

WEIGHTLIFTING NEW ZEALAND

Athlete Selection Policy for 2027 International Events

1. Purpose & Scope

1.1 Scope

This Policy sets out how Weightlifting New Zealand (WNZ) will consider athletes for selection into New Zealand teams to compete at Senior, Junior, and Youth 2027 International Weightlifting Events.

1.2 Application

This Policy applies to all Senior, Junior, and Youth athletes wishing to be considered by WNZ for selection to a New Zealand Team to compete in 2027 International Weightlifting Events.

Important Note: A separate Nomination Criteria applies to the 2028 Olympic Games. Additional international events, cancellations, or changes to event dates and venues are subject to changes by the IWF, OWF, and CWF. This Policy will be updated as soon as possible so that it remains current.

2. Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible for consideration for selection to a New Zealand Team under this Policy, an athlete must meet all of the following criteria:

2.1 Age Requirements (as of 31 December 2027)

- **Youth Athlete:** Between 13 and 17 years of age (inclusive of these ages).
- **Junior Athlete:** Between 15 and 20 years of age (inclusive of these ages).
- **Senior Athlete:** 15 years (inclusive) or older.
- An athlete can be selected in more than one age group eg as a Junior and a Senior, provided they meet the Qualification criteria for each age group.

2.2 Citizenship & Nationality

- Hold New Zealand citizenship with a valid New Zealand passport.
- In the case of multiple citizenship, sport nationality must be registered as New Zealand with the IWF and the athlete must not have represented another country within the preceding 12 months (unless approved by IWF and WNZ).
- Eligibility for athletes with formal refugee or asylum status will follow IWF rules and approval procedures.

2.3 Membership & Conduct

- Be a current financial member of WNZ in good standing.
- Not be under investigation for, or serving a period of ineligibility under, any rule of the WNZ Constitution, WNZ regulations, or IWF rules.

- Not be under investigation for, or serving a period of ineligibility under, any part of the WNZ Anti-Doping Regulation (including Sports Anti-Doping Rules), IWF Anti-Doping Regulations, or the WADA Code.
- Not have used or administered any prohibited substance or method as defined under the Sports Anti-Doping Rules, IWF Anti-Doping Regulations, or WADA Code.
- Not be under investigation for, charged with, or convicted of any criminal offence for which a sentence has not been fully served.
- Not being prevented from obtaining a visa or travelling /entering another country.

2.4 Administrative & Training Compliance

- Have submitted accurate ADAMS Whereabouts information for the 3-month period prior to and including the event.
- Have provided WNZ with current contact details (physical address, email address, and phone number).
- Agree to participate in pre-event camps, training sessions, or other required team activities; acknowledging that these activities may be self funded.

Non-Consideration: *Selectors will not consider any athlete who fails to satisfy all eligibility requirements specified in Clause 2.*

3. International Events (2027)

The WNZ Executive Group (in consultation with Selectors) or Selectors reserve the right, at their sole discretion, not to send a team or athletes to any event in this Policy. There are **separate documents** for LA28 Olympic Qualification and **Youth Commonwealth Games**.

Event	2027 Dates	Location	Notes
Senior, Junior, Youth Commonwealth Championships	24 - 29 May	Apia, Samoa	-
IWF Youth World Championships	1 June – 30 June (TBC)	Asuncion, Paraguay	—
Pacific Games / Senior Oceania Championships	26 Jul – 30 Jul	Pirae, Tahiti	LA28 Qualifier
IWF Senior World Championships	1 Sept - 30 Sept (TBC)	Yerevan, Armenia	LA28 Qualifier
IWF Junior World Championships	1 Oct – 30 Oct (TBC)	Tirana, Albania	—
Youth Commonwealth Games	30 Oct - 4 Nov	Malta	

4. Selectors

The current WNZ Selectors are:

- Sheryl Tan,
- Jason Fanning &
- Stephanie Cockerill

Any updates or changes to the Selection panel will be published on the official WNZ website and included in an email to the current members.

In the instance of a conflict of interest involving a Selector, that Selector will remove themselves from the decision making process for that event and the Selection panel will present the selection information to the WNZ EG for final decision.

5. Selection Process and Criteria

At the end of the Qualification period for an event, a list of athletes who have fulfilled the criteria conditions in this Selection Policy is prepared by the HPC for the WNZ Selectors.

