



**INDIVIDUAL/TEAM: DISCRETIONARY SELECTION POLICY – TRANS TASMAN 20KM WALKS INTERNATIONAL,
NEW ZEALAND VS AUSTRALIA, HOBART, 25TH FEBRUARY 2012**

These criteria are to be read in conjunction with the Athletics New Zealand General Selection Policy for New Zealand Representative Teams. Where there is any conflict with the provisions in the General Policy the Event Criteria will prevail.

1. SELECTION POLICY PERFORMANCE CONDITIONS:

1.1 Performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised in conformity with rules set by the IAAF, its Area Associations or its Member Federations.

2. ENTRY RULES:

2.1 Member Federation entries must comply with the local organizing committee (LOC) competition entry requirements and entry rules.

3. SELECTION/NOMINATION PHILOSOPHY:

3.1 An athlete selected/nominated to compete under the Discretionary Selection Policy as an individual is expected to participate and represent Athletics New Zealand and Race Walking New Zealand with distinction.

3.2 Where appropriate, OS selectors will look to select full teams to this event. The teams for this event comprise up to four (4) athletes in the Open Men and Open Women's grades -with three (3) athletes to count for each of the open teams; and comprise up to three (3) athletes for the Women's 19 (W19) and Men's 19 (M19) – with two(2) athletes to count for each of the M19 and W19 teams.

3.3 The teams will compete over 20 kilometres in the Men's and Women's Open grade; and compete over 10 kilometres in the Men 19 and Women 19 grades.

4. SELECTION PROCESS:

Participation Criteria

4.1 Nothing in this Policy obliges Athletics New Zealand to select a full contingent of individuals in any particular event regardless of the entry rules set by the local organizing committee (LOC). Athletics New Zealand will select/nominate Individual(s)/Team according to the discretionary criteria set out in this Policy as allowed by entry rules for the event being selected for.

Eligibility

4.2 In order to be eligible for selection/nomination all athletes must:

4.2.1 Satisfy all IAAF, RWNZ eligibility and nationality participation rules.

4.2.2 Be a registered member of Athletics New Zealand.

4.2.3 Submit an online expression of interest (EOI) at <http://performance.athletics.org.nz>.

4.2.4 Remain in "good standing" with Athletics New Zealand and Race Walking New Zealand and at all times comply with any established code of conduct or athlete agreement and otherwise conduct themselves in a way that does not bring their sport or the team into disrepute.

4.2.5 "Where required," athletes seeking dispensation for an event must **request in writing** (letter, fax, preferably by email) to the Convenor of Selectors under stadia (tfselectors@athletics.org.nz) or non-stadia (osselectors@athletics.org.nz) events.

4.2.6 Dispensations will be at the sole discretion of the Selectors and will generally only be granted to athletes in exceptional circumstances.

Performance Period

4.3 The selectors will consider Race Walking performances achieved at the NZ Long Distance Walks Championships, 30 October 2011, in making their selection for the TT20km Walks International and relevant performances achieved in the 2011 calendar year.

Selection Criteria

4.4 For an athlete to be considered for selection/nomination, s/he must meet the discretionary Performance Standards set by the Selectors and compete at the Long Distance Walks Championships to be held in Palmerston North on Sunday 30th October 2011.

4.5 Notwithstanding the provisions of clause 4.4 and any other provision in these selection criteria, the Selectors have an overriding discretion to select any eligible athlete to a Team or an event if they believe it is in the best interests of Athletics New Zealand and/or Race Walking New Zealand to do so. In exercising this discretion the Selectors may consider any other factor or combination of factors that are, in the opinion of the Selectors, relevant to their decision whether to select an athlete under this clause. Without in any way limiting the discretion of the Selectors, the Selectors may consider the following:

4.5.1 Potential to be highly competitive at the competition;

4.5.2 Competitive record against other athletes under consideration for selection in the same event with emphasis on results in the New Zealand Championships.

4.5.3 Consistency of performances during the qualifying period;

4.5.4 History of performances at previous selected individual or team events.

After Selection

4.6 Athletes selected as an individual or to a team, **will be required** by the Selectors/Team Manager to prove their fitness to compete in a selected event.

4.6.1 The fitness standard (if applicable) or some other appropriate performance will be agreed between the athlete and/or coach and the Selectors and Team Manager.

