



**XXII Commonwealth Games
Birmingham, England
28 July – 8 August 2022**

Selection Policy and Standards

**LAWN BOWLS
and
PARA LAWN BOWLS**

**Bowls Scotland
National Centre for Bowling
Hunters Avenue
Ayr
KA8 9AL**



**XXII Commonwealth Games
Birmingham, England
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**Selection Policy and Standards
LAWN BOWLS**

September 2021 v3
amendment to Section 4
February 2021 v2
updated to
December 2020

**Bowls Scotland
National Centre for Bowling
Hunters Avenue
Ayr
KA8 9AL**

Team Scotland: Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games

LAWN BOWLS

Athlete - Sport Selection Policy and Standards

The information in this Selection Policy is accurate as at September 2021 but remains subject to change. As a result of the unique and extenuating circumstances caused by COVID-19 and the subsequent impact on international sporting calendars, CGS and Bowls Scotland will be closely monitoring this Selection Policy to determine if any changes are necessary, which changes may be made at any time before, during and after the selection period as hereinafter defined.

For the avoidance of doubt, CGS reserves the right to amend this Selection Policy in any manner, and in the sole and absolute discretion of CGS, should CGS consider that qualification process would be fairer having regard to the interests of all Athletes and the prevailing circumstances.

In addition CGS and Bowls Scotland reserve the right to not apply any aspect of this Selection Policy when making any decision, if in the sole and absolute discretion of CGS, it would, as judged by CGS, be unfair or unreasonable not to, provided always that CGS has regard to the interests of all Athletes in the prevailing circumstance.

Introduction

- 1 This selection policy has been agreed by the Board of Bowls Scotland and Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS). It provides detail on the process by which Bowls Scotland will arrive at athlete nominations, which will be submitted to CGS for consideration, for final selection to Team Scotland for Birmingham 2022.

Achievement, by an athlete, of individual selection standards, detailed in this document, is therefore the 1st step by which nomination can be considered. The final decision in selection to the 2022 Games lies with CGS.

- 2 Bowls Scotland will nominate only those athletes that have qualified under both the Lawn Bowls Specific Selection Standards stated below, and the CGS General Selection Policy (available on the CGS website) that should be read in conjunction with these standards.
- 3 Entry numbers per event and the overall number of athletes are in accordance with Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) allocation and should more athletes achieve the standards then Bowls Scotland will prioritise in accordance with this policy.
- 4 CGS have confirmed that the maximum of 10 places have been allocated to Lawn Bowls subject to meeting the sport specific selection criteria. These are referred to as assured places. Bowls Scotland will apply for additional discretionary places for anyone who is nominated for selection above this number.

Team Scotland General Selection Policy Aim

5 The Team Scotland General Selection Policy Aim is as follows:-

"Scotland selects a team that performs with distinction in 2022:

- having a higher percentage of athletes meeting the selection standards when in competition at these Games than in 2018
- meeting the stated performance aims of each sport at the Games
- with all Team members having a positive experience within Team Scotland at the Games."

6 This Lawn Bowls policy is consistent with the aim.

7 **Bowls Scotland** general nomination philosophy is:

To ensure that Bowls Scotland nominates athletes to form a team which is balanced, high performing, and best placed to medal at the Commonwealth Games.

Athlete Eligibility

8 The eligibility criteria of the CGF Constitution and Byelaws, must be met by all nominees (see Appendix 1).

9 Where prospective team members do not automatically comply with the above, they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior approval from the CGF under their guidelines.

Games Competition Format

10 The competition format for Men and Women will be Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours.

A maximum of five male and five female players can be nominated by each country.

Each player will be allowed to compete in a maximum of 2 events, being one of:-

- Singles or Fours
- and
- Pairs or Triples

Sport Specific Selection Standards and Framework

11 The selection period is 1 March 2021 to 1 November 2021.

12 To be considered for nomination, athletes must achieve any one or more of the following performance related results. These are in no particular order.