When selecting athletes for a New Zealand Team to each International Event under this Policy, the Selectors shall:

- Only consider athletes who satisfy all Athlete Eligibility criteria (Clause 2) and Pre-Conditions for Participation requirements (Clause 6) unless granted dispensation (Clause 9).
- Only consider athletes who achieve the applicable Qualifying Standards (Clause 7).
- May take into account Behaviour & Conduct (Clause 8)
- Consider any valid claims for Extenuating Circumstances, Injury, or Illness (Clause 9).

5.1 Priority Criteria for Multiple Qualified Athletes

Where more athletes achieve qualifying standards than available entry spots, Selectors will prioritize the following criteria sequentially:

- The athlete with the highest Total in a bodyweight category.
- The athlete with the highest percentage of the qualification standard achieved.
- WNZ specific event objectives (as determined by WNZ in its sole discretion).
- WNZ overall High-Performance targets for 2027/2028.

Following Selection of athletes for an event, the HPC will inform athletes of their selection via email.

6. Pre-Conditions for Participation

Athletes must achieve the required qualification criteria in the bodyweight class they intend to compete in, across the designated qualifying events falling within the specified Qualification Period (See Table 7.2 Qualification Schedule & Standards)

6.1 Eligible Qualifying Event Categories

- WNZ Championship Events (e.g., National, North/South Island, Secondary Schools).
- IWF International Events.

6.2 Mandatory Pre-Condition Requirements

- **WNZ Athlete Agreement:** A signed copy of the WNZ Athlete Agreement must be submitted by the specified deadline or as provided by the Team Manager / High-Performance Commission (HPC) prior to departure.
- **ADAMS Whereabouts:** Maintain ADAMS Whereabouts compliance for 3 months prior to the event deadline.
- **Preliminary Entry Request (PER):** a PER must be submitted by the Coach (or Athlete) before the deadline to ensure inclusion on the Preliminary Entry List. If an athlete has qualified, submitting a PER indicates an athlete's intention to compete. If an athlete has not yet qualified, submitting a PER ensures the athlete is included on the event's Preliminary Entry List in the event they qualify within the qualifying period.

7. Qualification Standards & Timeline

7.1 Standards Overview

- For qualifying events that took place between 1 January 2026 and 1 August 2026, the new qualifying standards apply using the athlete's actual bodyweight at the time of competition mapped to the new IWF bodyweight categories.
- For events taking place from 1 August 2026 onwards, the new IWF bodyweight categories and new Qualification Standards apply (as per the Qualification Standards document on the WNZ website).

7.2 Qualification Schedule & Standards

Event Name	Event Dates	Qualifying Period	Online PER Deadline	Prelim Entry & ADAMS Deadline	Youth	Junior	Senior
Senior, Junior, Youth Commonwealth Championships	24 - 29 May	1 May 2026 - 21 March 2027	15 Feb 2027	21 Feb 2027	C	B	A
IWF Youth World Championships	1 – 30 June (tbc)	31 May 2026 - 01 April 2027	22 Feb 2027	01 March 2027	B	—	—
Pacific Games / Senior Oceania Championships*	26 – 30 Jul	27 Jul 2026 – 23 May 2027	1 Dec 2026 for NZOC Longlist - 7 Dec 2026	25 Apr 2027	—	—	INT
IWF Senior World Championships*	1 – 30 Sep (tbc)	01 Sep 2026 – 01 July 2027	24 May 2027	01 Jun 2027	—	—	ELITE
IWF Junior World Championships	1 – 30 Oct (tbc)	1 Nov 2026 – 30 Aug 2027	24 June 2027	31 July 2027	—	A	—
Youth Commonwealth Games#	30 Oct - 4 Nov	1 Aug 2026 - 30 June 2027	12 April 2027 for NZOC Longlist - 26 April 2027	23 April 2027	C	—	—

*LA28 Qualifying Events. Refer to separate Policy for LA28 Qualification

Contact WNZ HP for Nomination/Qualification Criteria

8. Behaviour & Conduct

For any event named in this policy, the Selectors may take into account factors such as, but not limited to, an athlete's attitude, professional conduct, and relationships with fellow athletes and support personnel across all WNZ-sanctioned events, international competitions, camps, trials, and training activities.

