy must complete the applicable qualifying standards set out below at an event stated in 6.a) Pre-Conditions, within the qualification period stated in the table below:

2018 Event	Qualifying Period		Qualifying Standards		
	Start	End	Youth	Junior	Senior
2018 Australian Open	01/01/2017	31/12/2017	-	-	B
2018 Oceania Championships	06/10/2017	01/05/2018	C	B	A
2018 IWF Junior World Championships	06/10/2017	01/05/2018	-	A	-
2018 FISU World University Games	01/02/2018	TBC	-	-	A
2018 IWF Senior World Championships	01/03/2018	01/10/2018	-	-	Elite
2018 Pacific International Cup	TBC	TBC	-	-	TBC

8 Factors

- a) **Relationships & Conduct:** For any of the events named in Clause 3.1, the selectors may take into account the Athlete's attitude, their relationships with other Athletes and New Zealand Team support personnel, and their conduct at OWNZ sanctioned events and international events, training sessions, training camps, trials and other activities held by OWNZ at any time.

9 Exceptional Circumstances, Injury and illness

- a) **Claim:** If an Athlete considers there is any Exceptional Circumstance applicable to any of their results and performances, he or she must notify the HPD of this claim in writing as soon as possible and within 48 Hours of the specific Exceptional Circumstances arising. The Athlete must provide full details of the Exceptional Circumstances and the effect or potential effect on the Athlete and their potential selection.
- b) **Taking Exceptional Circumstances into Account:** The HPD shall refer any claim for Exceptional Circumstances that is made in accordance with clause 9.a, to the Selectors. The Selectors may, in their discretion, take those circumstances into account in considering its decisions. If a claim is not made in accordance with clause 9.a, the Selectors cannot take those Exceptional Circumstances into account (other than if clause 9.c applies).
- c) **Injury, Illness or Other Factors:** In addition, and whether or not a claim for Exceptional Circumstances has been made under clauses 9.a or b, if the Selectors are aware of any injury, illness or other factor affecting the fitness of an Athlete to perform to the best of their ability, the Selectors may take such injury, illness or other factor affecting fitness into account in considering its decisions. However before taking them into account, the Selectors must first make enquiry of the Athlete as to the status and prognosis of the injury, illness or other factor affecting their fitness. If the Selectors wish to do so, may also request a medical examination, and if they do so, the Selectors must also take into account the report from such examination.
- d) **Medical Examination:** If a claim for Exceptional Circumstances is made under clause 9.a, or the Selectors wish to do so under clause 9.c, the Selectors may request, with the Athlete's agreement, a medical examination be undertaken of the Athlete by a medical practitioner nominated by OWNZ and to provide the Selectors with an opinion on the Exceptional Circumstances or other illness, injury or other factor affecting the fitness of an Athlete. If an Athlete does not agree to such medical examination the selectors can draw their own conclusions on the Exceptional Circumstances or other illness, injury or other factor affecting the fitness of an Athlete, and/or may decide not to accept a claim (under clause 9.a) for Exceptional Circumstances.

10 Status of Policy & Amendments

- a) **Status:** This Policy overrides any correspondence, discussions and representations (whether written or oral) by OWNZ regarding selection for the International Regattas.

- b) **Amendment:** This Policy may be amended at any time by the OWNZ Executive Group. Amendments or a revised Policy (including the amendments) will be published on the OWNZ website.

11 Appeals

- a) An Athlete who is aggrieved by a decision of the Selectors not to select him or her to a New Zealand Team (“Grievance”) may bring an appeal in accordance with this Policy.
- b) **Pre-Appeal Process:** Before an appeal can be brought under clauses 11.3 and 11.4, the following process must be followed:
 - a) **Notification of Grievance:** The Athlete must notify the HPD in writing of their Grievance within 48 Hours from the date and time the decision not to select them to a New Zealand Team was notified in writing to the Athlete by OWNZ;
 - b) **Grievance Meeting:** The HPD shall arrange and attend a meeting with the Athlete as soon as practicable to discuss the Athletes’ Grievance and to explain the reasons for the decision;
 - c) **No Agreed Resolution:** If there is no agreement reached at the grievance meeting, and the Athlete wishes to pursue their appeal, the Athlete may only do so in accordance with clauses 11.3 and 11.4 of this Policy.

11.3 Appeal Process: An Athlete may bring an appeal against a decision of the Selectors not to select them (“Appellant”) to a New Zealand Team on one or more of the following grounds (but no other grounds):

- a) This Policy has not been properly followed and/or implemented;
- b) The Appellant was not afforded a reasonable opportunity to satisfy the requirements in this Policy;
- c) The decision not to select the Appellant was affected by actual bias; and/or
- d) There is no material on which the selection decision could reasonably be based.

11.4 Any appeal under clause 11.3, must be made by an Appellant as follows:

- a) The Appellant must notify the HPD in writing of their wish to appeal the Selectors decision not to select the Appellant, within 48 Hours from the end of the mediation held in clause 11.2c, or such other period as agreed between OWNZ and the Appellant; and,
- b) The Appellant must file and serve on OWNZ and the Sports Tribunal, a notice of the appeal in the form and manner specified in the rules of the Sports Tribunal, within 48 Hours of informing the HPD as described in clause 11.4a above;

For avoidance of doubt, both sub-clauses (a) and (b) of this clause 11.4, must be met in order for the Sports Tribunal to have jurisdiction to hear and decide the appeal.

11.5 The appeal shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Sports Tribunal.

11.6 There is a further right of appeal from a decision of the Sports Tribunal to CAS, in accordance with the rules of the Sports Tribunal.

12 Definitions

a) In this policy, the following definitions apply:

Athlete means an individual who wants to be considered for selection to a New Zealand team.

CAS means the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Executive Group: means the Executive Group of OWINZ

Exceptional Circumstances means any one or more of the following:

- a) Injury or illness;
- b) Equipment failure;
- c) Travel delay;
- d) Bereavement or personal misfortune; and/or any other factors reasonably considered to cause, or be likely to cause, an Athlete not to perform at their optimal level.

HPD means the High Performance Director of OWINZ

IOC means the International Olympic Committee.

IWF means the International Weightlifting Federation

New Zealand Team means the team of Athlete/s (which, depending on the International Event, may include Athletes in the Junior or Senior event) selected to compete in an International Event.

NZOC means the New Zealand Olympic Committee.

OWNZ means Olympic Weightlifting New Zealand Incorporated.

Sports Tribunal means the Sports Tribunal of New Zealand as described in the Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006.

UTSNZ means University & Tertiary Sport New Zealand

WADA Code means the World Anti-Doping Code (as amended from time to time).