

WAIS Athletics Athlete Selection Guidelines, Criteria and Process

Approved by: WAIS Athletics Program JMC

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1. Athlete Selection Guidelines

WAIS Athletics scholarships will be offered to eligible athletes under one of the following two programs;

- “Athletics Sport Program” scholarships in the disciplines of Pole Vault and Throws.
- “Individual Athlete Support Program” scholarships for para-athletes and athletes from other disciplines.

Scholarship Objectives

The goals of WAIS athlete scholarships are to support enhanced athlete performance with the aim to:

- Maximise the WA contribution to Australian podium performances and
- Maximise WA representation on National teams at selected international competitions.

Scholarship Timeframe

Athletics Scholarships will commence on **1st December** concluding on the **30th November** annually.

Scholarship Classification

The athletes will be classified into seven categories as approved by the National Institute Network and presented in the table below and according to their previous year’s performances and other key selection criteria.

Podium Pathway category	Description	Other category	Description
Podium	Athlete who had a medal performance at a world championship (or equivalent) event in the previous 24 months and is considered capable of a medal at the next world championship (or equivalent) event.		
Podium Ready*	Athlete who placed fourth to eighth at the most recent world championship (or equivalent) event and is considered capable of progressing to Podium in the next two years		
Commonwealth Gold **	Athlete who does not fit into the categories above but is considered capable of a gold medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.	International	Athlete who does not satisfy any of the Podium Pathway category criteria but has earned selection for the national senior team or squad preparing for the NSOs benchmark event.
Podium Potential***	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Ready in the next two years.		
Developing	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Potential in the next two years.		
Emerging	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Developing in the next two years.		

The Podium Benchmark events are the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the IAAF and IPC World Athletics Championships and Commonwealth Games.

Selection Process

The selection process will commence in the first week of November annually.

The WAIS Performance Team Director (chair), the Athletics Australia (AA) High Performance Manager and the Athletics WA High Performance Manager will form a selection panel, to review and select athletes against the Athlete Selection Criteria. All current WAIS scholarship holders will be assessed.

The AA High Performance Manager, Athletics WA High Performance Manager and any WAIS employed Athletics Coach may nominate additional athlete names and provide performance details and other evidence aligned with the selection criteria regarding these athletes for consideration and assessment by the panel.

Individual athletes not currently on scholarship and wishing to be considered for scholarship must notify the Athletics WA High Performance Manager of their intent to be considered before October 31.

The Performance Team Director as Chair of the selection panel will recommend athletes for scholarship to the WAIS Executive Director.

The WAIS Executive Director will offer scholarships directly to successful athletes. Upon receiving the offer, athletes will be required to complete a variety of administration and medical requirements within 4 weeks. When all requirements have been completed, athletes will officially commence the full scholarship.

2. Queries on Selection

Any questions concerning any aspect of selection must be in writing and addressed to the **WAIS Performance Team Director – Technical Sports within 14 days following notification.**

3. Appeal Process

If an athlete wishes to lodge an appeal about the selection outcome, this appeal is to be submitted in writing to the Performance Team Director.

Appeals will be reviewed thoroughly by the Selection Panel. The athlete will be advised of the outcome of the appeal in writing.

In the event that the athlete is unsatisfied with the outcome of an appeal, the appeal can be escalated by the athlete to the Executive Director, in writing. In this instance, the Performance Team Director will review the process followed by the selection panel and provide a further recommendation to the Executive Director. The Executive Director will then notify the athlete of the outcome of the appeal.

4. Cancellation of scholarship

An athlete scholarship may be cancelled if:

- The athlete informs the WAIS Performance Team Director – Technical Sports in writing.
- The athlete fails to comply with the Athlete Scholarship Terms and Conditions.
- The Performance Team Director recommends the withdrawal of an athlete after review of the athlete's performance against scholarship selection criteria. Where the performance issue is considered a breach of the WAIS Athlete Code of Conduct procedures within the Athlete Code of Conduct will be followed.

In each instance;

- The Performance Team Director will recommend cancellation of scholarship to the Executive Director
- The Executive Director will confirm cancellation of scholarship in writing to the athlete.

5. Athlete Selection Criteria

Athletes will be assessed by the selection panel against three categories:

1. Performance at most recent “Benchmark” event
2. Potential to Progress*
3. Personal Excellence*

* As defined in the WAIS Athlete Performance Management Framework