12.1 In respect of any male athlete:

- A top 2 finish at Home Nations events, held during the selection period;
- A top half finish across Commonwealth countries at the Elite Nations Invitational 2021 unless otherwise agreed with CGS due to level of participating nations
- A position in the top 16 WBT ranking list at any point during the selection period;
- Recording at least two wins against recognised international opposition (as determined by CGS in consultation with Bowls Scotland) at any Test Events as may be agreed between Bowls Scotland and CGS.
- Due to lack of competitive opportunities benchmarking data gathered by Bowls Scotland using designated analysis software during training and competition events may be considered a measure of performance.
- If any additional competition opportunities are available, they may be considered as agreed by CGS and Bowls Scotland.

12.2 In respect of any female athlete:

- A top 2 finish at Home Nations events, held during the selection period;
- A top half finish across Commonwealth countries at the Elite Nations Invitational 2021 unless otherwise agreed with CGS due to level of participating nations
- Recording at least two wins against recognised international opposition (as determined by CGS in consultation with Bowls Scotland) at any Test Events as may be agreed between Bowls Scotland and CGS.
- Due to lack of competitive opportunities benchmarking data gathered by Bowls Scotland using designated analysis software during training and competition events may be considered a measure of performance.
- If any additional competition opportunities are available they may be considered as agreed by CGS and Bowls Scotland.

13 In order to maximise medal potential, Bowls Scotland will nominate athletes based on composition of position, specific specialist and team dynamics which may be at the expense of a qualified athlete in another discipline.

Other Factors for Consideration

14 When considering which athletes to nominate for inclusion in Team Scotland, Bowls Scotland may have regard to the following non-exhaustive factors:

14.1 Proficiency in any specific position, having regard to the composition of the team based on other selections

14.2 The dynamic of the Team

- 14.3 Performance record at world and international events up to four years prior to 1 December 2021
 - 14.4 Performance record at Commonwealth Games and/or World Championships
 - 14.5 Performance record against recognised international opposition (as determined by CGS in consultation with Bowls Scotland) on relevant playing surfaces
 - 14.6 For the purposes of 14.5 "relevant playing surfaces" means "Northern Hemisphere outdoor grass green"
 - 14.7 Benchmarking data gathered by Bowls Scotland during training and competition events
 - 14.8 Discipline records, including any breaches of Bowls Scotland's athlete agreement during the selection period
 - 14.9 Form and fitness of any athlete as assessed by Bowls Scotland
 - 14.10 Athlete dedication, including attendance and performance at training and competition events by any athlete called upon to participate.
- 15 When considering any athlete for nomination, Bowls Scotland shall not be bound to prioritise any individual factor referred to in paragraph 14 above, over another, and shall have regard to the philosophy referred to in paragraph 7.

Selection Process

- 16 To be considered for nomination, all athletes must have completed all prescribed anti-doping education programmes.
- 17 Bowls Scotland Selection for nomination to CGS will take place by 1 December 2021.

Athletes will be advised if they are successful/unsuccessful for nomination to CGS by 2 December 2021.
- 18 Bowls Scotland will submit their final nominations, in priority order, to CGS by 15 December 2021. CGS will confirm initial team selections by 15 January 2022 and final selections by 30 May 2022.
- 19 Final selection to Team Scotland is dependent on provision of relevant information required by CGS, including but not limited to completion and signing of the CGF Eligibility form and CGS Team Member Agreement.

De-Selection

20 Antidoping

Athletes suspended by their Governing Body as a result of ongoing or concluded anti-doping violation allegations, will not be considered for selection, and if previously selected will be deselected from the Birmingham2022 Team.

21 Injury Management

Where injury issues are identified at or after selection, a fitness test may be used to determine that the athlete is capable of performing to the level that they were selected for the Games. The format will be determined by CGS after discussion with the Lawn Bowls Team Management. This will be specific to lawn bowls and the athlete's condition and may include input from CGS medical staff. Any selection or de-selection decision, following such a test, will be made by CGS after discussion with the Lawn Bowls Team Management and will be final.

22 Athletes in breach of CGS policies, code of conduct and team agreement may be de-selected.

Appeal Process

23 An appeal against non-nomination to CGS by Bowls Scotland is entirely a matter for the athlete and Bowls Scotland. This should be held in accordance with Bowls Scotland's own appeal procedures, taking into consideration only the CGS selection policy and agreed sport specific selections standards and conditions.

