



New Zealand Inline Hockey Association

www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz

P.O.Box 18001, Merrilands, New Plymouth, 4312

NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION POLICY

NZIHA's 'National Team Selection Policy' is the process designed to determine how Coaches, Team Managers, Selectors and Players are selected by NZIHA.

For New Zealand representative team selections, a Selection Panel will be appointed for each grade. The Selection Panel will be comprised of:

- A Convener of Selectors
 - The coach of that team as appointed by the NZIHA Board prior to the Trial Event
- A minimum of 3 and no more than 4 (including Convener) on selection panel.
 - Approved by the NZIHA Board prior to the Trial Event,

The administrative requirements of the trial process and the Selection Panel shall be the responsibility of the NZIHA General Manager or their appointee.

Responsibilities

Selection Panel

- The panel will be responsible for the selection of players in line with the NZIHA Selection Policy and the attached criteria and selection guidelines.

Convener of Selectors

- The final decision for the selection of a team will be the responsibility of the Convener of Selectors for that team.

Selection Advisors

- Selection Advisors will provide opinions and/or advice on the selection of players within a grade to the Panel

Conflicts of Interest

- Any conflict or potential conflict of interest, perceived or real that is present must be reported to the Convener (or if it is the Convener, to the General Manager and Board Chair) by each member of the Panel prior to the commencement of the trial event.
- The General Manager will record a 'Conflict of Interests Register' for the trial event.
- In the event of a conflict of interest being present related to the Convener of Selectors for a specific team, a majority vote from the panel is required in order for the conflicted player to be selected. The Convener of Selectors will have equal voting rights in this process.

Player Selection Criteria

- To be eligible for Selection in a New Zealand Representational team:
 - Players must be either present at the Trial Event or have an approved dispensation from the NZIHA.
 - Any player wishing to be considered for a NZ team placement and unable to attend trials is required to submit a DISPENSATION REQUEST online via the NZIHA website including payment of the DISPENSATION REQUEST FEE.

- **Only applications made using the above will be processed.**
If further information is required applicants will be contacted by email.
- Player 'attendance at trial' or 'application for dispensation' is a declaration of availability to be selected into a team and confirmation that the player is available to attend the tournament event and pay all associated costs.
- For players intending to seek placement in the NZ representative SM, SW, JM, JW teams/ squads, fitness will be assessed via an inline hockey specific adapted Beep/YoYo Fitness Test.
- Players may only play for one New Zealand team with the exception of SM and SW players who may also be considered to play in JM and/ or JW if eligible. The intention is to provide the best possible outcomes for success at the intended event. These grades are gender specific.
- Players must be fully paid members of the NZIHA for the season prior to the trial & be a fully paid member in the year of NZ Representation.
- Players must hold NZ Citizenship prior to attending the trial or be eligible to hold NZ Citizenship prior to attending the championship event the team is entered into. In the case of citizenship a New Zealand passport and/or New Zealand Birth Certificate is necessary.
- NZIHA will adhere to the rules of the tournaments that it wishes to attend. In the event of notification that allows for "living in NZ" or 'residency' there is an expectation that these players who trial are committed to NZ Inline Hockey for the future.
- Players must have no overdue debts with the NZIHA, or alternatively be actively participating in an agreed repayment plan with the NZIHA General Manager.
- Players must be of a skill level that would allow them to compete alongside team members at the intended competition.
- Teams will be selected on the basis on an ability to be competitive; lower age grade players will not be selected to make up numbers. If there is not enough available players to present a viable competitive team for a tournament then a team will not be selected for travel.
- Players selected for NZ Representative Teams must enter into a Player Agreement with the NZIHA for the duration of the selection period.
- A player will not only be selected for their talent but for their compatibility, attitude, performance, international experience, contribution and presentation for the team.
- Players are being selected to represent NZIHA, the New Zealand inline hockey community and their Country and as such are expected to abide by the NZIHA Code of Conduct and enter into a NZIHA Player Representation Contract. Players are required to avoid conduct detrimental to the integrity of and public confidence in the NZIHA or the Inline hockey community.
- Players will not be eligible for New Zealand representative status NZIHA Board believes inclusion will bring the game into disrepute, or believe there is a high risk the game will be brought into disrepute.

- There will be a requirement that all players selected in NZ representative teams sign

Selection Guidelines

The NZIHA believes that to provide a meaningful and enjoyable experience for its representative players, the following guidelines should be observed by the respective Panels in their selecting of National teams:

- The selection panel's final team should give highest priority to it achieving the best possible outcomes for success at the intended event.
- All players have the right to be considered for selection free of any prejudice.
- Where a selection decision involves the exercise of discretion, selectors must not act under the direction or influence of any other person

In exercising their discretion, the selectors may consider any factor, or combination of factors that is, in the opinion of the selectors, relevant for consideration when selecting a NZ team. Without any way limiting the discretion of the selectors, the selectors may consider the following:

- Performances in selection trials
- Performances in the previous Oceania or World Championships events
- Overall consistency of performance at an international level
- Individual strengths that may contribute to the performance of the team as a whole
- Willingness and ability to fill and/or complete a role that may enhance NZ's performance potential
- For players intending to seek placement in the NZ representative SM, SW, JM, JW teams/squads, fitness will be assessed via an inline hockey specific adapted Beep/YoYo Fitness Test.
- For SM, SW, JM, JW at the upcoming trial a squad of 18 will be named and the final travelling team will be named in March subject to form and fitness.
- For SM, SW, JM and JW these teams get priority on all players that are eligible.
- NZIHA principle for team viability and size shall be: -
The minimum viable team for non-world championship events is 8 players and 1 goalie. The maximum is 12 players and 2 goalies.
The preferred team size for world championship events (SM, SW, JM, JW) is 12 players and 2 goalies.

