

# ***Athletics Otago Squads - Criteria***

## ***as at July 2016***

### **1. GENERAL**

The Athletics Otago Squads are administered by Directors appointed at the Athletics Otago AGM. Any support/funding is intended to contribute to an athlete's competition needs with focus on New Zealand Championships. Being a member of any of these squads is not a reward for past performance, but rather is designed to support individuals identified by Athletics Otago as having the ability/potential to deliver consistent performance.

### **2. PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING SQUAD NOMINATIONS**

The underlying fundamental principles of the squad are:

- 2.1 Being a member of any squad is designed to support a select group of athletes and assist in their development towards the selection for national teams.
- 2.2 Being a member of any squad will be considered for those athletes who can demonstrate their readiness and ability to achieve peak performance at a New Zealand Championship event. Such readiness is demonstrated through the athlete's training and competition plan.

### **3. ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible to be a member of any squad (except Talent ID Squad) an athlete first must achieve the standard for Squad selection as set down by Athletics Otago within the 12 month period from the National Championship event to the next years National Championship event they are applying for squad selection. Athletes must meet clause 3.1 when the squad performance standard is achieved. In addition, to be considered for nomination, the athlete must fulfill the following requirements:

- 3.1 Must be currently registered with an Athletics Otago affiliated club and/or Athletics Otago, and be eligible to compete in Athletics New Zealand events for Athletics Otago.
- 3.2 Must not be under suspension or other sanction by Athletics New Zealand for any doping or doping related offence.
- 3.3 Must commit to sign any applicable Athlete Agreement as required by Athletics Otago (i.e. Code of Conduct).
- 3.4 Must be in good financial standing with Athletics Otago. In the event that the athlete is nominated to become a member of the squad, he/she must continue to meet these conditions as well as additional conditions contained in the signed Athlete Agreement. The athlete also commits to participate in a mid season review of their training and performances if required.
- 3.5 Athletes with Disabilities must have a current Paralympics New Zealand athletics classification and must be a registered member of Paralympics New Zealand.

**Once a member of any squad, failure to continue to fulfil these eligibility requirements may result in the athlete being withdrawn from any squad.**

#### 4. CATEGORIES OF SQUADS

Athletics Otago has three categories for squads.

These categories have specific terms and conditions, including eligibility requirements that may be in addition to the general eligibility. These squad categories are outlined below:

**ELITE Status:** Athletes who have the potential to represent New Zealand at a Global Championship during the forthcoming season or in the season prior. Global Championships are defined by Athletics New Zealand as Black Singlet events ie. Olympic Games, World Championships, Commonwealth Games.

**MAIN Squad:** Athletes who have achieved the required squad standard as set down by Athletics Otago. Standards need to be achieved in events (15yrs to Snrs) and that have the relevant weight/height/distance to attend a New Zealand Championships event (excluding secondary schools), or the standard relevant to their age as at 31<sup>st</sup> December.

**TALENT ID Status:** Athletes aged 12 to 14. Athletes who have achieved the required squad standard as set down by Athletics Otago for ages 13 and 14. Athletes who have achieved a standard with a height/weight/distance that is a non New Zealand Championship event (probably a secondary school height/weight/distance) *may* be considered for this squad. Athletes in this squad are not entitled to financial assistance.

**At the discretion of the Athletics Otago Squad Directors, athletes may be added to squads who have not reached the required qualifying standards.**

*Standards are calculated as follows:*

Track and Field – 5% easier than current Otago record listed for relevant age as at 1<sup>st</sup> October.

Para athletes – 5% easier than current listed Otago record for relevant classification and age as at 1<sup>st</sup> October.

If no Otago record is listed, then a new Otago record will be established by the Otago records committee which will be 10% easier than current New Zealand record for relevant classification.

Winter – Standards were initially based off 10 years of Otago Championship results.

**The Athletics Otago Squad Directors will also use their discretion to modify standards when required or to include athletes into the squad.**

#### 5. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Athletics Otago endeavour to give some financial assistance for travel to sanctioned Athletics New Zealand National Championship events (excluding NZ Secondary School meets). The amount of subsidies available to each Squad will be determined prior to teams travelling; this is dependent on funds gained through grants. Any funds distributed will be scaled with the Elite Squad athletes gaining the most contribution towards travel.

Travel will include – flights, mini vans or bus, and accommodation only. Meals and entry fees will be the responsibility of Squad members.

