



Team PNG

Athletes Selection Policy



PAPUA NEW GUINEA CANOEING

ASSOCIATION

Version:	1.4
Date of Version:	21 October 2024
Created By:	Papua New Guinea Olympic Committee
Approved By:	PNGOC Board
Approved Date:	Wednesday November 13 th 2024
Confidentiality level:	Public

1. Introduction

1.1 Background –

The Papua New Guinea Olympic Committee (PNGOC) has developed this policy for the selection of athletes to represent PNG at respective Games from 2025 to 2028.

The (Games) being considered under this selection policy are:

- 2025 Pacific Mini Games
- 2026 Commonwealth Games
- 2026 Youth Olympic Games
- 2027 Pacific Games
- 2028 Olympic Games

The PNGOC is recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as the National Olympic Committee for Papua New Guinea. The IOC is the supreme authority in all matters concerning the Olympic Games.

PNGOC is also recognised by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) and the Pacific Games Council (PGC) as members of the respective bodies. The CGF is the supreme authority in all matters concerning the Commonwealth Games as is the PGC the supreme authority in all matters concerning the Pacific Games.

The PNGOC has the sole and exclusive authority to determine its representation at the Games.

The PNGOC wishes to promote awareness and a clear understanding of the process for nomination of Athletes by the National Federations (NF) and selection by the PNGOC for Team PNG (the Team) to compete in the Games.

The NF and its athletes wish to have a clear understanding of the process for nomination and selection of Athletes for the Team and have agreed to the terms and conditions of this Policy for that purpose.

This Policy sets out the application, nomination, and selection process by which eligible Athletes may be considered for nomination by the NF, and selection by the PNGOC, for Team PNG.

This Policy also sets out the procedures that must be followed for any appeal against a decision by the NF regarding an Athlete's nomination or non-nomination or a decision by the PNGOC regarding an athlete's selection or non-selection to the Team.

This policy is to be referred to in the nomination criteria to be adopted by each National Federation (NF) for all athletes wishing to be considered for nomination to Team PNG to compete in the Games.

1.2 Purpose –

For PNGOC to select an athlete that:

- Has high-performing athletes to represent Team PNG at the Games.
- Has a high percentage of athletes meeting the Performance Standards.
- Achieves the targets set out by PNGOC for the respective games.

2. Process

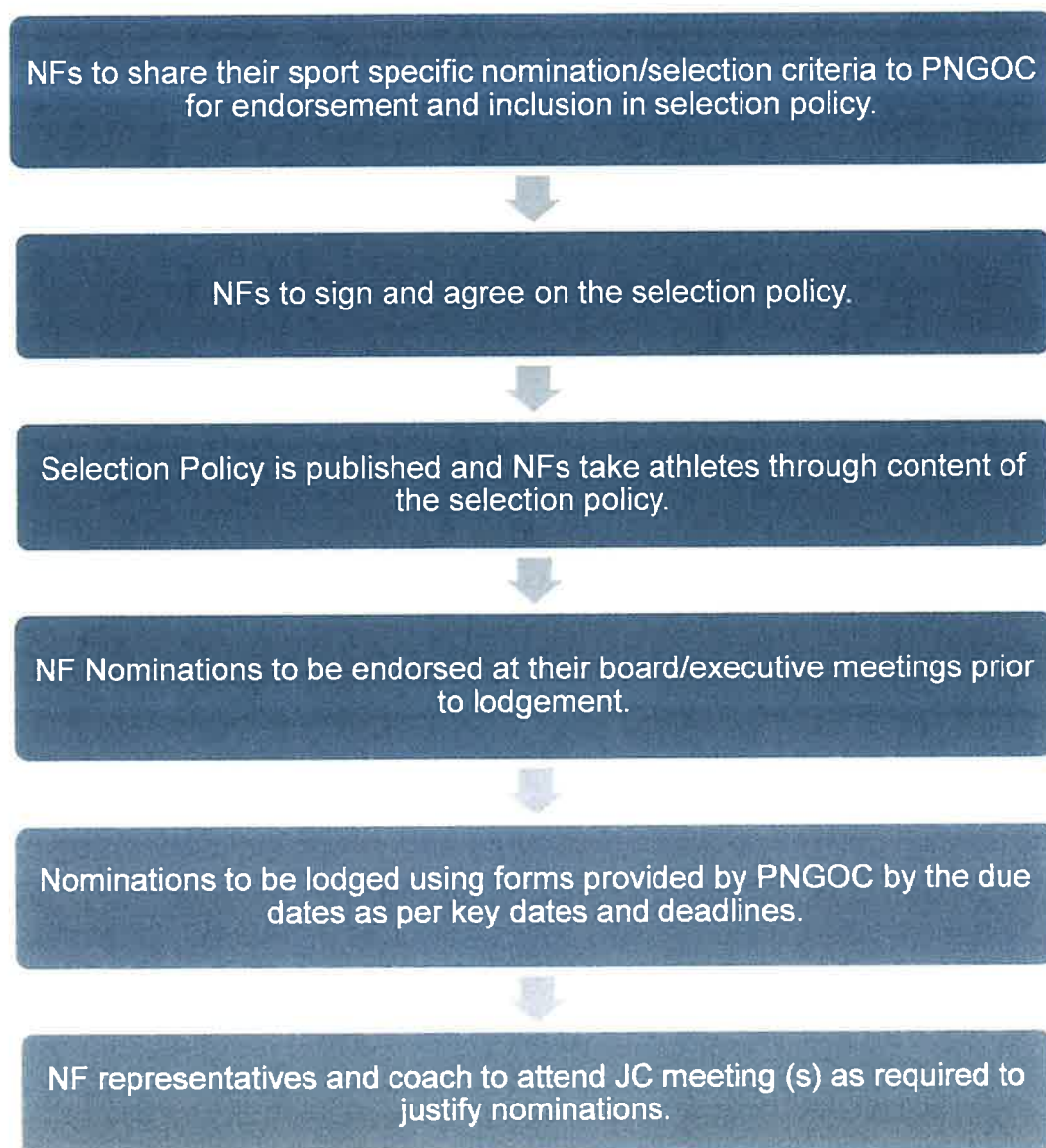
This policy has been adopted by the PNG Olympic Committee.

