

LA 28 OLYMPIC GAMES
NOMINATION CRITERIA FOR SURFING EVENTS

SURFING NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED (SURFING NEW ZEALAND)

1. Application of this Nomination Criteria

- 1.1 **Status:** This Nomination Criteria is issued by the Board and shall take effect from 3 July 2026. This Nomination Criteria supersedes any previous correspondence, discussions and representations (whether written or oral) by Surfing New Zealand regarding nomination and selection for the Games.
- 1.2 **Scope:** This Nomination Criteria applies to:
- (a) all Athletes wishing to be considered for nomination to the Games Team to compete in the Games in a Surfing Event; and
 - (b) Surfing New Zealand, including its Selectors, that wish to nominate Athletes to NZOC to be considered for selection to the Games Team for the Games.
- 1.3 **Process:** Selection to the Games Team is a four-step process:
- (a) each Athlete must be eligible in accordance with clause 3 of this Nomination Criteria;
 - (b) a quota must be qualified for New Zealand in a Surfing Event;
 - (c) Surfing New Zealand nominates Athletes to the NZOC in accordance with this Nomination Criteria and the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation; and
 - (c) the NZOC selects Athletes to the Games Team in accordance with the NZOC Selection Policy and the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

2. Selectors

- 2.1 **Composition:** The Selectors have been appointed by the Board. The Selectors who will consider nomination of Athletes to NZOC to be considered for selection in the Games Team are:

Lee Ryan
Lewis Joyce
Tania Huria

- 2.2 **Change of Selectors:** The Board reserves the right to change a Selector at any time in its absolute discretion prior to the Nomination Date. In such case, it will publish the change of Selector on the Surfing New Zealand website.

3. Eligibility

- 3.1 **Athlete Eligibility:** To be eligible to be nominated to the NZOC by Surfing New Zealand, an Athlete must:
- (a) have returned a completed Athlete Application to the NZOC, in the form prescribed by the NZOC by the following dates (“Application Date”):
 - i. no later than 5.00pm, 12 July 2027 where an Athlete is not a regular member of Surfing New Zealand at this date; and
 - ii. no later than 5.00pm, 10 November 2027 where an Athlete is a regular member of Surfing New Zealand at this date; and
 - iii. in exceptional circumstances before 5.00pm, 14 January 2028 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board) where Surfing New Zealand provides the NZOC with evidence that demonstrates that Athlete could not have been reasonably in contemplation on 10 November 2027; and
 - (b) have returned a completed Team Agreement in the manner prescribed by the NZOC to NZOC prior to the Nomination Date; and
 - (c) be a member of Surfing New Zealand or one of its affiliates; and
 - (d) be a New Zealand citizen and have a New Zealand passport; and
 - (e) have received an invitation by name from ISA to participate at the Games, where a quota place is allocated by name; and
 - (f) finish within the top 25 overall in the open division at the 2027 ISA World Surfing Games, where a quota is qualified at the 2027 ISA World Surfing Games; and
 - (g) have demonstrated to the satisfaction of Surfing New Zealand they are not suffering any physical or psychological condition that would compromise the Athlete’s ability to compete at the Games to the selection standard set out in the NZOC Selection Policy or which may compromise the health and safety of themselves, a NZ Team member or another participant at the Games; and

- (h) have acted in such a manner as not to bring the Athlete, the sport, Surfing New Zealand or the NZOC into public disrepute; and
- (i) meet the eligibility requirements of Surfing New Zealand and ISA, including but not limited to the International Olympic Committee Policy on the Protection of the Female (Women's) Category in Olympic Sport and the Guiding Considerations for International Federations and Sports Governing Bodies; and
- (j) not be sanctioned or be under investigation for any breach of any part of the Surfing New Zealand and ISA's regulations (including anti-doping regulations, the Sports Anti-Doping Rules and/or the NZOC Integrity Regulation) and not be sanctioned or be under investigation by the Sport Integrity Commission; and
- (k) no later than 14 January 2028 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board) have provided their name and contact address details to NZOC for the purpose of out of competition drug testing with the Sport Integrity Commission.

