



**Scottish Disability  
Sport**



**XXI Commonwealth Games  
Gold Coast, Australia**

**4 April – 15 April 2018**

**Selection Policy and Standards**

**Para-Bowls**

**Scottish Disability Sport  
Caledonia House, South Gyle, Edinburgh EH12 9DQ**

## **Team Scotland: Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games**

### **Athlete - Sport Selection Policy and Standards**

#### **Introduction**

1. This selection policy has been agreed by Scottish Disability Sport (SDS) and Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS). It provides detail on the process by which SDS will arrive at athlete nominations, which will be submitted to CGS for consideration, for final selection to Team Scotland for Gold Coast 2018. 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 2018 Games lies with CGS.
2. SDS will nominate only those athletes that have qualified under both the para bowls 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 SDS will prioritise in accordance with this policy.

#### **Team Scotland General Selection Policy Aim**

4. Scotland selects a team that performs with distinction in 2018, achieving our highest ever number of medals at a Games out with Scotland and overall have a higher percentage of athletes meeting the selection standards when competing at these Games than in 2014
5. This para bowls policy is consistent with the aim.

#### **Athlete Eligibility**

6. The eligibility criteria of the CGF, Article 24, must be met by all nominees, see Appendix 1.
7. Where prospective team members do not automatically comply with the above, in terms of birth or parents birth, they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior approval from the CGF under their guidelines. No applications will be considered after 1 March 2017 to allow any case sufficient time for review and any submission to the CGF
8. Have complied with the minimum age regulations as stipulated by the IBD.

9. To be eligible for endorsement by CGS, a Director must satisfy all applicable CGF and IBD eligibility standards.

### **Games Competition Format**

10. The following events will be contested by para sport athletes (Elite Athletes with a Disability) in Gold Coast:

- Mixed Pair B2/B3 (1 male and 1 female)
- Open Triple B6/B7/B8 (must include 1 B6)

A maximum of five players can be nominated by each country.

Each athlete in the B2/B3 mixed pairs is entitled to a Director.

### **Sport Specific Selection Standards**

Selection period: 1 January 2017 to 14 February 2018

11. Team Qualification

- Mixed Pair and Open Triples teams will be invited to compete by the Commonwealth Games Federation on 7 November 2017. This will be based on factors including previous international competition experience and results determined by the IBD and be extended to 4 countries plus the host nation and one universal place.
- Any team quota slot receiving an invitation to compete from CGF (as detailed above), will be considered for nomination by SDS as Top 6 (in line with the CGS General Selection Policy and Standards) will have deemed to have been demonstrated by virtue of the CGF invitation process.

### **12. Individual Player Selection**

Players nominated to represent the sport of Para Bowls at Gold Coast 2018 will be considered for nomination from the following:

**Para Bowlers must have an International confirmed classification through the International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD) in advance of the Games**

## **Blind/Visually Impaired Bowlers - Player Selection**

- Wins and/or performances within the singles, pairs, triples and four bowl sections of the Home Nations Championships in Wales in April 2017 and/or Home Nations Championships in England in October 2017 or any other previously agreed competition.
- Qualification for and/or wins at the SDS / SIBA Indoor Bowls Championships in April 2017.
- Wins and/or Performances at the Multi-Nations Event on the Gold Coast, Australia in June 2017. Consideration will also be given to performances in the additional singles, pairs and triples competitions, and subsequent training camp during the tour to Australia in June 2017.
- Qualification for and/or wins at the Bowls Scotland National Championships in July 2017.
- Performances recorded at national and international events up to four years prior to 1 January 2017.
- Track record in major international competitions with particular emphasis on high finishing positions.
- Benchmarking – Data gathered during training and competition.
- Ability to play on fast surfaces. E.g. Indoor carpets and/or Southern Hemisphere bowling greens.
- In order to maximise medal potential, SDS reserves the right to nominate bowlers based on composition of position specific specialist and team dynamics which may be at the expense of another qualified bowler.

## **Physically Disabled Bowlers – Player Selection**

- Wins and/or performances within the singles, pairs, triples and four bowl sections of the Home Nations Championships in Wales in April 2017 and/or Home Nations Championships in England in October 2017 or any other previously agreed competition.
- Qualification for and/or wins at the SDS / SIBA Indoor Bowls Championships in April 2017.
- Wins and/or Performances at the Multi-Nations Event on the Gold Coast, Australia in June 2017. Consideration will also be given to performances in the additional singles, pairs and triples competitions, and subsequent training camp during the tour to Australia in June 2017.
- Qualification for and/or wins at the Bowls Scotland National Championships in July 2017.
- Performances recorded at national and international events up to four years prior to 1 January 2017.
- Track record in major international competitions with particular emphasis on high finishing positions.
- Benchmarking – Data gathered during training and competition
- Ability to play on fast surfaces. E.g. Indoor carpets and/or Southern Hemisphere bowling greens.

- In order to maximise medal potential, SDS reserves the right to nominate bowlers based on composition of position specific specialist and team dynamics which may be at the expense of another qualified bowler.