NFs must nominate athletes in the sport for selection for Team PNG for the Games, by the due dates.

The Justification Committee (JC) of the PNGOC will review the nominations and make the final endorsement in line with this policy and the NF nomination/selection criteria.

2.1 Nomination Process – National Federations

The process for NFs to nominate athletes in their respective sports is as follows



A National Federation must not represent that a nomination of a candidate guarantees or secures selection to the sport or within the team.

It is recommended that the NF nomination/selection panel includes independent representation and that one position is given to the Head Coach.

2.2 Endorsement Process – Justification Committee

The JC has the task of ensuring the nominated candidates become the right team or individual to fulfil the PNGOC's overall vision. This means endorsing the right people that give Team PNG the best chance of achieving our Games goals. The JC may request additional advice from external specialists where required.

Any discretion used by JC must be transparent, accountable, logical, and acted upon in good faith.

Outcomes of all endorsement processes will be communicated both verbally and in writing by the JC to the NF.

2.3 General Criteria & Eligibility (For all Athletes)

- 2.3.1 Must be a Papua New Guinean Citizen with a valid Papua New Guinea (PNG) passport (with a six-month minimum expiry as at the conclusion of the Games);
- 2.3.2 Must meet all eligibility requirements set out in the International Olympic Committee Charter, Commonwealth Games Federation Charter, Pacific Games Charter and rules applicable to the respective Games, this policy, and any requirements of the sport.
- 2.3.3 Must complete all required documentation correctly and in a timely manner.
- 2.3.4 Must adhere in full to all general Team PNG policies, athlete's agreement and PNGOC policy including satisfactorily meeting event requirements. This will include the completion of all medical, fitness and other testing protocols not yet conducted or still underway at the time of squad selection. *The candidate will be notified in writing of areas they need to address if non-compliant. If after such notification the candidate still fails to meet the criteria, the candidate can be removed from consideration for endorsement.*
- 2.3.5 Willingness to engage in and encourage participation in PNGOC and Team PNG activities and programs.
- 2.3.6 Must agree to the terms of this Selection Policy.
- 2.3.7 Must sign and agree to the terms of the athlete agreement before and during the Games.
- 2.3.8 Have achieved Performance Standards (as set out in clause 3.1) within the timeframe as pointed out for the respective Games.

2.4 Physical Fitness, Injury Monitoring and Wellbeing –

All nominated athletes must submit to medical and physical assessments and examinations as follows

- 2.4.1 All athletes must report any injury, medical condition or medication/treatment of an injury or medical condition to the National Head Coach, Team PNG

appointed medical personnel and the PNGOC Performance Team , where it has an impact on the athletes' ongoing training plan.

- 2.4.2 All athletes must comply with scheduled Fitness testing and Screening, Physiotherapy Screening and medical assessments as set out by PNGOC and JC requirements.
- 2.4.3 All athletes must provide any information required by PNGOC about a medical or physical assessment, injury or medical condition.

2.5 Exclusions –

A nominated athlete can NOT be considered for endorsement for any sport in the following circumstances. If the candidate:

- 2.5.1 is currently serving a ban imposed by the National Federation; or
- 2.5.2 is currently serving a ban imposed by any Regional or International Federation;
or
- 2.5.3 has been involved in an activity that contradicts the policies and laws of the World Anti-Doping Authority (WADA), PNG Sports Anti-Doping Organisation (PNGSADO) and the event's governing body anti-doping policies and laws; and is currently serving a ban for anti-doping related offences.
- 2.5.4 is convicted of a criminal offence.