24 An appeal against non-nomination should follow the Bowls Scotland Appeals process detailed below:

- An Athlete (the Appellant) may appeal to have the decision of Bowls Scotland selection panel reviewed by the Appeals Panel
- The Appellant should lodge an appeal in writing within 48 hours after the selection decision has been communicated to them to CEO@Bowlsscotland.com or in writing to; CEO Bowls Scotland, Northfield Hunters Ave, Ayr, KA8 9AL marked Private and Confidential
- The notice of appeal should set out in full the basis of which the Appellant wishes to appeal and should be accompanied by all relevant and supporting documentation
- The Appeal panel will meet within 48 hours of the appeal being received, where the Appellant will be invited to attend. If the Appellant is unable to attend a decision will be made based on the previously submitted documentation. Bowls Scotland have 5 working days to communicate a response to the Appellant
- The decision of the appeals panel is final and the appellant has no further right to appeal

- Members of the Appeals Panel will have had no previous involvement in the Selection Policy and 1 member will be from outwith Bowls Scotland.
- 25 An appeal against CGS non-selection on behalf of an athlete may only be submitted by Bowls Scotland and not by any individual athlete. If an appeal is submitted to CGS by Bowls Scotland a CGS Appeal Panel will consider the case along with any additional information provided. The appeal must be made by email to jon.doig@teamsotland.scot within three days of notification of selection outcomes to Bowls Scotland by CGS.

Appointment of Team Staff

- 26 A Team Manager has been appointed by CGS in consultation with Bowls Scotland. The final complement of Bowls team staff attending the Games will ultimately depend upon team numbers and composition and will be determined by CGS in consultation with Bowls Scotland. This will include different categories of accreditation and access to the Games Village and other secure areas.

Appendix 1

CGF Byelaw 17 Eligibility

1. It is the responsibility of all Affiliated CGAs to ensure that their competitors are fully aware of and comply with Byelaw 17.

2. Primacy

2.1 Subject to Byelaw 17(4) 17(5) 17(6) and 17(7), a competitor shall be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them where they satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

a) Are in possession of a current valid passport of the Commonwealth Country which enters them;

or

b) Are a subject who can demonstrate 'Belonger Status' in Great Britain or relevant British Overseas Territory of the Commonwealth Country which enters them

c) In respect of the following Affiliated CGAs: -

i. Guernsey, Jersey, and Isle of Man. The governments of these three Crown Dependencies do not define citizenship. For these Affiliated CGAs, citizenship shall be defined as three (3) years continuous residency immediately prior to the Commonwealth Games. For the avoidance of doubt, the immediately prior three-year period shall mean the three-year period that immediately precedes the "final entries deadline"* date of the relevant Games as determined by the respective Organising Committee ("Continuous Residency") and the competitor must be in possession of a current valid UK passport.

ii. Northern Ireland. Byelaw 17 will defer to the Belfast Agreement (1998). Northern Ireland athletes who meet birth right criteria are to be treated equally regardless of their possession of either a current valid UK or Irish passport (but must hold one of these). This right is enshrined within the Constitution Issues (iv) of the 1998 Belfast Agreement.

iii. Norfolk Island. Any individual who was in possession of a current valid New Zealand passport and was also deemed eligible to compete at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games for Norfolk Islands may continue to compete for Norfolk Islands at future iterations of the Games.

3. Secondary

3.1 Subject to Byelaw 17(4) 17(5) 17(6) and 17(7), where a competitor was born in a Commonwealth Country which has common citizenship/passport with other Commonwealth Countries, the competitor may represent either:

a) the Commonwealth Country of their birth;

or

b) the Commonwealth Country of birth of their parent;

or

c) where the relevant IF recognises grandparents as part of its eligibility criteria, the competitor may represent the Commonwealth Country of birth of their grandparent;

or

- d) the Commonwealth Country where they have completed a minimum period of three (3) years continuous residency immediately prior to the Commonwealth Games. For the avoidance of doubt, the immediately prior three-year period shall mean the three-year period that immediately precedes the “final entries deadline”* of the relevant Games as determined by the respective Organising Committee.

