



Netball Australia

2026 GLASGOW COMMONWEALTH GAMES NOMINATION POLICY

December 2025



In the spirit of Reconciliation, Netball Australia acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this ancient unceded land where we live, work and play netball on.

We honour the continuing cultures, languages, and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples whose cultural, spiritual, and ancestral connections to the lands, sky, and waters has endured since time immemorial. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and we acknowledge and value the significant and continuing contributions Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples make within our community.

Netball Australia is committed to Reconciliation. We acknowledge the need to reflect on our shared history in order to build a vision for reconciled and prosperous future for all within our sport. One built on mutual respect, equity, authentic collaboration, and genuine truth-telling.

Netball Australia's Purpose: *Netball empowers girls and women to shine, while enriching and connecting communities.*

1. Application of this Nomination Policy

- 1.1 This Nomination Policy is issued by the Board of Netball Australia.
- 1.2 This Nomination Policy shall take effect from 1 December 2025 and conclude on 2 August 2026.
- 1.3 This Nomination Policy applies to:
 - (a) all Athletes wishing to be considered for nomination to the Games Team to compete in the Sport Event; and
 - (b) Netball Australia, including its Selectors, that wish to nominate Athletes to CGA to be considered for selection to the Games Team for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

2. Performance Aim for the Games

- 2.1 The Games represent the pinnacle of athletic achievement within Commonwealth nations.
- 2.2 Netball Australia will nominate Athletes that will assist Australia achieve its aspiration for Australia “to be the No. 1 nation in both gold and overall medals at the 2026 Commonwealth Games”.
- 2.3 Netball Australia’s performance aims for the Games, in line with Netball Australia’s high performance strategy, are:
 - (a) Podium for the Games Team for the Sport Event; and
 - (b) Delivery of world class performances.

3. Selectors

- 3.1 The Selectors have been appointed by the Board.
- 3.2 The Selectors will consider and determine the nomination of Athletes to CGA to be considered for selection by CGA for the Games Team and comprise:
 - (a) Stacey Marinkovich, National Coach – Selector & Chair of Selectors;
 - (b) Annie Sargeant - Selector; and
 - (c) Michelle Wilkins - Selector.
- 3.3 In the event that one or more Selectors becomes or is unable to perform their role or meet their responsibilities under this Nomination Policy for any reason whatsoever, the Board will appoint a replacement Selector at its sole discretion.

4. Nomination Procedure

4.1 Eligibility for Nomination

An Athlete will not be eligible for nomination by the Selectors unless the Athlete has first satisfied (to the reasonable satisfaction of the Selectors) each of the following conditions:

- (a) the Athlete is an Australian citizen;
- (b) the Athlete is a current member of a Member Organisation of Netball Australia (and therefore a member of Netball Australia);
- (c) the Athlete has duly completed, signed and returned the Team Membership Agreement - Athlete to CGA prior to the Nomination Date;
- (d) the Athlete has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Netball Australia that they are not suffering from any physical or mental impairment that would prevent them from competing in the Games to the highest possible standard;
- (e) the Athlete has not by their actions or omissions brought themselves, the Sport, Netball

Australia or the CGA into disrepute, censure or scandal;

- (f) the Athlete has disclosed any current / ongoing investigations regarding potential breaches of any other national sporting organisation's policies as well as any substantiated / determined breaches of any other national sporting organisation's policies to both CGA and Netball Australia;
- (g) where matters are disclosed by the Athlete pursuant to clause (f) of this Policy, they are not of a nature or severity that could bring the Athlete, Netball Australia or the CGA into disrepute, scandal or censure or put others at risk if the Athlete were to be selected to the Games Team;
- (h) the Athlete has not breached the CGA Anti-Doping By-Law as amended by CGA from time to time (unless the Athlete has already been sanctioned for the breach and completed the sanction imposed); and
- (i) the Athlete has not, to Netball Australia's knowledge, used or administered any substance which, if it had been detected as being present in the Athlete's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted doping or used any prohibited method or committed any other doping offence as defined in Netball Australia's, the CGF's or the CGA's Anti-Doping By-law.

4.2 Nomination Procedure for Qualification System Sports

- (a) Australia must qualify for places in each Sport Event in accordance with the Qualification System for the Games (**Athlete Allocation System**).
- (b) Qualification for a place in any Sport Event(s) by an Athlete does not guarantee that the Athlete will be nominated by Netball Australia or selected by CGA to compete in the relevant Sport Event at the Games unless specified in the Athlete Allocation System.
- (c) In line with the Athlete Allocation System, the maximum team size allowed for nomination will be 12 Athletes.

