

GLASGOW 2026 COMMONWEALTH GAMES
NOMINATION CRITERIA FOR BOWLS EVENTS

BOWLS NEW ZEALAND

1. Application of this Nomination Criteria

- 1.1 **Status:** This Nomination Criteria is issued by the Board of Bowls New Zealand on 5 June 2025 and amended on 12 December 2025. This Nomination Criteria supersedes any previous correspondence, discussions and representations (whether written or oral) by Bowls 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 Bowls Event; and
 - (b) Bowls 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 in a Bowls Event is a three step process:
- (a) each Athlete must be eligible in accordance with clause 3 of this Nomination Criteria;
 - (b) Bowls 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 CEO. The Selectors who will consider nomination of Athletes to NZOC to be considered for selection in the Games Team are:
- Mike Kernaghan (Convenor). Sharon Sims MNZM. Lance Tasker. Trish Croot.*
- 2.2 **Change of Selectors:** The CEO 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 Bowls New Zealand website.

3. Eligibility

3.1 **Athlete Eligibility:** To be eligible to be nominated to the NZOC by Bowls 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, 23 June 2025, where an Athlete is not a regular member of Bowls New Zealand, at this date; or
 - ii. no later than 5.00pm, 24 November 2025, where an athlete is a regular member of Bowls New Zealand, at this date; and
 - iii. in exceptional circumstances before 5.00pm, 22 January 2026 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board) where Bowls New Zealand provides the NZOC with evidence that demonstrates that Athlete could not have been reasonably in contemplation on 24 November 2025; 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 Bowls New Zealand or one of its affiliates; and
- (d) be a New Zealand citizen and has a New Zealand passport; and
- (e) for the Para Bowls Events, be internationally classified with a confirmed sport class status or review with a fixed review date of 2027 or later at the sport entry deadline of 31 March 2026; and
- (f) have met the CS’s eligibility regulations in accordance with the CS Constitution and complied with the regulations as stipulated by World Bowls, including minimum age regulations; and
- (g) have demonstrated to the satisfaction of Bowls New Zealand that 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 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 so as not to bring the Athlete, the sport, Bowls New Zealand or the NZOC into public disrepute; and
- (i) not be under investigation for any breach of any part of the Bowls New Zealand and World Bowls’s anti-doping regulations, the Sports Anti-Doping Rules and/or the NZOC Integrity Regulation; and

- (j) no later than 23 July 2025 where the Athlete is not a regular member of Bowls New Zealand or 22 January 2026 (or such extended date as agreed by the NZOC Board) has provided their name and contact address details to NZOC for the purpose of out of competition drug testing with Sport Integrity Commission.
- 3.2 **Qualification:** The NZOC has been allocated places for the Games by CS. The maximum number of quota for Bowls New Zealand in the Able Bodied Bowls Events is six (6) Athletes. Bowls New Zealand cannot nominate more than six (6) Athletes.
- For Para Bowls Events, New Zealand must be allocated qualification spots in accordance with the CS Para-Bowls Athlete Allocation System and Glasgow 2026 Games Manual. Each athlete who is blind or vision impaired is entitled to one (1) director for any Para Bowls Event. Directors do not count toward the Athlete quota.
- It is important to note that an Athlete or group of Athletes who qualify for a place in any Bowls Event are not automatically guaranteed nomination or selection to compete 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 for any Bowls Event.

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 evidential requirements in clause 5.2; and
 - (c) the Specific Nomination Factors specified in clause 5.3; and
 - (d) any Ranking 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 that they wish to place on any Specific Nomination Factor(s) and any Extenuating Circumstances(s) as they consider appropriate. No particular 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.

- 4.4 **Own Enquiries:** In considering the Specific Nomination Factors, the Selectors may make such enquiries of the Athlete, or other persons, as they see fit.
- 4.5 **Conditions:** In considering any results and performances of an Athlete at any Key Events and Trials, 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.
- 4.6 **Permission to Start:** At the sole discretion of the NZOC, Nominated Athletes may, on Bowls New Zealand's request to the NZOC, if selected to the Games Team by the NZOC, request permission to start in another Bowls Event where competing in this Bowls Event will not have any detrimental effect on the Bowls Event the Nomination Athlete has already been selected to the Games Team for.
- 4.7 **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 and Specific Nomination Factors

- 5.1 **Over-riding Nomination Criteria:** In determining whether or not to nominate an Athlete (or group of Athletes) to a Bowls Event, the Selectors must be satisfied overall that the Athlete (or group of Athletes):
- (a) is or are capable of achieving a top 6 placing at the Games in the Bowls Event(s); and
 - (b) has or have a track record of sufficient quality and depth that the Selectors believes demonstrates that the Nominated Athlete(s) or group of Nominated Athlete(s) will be competitive at the Games and will perform creditably in that Bowls Event.
- 5.2 **Evidence:** In determining whether or not the Athlete (or group of Athletes) satisfies the Over-riding Nomination Criteria for Bowls Events in clause 5.1, the Selectors shall have regard to the results and performances in the Bowls Event at the following Key Events during the Qualification Period:

Para Athletes

- Trans-Tasman February 2024, February 2025,
- World Cup November 2025
- Bowls New Zealand Open Disability Nationals January 2026

Note: Athletes must attend a minimum of two (2) Key Events within the Qualification Period to be eligible to be nominated for Para Bowls Events.