4.6.2 The time frame for all athletes to achieve the fitness standard will be at the discretion of the Selectors and/or Team Manager.

4.6.3 The fitness standard will be communicated to athletes in writing by the OS selectors as part of their letter of confirmation of selection/nomination.

4.6.4 Failure by a selected athlete to meet the fitness standard will, at the discretion of the Selectors and/or Team Manager, result in an athlete who has been selected to the team being withdrawn from the competition.

4.6.5 For the purposes of clarity, it is the intended operation of this Policy that **all selections in the team remain conditional** until the athlete has achieved the fitness standard set by the Selectors and/or Team Manager.

Selectors Meetings

4.7 Selectors meetings will be held:

4.7.1: Initial Selection – 7th November
Final Selection – 15th December

Notification of Selection

4.8 The Board of Athletics New Zealand will confirm all nominations after each of the selection meetings.

4.9 Athletics New Zealand will endeavor to announce selected team members in the week following each selection meeting.

5. GENERAL INFORMATION:

5.1 The criteria may be amended at any time by the Directors of Athletics New Zealand, if Athletics New Zealand is of the opinion that such amendment is necessary in the best interests of Athletics New Zealand or as a result of any change in participation rules and/or guidelines. Any amendment to the criteria will be published on the Athletics New Zealand website.

Funding

5.2 It will be expected that athletes wishing to attend an event under the Discretionary Policy will have to participate at no-cost to Athletics New Zealand unless funds are provided by the (LOC). The competitions for which athletes are selected/ nominated under this policy will be athlete-funded events. Additionally, cost may be charged across all athletes above the cost of travel, accommodation and food to assist with cost of the team manager (if applicable).

5.3 In athlete-funded events, two weeks prior to the departure of “the team” from New Zealand all athlete-funding components must be paid to Athletics New Zealand. Non-payment of the athlete-funding components will result in removal from the team.

6.0 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

6.1 Following the senior men’s and senior women’s 20km Championship / Trial at the NZ Long Distance Walk Championships on the 30 October 2011

6.1.1 The first two men and first two women in the championship / trial gain automatic selection (provided they better the standard below)

6.1.2 The third and fourth finishing senior athletes in the senior championship / trial who better the selection standard time of 1hr 50 min (men) and 2hr 04min (women) will be considered for selection but are not guaranteed automatic selection.

6.1.3 The first two in the junior men and first two junior women in the championship /trial gain automatic selection (provided they better the standard below.)

6.1.4 The third placed walker in the junior men’s and women’s championship / trial who betters the junior selection standard below will be considered for selection but are not guaranteed automatic selection.

6.1.5 A walker who is disqualified or fails to complete the trial race may still be considered for selection.

6.1.6 The NZ selectors will consider walk performances in the 2011 calendar year in determining the final team selection

SELECTION STANDARDS	
Senior men 20km	1 hour 50 minutes
Senior women 20km	2 hours 04 minutes
Junior men 10km	53 minutes
Junior women 10km	58 minutes

6.2 The trial races and the championship races will be conducted concurrently. Walkers should enter their championship race and the trial and electronic timing will be used to determine the winners although some will be walking longer or shorter distances for their championship.

6.3 Walkers who enter the championship but not the trial will just walk the championship distance.

6.4 Walkers such as senior men who do not have a championship to enter or who want to be in the trial but not to enter their championship should fill in the expression of interest form and complete a non-championship race entry form.

6.5 Details of the races are as follows:

6.5.1 The Senior Women’s championship distance is 15 km but will trial over 20 km.

6.5.2 The Women’s 19 championship distance is 15 km but will trial over 10 km.

6.5.3 The Men’s 19 championship distance is 20 km but will trial over 10 km.

6.5.4 The Men’s and Women’s 16 championship distance is 10 km and they may trial over this distance if they wish.

6.5.5 The Masters’ Women’s championships distance is 20 km and if they wish to they can enter the 20 km trial.

6.5.6 There is no Men's 20 km championship race but there will be a trial over this distance.

6.5.7 Any Male or Female who enters the open 50 km championship and who wishes to be considered for selection for the 20 km team will complete an expression of interest form along with all other trialist's and their performance and recent other performances will be considered by the Athletics New Zealand Selectors.