4.3 Nomination Procedure for Reserve Athletes

- (a) Netball Australia may nominate one or more Athletes that the Selectors consider to be a suitable replacement for a nominated or selected Athlete who may no longer be able to perform their role in the Games Team (**Reserve Athlete**).
- (b) Reserve Athletes are not members of the Games Team.
- (c) Should a Nominated Athlete become unable to compete in the Games for any reason whatsoever, including but not limited to the reasons identified in clause 6, a Reserve Athlete may be nominated to CGA at the discretion of the Selectors in accordance with the *Late Athlete Replacement Policy* made available by the CGA with respect to the Games.
- (d) The nomination of a Reserve Athlete will be made in accordance with the:
 - (i) Nomination Procedure (as specified in this clause 4); and
 - (ii) Nomination Criteria (as specified in clause 5).

5. Nomination Criteria

5.1 Categories of Nomination Criteria

- (a) The criteria for nomination of Athletes by Netball Australia to CGA for selection to the Games Team comprise:
 - (i) the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria (as specified in clause 5.2); and
 - (ii) the Specific Nomination Factors (as specified in clause 5.3).
- (b) Provided the requirements set out in clauses 5.2 and 5.3 are satisfied, the Selectors shall

nominate to CGA, prior to the Nomination Date, those Athletes that the Selectors consider have met the applicable Nomination Criteria.

5.2 Over-Riding Nomination Criteria

- (a) In determining whether or not to nominate an Athlete for a Sport Event, the Selectors must be satisfied overall that:
 - (i) the Athlete has a track record of quality and depth;
 - (ii) Netball Australia is confident that the Athlete will be competitive at the Games; and
 - (iii) Netball Australia is confident that the Athlete will perform creditably in that Sport Event,(the **Over-Riding Nomination Criteria**).
- (b) In determining whether or not the Athlete has met the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria for the relevant Sport Event(s), the Selectors must take into consideration the Athlete's performances and results in the Sport Event at which they seek to be nominated and selected for the Games Team in the following Key Events during the period commencing on 1 January 2023 and ending on 2 August 2026:
 - (i) International Test matches, including World Netball events;
 - (ii) Australian Diamonds program activities under the direction of the National Coach, including preparation hubs, other training activities, camps and tours;
 - (iii) Suncorp Super Netball;
 - (iv) Other national league competitions conducted by a Full Member of World Netball that is of equivalent standing to the Suncorp Super Netball League as determined by Netball Australia. This includes, without limitation, the ANZ Premiership, conducted by Netball New Zealand and the Super League, conducted by England Netball;
 - (v) National Netball Championships;
 - (vi) Member Organisation top tier competitions (i.e., Premier League/State League);
 - (vii) First Nations Tournament (for Black Swans Program only).

5.3 Specific Nomination Factors

- (a) In determining whether or not to nominate an Athlete for a Sport Event, the Selectors may also take into account any one or more of the following additional factors regarding an Athlete:
 - (i) composition and balance of team, including but not limited to position coverage;
 - (ii) performances or results in competitions / events in addition to the Key Events, including previous international and national performances;
 - (iii) current or previous levels of skill and physical fitness and a commitment to maintain a fitness and training programme as agreed with the applicable coach(es);
 - (iv) current or potential injury or condition which may impair, inhibit or prevent the participant's performance to the requisite level;
 - (v) demonstrated good behaviour including a commitment to training and attendance at training camps;
 - (vi) demonstrated compatibility with others in a team environment;
 - (vii) demonstrated compliance with the rules of events and competitions;

- (viii) understanding and respect for the obligations that accompany being a member of an Australian team when competing at the Games including respect for team members and support staff;
 - (ix) willingness to promote netball in a positive manner;
 - (x) demonstrated ability to take personal responsibility for themselves and their results;
 - (xi) demonstrated reliability; and
 - (xii) any other factor(s) the Selectors, in their discretion, consider relevant,
- (the **Specific Nomination Factors**).

- (b) In considering any one or more of the factors set out in clause (a), the Selectors may make such enquiries of the Athlete or other persons as they see fit.
- (c) The Selectors may give weight to any one or more of the Specific Nomination Factors. No particular factor shall be weighted more or less significantly due to the order in which that factor appears in clause (a).

5.4 **Extenuating Circumstances**

- (a) In any decision regarding the nomination of Athletes to CGA for selection to the Games Team, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, take into account any extenuating circumstances in accordance with clause 6.

5.5 **Nomination Procedure**

- (a) After consideration of the Nomination Criteria, the Selectors must follow the procedure set out in the CGA Team Nomination, Selection and Appeals By-Law.

6. **Extenuating Circumstances**

6.1 **Consideration of Extenuating Circumstances**

In considering the nomination of an Athlete to CGA for selection to the Games Team, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, have regard to extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) injury or illness;
- (b) travel delays;
- (c) equipment failure;
- (d) bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member, which means a spouse, de facto partner, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling; or
- (e) any other factor that is reasonably considered by the Selectors to constitute extenuating circumstances.

