

**Athletics Australia Selection Policy**  
**2018 World University Cross Country Championships**

ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA  
SELECTION POLICY  
WORLD UNIVERSITY CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS  
ST GALLEN, SWITZERLAND 7 APRIL 2018



This document sets out the basis on which Athletics Australia will select its Team for the FISU World University Cross Country Championships in St Gallen, Switzerland 7 April 2018.

**1 Aims**

The aim of Athletics Australia's Selection Policy for the World University Cross Country Championships is to nominate a team to represent Australia on behalf of Australian University Sport (AUS). Specifically, the policy aims to facilitate the following outcomes:

- Selecting athletes that are realistic medal contenders (either as individual athletes or as a team) in St Gallen, and;
- Selecting athletes that are realistic top eight finishers (either as individual athletes or as a team) in St Gallen, and;
- Providing major Championships experience to developing athletes.

**2 Standards, criteria and athlete numbers**

There are no performance standards for the 2018 World University Cross Country Championships.

2.1 There will be two (2) events contested at the 2018 World University Cross Country Championships. Those events are:

- Senior Men – approx. 12km (min 9km – max 14km)
- Senior Women – 6km (min 4km – max 8km)

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- 2.2 Each event will be run as both an individual championship and team championship event. FISU rules permit a maximum of six (6) athletes per country with four (4) athletes to score points in each event.
- 2.3 Athletes may be selected and entered as individuals only or as part of a team.

### **3 Selection**

There will be no Selection Trials for the Team. All selections are at the discretion of the Selectors. This discretion is absolute, and it need not be exercised.

3.1 In addition to meeting all of the eligibility criteria set out in clause 4, athletes must satisfy the Selectors that:

- They will be capable of performing at a high level at the World University Cross Country Championships; AND
  - They are a realistic medal contender (either as individual athletes or as a team in St Gallen or;
  - They are a realistic top eight finisher (either as individual athletes or as a team) in St Gallen or;
  - They have the potential to represent Australia in future Junior or Senior teams.

3.2 Without in any way limiting the discretion set out in this clause 3, the Selectors may take into account the following matters when selecting athletes:

- Quality of performance at the 2017 National Cross Country Championship,
- History of past performances in the World Half Marathon Championship, World Cross Country Championship and other relevant international events including track events,
- Performances in the 2017 Cross Country Season,
- Performances in other relevant road races after 1 July 2017,
- Performances in relevant track races after 1 July 2017 including the Zatopek:10 10000m,
- Performances in the Australian University Championships – cross country and relevant track events,
- Current form.

For the avoidance of doubt, the matters set out above in this clause 3.2 are not to be regarded as selection criteria. They are matters that the Selectors may consider in any combination, and in combination with any other matters not listed that in the option of the Selectors are relevant in the selection of the Team.

3.3 In exercising their discretion in relation to any athlete under consideration for the Team the Selectors will consider and take into account the recommendation of the Director of High Performance, who will consult closely with the Head Coach, as to the matters set out above in this clause 3 with regard to the level of performance at the World University Cross Country Championships and with regard to each athlete's future potential.

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**4 Athlete Eligibility Criteria**

Only those athletes who qualify according to this clause will be eligible for selection in the Team:

- 4.1 Be a citizen of Australia.
- 4.2 Be a registered member of Athletics Australia through their Member Association.
- 4.3 Complete and submit the online Application for Consideration for Selection form (which can be found at [www.athletics.com.au](http://www.athletics.com.au)). The form must be submitted no later than 10 December 2017. The date for submission of the Application for Selection may be extended at the discretion of the Chairman of Selectors on the recommendation of the Director of High Performance.
- 4.4 Be and remain in 'good standing' with Athletics Australia and at all times comply with Athletics Australia's Code of Conduct and conduct themselves in a way that does not bring themselves, their sport or the National Team into disrepute. Athletics Australia may consider past and present behavioural conduct in determining whether an athlete is in 'good standing'. If Athletics Australia determines that an athlete is not in 'good standing', Athletics Australia may in its absolute discretion choose not to select that athlete.
- 4.5 Born between 1 January 1993 and 31 December 2001, and be either;
  - 4.1.1 Enrolled and currently studying a diploma or higher courses at a university, TAFE\* (\*conditions apply) or another tertiary institution (please note that deferred students are not eligible for selection), or
  - 4.1.2 Have graduated from a university in the year immediately prior to the event (i.e. graduated after March 2017).
- 4.6 Complete an official FISU Eligibility Certificate (**available from Australian University Sport**) by 16 February 2018. The FISU Eligibility Certificate must be signed by the athlete's relevant University Registrar or equivalent confirming the FISU/AUS eligibility requirements set out above and then sealed with the University Seal). Without the FISU Eligibility Certificate, athletes will not be provided with accreditation.