A nominated athlete May be excluded from consideration if the candidate:

- 2.5.5 breaches general team policy such as behaviour or conduct bringing sport in PNG and Team PNG into disrepute;
- 2.5.6 does any action that is contrary, inconsistent with or opposing to the brand, values, best interest or image of PNGOC and Team PNG;
- 2.5.7 does not comply with all agreements such as General Team Policy including areas such as gambling policy, social media guidelines and formal guidelines set by PNGOC, Team PNG Chef de Mission and Management.

An endorsed athlete May not be replaced within forty-five (45) days of the opening ceremony of the respective Games. The dates outlined below indicate the date by which an athlete may not be replaced thereafter for the respective Games:

2025 Pacific Mini Games	-	16 May, 2025
2025 Commonwealth Youth Games	-	TBC
2026 Commonwealth Games	-	08 June, 2026
2026 Youth Olympic Games	-	16 September, 2026
2027 Pacific Games	-	02 June, 2027
2028 Olympic Games	-	30 May, 2028

The JC will only consider athlete replacements in the case of injuries, medical reasons, or extenuating situations as outlined in 2.6. Replacement athletes can only be allowed if the replacement is on the long list and was previously endorsed by the JC.

2.6 Consideration of Extenuating Situations –

In the case of illness or other reasonable circumstances that prevent the candidate from fulfilling their requirements, written notification to the JC must be made before or within a reasonable time of the failure to comply. This can include but is not limited to, attendance at daily training, camps, testing, international and domestic events, training and development and other key events as per the calendar. With relevance to an overseas-based athlete, a case-by-case decision will be made by the JC in consultation with the Chef de Mission if needed.

3. Selection Overview Sport-Specific requirements

3.1 Performance Standards

The following Performance Standards shall be used as the main criteria for the selection of athletes for the various Games. It shall, however, be used in combination with PNGOC's *National Federation and Athlete tiering system policy* and other factors such as demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions, athlete commitment to training and preparation for games, and no disciplinary issues.

Performance history shall also be from various international and national events from the last twenty-four months before the commencement of the respective games.

3.1.1 2025 Pacific Mini Games

3.1.1.1 All individual athletes and team events eligible for the Pacific Mini Games shall be ranked in the top 5 in Oceania, top 3 in the Pacific and top 2 nationally to be considered for final selection.

3.1.1.2 Demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions (Oceania Events are Mandatory) over the past 24 months. Includes improved performances from Pacific Games 2023.

3.1.1.3 Must be capable of achieving a medal placing in their respective event and or team event.

3.1.2 2025 Commonwealth Youth Games

3.1.2.1 All individual athletes and team events eligible for the Commonwealth Youth Games shall be ranked in the top 5 in Oceania, top 3 in the Pacific and top 2 nationally to be considered for final selection.

3.1.2.2 Demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions (Oceania Events are Mandatory) over the past 24 months.

3.1.3 2026 Commonwealth Games

- 3.1.3.1 All individual athletes and team events eligible for the Commonwealth Games shall be ranked in the top 3 in Oceania and 1st Nationally to be considered for final selection
- 3.1.3.1 Demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions (Oceania Events are Mandatory) over the past 24 months. Includes improved performances from Pacific Games 2023 and Pacific Mini Games 2025.
- 3.1.3.2 Is capable of achieving a top 15 placing in their respective event and top 10 in the team event.
- 3.1.4 **2026 Youth Olympic Games**
 - 3.1.4.1 All individual athletes and team events eligible for the Youth Olympic Games shall be ranked in the top 5 in Oceania, top 3 in the Pacific and top 2 nationally to be considered for final selection.
 - 3.1.4.2 Demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions (Oceania Events are Mandatory) over the past 24 months.
- 3.1.5 **2027 Pacific Games**
 - 3.1.5.1 All individual athletes and team events eligible for the Pacific Games shall be ranked in the top 5 in Oceania, top 3 in the Pacific and top 2 nationally to be considered for final selection.
 - 3.1.5.2 Demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions (Oceania Events are Mandatory) over the past 24 months. Includes improved performances from Pacific Games 2023 and Pacific Mini Games 2025.
 - 3.1.5.3 Must be capable of achieving a medal placing in their respective event and or team event.
- 3.1.6 **2028 Olympic Games**
 - 3.1.6.1 Athletes and teams that qualify for the Olympic Games through the respective International Federation (IF) pathways, as defined by the IF qualification criteria for the 2028 Olympic Games. This includes:
 - o Meeting specific performance standards, rankings, or qualification criteria set by the IF.
 - o Competing in designated qualification events recognized by the IF.
 - 3.1.6.2 3.1.9.2 Athletes must demonstrate improved performances and results at key international competitions over the past 24 months. Participation in Oceania events is mandatory, and performances from the 2026 Commonwealth Games and 2027 Pacific Games will be considered. Also consider athletes eligible for selection through

Tripartite Commission and Universality invitations. These invitations are designed to promote diversity and ensure representation at the Olympic Games. Athletes nominated for these invitations must:

- o Meet the minimum performance criteria established by the IF,
- o Demonstrate potential for competitive results at the Games.
- o Receive an invitation from the IF or IOC

Team Events are events that feature a team of individual athletes e.g. 100m Relay, Tennis Doubles, Lawn Bowls Fours.