6.2 **Athlete to advise the Selectors of applicable extenuating circumstances**

- (a) Athletes that are unable to compete at events, trials or other attendances required in this Policy, must provide written notice to the Chair of the Selectors (as identified in clause 3.2) of the applicable extenuating circumstances and reasons with as much advance notice as possible and ideally no less than seven (7) days prior to the commencement of the relevant event, trial or other attendance.
- (b) If the Chair of Selectors is notified of extenuating circumstances in accordance with this clause 6, then the Selectors may have regard to those extenuating circumstances (on a case by case basis) but will have no obligation to base their nomination decision on the

basis of such circumstances.

6.3 Medical Certificate

- (a) In the case of injury or illness, an Athlete may be required by the Selectors to:
 - (i) provide a medical certificate; and/or
 - (ii) undergo an examination by one or more health practitioners nominated by the Selectors; and/or
 - (iii) provide the relevant health practitioner's opinion and/or report to the Selectors.
- (b) Any failure to comply with clause (a) may preclude the Selectors from considering the injury or illness to be an extenuating circumstance.

7. Nomination Appeals Procedure

7.1 Nomination Appeals

Subject to the CGA Team Nomination, Selection and Appeals By-Law, an Athlete may appeal to the NST against their non-nomination by the Selectors provided always that the Athlete has submitted a duly completed and executed Athlete Agreement to the CGA prior to the Nomination Date.

7.2 Procedures for Nomination Appeals

Any appeal against non-nomination under clause 7 must be made in accordance with the procedures set out in Schedule 1 of the *CGA Team Nomination, Selection and Appeals By-Law*.

8. Inconsistencies

8.1 For the avoidance of doubt, if Netball Australia's Nomination Criteria:

- (a) imposes a higher qualification standard; or
- (b) permits a lesser number of participants;

than stated by the Athlete Allocation System, this shall not be regarded as an inconsistency.

9. Amendments to this Nomination Policy

9.1 This Nomination Policy may be amended from time to time by the Board, before the Nomination Date, provided that CGA has first approved the proposed amendment(s). For the purpose of version control, any amended version of the Nomination Policy must state the version number and date of the amendment.

9.2 Once any amendments to the Nomination Policy are approved by CGA, Netball Australia must:

- (a) publish the amended Nomination Policy on Netball Australia's website and social media channels;
- (b) communicate the amended Nomination Policy to all potentially eligible Athletes for the Games, coaches and other stakeholders; and
- (c) ensure the amended Nomination Policy is known and adhered to.

10. Definitions

10.1 The following definitions apply in this Policy unless the context requires otherwise:

Athlete means a person who competes or participates in a Sport under the authority of Netball Australia and wishes to be considered for nomination to the Games Team.

Athlete Allocation System has the meaning set out in clause (a).

Board means the Board of Netball Australia.

CGA means the Commonwealth Games Australia Limited.

CGF means the Commonwealth Games Federation.

Games means the 2026 Commonwealth Games to be held in Glasgow from 23 July 2026 to 2 August 2026.

Games Team means the team of athletes and officials who are selected by CGA in accordance with the CGA Team Nomination, Selection and Appeals By-Law to represent Australia and participate in the Games.

Key Events mean any international, continental or national competition listed in clause (b) which is a major or pinnacle event for the Sport or is at least the equivalent of a "world cup" or "world championship" and have an equivalent field to that which is likely to occur at the Games.

Netball Australia means Netball Australia Limited.

Nominated Athlete means an Athlete who has been nominated by Netball Australia for selection to the Games Team in compliance with this Nomination Policy to the CGA by Sport.

Nomination Criteria means the criteria specified in clause 5 comprising the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria and the Specific Nomination Factors.

Nomination Date means on or before 9 June 2026 (and includes any alternative date as agreed between CGA and Netball Australia), by which Netball Australia must submit any Nominated Athletes to the CGA.

Nomination Policy means this nomination document as amended by Netball Australia from time to time (subject always to CGA's prior written approval).

NST means the Australian Government entity known as the National Sports Tribunal established by the *National Sports Tribunal Act 2019* (Cth).

Over-Riding Nomination Criteria has the meaning set out in clause (a).

Qualification System means the eligibility, participation and qualification criteria determined by CGF and applied by Netball Australia to nominate Athletes for each Qualification System Sport.

Qualification System Sports means each of Basketball 3X3, Netball, Para Athletics, Para Bowls, Para Cycling - Track, Para Powerlifting, Para Swimming, Weightlifting and Wheelchair Basketball 3X3.

Selectors means the selectors appointed by Netball Australia as specified in clause 3.

Specific Nomination Factors has the meaning set out in clause 5.3.

Sport means Netball.

Sport Event means 'Netball – 1 Medal Event' on the program at the Games.

Team Membership Agreement - Athlete means the agreement in the form specified by CGA which governs the Athlete's participation in the Games that must be completed and duly executed by any Athlete wishing to be considered for nomination and selection to the Games Team in accordance with the CGA Nomination and Selection By-Law.