3.2 Subject to the other provisions of this Byelaw 17, where a competitor is eligible to represent more than one Affiliated CGA due to common passport privileges they may choose which Affiliated CGA to represent. For the avoidance of doubt, if an individual has competed at a Commonwealth Youth Games this will not be deemed to be a choice of country, and the competitor may choose to represent a different Affiliated CGA at a Commonwealth Games.

3.3 For the avoidance of doubt subject to Byelaw 17(4) and 17(5) any competitor of a common passport area who competes for their common passport country (i.e. Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia) at either the Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games and/or any World Championships or any other major sporting event shall be entitled to choose to represent their home Affiliated CGA (e.g. Turks and Caicos) at the Commonwealth Games.

4. Disqualifications and Suspensions

4.1 A competitor shall not be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them if they:

- a) are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by the Federation;

and/or

- b) are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by their respective Affiliated CGA;

and/or

- c) are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by their respective IF, National Federation

and/or

- d) are currently under disqualification or suspension under the World Anti-Doping Code.

5. Compliance with applicable rules and regulations

5.1 A competitor shall only be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them if they:

- a) Satisfy and comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federation;

and

- b) Satisfy and comply their respective IF rules and regulations (including but not limited to, complying with respective IF eligibility rules as applied within each respective edition of the Commonwealth Games Athlete Allocation Systems);

and

- c) Satisfy and comply with the World Anti-Doping Code as applied within the Federation Anti-Doping Standard to ensure that the overriding principles of the Commonwealth Games are observed.

5.2 For the avoidance of doubt, where there is an inconsistency between respective IF Nationality rules and regulations and those of the Commonwealth Games Federation, the Commonwealth Games Federation Bye Law 17 shall prevail.

6. Transfer of Allegiance

6.1 After having established eligibility status under this Byelaw 17 a competitor who has previously represented one Commonwealth Country at a Commonwealth Games may not represent another Commonwealth Country unless they also receive the prior approval of the Federation, the relevant IF and the relevant previously represented Affiliated CGA. For the avoidance of doubt, this Byelaw shall not apply if an individual has represented a Commonwealth Country at a Commonwealth Youth Games. Applications under this Byelaw 17(6) must be submitted to the Executive Board two calendar months before the “final entries deadline”* for the respective Commonwealth Games. Applications must include formal confirmation of the prior approval of the relevant IF and the relevant previously represented Affiliated CGA.

6.2 All applications for transfer of allegiance under Byelaw 17(6) and/or discretionary eligibility dispensation under Byelaw 17(7) including all relevant paperwork and documentation must be submitted no later than two calendar months prior to the published “final entries deadline”*, as outlined by the respective Organising Committee.

7. Dispensations

7.1 The Executive Board shall delegate authority to the Governance and Integrity Committee (GIC) who have the power to grant dispensations to Byelaw 17 in exceptional circumstances and to consider any matters relating generally to Byelaw 17. Each application for dispensation under Byelaw 17 shall be considered on its own merits and will not create a precedent for any future applications. Decisions made by GIC are subject to the right of appeal directly to the Executive Board, whose decision shall be final and binding.

*“final entries deadline” means the final date that an individual athlete may be entered in a particular event(s) for the relevant Commonwealth Games, usually completed via an online entry system. Such date to be communicated for each relevant Commonwealth Games in the Sport Handbook.



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PARA LAWN BOWLS
February 2021**

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Team Scotland: Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games

PARA LAWN BOWLS

Athlete - Sport Selection Policy and Standards

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Introduction

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Team Scotland General Selection Policy Aim

- 4 The Team Scotland General Selection Policy Aim is as follows:-

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having a higher percentage of athletes meeting the selection standards when in competition at these Games than in 2018

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with all Team members having a positive experience within Team Scotland at the Games."

- 5 This Lawn Bowls policy is consistent with the aim.

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Athlete Eligibility

- 7 The eligibility criteria of the CGF Constitution and Byelaws, must be met by all nominees (see Appendix 1).
- 8 Where prospective team members do not automatically comply with the above, they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior approval from the CGF under their guidelines.