3.2 Events / Competitions & Fitness, Physiological criteria (Elite focus) –

The following criteria, along with the NF's selection criteria, will be used as a part of the JC review and endorsement process for all athletes for Team PNG.

3.2.1 Training & Competition Plan

Each National Head Coach has submitted a training and competition plan. Attendance and ongoing commitment to this plan are vital for inclusion in selections for the final team. Attendance records for training and activities will be recorded and submitted to JC.

Training and High-Performance Plans must include benchmark competition such as the Oceania Championships as a key leadup event to gauge level of performance.

3.2.2 Sport Specific Criteria

PNGOC recommends that NFs provide information on the following to support the selection of athletes for Team PNG:

- Previous international and national performances
- Current international and national performances
- Current level of skill and physical fitness (sport-specific requirements attached)
- Current or potential injury or condition that will impair, inhibit or prevent the participant's performance to the expected elite level
- Composition and balance of the team based on position coverage (where applicable)
- Which competitions and/or trials where selections will be made
- Period when selections will be done complying with JC deadlines to meet Games Organising Committee entries and deadlines.
- How the NF has communicated the selection criteria to the athletes

3.2.3 Events

PNGOC recommends that selections be made through the following events as submitted by National Federation's:

- International events – Oceania/ Pacific Championships
- National Championships
- National League/ Provincial League
- High Performance Camps, selection camps, and targeted training sessions
- Selection trials

3.3 Events/Competitions & Fitness, Physiological criteria (Best of Rest focus)

Should the athlete requirements not be met from the standards and criteria set out above, then a policy of Best of the Rest will apply. This is where PNGOC may decide to endorse athletes who have not met the standards and criteria laid out in this policy and whose inclusion in Team PNG is within the allowable athlete allocation numbers and is in line with PNGOC's Games' goals.

This will be done on similar grounds as the criteria above, i.e.

- 3.3.1** Event and competition performance
- 3.3.2** Results from Sports Specific Testing Data
- 3.3.3** Results from Medical, Physiotherapy & Physical assessments
- 3.3.4** Other factors considered by selectors to be important
- 3.3.5** PNGOC's *NF and Athlete tiering system policy*
- 3.3.6** Commonwealth Games – Athlete must be ranked number one nationally
- 3.3.7** Pacific Mini Games & Pacific Games – The athlete must be ranked in the top 2 nationally
- 3.3.8** The Best of the Rest focus does not apply to the Olympic Games.

The Best of the Rest focus will only apply to the Pacific Mini Games, Pacific Games, Commonwealth Youth Games and the Commonwealth Games.

The Best of the Rest focus does not apply to the Olympic Games. Exception for Athletics and Swimming, they have the Universality Placing option where individuals will be selected on the minimum standards set by their respective National Federation's selection criteria.

Discretion will be used in this situation where the data and information are more objective and less definitive.

4. Appeal Process

An athlete who fails to be selected for the squad or final team pursuant to the criteria set out in this policy may appeal against omission.

An athlete who was initially in the final team and was then omitted by the NF may appeal against omission.