Able Bodied Athletes

- Trans-Tasman February 2024, February 2025,
- World Indoor Singles April 2024, April 2025
- World Champion of Champions November 2024
- World Cup November 2025
- Bowls New Zealand Nationals January 2026
- 8 Nations Singles and Pairs (Malaysia) February 2026

Note: Athletes must attend a minimum of three (3) Key Events within the Qualification Period to be eligible to be nominated for Able Bodied Events. In addition, at least one (1) Key Event must be in 2025 or 2026.

5.3 **Specific Nomination Factors:** When considering the Over-riding 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 Bowls 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 considers to be relevant.

5.4 **Ranking:** The Selectors shall, no later than 31 March 2026, examine the credentials of all Athletes for Bowls Events. If there are more Athletes who meet the Over-riding Criteria set out in clause 5.1 than quota places available, then nomination will be decided by the Selectors having regard to one or more of the following factors:

- (a) ability to medal;

- (b) performance results at the Key Events within the field of Commonwealth athletes at the Key Events; and
- (c) any other information the Selectors consider 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:** Bowls New Zealand will nominate Athletes (“Nominated Athletes”) and any Reserve Athletes to the NZOC by the Nomination Date.
- 7.2 **Nomination with Conditions:** Bowls 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 Bowls New Zealand against their non-nomination to the NZOC by the Bowls New Zealand provided that the Athlete:
- (a) is on the Bowls 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 that the Nominated Athlete:
- (a) is on the Bowls 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 **CS Athlete Allocation System:** If this Nomination Criteria imposes a higher qualification standard or a lesser number of participants than stated by a CS Athlete Allocation 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 **Able Bodied Bowls Event** means one of the following events in which an Athlete competes at the Games:

Men's	Women's
Singles	Singles
Pairs	Pairs

- 11.2 **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.

- 11.3 **Athlete** means a person who wishes to be considered for nomination to the Games Team.

- 11.4 **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.

- 11.5 **Board** means the Board of Bowls New Zealand as constituted under the Constitution.

- 11.6 **Bowls Event** means an Able Bodied Bowls Event and/or a Para Bowls Event at the Games, whichever is relevant.

- 11.7 **Bowls New Zealand** means Bowls New Zealand Incorporated.

- 11.8 **CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer of Bowls New Zealand and includes his / her nominee.

- 11.9 **Constitution** means the Constitution of Bowls New Zealand.

- 11.10 **CS** means Commonwealth Sport

- 11.11 **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.

- 11.12 **Games** means the Commonwealth Games to be held in Glasgow, Scotland from 23 July to 2 August 2026.

- 11.13 **Games Team** means the New Zealand Team at the Games selected in accordance with the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games.

- 11.14 **Key Events** means an international competition listed in clause 5.2.

- 11.15 **Nominated Athlete** means an Athlete who has been nominated by Bowls New Zealand to the NZOC for consideration of selection to the Games Team.
- 11.16 **Nomination Criteria** means the criteria made up of the Over-riding Nomination Criteria and the Specific Nomination Factors, and is also referred to as “**this Criteria**”.
- 11.17 **Nomination Date** means on or before **31 March 2026** (and includes any alternative date as agreed between NZOC and Bowls New Zealand) by which Bowls New Zealand must submit any Nominated Athletes to the NZOC.
- 11.18 **NZOC** means the New Zealand Olympic Committee Incorporated.
- 11.19 **NZOC Integrity Regulation** means the NZOC Integrity Regulation available at <http://www.olympic.org.nz/about-the-nzoc/governance-documents/>.
- 11.20 **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 at <http://www.olympic.org.nz/about-the-nzoc/governance-documents/>.
- 11.21 **NZOC Selection Policy** means the NZOC Selection Policy for the Games, available at [Glasgow 2026 Selection process | New Zealand Olympic Team](#).
- 11.22 **Over-riding Nomination Criteria** means the criteria set out in clause 5.1.
- 11.23 **Para Bowls Events** means one of the following events at the Games in which an Athlete competes:
- | Para Bowls Event | Eligible Sport Classes |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Men's Pairs Event | B5-B8 |
| Women's Pairs Event | B5-B8 |
| Mixed Pairs Event | B1-B3 |
- 11.24 **Qualification Period** means the period between 1 January 2024 – 20 March 2026.
- 11.25 **Reserve Athletes** means a travelling and/or non-travelling reserve, as designated by the Selectors.
- 11.26 **Specific Nomination Factors** means the factors listed in clause 5.3 which the Selectors may take into account when applying the Over-riding Nomination Criteria.
- 11.27 **Selectors** means the selectors appointed by Bowls New Zealand in accordance with clause 2 of this Nomination Criteria.

11.28 **Team Agreement** means the agreement that must be completed by any Athlete wishing to be considered for nomination and selection to, or a team support member appointed to, the Games Team in accordance with the NZOC Nomination and Selection Regulation.