In general an athlete will only be considered for selection by discretion if they are considered by the selectors to be on a notable improvement curve/ and or posses high potential in the future for international events.

On advice from the Convenor, if any member of a Selection Panel is believed to be not acting in a fair and equitable manner while completing their task, the Board shall in the interest of 'fairness' have authority to suspend them from the panel.

Method of Selection

To give athletes the opportunity to trial and demonstrate their ability NZIHA may use the below methods of selection for NZ teams:-

- Open or Invitational Selection camp
- Open or Invitational Selection trial
- Specified events within the whole season resulting in pre-selection to attend a selection trial or camp (For example, Nationals,)
- Performances in designated fitness tests over the selection period

NZIHA will notify annually the method of selection that will be adopted for the year.

Player Dispensations

In the event a player is unable to attend trial due to extenuating circumstances, application may be made for dispensation using the NZIHA website application link. All dispensations must be received on or before the advised closing date prior to the trial event. All fees applicable for the dispensation must also be paid to be considered for dispensation. The following criteria examples may be considered by NZIHA when considering applications;

- Injury, Illness.
- Currently living overseas and playing competitive Inline Hockey (**see note***)
- Travel delays
- Work commitments
- Player is getting married
- Equipment failure
- Any legitimate unexpected reason that results in an athlete being unable to complete in trials (or other events) used as a basis of selection criteria
 - Family bereavement or personal misfortune
 - Exam
- Failure to finish a selection trial or event for any legitimate, unexpected reason
- Applications need to be received by the advertised due date prior trial with the exception of illness and travel delays.

Athletes unable to compete at events, trials, training camps or other attendances required under this criteria must advise NZIHA in writing of this fact and the reasons thereof as soon as practicable after the extenuating circumstances arise.

- In the case of injury or illness, athletes will be required to produce a Doctors certificate within 48 hours of trial and full clearance 1 month prior to travel (where appropriate).
- In the case of Work commitments a letter from employer confirming work commitments prevent attendance at trials.
- In the case of travel delays these can be confirmed with traffic reports or third party providers.
- In the case of equipment failure prior to trial can be confirmed via player's Club and during trial visible to all.
- In the case of exams these may be confirmed with a letter and a copy of the institutions exam schedule.

(Note*) In the case of NZ players overseas

Any non-resident players wanting to be considered for NZ representative teams should:

- Be playing regular inline or ice hockey at least the 2 months prior to the international event and provide written evidence of such from their Club.
- Provide a current medical certificate to advise that they are free from injury.
- Overseas players will be bound by the same conditions as domestically based players with regards to playing performance, skill development and fitness testing. Players will need to provide a Beep/ Yoyo or equivalent Aerobic Fitness test result validated by their Club Coach or a Fitness Centre - prior to trial and again 2 weeks prior to naming of the team as a measure of their Aerobic Fitness
- That the number of offshore players selected in Senior Men and Women's teams be capped at a maximum of 3 per team and only in exceptional circumstances the Board may increase that to 4. Offshore players may not be considered for any other NZ team.

The dispensation decision in each case will be made by the General Manager. A list of all players who have been approved for dispensation will be sent to the dispensation panel made up of Coach of the team and one of NZIHA 'Independent' Board member for ratification. The Panel

reserves the right to make a common sense decision outside the stated criteria.

Once the Dispensation Panel have reviewed the applications, the outcomes will be notified to the players and a list of Player having gained dispensation will be emailed to the Coach and Board prior to the trial and posted on the notice board at trial for players.

Formal Selection Procedures

Preliminaries:

- The completed team list will contain the selected team and up to 4 non-travelling reserves. The reserve group will not be ranked in any specific order of preference.
- A schedule of the selected team and non-travelling reserves along with any other necessary documentation is required to be signed off on behalf of the Selection Panel by the Convener and passed to the General Manager
- The completed team list will then be sent to the NZIHA Chairperson (or their nominee) for final confirmation.

Formal Announcement:

- Only when this confirmation has been acknowledged shall the General Manager send an electronic (email) communication to all players who attended trial and those with dispensation advising of the trial outcome
- The General Manager shall then release the team to the media and use any NZIHA platforms to promote it.

Handling Queries

- All queries in respect of team composition to be directed directly to the team coach
- All administrative queries to be directed to NZIHA General Manager

Timing

- NZIHA will endeavor to ensure athletes who have been selected into the team will be announced within 72 hours of the completion of the selection event.

Alterations after Naming

- In the event of any selected player withdrawing, priority for replacing them shall come from the named non-travelling reserves. If the Selection Panel feels a need to go beyond these players, they must first get approval from the Board Chair or the Chair's appointee.
- For any reason if there is a need to alter the team composition post announcement the Coach will do so in consultation with the Chair of NZIHA and the General Manager of NZIHA, then ratified by the Board.
- Any alterations will be announced within 48 hours of the change.