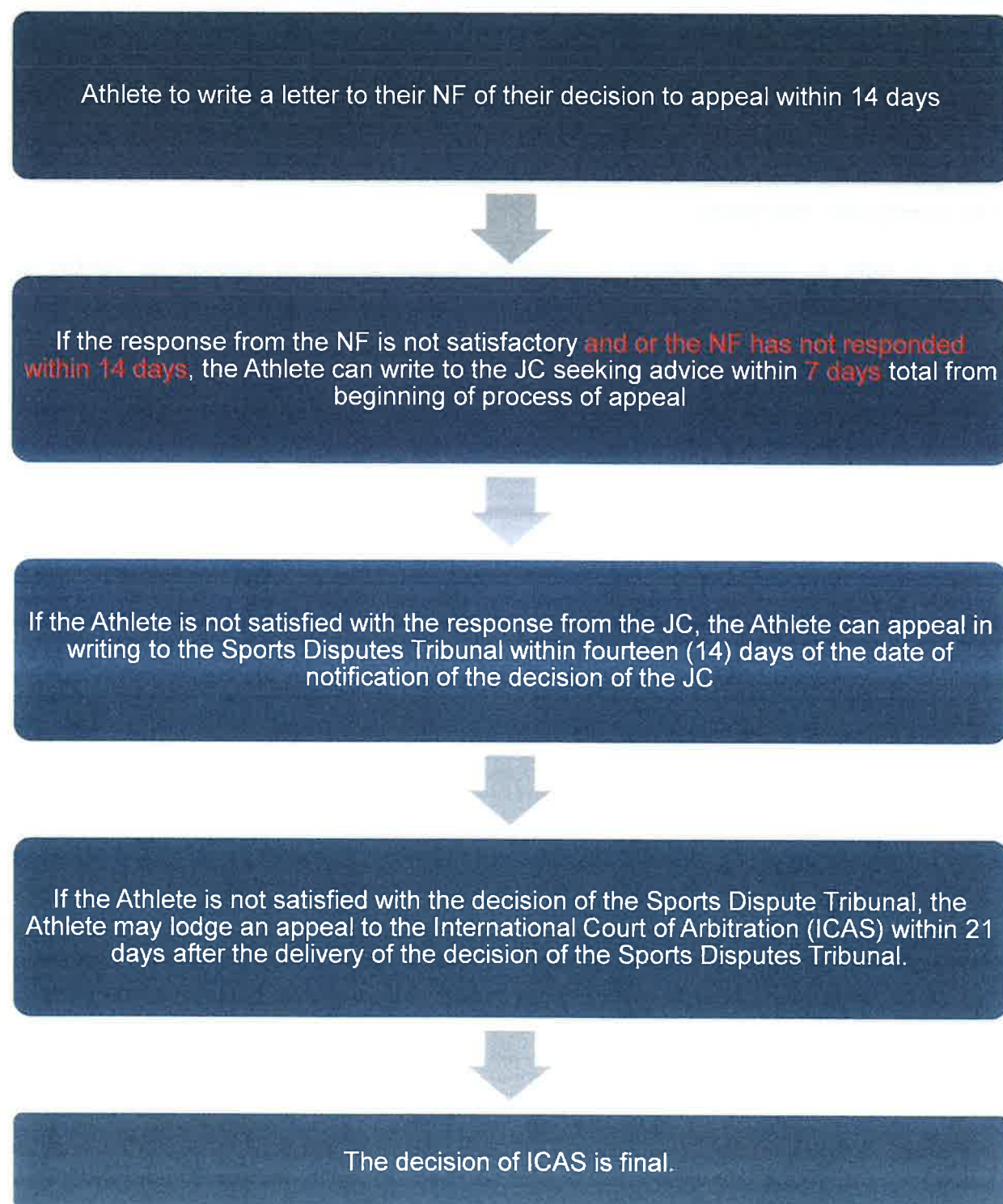
The only grounds for such an appeal are that the JC or the NF, in making their final decision, failed to comply with this policy.

There is no right to appeal where a sanction or ban exists in relation to WADA or International Federation.

Appeals – Appeals can be made through the standard sports appeal process, with ultimate arbitrator being the International Court of Arbitration (ICAS).

Scenario 1 - Athlete is not nominated by the NF

Process for an athlete to appeal if they haven't been nominated by the NF is as follows:



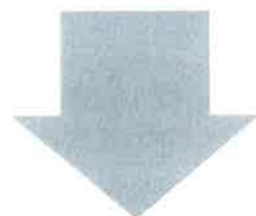
Scenario 2 - The athlete is not endorsed by the JC

Process for an athlete and/or the NF to appeal if the athlete(s) are excluded by the JC is as follows:

If the Athlete and / NF is dissatisfied with the decisions of the Justification Committee, the Athlete and / or NF can appeal in writing to the Sports Disputes Tribunal within fourteen (14) days after the date of notification of the decision of the JC.