3.2 **Qualification:** New Zealand must qualify for places in a Surfing Event in accordance with ISA's Qualification System for the Games ("ISA Qualification System") and/or ISA Federation requirements for the Games. Qualification for a quota place in any Surfing Event by an Athlete does not guarantee that Athlete will be nominated or selected to compete in the Surfing Event at the Games.

3.3 **Nomination if Nomination Criteria Met:** Provided the requirements set out in clauses 3.1 and 3.2 are met, the Selectors shall nominate to NZOC for consideration of selection, those Athletes it considers meet the Nomination Criteria set out below.

3.4 **Reserve Athletes:** The Selectors may nominate Reserve Athletes to the NZOC, where the quota is a country quota only.

4. **Nomination Criteria**

4.1 **Nomination Criteria:** In considering any Athlete for nomination to the NZOC, the Selectors shall consider:

- (a) the Over-riding Nomination Criteria specified in clause 5.1; or
- (b) the Secondary Nomination Criteria specified in clause 5.2; and
- (c) the evidential requirements in clause 5.3; and
- (d) the Specific Nomination Factors specified in clause 5.4; and

(e) any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with clause 6.

4.2 **Relevance and Weighting:** The Selectors may determine the relevance and weight they wish to place on any Specific Nomination Factor(s) and any Extenuating Circumstances(s) as they consider appropriate. No Specific Nomination Factor shall be weighted more or less significantly based on the order in which it appears in this Nomination Criteria unless expressly specified.

4.3 **Own Enquiries:** In considering the Specific Nomination Factors, the Selectors may make such enquiries of the Athlete, or other persons, as they see fit.

4.4 **Conditions:** In considering any results and performances of an Athlete at any Key Events, the Selectors may, but are not obliged, to take into account the conditions in which the results and performances were obtained such as, but not limited to, weather conditions and the strength of the field of competitors.

4.5 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In any decision regarding the nomination of Athletes to the Games Team, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, take into account any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with clause 6 below.

5. **Over-riding Nomination Criteria, Secondary Nomination Criteria and Specific Nomination Factors**

5.1 **Over-riding Nomination Criteria:** In determining whether or not to nominate an Athlete to a Surfing Event, the Selectors must be satisfied overall that the Athlete:

- (a) is competing in a Surfing Event where a quota place at the Games has been qualified in accordance with the ISA Qualification System; and
- (b) is capable of achieving a top 16 placing in the Games in that Surfing Event, with the potential to win an Olympic Diploma (top 8 placing); and
- (c) has a track record of sufficient quality and depth that the Selectors believe demonstrates the Nominated Athlete will be competitive at the Games.

5.2 **Secondary Nomination Criteria:** Where a quota place has been qualified at the Games in accordance with the ISA Qualification System, but where no athlete has met the overriding criteria in clause 5.1(b) and (c), then the Selectors may consider nominating an Athlete to a Surfing Event provided the Selectors are satisfied overall that the Athlete has demonstrated he/she is capable of achieving an Olympic Diploma (top 8 placing) in a Surfing Event at the Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games, provided he/she:

- (a) has not previously competed at an Olympic Games; and

- (b) is aged 23 years or younger on 31 December 2028; and
- (c) has a positive track record of sufficient quality and depth in elite events internationally that demonstrates the Nominated Athlete(s) will be competitive in the Surfing Event at the Games.

5.3 **Evidence:** In determining whether or not the Athlete satisfies the Over-riding Nomination Criteria for Surfing Events in clause 5.1 or the Secondary Nomination Criteria for Surfing Events in clause 5.2, the Selectors shall have regard to the results and performances in the Surfing Event at the following Key Events during the Qualification Period:

- 2026 International Surfing Association (ISA) World Surfing Games
- 2027 International Surfing Association (ISA) World Surfing Games
- 2028 International Surfing Association (ISA) World Surfing Games
- World Surf League (WSL) Events (Championship, Challenger and Regional Qualifying events are included)

Note: An Athlete must participate in a minimum of three of the above Key Events, two of which must take place outside of Oceania, during the Qualification Period.