**5 Eligibility for athletes relating to the 2018 IAAF Junior Championships**

- 5.1 Athletics Australia has determined that only in the special circumstances set out in this clause 5 should eligible athletes be selected in both the 2018 FISU World University Cross Country Championships and the 2018 IAAF World Junior Championships.
- 5.2 Consistent with clause 5.1, unless exempt in writing according to the terms of this clause 5, Junior Men and Women who wish to remain eligible for selection in Athletics Australia's team for the 2018 IAAF World Junior Championships must make written application to the Athletics Australia Director of High Performance before 1 December 2017 setting out their training and competition program and written submissions which demonstrate their ability to achieve peak fitness and a peak performance at each championship in 2018.
- 5.3 Prior to the selection meeting for the World University Cross Country Championships, the Director of High Performance will advise all athletes in writing of the outcome of their

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application for exemption according to this clause 5. Only athletes who have been given written permission by the Director of High Performance will be eligible for selection in both the World University Cross Country Championships and the World Junior Championships in 2018.

Approval will be granted on the basis of training age and history, and on recommendation from the Head Coach, Junior HP Manager and National Junior Coach Distance.

- 5.4 For the avoidance of any misunderstanding, it is the intended operation of this clause that all Junior athletes who satisfy the eligibility requirements in clause 4 will be eligible for selection in the Team for the World University Cross Country Championships. However, for any athlete who confirms their selection in the Team according to the operation of this policy will be ineligible for selection in the 2018 IAAF World Junior Championships Team according to the terms of the selection policy for that championship unless that athlete has been granted exemption in writing by the Director of High Performance as set out in this clause 5.

## **6 Selection Meetings**

There will be one selection meeting to determine the athletes who will be selected in the 2018 World University Cross Country Championships Team:

- 6.1 Selection will take place in the week beginning 18 December 2017.

## **7 Prioritising athletes**

Where the selectors have a choice between two or more athletes for selection then they will prioritise selection in the following order:

- 7.1 Potential to win a medal at the 2018 World University Cross Country Championships,
- 7.2 Potential to finish in the top eight at the 2018 World University Cross Country Championships,
- 7.3 Potential to finish in the top eight at a future Olympic Games or IAAF World Athletics Championships.
- 7.4 If two or more athletes are considered equally likely to meet one of the criteria above (e.g. if the selectors consider that two or more athletes are equally likely to finish in the top eight) then the selectors will prioritise in the following order:
- 7.4.1 Head to Head performance in the qualification period,
- 7.4.2 Recent form and fitness.
- 7.5 For the avoidance of doubt only athletes who have met the Eligibility Requirements may be selected subject to the application of Section 2. Furthermore, the selection of any athlete is at the absolute discretion of Athletics Australia.

## **8 Funding**

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Athletes should be aware that this is a self-funded team with a participation levy being set by AUS. All enquiries relating to funding should be directed to AUS or your University. As a guide the athlete levy is expected to be approximately \$3500 AUD. This estimate includes flights.

**9 Appeal Process**

The appeal process can be found in the Athletics Australia By-Laws (section 8) available at [www.athletics.com.au](http://www.athletics.com.au).

**10 Amendment to Policy**

This Policy can be amended at any time by Athletics Australia if it is of the opinion that such an amendment is necessary as a result of any change to the Participation Rules, to give effect to the Policy following discovery of a drafting error or oversight, or for any other reason determined to be in the best interests of Athletics Australia. Athletics Australia shall not be responsible or liable in any way to any one as a result of any such amendment.