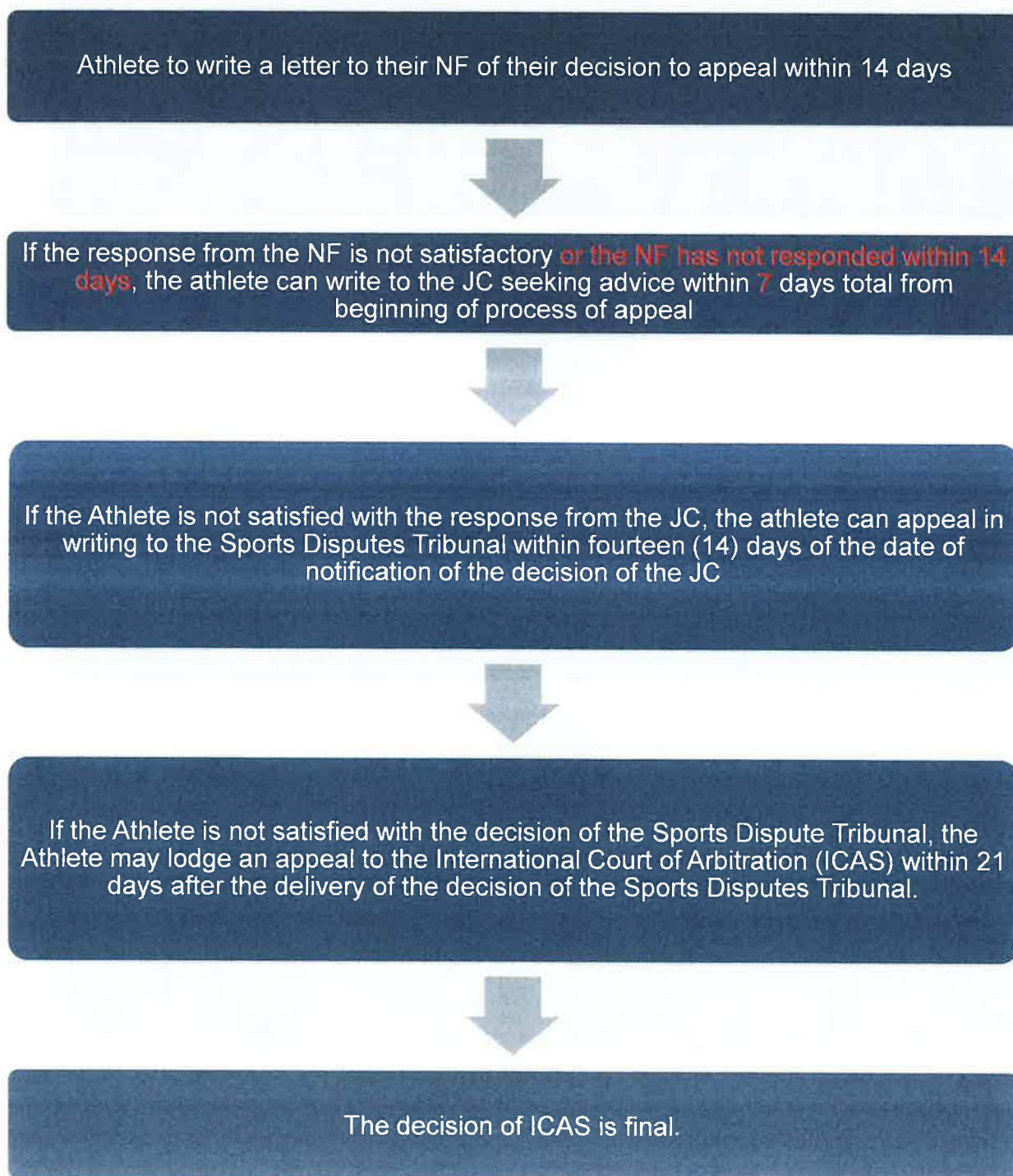
If the Athlete is dissatisfied with the decision of the Sports Dispute Tribunal, the Athlete may lodge an appeal to the International Court of Arbitration (ICAS) within 21 days after the delivery of decision.



The decision of ICAS is final.

Scenario 3 - Athlete dropped by NF after being in the final endorsed team

Process for an athlete to appeal if they were initially in the final endorsed team but was dropped by the NF:



The appeal process will not be extended beyond 21 days. A final decision is to be made in due course but no later than the due date for final nominations.

Indemnity: - *It is a condition of nomination and participation in the selection that PNGOC and its directors, officers, employees, servants, and agents be indemnified from and against all claims, demands, action, proceedings, costs and expenses including legal costs and liabilities to third parties arising out of incidents of any breach by the National Federation and/or athletes.*

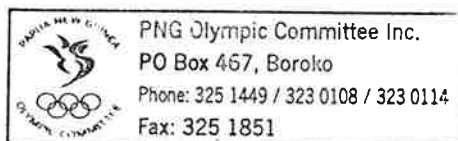
We, the undersigned are in agreement with this Selection Policy to select athletes to represent PNG at respective Games from 2025 to 2028.

Dated this**04th**..... day of**February**.....**2025**.....

Desmond Kaviagu



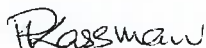
Secretary General
PNG Olympic Committee



Name of National Federation Executive

POLE KASSMAN

Signature of National Federation Executive



National Federation Executive Position

PRESIDENT

Name of Witness

Signature of Witness

Address of Witness

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Team PNG - Performance Standards (Individual Sports)