Games Competition Format

- 9 The following events will be contested by para sport athletes (Elite Athletes with a Disability) in Birmingham:

Medal Events	Eligible Sport Classes
Men's Pairs B6 – B8*	B5 – B8
Women's Pairs B6 – B8*	B5 – B8
Mixed Pairs B2 – B3**	B1 – B3

*For the Men's Pairs B6 – B8 and Women's Pairs B6 – B8 medal events, the maximum cumulative point score for each pair is 14 points. The cumulative point score is determined by combining the Sport Classes of both athletes entered within that medal event. For the avoidance of doubt, the sport class of an individual athlete is worth the actual number value (i.e. sport class B5 is worth 5 points, sport class B6 is worth 6 points, sport class B7 is worth 7 points, B8 is worth 8 points).

** For the Mixed Pairs B2 – B3 medal event, the maximum cumulative point score for each pair is 5 points. The cumulative point score is determined by combining the Sport Classes of both athletes entered within that medal event. For the avoidance of doubt, the sport class of an individual athlete is worth the actual number value (i.e. sport class B1 is worth 1 point; sport class B2 is worth 2 points, B3 is worth 3 points).

Mixed Pairs must be 1 male and 1 female athlete.

**Each athlete entered in the Mixed Pairs B2 – B3 medal event is entitled to one (1) Director.

A maximum of 6 players and 2 directors can be nominated by each country.

Sport Specific Selection Standards and Framework

- 10 The selection period is 1 March 2021 to 31 December 2021
- 11 **Pairs Team Qualification**
- Men's pairs, Women's Pairs and Mixed Pair teams will be invited to compete by the Commonwealth Games Federation by 10 January 2022.

- Any Pairs receiving an initial invitation to compete from the CGF will be considered to have achieved the required standard (Six Team Competition) and therefore the invitation to compete will be accepted.
- Any Pairs receiving a reallocation invitation to compete may be considered for nomination to CGS and CGS may consider acceptance of the qualification slot and will be dependent on standard achieved in section 12.

12 Individual Selection Standards

Para Bowlers must have an International confirmed classification through the International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD) in advance of the Games

Players nominated to represent the sport of Para Lawn Bowls at Birmingham 2022 will be considered for nomination from the following. These are in no particular order:

Blind/Visually Impaired Bowlers Player Selection – 1 Male and 1 Female,

- Wins at any Home Nations Championships held within the selection period
- Wins at any Multi-Nations Event held during the selection period
- Proven success demonstrated by performances against recognised international opposition in the above competitions during the selection period
- Proven success at any Test Events held within the selection period, previously agreed by CGS
- Due to lack of competitive opportunities benchmarking data gathered by Bowls Scotland using designated analysis software during training and competition events may be considered a measure of performance

Physically Disabled Bowlers – Player Selection – Men’s Pair and Women’s Pair

- Wins at any Home Nations Championships held within the selection period
- Wins at any Multi-Nations Event held during the selection period
- Proven success demonstrated by performances against recognised international opposition in the above competitions during the selection period
- Proven success at any Test Events held within the selection period, previously agreed by CGS
- Due to lack of competitive opportunities benchmarking data gathered by Bowls Scotland using designated analysis software during training and competition events may be considered a measure of performance

Directors Selection

- Proven ability to maximise the players performance by having a strong technical and tactical understanding of the sport and the ability to communicate this to the visually impaired bowler and their playing partner

- 13 In order to maximise medal potential, Bowls Scotland will nominate athletes and directors based on composition of position, specific specialist and team dynamics which may be at the expense of a qualified bowler or director.