5.4 **Specific Nomination Factors:** When considering the Over-riding Nomination Criteria or Secondary Nomination Criteria above, the Selectors may also take into account any one or more of the following factors about an Athlete within the Qualification Period:

- (a) any other performances or results in competitions / events in addition to the Key Events;
- (b) adequate fitness and a commitment to maintain a fitness and training programme as agreed with the applicable coach(es);
- (c) demonstrated good behaviour, including a commitment to training and attendance at training camps;
- (d) demonstrated compatibility with others in a team environment;
- (e) demonstrated compliance with the rules of events and competitions;
- (f) understanding and respect for the obligations that accompany being a member of a New Zealand team when competing at the Games, including respect for Games Team members;
- (g) willingness to promote Surfing New Zealand in a positive manner;
- (h) demonstrated ability to take personal responsibility for self and their results;

- (i) proven ability to be reliable; and
- (j) any other factor(s) which the Selectors reasonably consider to be relevant.

6. Extenuating Circumstances

- 6.1 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In considering the nomination of Athletes in accordance with this Nomination Criteria, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, give weight to any Extenuating Circumstances which may include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (a) injury or illness;
 - (b) travel delays;
 - (c) equipment failure;
 - (d) bereavement or personal misfortune; and/or
 - (e) any other factors reasonably considered by the Selectors to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- 6.2 **Athlete to Advise:** Athletes unable to compete at Key Events or other attendances required under this Nomination Criteria, must advise the CEO of the Extenuating Circumstances and reasons, in writing, with as much advance notice as possible and ideally seven (7) days prior to the commencement of the Key Event or other attendance. If the CEO is not notified of any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with this Nomination Criteria, then the Selectors have no obligation to rely on such circumstances.
- 6.3 **Medical Certificate:** In the case of injury or illness, Athletes may be required by the CEO to provide a medical certificate and/or to undergo an examination by a health practitioner/s nominated by the CEO, and to provide that opinion and/or report to the Selectors. Any failure to agree to such a request may result in the Selectors being unable to consider the injury or illness as an Extenuating Circumstance.
- 6.4 **Case by Case:** In the case of any Extenuating Circumstance/s, the Selectors will make a decision on a case-by-case basis.

7. Nomination and Selection

- 7.1 **Nomination to NZOC:** Surfing New Zealand will nominate Athletes (“Nominated Athletes”) and any Reserve Athletes to the NZOC by the Nomination Date.
- 7.2 **Nomination with Conditions:** Surfing New Zealand may nominate an Athlete with any conditions, for example, conditions relating to recovery from injury or continuing to meet specified performance levels. If the conditions are not met to the satisfaction of the Selectors, they will not be eligible for selection, unless the NZOC decides to select the Nominated Athlete subject to those or other conditions.
- 7.3 **Selection by NZOC:** Selection to the Games Team by the NZOC will be made in accordance with the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.

8. Appeal Procedure

- 8.1 **Non-Nomination Appeals:** An Athlete may appeal to Surfing New Zealand against their non-nomination to the NZOC by the Surfing New Zealand provided that the Athlete:
- (a) is on the Surfing New Zealand long list for the Games; and
 - (b) meets the eligibility criteria under clause 3 of this Nomination Criteria.
- 8.2 **Procedures for Non-Nomination Appeals:** Any appeal under clause 8.1 of this Criteria must be made in accordance with clause 13 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.
- 8.3 **Procedures for Non-Selection Appeals:** If a Nominated Athlete is not selected by the NZOC, the Nominated Athlete may appeal the non-selection in accordance with clause 14 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation, provided the Nominated Athlete:
- (a) is on the Surfing New Zealand long list for the Games; and
 - (b) meets the eligibility criteria under clause 3 of this Nomination Criteria.

9. Inconsistencies

- 9.1 **NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation:** In the event there is any inconsistency between this Nomination Criteria and the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation, the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation shall prevail.