Games					
2025			2026		2027
Year	2025		2026		2028
Games	Pacific Mini Games	Youth Commonwealth Games	Commonwealth Games	Youth Olympic Games	Pacific Games
Host City	Negrulmud	TBC	Glasgow	Senegal	Papeete
Host Country	Palau	TBC	Scotland	Dakar	Tahiti
Date	29 th June – 9 th July	TBC	17 th March - 29 th March	31 st October – 14 th November	24 th July – 8 th August
Performance Standards					
Oceanic	Top 5	Top 5	Top 3	Top 3	Top 3
Pacific	Top 3	Top 3			Top 3
National	Top 2	Top 2	1 st	1 st	Top 2
Selection Policy Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions over the past 24 months. Includes improved performances from Pacific Games 2023 (Oceania Events Prioritized) Ranking in the National (Top 2) /Pacific (Top 3) /Oceania (Top 5) Is capable of achieving a gold, silver or bronze placing in their respective event and/or team event. Commitment to training and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions over the past 24 months. Includes improved performances from Pacific Games 2023 (Oceania Events Prioritized) Ranking in the National (top 2) ranked)/Oceania (Top 5) or Pacific top 3. Is capable of achieving a top 15 placing in their respective event and top 10 in the team event. Commitment to training and preparation for the Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions over the past 24 months. Includes improved performances from Pacific Games 2025 Mini Pacific Games, 2023 Pacific Games. (Oceania Events Prioritized) Ranking in the National (Number 1 ranked) or Ranking top 3 in Oceania Capable of achieving a top 20 placing in their respective event and/or team event. Commitment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrated improved performances and results at key international competitions over the past 24 months. Includes improved performances from Pacific Games 2025 Mini Pacific Games, 2023 Pacific Games. (Oceania Events Prioritized) Ranking in the National (Number 1 ranked)/Oceania (Top 5) Is capable of achieving a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting specific performance standards, rankings, or qualification criteria set by the IF. Competing in designated qualification events recognized by the IF. Demonstrate improved performances and results at key international competitions over the past 24 months. Participation in Oceania events is mandatory, and performances from the 2026 Commonwealth Games and 2027 Pacific Games will be considered

	<p>preparation for the Games</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No disciplinary issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No disciplinary issues 		<p>to training and preparation for the Games</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No disciplinary issues 	<p>gold, silver or bronze placing in their respective event and/or team event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to training and preparation for the Games • No disciplinary issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive an invitation from the IF or IOC – Universality or Tripartite • Commitment to training and preparation for the Games • No disciplinary issues
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Change History

Date	Version	Modified by	Description of change
5 th Oct 21	1.1	Desmond Kaviagu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Added Control Version on Cover Page 2. Added Change History on Page 2 3. Added Table of Contents 4. Updated Organisation and Association Logos 5. Added Vaccination requirement in General Criteria and Eligibility Requirements, and Exclusions section
13 th Feb 23	1.2	Chris Amini	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removed the 2023 Asian Games and replaced them with the 2023 Commonwealth Youth Games 2. Removed mandatory requirement for COVID-19 vaccination (2.3.5) 3. Removed – 2.5.5: COVID-19 vaccination no longer a requirement 4. Added – Exclusions (2.5): An endorsed athlete <u>May</u> not be replaced within forty-five (45) days of the opening ceremony of the respective Games. The dates outlined below indicate the date by which an athlete may not be replaced thereafter for the respective Games: The JC will only consider athlete replacements in the case of injuries, medical reasons or extenuating situations as outlined in 2.6. Replacement athletes can only be allowed if the replacement is on the long list and was previously endorsed by the JC. 5. Changed – 3.1.3: Added in Commonwealth Youth Games performance standards 6. Added – Appeal process: an athlete who was initially in the final team and was then omitted by the NF may appeal against omission. 7. Added – Appeal process: Scenario # 3 – If an athlete was initially endorsed and then later dropped by NF.
24 th of July 24	1.3	Armstrong Meli	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update of games being considered under the Selection Policy. 2025 Pacific Mini Games (2026 Commonwealth Games, 2026 Youth Olympic Games, 2027 Pacific Games, 2028 Olympic Games, 2029 Pacific Mini Games, 2030 Commonwealth Games, 2031 Pacific Games, and 2032 Olympic Games 2. Changed – 2 Processes: Changed wording from selection to endorsement for the JC's Role of endorsing and not selecting 3. Changed – 2.2 Selection Process – Justification Committee to Endorsement Process-Justification Committee

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Changed wording from "selecting" to "endorsing" 5. Changed – 2.4.1: Addition of "Performance Team to be notified of athletes being impacted to train" 6. Changed – 2.4.1: Addition of "Fitness testing and Screening, Physiotherapy Screening and Medical Assessments" 7. Changed – 2.5.7: Addition of the New list of Games and deadlines for replacing athletes prior to games 8. Added – 4 Appeals: (Scenario 1) and Scenario 3 where an Athlete can appeal to the JC if the response from the NF is not satisfactory or they have not received a response from the NF within 14 days 9. Change – Performance Standards remain the same. The Games and dates were updated to current.
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PAPUA NEW GUINEA CANOEING ASSOCIATION INC.

PO Box 438, Port Moresby 121, Papua New Guinea
png.canoeing@gmail.com

Selection Criteria – Team PNG Crew

PNG Canoeing Association – 2024 Mini Pacific Games

The selection criteria for the anticipated outrigger canoeing teams (Va'a) to represent Papua New Guinea at the Pacific Games in 2025. Selection based on the following criteria: -