### **Directors Selection**

- Proven ability to demonstrate significant technical knowledge of bowls and the ability to engage and interact with a designated visually impaired bowler and playing partners.
- A significant contribution to team dynamics must be proven over the training and competition cycle.
- Demonstrable appropriate communication skills with a designated visually impaired bowler and their playing partners.
- Preparation and planning, consistency and attention to detail are core skills that must be displayed throughout the selection process.
- The ability to provide constructive feedback to a designated visually impaired bowler following training and competition.
- Feedback will be collated from each visually impaired bowler, following both training and competition, on a director's performance. This feedback will be used to identify, develop and foster effective partnerships.
- The skills and abilities of directors will be considered in isolation and as part of a director/bowler designated partnership.
- Wins and/or performances at all key national and international competitions within the selection cycle.
- Performances recorded at national and international events up to four years prior to 1 January 2017.
- In order to maximise medal potential, SDS reserves the right to select directors based on their positive contribution to team dynamics, proven influence and support for a designated bowler(s), excellence of their communication skills and their knowledge and expertise of high performance Para Bowls.

### **13. Other Factors for Consideration – Players and directors**

During the qualification period 1 January 2017 to 14 February 2018 the following will also be considered:

- SDS will nominate players and directors who have demonstrated a commitment to the SDS programme, including progression to performance targets set out in athletes' performance plans and elite athlete behaviours during training sessions, competitions and training camps.
- Players will require to undertake regular health and fitness checks.
- Performance record in competitions up to four years prior to 1 January 2017.
- Current form and fitness selection period
- Any breach of the SDS athlete agreement during the selection period.

## **Selection process**

14. All nominated athletes must have completed the required Anti-doping education
15. The SDS nominated selection panel will select players and directors to be nominated to CGS, in accordance with the agreed selection standards. The SDS board of directors will ratify nominations.
16. SDS will send their final nominations to CGS by 10 November 2017, subject to invitation being received. CGS will confirm selections by 30 November 2017.
17. Final selection to the Games team is dependent on receipt of relevant information required by CGS such as completion and signing of the CGF Eligibility form and CGS Team Member Agreement.

## **De-selection**

18. 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 Gold Coast 2018 team.
19. 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 para bowls Team Management. This will be specific to para bowls 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 final.

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

## **Appeal Process**

20. An appeal against non-nomination to CGS by SDS is entirely a matter for the player and SDS. This should be held in accordance with SDS's own appeal procedures, but taking into consideration only the CGS selection policy and agreed sport specific selections standards and conditions.
21. Following communication of nominated Athletes appeals will be heard in accordance with the SDS Internal Appeals Procedure
22. SDS will notify all potential nominees in writing of the players and directors nominated to CGS by 10 November 2017. Athletes who have not been nominated may appeal against their non-nomination. This must be a written appeal, including the grounds upon which the appeal is made, and be submitted to and received by the Chairperson at the SDS office by 1200 on 14 November 2017. Any appeal will be considered on 15 November 2017 with athletes informed, in writing, of the outcome on the 16 November 2017.

23. An appeal against CGS non-selection on behalf of an athlete may only be submitted by SDS and not by any individual athlete. If an appeal is submitted to CGS by SDS, a CGS Appeal Panel will consider the case along with any additional information provided. The appeal must be made in writing within one week of notification of selection outcomes to SDS by CGS.

### **Appointment of Team Staff**

24. A Team Manager will be appointed by CGS in consultation with Bowls Scotland and SDS by April 2017. The final complement of para bowls team staff attending the Games will ultimately depend upon team numbers and composition and will be determined by CGS in consultation with SDS. This will include different categories of accreditation and access to the Games Village and other secure areas.

# Appendix 1

## ARTICLE 24

### Eligibility

1. Subject to Article 24(2), as a condition of entry to compete in the Commonwealth Games, all athletes must be citizens or subjects of the Commonwealth Country that enters them and must:
  - a) Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by the Federation, or their respective Affiliated Commonwealth Games Association (CGA) or International Federation (IF) or under the World Anti Doping Code;
  - b) Comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federation, their respective IFs and the World Anti Doping Code as may be modified and applied by the Federation to ensure that the overriding principles of the Commonwealth Games are observed.
2. Subject to Article 24(3), where an athlete was born in a Commonwealth Country that has common citizenship/passport with other Commonwealth Countries, the athlete may initially represent either the athlete's Commonwealth Country of birth; or the Commonwealth Country of birth of his or her father or mother that shares the same citizenship/passport.
3. After having represented one Commonwealth Country at the Commonwealth Games, an athlete may not represent another Commonwealth Country unless he or she receives the approval of the Federation, the relevant IF and the affiliated CGAs of the two Commonwealth Countries concerned. Applications under this article must be submitted to the Executive Board at least 12 months prior to the commencement of the Games.
4. It is the responsibility of all affiliated CGAs to ensure that their athletes are fully aware of and comply with the eligibility rules of the Federation.
5. The Executive Board will have the power to waive the provisions of Articles 24 (1-3) in its discretion.

In relation this clause, the CGF Executive Board at its meeting in August 2004 gave the following guidelines:

- If an athlete has previously represented a country at a Commonwealth Games they may continue to represent that country at future Games.
- Athletes wishing to compete for a country on the basis of residency must show they have resided in that country for five years immediately prior to those Games.

Further guidelines were given in August 2005 as follows:

#### Athlete Eligibility - Athlete Dispensation Criteria

The General Assembly noted the Executive Board's decision that in accordance with Article 25 (5) dispensations would be granted to athletes where common passports exist in that an athlete may represent the new country subject to having fulfilled all the requirements of the relevant International Federation.