- 9.2 **ISA Qualification System:** If this Nomination Criteria imposes a higher qualification standard or a lesser number of participants than stated by the ISA Qualification System, this shall not be regarded as an inconsistency.

10. Amendments to this Nomination Criteria

- 10.1 **Prior to Nomination Date:** This Nomination Criteria may be amended or supplemented from time to time by the Board, before the Nomination Date, provided NZOC has approved the amendment/s and supplement/s.
- 10.2 **Notice:** The Board will give as much notice as possible of any amendment/s or supplement/s made under clause 10.1 to this Nomination Criteria, to persons it considers may be affected by any such amendment/s or supplement/s.

11. Definitions

- 11.1 **Application Date** means the dates set out in clause 3.1(a) of this Criteria, by which Athletes must submit to NZOC a completed Athlete Application in accordance with clause 8.3 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.
- 11.2 **Athlete** means a person who wishes to be considered for nomination to the Games Team.
- 11.3 **Athlete Application** means the form set by the NZOC that must be completed by any Athlete applying to be nominated and selected to the Games Team.
- 11.4 **Board** means the Board of Surfing New Zealand as constituted under the Constitution.
- 11.5 **CEO** means the Chief Executive of Surfing New Zealand and includes his / her nominee.
- 11.6 **Constitution** means the Constitution of Surfing New Zealand.
- 11.7 **Extenuating Circumstances** means the inability to perform at an optimum level arising from one or more of the reasons set out in clause 6.1.
- 11.8 **Games** means the Games of the XXXIV Olympiad to be held in Los Angeles, the United States of America from 14 July - 30 July 2028.
- 11.9 **Games Team** means the Athletes selected in accordance with the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games and the team support appointed by the NZOC to the New Zealand Team to Games.
- 11.10 **ISA** means International Surfing Association.

- 11.11 **Key Events** means an international competition listed in clause 5.3.
- 11.12 **Nominated Athlete** means an Athlete who has been nominated by Surfing New Zealand to the NZOC for consideration of selection to the Games Team.
- 11.13 **Nomination Criteria** means the criteria made up of the Over-riding Nomination Criteria or Secondary Nomination Criteria and the Specific Nomination Factors and is also referred to as “**this Criteria**”.
- 11.14 **Nomination Date** means on or before 24 May 2028 (and includes any alternative date as agreed between NZOC and Surfing New Zealand), by which Surfing New Zealand must submit any Nominated Athletes to the NZOC.
- 11.15 **NZOC** means the New Zealand Olympic Committee Incorporated.
- 11.16 **NZOC Integrity Regulation** means the NZOC Integrity Regulation available [here](#).
- 11.17 **NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation** means the regulation of NZOC relation to the nomination and selection Process for all Olympic and Commonwealth Games, including the Games, available [here](#).
- 11.18 **NZOC Selection Policy** means the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games, available [here](#).
- 11.19 **Over-riding Nomination Criteria** means the criteria set out in clause 5.1.
- 11.20 **Qualification Period** means the period between 3 July 2026 and 22 May 2028.
- 11.21 **Reserve Athletes** means a travelling and/or non-travelling reserve(s), as designated by the Selectors and in accordance with the ISA Qualification System and the LA28 Sport Entry Manual.
- 11.22 **Secondary Nomination Criteria** means the criteria set out in clause 5.2.
- 11.23 **Specific Nomination Factors** means the factors listed in clause 5.4 which the Selectors may take into account when applying the Over-riding Nomination Criteria or Secondary Nomination Criteria.
- 11.24 **Selectors** means the selectors appointed by Surfing New Zealand in accordance with clause 2 of this Nomination Criteria.
- 11.25 **Surfing Event** means a men’s or women’s shortboard surfing event in the Games in which an Athlete competes.
- 11.26 **Surfing New Zealand** means Surfing New Zealand Incorporated.

11.27 **Team Agreement** means the agreement that must be completed by any Athlete wishing to be considered for nomination and selection to the Games Team in accordance with clause 8.4 of the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.