1. Full payment of 2024 and 2025 membership fees to affiliated PNGCA club;
2. Club affiliation to PNGCA valid for 2024/2025;
3. Financial in terms of paying set portion of levy for athlete set by Team PNG;
4. Must have attended the last National Championships run by the PNG Canoeing Association (otherwise in special circumstances determined by the Coach);
5. **Athletes who have been named in the long lists for both men and women after the National Championships can be replaced by the Coaches, if they see that their performances are not maintained. Better performing paddlers can be included in these instances. This will be done during the ensuing three (3) regattas held immediately after the National Championships;**
6. Compatibility with the team and gelling with the team, on and off the water, at regattas and at training camps;
7. Attitude, effort shown at training and assistance with Club and PNGCA activities, (associated fundraising) and general squad and club training sessions;
8. Attendance at training camps, nominated training sessions, regattas and trials;
9. Paddling experience (must be over the age of 16 years, but special circumstances may apply);
10. Paddling technique, strength and endurance (including health and fitness levels), PNG HPS assist with assessment of individual athlete;



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11. Complete all PNGOC standard fitness testing requirements etc scheduled in the timeframe stated by PNGOC OC & JC;
 12. Adherence to the appropriate standard of conduct that is expected of someone representing PNG and the sport of Va'a (Athlete Code of Conduct);
 13. Athletes will not be considered for selection if they are illegally in possession of assets belonging to PNG Canoeing Association Inc., especially the legacy V1 canoes from 2015 Pacific Games,

Please note the following:

GELLING

This is the most important component of selecting a crew. If a crew does not gel, or a paddler cannot keep with the rhythm of the canoe then it will not work. It doesn't matter how strong a paddler is, the rhythm of the canoe is the most important aspect of paddling. Combinations will be trialled, and it may involve changing people between crews to see which combination gives the best rhythm. This will ensure that all paddlers competing for a certain seat have an equal opportunity to show what they can do (the coach will often steer the crew to get a feel of who gels best). The coach will also be relying on the steerer to recommend which combinations they feel work the best.

ATTITUDE

This involves attitude towards the canoe, the crew, the steerer, the squad and the squad coaches. The following is what will be looking at:

1. Who is prepared to assist prior to, during and after training to make training easier for all members of the squad.
2. The type of attitude a paddler brings to a canoe (how they interact with the others on and off the water).
3. How well paddlers give and receive feedback within the canoe. (Nothing is more important than a positive attitude throughout the canoe).
4. How paddlers take correction from the coach/coaches.
5. Who is prepared to push themselves that extra bit for the other paddlers in the canoe.



ATTENDANCE

This is self-explanatory. Aside from exceptional circumstances (family emergencies and injury, communicated to coaches/management), all paddlers must attend the minimum number of training camps/ trials set by the coach. If for any reason a paddler may be in a position where they will need to miss more than the allowed number of sessions, they need to discuss the situation with the Coach (in advance of missing the training sessions).

STRENGTH

This is a very important component of paddling, but without the rhythm in the canoe and a

positive attitude strength is irrelevant. Canoe racing is all about finding the strongest group of paddlers who can paddle in a rhythm together.

In the canoe strength – this involves who can move the most amount of water in time with the other paddlers. It is often easy for an experienced steerer or coach to determine this, however if this is not possible a series of pull-outs (seat-paddling) will be used.

ENDURANCE

Marathon distance at the games are paddled over – 20km (women)/ 30km (men). A paddlers

endurance is paramount to the team if they to contribute 100% at the distance. This requirement applies to sprints also to different specifications.

EXPERIENCE

Experience is more important in some seats than others. Seats 6, 1 & 2 require some degree of experience however this is primarily the coach's call and her/he will assess suitable combinations in all crews.

Selection notification

At each stage of the selection the Coach will update the list and advise each Club. The respective Club Presidents will then notify their members directly.

- **Appeals**

Teams will be nominated on the selection criteria detailed above, however if a paddler feels that he or she should paddle in a specific team they have the right to appeal the team nomination and challenge for a position in any team. This process of appeal will follow the PNGOC rules and guidelines.



☐ Athlete to write a letter to the Coach within 7 days of the selection, ☐ If the response from the Coach is not satisfactory, Athlete to write a letter to the PNGCA Executive of their decision to appeal within 14 days of selection ☐ If the response from the PNGCA Executive is not satisfactory, the Athlete can write to the PNGCO Justification Committee (JC) seeking advice within 21 days total from beginning of process of appeal

- ☐ If the Athlete is not satisfied with the response from the JC, the Athlete can appeal in writing to the Sports Disputes Tribunal within fourteen (14) days of the date of notification of the decision of the JC
- ☐ If the Athlete is not satisfied with the decision of the Sports Dispute Tribunal, the Athlete may lodge an appeal to the International Court of Arbitration (ICAS) within 21 days after the delivery of the decision of the Sports Disputes Tribunal.

The decision of ICAS is final.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The coaches have the final say in crew selection. This is not negotiable. When selecting crews the coaches will be pointing out to paddlers who they are up against for each particular seat. They will also let paddlers know which criteria they did not meet if they have been cut from a particular crew. I encourage all paddlers in the squad to regularly discuss their progress with the coach. We also need to be kept informed about which seat/s paddlers wish to be selected in.

Pole Kassman

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Pole Kassman
President
PNG Canoeing Association Inc.