Athletes will only be able to claim for a NZ Championship in the event/s they have achieved a squad standard in and for which they are selected for the squad. Athletes must compete in an event/s they obtained a squad

selection in, to obtain any squad subsidy. Athletes who fail to compete due to illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances may be ineligible for funding. Ordinarily an athlete may only claim against two National events per year, however an athlete may be considered for additional championship funding at the discretion of the Squad Directors upon written application.

## **6. ALLOCATION OF GEAR**

If gear is available (subject to finance) it will be issued to athletes upon announcement in the squads. Athletes are expected to look after all gear issued as it belongs to the squad. This gear should be worn at appropriate times, this includes all travelling associated with Otago teams *especially* National Championship events.

## **7. AUTHORITY FOR DECISIONS**

All matters relating to the nomination of athletes for these squads are the sole authority of the Squad Directors based on criteria. The Squad Directors for 2016-2017 are Raylene Bates (Chair), Alan Funnell, Diane Mears, Geoff Anderson, and Howden Finnie.

## **8. NOTIFICATION**

A review of the squads will take place in June and December each year. The squad list will be published by Athletics Otago after confirmation by the Athletics Otago Management Committee at their July and January meetings.

## **9. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ATHLETE**

- Notify the Squad Directors when a squad standard has been achieved. The relevant information to be included will be performance, wind reading, implement weight, hurdle height, date and venue of performance.
- Participation in Otago Championships (unless a request in writing not to participate due to injury, illness or extenuating circumstances is approved in advance by the Squad Directors).
- Must represent Otago and participate in the New Zealand National Championships (unless a request in writing not to participate due to injury, illness or extenuating circumstances is approved in advance by the Squad Directors).
- Notify the Squad Directors of current contact details, including address, phone numbers and email if applicable.
- Once a member of a squad, athletes must continue to demonstrate their commitment to training and competition.
- It is the obligation of the athlete to **immediately** report any injury, illness or other changes (including pregnancy) that could affect their ability to train and compete to any one of the Squad Directors. If the injury, illness or pregnancy is going to disrupt performance or training for a period longer than four months and the athlete wishes to maintain his/her squad status, then the athlete will be put on an injured list.

- If gear is available (subject to finance) it will be issued to athletes upon announcement in the squads. Athletes are expected to look after all gear issued as it belongs to the squad. This gear should be worn at appropriate times, this includes all travelling associated with Otago teams *especially* National Championship events.
- Must commit to sign any applicable Athlete Agreement as required by Athletics Otago (i.e. Code of Conduct).
- As a member of any squad you are available for promotional activities and any squad meetings Athletics Otago require.

## **10. RESPONSIBILITY OF DIRECTORS**

The Squad Directors shall produce a budget if required each April for the following year for NZ Championships, which shall be presented to the Finance Committee to obtain funds to enable financial support to squad members to travel to the NZ Championships.

The Finance Committee shall advise the Squad Directors as soon as possible of the outcome of any grant applications to enable funds to be allocated to the various squad members for travel to each Championship.

The Squad Directors shall inform athletes of their eligibility to the Squad prior to public announcement.

The Squad Directors shall allocate all available gear and also supervise the return of gear from athletes no longer in the Squads when required.

The Centre Administrator shall be updated regularly of current squad members.

An updated database of all current squad members shall be kept by the Squad Directors and circulated to the Centre Administrator.

## **12. FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information about the Athletics Otago Squads, including what assistance is provided, please contact the Squad Directors, Athletics Otago:

### **Raylene Bates (Throws and PARA)**

Tel: 021 895 400

Email: [raylene@athletics.org.nz](mailto:raylene@athletics.org.nz)

### **Diane Mears (Jumps and Hurdles)**

Tel: 027 489 5055

Email: [bdhmears@clear.net.nz](mailto:bdhmears@clear.net.nz)

### **Alan Funnell (Winter)**

Tel : 027 4761775

Email : [alfunnell@gmail.com](mailto:alfunnell@gmail.com)

### **Howden Finnie (Track up to and including 400m)**

Tel: 027 4332341

Email: [finnie123@ihug.co.nz](mailto:finnie123@ihug.co.nz)

### **Geoff Anderson (Walks and Track 800m and above)**

Tel:

Email: [geoffandbarb@xtra.co.nz](mailto:geoffandbarb@xtra.co.nz)