Selection will, however, prioritize measurable, objective qualifications (Clause 5) over subjective assessments.

9. Extenuating Circumstances

9.1 Claiming Extenuating Circumstances

Athletes must notify the HPC in writing within 2 business days of an extenuating circumstance arising, outlining full details of the event and its potential impact on the athlete not meeting the Qualification Criteria.

Instances of Extenuating Circumstances may include, but are not limited to:

- Injury or Illness
- Travel delays
- Equipment Failure
- Bereavement or personal misfortune
- Any other factors reasonably considered to be extenuating circumstances

9.2 Injury & Illness

In the case of injury or illness, Athletes may be required by WNZ HP to provide a medical certificate or undergo an examination by a health practitioner or a practical fitness assessment and provide that information to the Selectors.

Refusal to undergo an examination or evaluation allows Selectors to draw independent conclusions.

9.3 Dispensation Process for Unfulfilled Pre-Conditions for Participation

- Athletes unable to fulfill a pre-condition due to extenuating circumstances must apply in writing for dispensation to the WNZ High-Performance Commission within 2 business days following the extenuating circumstance occurring.
- An application not submitted within the timeframe will not be considered
- Evidence related to the application eg medical certificate, evidence of travel delay etc should be included in the application for dispensation
- The High-Performance Commission holds sole discretion over dispensation decisions, which will be made on a case by case basis. Decisions are final, non-appealable, and communicated via email
- Without approved dispensation, unfulfilled pre-conditions automatically exclude an athlete from selection.

In the instance of a conflict of interest involving a HPC member, that member will remove themselves from the decision making process for that athlete.

10. Appeals

10.1 Grounds for Appeal

An athlete aggrieved by a non-Selection decision ('Grievance') may appeal solely on the following grounds:

- This Policy was not properly followed or implemented.
- The athlete was not afforded a reasonable opportunity to satisfy policy requirements.
- The Selection decision was affected by actual bias.
- There was no material on which the Selection decision could reasonably be based.

10.2 Pre-Appeal & Grievance Process

- **Notification:** Athlete must notify the WNZ President in writing within 2 business days of receiving written notification of non-selection.
- **Grievance Meeting:** The WNZ President will schedule a meeting as soon as practicable to explain the rationale behind the decision.

10.3 Formal Appeal Procedure

- If unresolved at the Grievance meeting, the athlete must notify the WNZ President in writing within 2 business days of the meeting's conclusion, of their intention to appeal the non-selection decision.
- The athlete must formally file and serve an appeal with the Sports Tribunal of New Zealand within 2 business days of notifying the WNZ President.
- Appeals are conducted in accordance with Sports Tribunal rules, with a further right of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

11. Policy Status & Amendments

This Policy may be amended at any time by the WNZ High-Performance Commission, with updates published directly on the WNZ website.

12. Definitions

Term	Definition
Athlete	An individual seeking selection to a New Zealand team under this Policy.
CAS	Court of Arbitration for Sport.
CWF / OWF	Commonwealth Weightlifting Federation / Oceania Weightlifting Federation.
Exceptional Circumstances	Injury, illness, equipment failure, travel delay, bereavement, or personal misfortune reasonably impacting optimal performance.

Executive Group	The Executive Group of Weightlifting New Zealand.
HPC	High-Performance Commission of Weightlifting New Zealand.
IWF	International Weightlifting Federation.
New Qualification Standards	The Qualification Standards made public in April 2026 using the new IWF bodyweights effective as of 1 August 2026.
Selected athlete	An athlete who has been selected to represent WNZ at an international event
Sports Tribunal	The Sports Tribunal of New Zealand established under the Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006.
WNZ	Weightlifting New Zealand Incorporated.

13. Document Control & Sign-Off

- **Author:** High Performance Commission
- **Approved By:** WNZ Executive Group & Convenor of Selectors (Sheryl Tan)

Date	Approved By	Amendment Content	Distribution
1 October 2026	WNZ Executive Group	Initial release (v1)	Website & Membership Announcement
29 October = v2	HP Commission	Table 7.2: Updated following confirmation of NZOC Longlist deadlines for Pacific Games and Youth Commonwealth Games, plus Qualification Standard and Qualification Period for Youth Comm Games.	Website & Membership Announcement in October Newsletter