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**XXII Commonwealth Games
Birmingham, England
28 July – 8 August 2022**

**Selection Policy and Standards
NETBALL
February 2021**

**Netball Scotland,
Emirates Arena,
1000 London Road
Glasgow G40 3HY**

Team Scotland: Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games

NETBALL

Athlete - Sport Selection Policy and Standards

The information in this Selection Policy is accurate as at February 2021 but remains subject to change. As a result of the unique and extenuating circumstances caused by COVID-19 and the subsequent impact on international sporting calendars, CGS and Netball Scotland will be closely monitoring this Selection Policy to determine if any changes are necessary.

For the avoidance of doubt, CGS reserves the right to amend this Selection Policy in any manner, and in the sole and absolute discretion of CGS, should CGS consider that qualification process would be fairer having regard to the interests of all Athletes and the prevailing circumstances.

In addition CGS and Netball Scotland reserve the right to not apply any aspect of this Selection Policy when making any decision, if in the sole and absolute discretion of CGS, it would, as judged by CGS, be unfair or unreasonable not to, provided always that CGS has regard to the interests of all Athletes in the prevailing circumstances.

Introduction

- 1 This selection policy has been agreed by Netball Scotland (NS) and Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS). It provides detail on the process by which NS will arrive at athlete nominations, which will be submitted to CGS for consideration, for final selection to Team Scotland for Birmingham 2022.

Achievement, by an athlete, of individual selection standards, detailed in this document, is therefore the 1st step by which nomination can be considered. The final decision in selection to the 2022 Games lies with CGS

- 2 NS will nominate only those athletes that have qualified under both the netball Specific Selection Standards stated below, and the CGS General Selection Policy (available on the CGS website) that should be read in conjunction with these standards
- 3 Entry numbers per event and the overall number of athletes are in accordance with Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) allocation and should more athletes achieve the standards then NS will prioritise in accordance with this policy

Team Scotland General Selection Policy Aim

- 4 Scotland selects a team that performs with distinction in 2022:
 - having a higher percentage of athletes meeting the selection standards when in competition at these Games than in 2018
 - meeting the stated performance aims of each sport at the Games
 - with all Team members having a positive experience within Team Scotland at the Games.
- 5 This netball policy is consistent with the aim

Athlete Eligibility

- 6 The eligibility criteria of the CGF Constitution and Byelaws must be met by all nominees (Appendix 1).
- 7 Where prospective team members do not automatically comply with the above, they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior approval from the CGF under their guidelines

Games Competition Format

- 8 Women's Team Event:
 - 12 athletes per playing squad per country
 - Teams put into two initial pools of six teams playing each other in a round-robin tournament.
 - On completion of the pool fixtures, the top two in each pool play semi-final cross over matches with the winners contesting the final and the losers contesting the bronze medal.
 - Cross over matches will be played to rank team 5th – 12th

Sport Specific Selection Standards and Framework

9 Team Qualification

- 9.1 The General Selection Criteria of Commonwealth Games Scotland must be met by NS and all players.
- 9.2 Competing in the Games is subject to CGS receiving an invite from the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) to compete in the Games based on the International Netball Federation World Rankings as at 30 November 2021. The Host Nation is eligible to enter one team, therefore in order to receive an invite the team will need to be placed in the top 11 Commonwealth nations having consideration for Regional Representation.

Where at least four (4) of the six CGF regions are not represented in the twelve (12) competing teams (including Host Commonwealth Games Association (CGA)), the highest ranked CGF from a non-represented continent will be selected, when applied as follows:

Four CGF regions must be represented where CGA Teams representing at least four CGF regions are ranked within the top fourteen (14) CGA Teams on the INF world rankings (as at 30 November 2021). The best CGA Teams representing at least four CGF regions will be selected to meet the twelve (12) competing Teams (including Host CGA)

For the avoidance of doubt, this means that the thirteenth (13th) or fourteenth (14th) CGA Teams may be selected above the eleventh (11th) or twelfth (12th) CGA Teams if required to ensure minimum regional representation.

Where four CGF regions are not ranked within the top fourteen (14) CGA Teams on the INF world rankings as at 30 November 2021, the CGF and INF will select the best CGA Teams on the INF world rankings as at 30 November 2021 without regard for regional representation.

- 9.3 Team Scotland General Selection standard is to evidence performances showing the potential to be placed in the top six at the Games. However, if an invitation to compete for netball is received, the team invitation will be accepted in line with CGS General Selection Policy section 9.
- 9.4 NS will identify to CGS the competition, preparation plans and any conflicts by 1 March 2021.
- 9.5 Team composition will be determined by NS on the basis that the athletes selected are the best players, with the Commonwealth Games taking precedence over club or other international commitments
- 9.6 NS's nominations will only be selected by CGS where it is clear that performance at the Games has been made a competitive priority during the selection period (1 March 2021 to 15 May 2022) and their preparation programmes are directed at the best possible performance.

All nominated athletes must have completed the required anti-doping education programme

Internal Selection Criteria

- 10 Players nominated to represent Scotland at Birmingham 2022 will meet the following criteria during the selection period:
 - 10.1 All players must be fully committed to improving their individual performance and that of the team.
 - 10.2 All players will be subject to fitness monitoring throughout the year either at their designated Institute of Sport or via the SGB Strength and Conditioning (S&C) personnel and must be deemed 'fit for purpose' by the National Coach.
 - 10.3 Each player will have an individualised training programme and must comply with this and all specific additional work as advised by the National Coach.
 - 10.4 All players must adhere to the UK Anti-Doping Rules.
 - 10.5 All players must be able to contribute fully to the goals of the team and be of a proven playing standard to support the team's ability to reach a top 8 position.
 - 10.6 Player's progress and development will be recorded in their 'Athlete Development/Performance Plans'.
 - 10.7 All national squad members must attend all training sessions, camps and competitions scheduled by the governing body, except by agreement with the National Coach.
 - 10.8 If a national squad member is unable to attend a training session/camp and/or competition due to extenuating circumstances, they must contact the National Coach directly to confirm their non-attendance.

Characteristics/qualities of a Netball Scotland National Athlete

- 11 Players must demonstrate a level of all-round athleticism appropriate to the demands of international netball:
 - 11.1 Team-spirited: works well in a team environment and is respectful to team-mates.
 - 11.2 High work ethic: demands quality work from self and team-mates at all times.
 - 11.3 Committed, organised and disciplined as an elite level netball athlete.
 - 11.4 Self-aware, honest, self-motivated/determined.
 - 11.5 Communicates well, especially under pressure.
 - 11.6 Mentally tough with the capacity to direct and control thoughts and emotions under pressure.
- 12 **Injury, illness and other exceptional circumstances prior to nomination**
 - 12.1 Failure to meet any of the selection criteria for reasons of injury, illness, or any other exceptional circumstances by an athlete who still wishes to seek selection, must be backed by medical evidence, or any such additional evidence as may be reasonably requested, by NS's Selection Panel.
 - 12.2 Any unavailability for competition or training, for any of the reasons above, must be advised and agreed with the National Coach in advance.

Selection Process

- 13 Should a Team invitation be accepted by CGS to compete, nomination of individual players is the responsibility of NS on the following basis:
 - 13.1 The competitions and testing details within the selection period will be made available to all athletes in advance.
 - 13.2 A panel of National Selectors, (three members) comprising the National Coach and two other nominated National Selectors will nominate to CGS a squad of 15 players, this will comprise of 12 players and three named non - travelling reserves. The National Coach is responsible for the final nomination of the 15 athletes.
 - 13.3 NS will send their final nominations to CGS by 15 May 2022 and advise all potential players of the nomination at this time. CGS will confirm the final team selections by 30 May 2022.
- 14 Final selection to the Games team is dependent on receipt of relevant information required by CGS such as the CGF Eligibility form and Team Member Agreement.

De-Selection

15 Antidoping

Athletes suspended by their Governing Body as a result of ongoing or concluded anti-doping violation allegations, will not be considered for selection, and if previously selected will be deselected from the Birmingham2022 team.

16 Injury Management

Where injury issues are identified at or after selection, a fitness test may be used to determine that the athlete is capable of performing to the level that they were selected for the Games. The format will be determined by CGS after discussion with the Netball Team Management. This will be specific to netball and the athlete's condition and may include input from CGS medical staff. Any selection or de-selection decision, following such a test, will be made by CGS after discussion with the Netball Team Management and will be final.

17 Athletes in breach of CGS policies, code of conduct and team agreement may be de-selected.

Appeal Process

18 An appeal against non-nomination to CGS by NS is entirely a matter for the athlete and NS. This should be held in accordance with NS's own appeal procedures, but taking into consideration only the CGS selection policy and agreed sport specific selections standards and conditions.

19 Any player not nominated to the team has the right to meet with the Performance Director and a member of the Selection Panel informally in order to seek further clarification on their non-nomination to the team of 12 players. This meeting should take place within 48 hours of the nomination decision. After this meeting a player may appeal in writing to NS and that appeal must arrive at the NS offices within five business days of the notification of the nomination decision. The CEO of NS will convene a meeting in line with NS policy and procedures. The player will be notified of the decision of the appeals panel and the decision of the panel is final.

20 An appeal against non-selection, by CGS, of an athlete may only be submitted by NS and not by any individual athlete. If an appeal is submitted to CGS by NS, a CGS Appeal Panel will consider the case along with any additional information provided. The appeal must be made by email to Jon.Doig@teamsotland.scot within 48 hours of notification of selection outcomes to NS by CGS.

Appointment of Team Staff

21 A Team Manager has been appointed by CGS in consultation with NS. The final complement of netball team staff attending the Games will ultimately depend upon team numbers and composition and will be determined by CGS in consultation with NS. This will include different categories of accreditation and access to the Games Village and other secure areas

Appendix 1

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.