Other Factors for Consideration

- 14 When considering which athletes to nominate for inclusion in Team Scotland, Bowls Scotland may have regard to the following non-exhaustive factors:
 - 14.1 Proficiency in any specific position, having regard to the composition of the team based on other selections;
 - 14.2 The dynamic of the Team;
 - 14.3 Performance record at world and international events up to four years prior to 31 December 2021;
 - 14.4 Performance record at Commonwealth Games and/or World Championships;
 - 14.5 Performance record against recognised international opposition (as determined by CGS in consultation with Bowls Scotland) on relevant playing surfaces
 - 14.6 For the purposes of 14.5 "relevant playing surfaces" means "Northern Hemisphere outdoor grass green"
 - 14.7 Benchmarking data gathered by Bowls Scotland during training and competition events;
 - 14.8 Discipline records, including any breaches of Bowls Scotland's athlete agreement during the selection period;
 - 14.9 Form and fitness of any athlete as assessed by Bowls Scotland;
 - 14.10 Athlete dedication, including attendance and performance at training and competition events by any athlete called upon to participate.
- 15 When considering any athlete for nomination, Bowls Scotland shall not be bound to prioritise any individual factor referred to in paragraphs 12 or 14 above, over another, and shall have regard to the philosophy referred to in paragraph 6.

Selection Process

- 16 To be considered for nomination, all athletes must have completed all prescribed anti-doping education programmes.
- 17 Bowls Scotland Selection for initial nomination to CGS will take place on 11 January 2022 and for any re-allocation nomination by 8 February 2022. Athletes will be advised if they are successful/unsuccessful for nomination to CGS on 12 January 2022 or for any re-allocation nominations on 9 February 2022.
- 18 Bowls Scotland will submit their initial nominations to CGS by 19 January 2022 and any re-allocation nominations by 16 February 2022. CGS will confirm initial selections by 25 January 2022 and any re-allocation selections by 22 February 2022.
- 19 Final selection to Team Scotland is dependent on provision of relevant information required by CGS, including but not limited to completion and signing of the CGF Eligibility form and CGS Team Member Agreement.

De-Selection

20 Antidoping

Athletes suspended by their Governing Body as a result of ongoing or concluded anti-doping violation allegations, will not be considered for selection, and if previously selected will be deselected from the Birmingham2022 team.

21 Injury Management

Where injury issues are identified at or after selection, a fitness test may be used to determine that the athlete is capable of performing to the level that they were selected for the Games. The format will be determined by CGS after discussion with the Lawn Bowls Team Management. This will be specific to lawn bowls and the athlete's condition and may include input from CGS medical staff. Any selection or de-selection decision, following such a test, will be made by CGS after discussion with the Lawn Bowls Team Management and will be final.

22 Athletes in breach of CGS policies, code of conduct and team agreement may be de-selected.

Appeal Process

23 An appeal against non-nomination to CGS by Bowls Scotland is entirely a matter for the athlete and Bowls Scotland This should be held in accordance with Bowls Scotland's own appeal procedures, taking into consideration only the CGS selection policy and agreed sport specific selections standards and conditions.

24 An appeal against non-nomination should follow the Bowls Scotland Appeals process detailed below:

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- The decision of the appeals panel is final and the appellant has no further right to appeal.
- Members of the Appeals panel will have had no previous involvement in the Selection Policy and 1 member will be from outwith Bowls Scotland.

25 An appeal against CGS non-selection on behalf of an athlete may only be submitted by Bowls Scotland and not by any individual athlete. If an appeal is submitted to CGS by Bowls Scotland a CGS Appeal Panel will consider the case along with any

additional information provided. The appeal must be made by email to jon.doig@teamsotland.scot within three days of notification of selection outcomes to Bowls Scotland by CGS.

Appointment of Team Staff

- 26 A Team Manager was appointed by CGS in consultation with Bowls Scotland in 2020. The final complement of Lawn Bowls team staff attending the Games will ultimately depend upon team numbers and composition and will be determined by CGS in consultation with Bowls Scotland. This will include different categories of accreditation and access to the Games Village and other secure areas.

Appendix 1

CGF Byelaw 17 Eligibility

1. It is the responsibility of all Affiliated CGAs to ensure that their competitors are fully aware of and comply with Byelaw 17.

2. Primacy

2.1 Subject to Byelaw 17(4) 17(5) 17(6) and 17(7), a competitor shall be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them where they satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

- a) Are in possession of a current valid passport of the Commonwealth Country which enters them;
- or
- b) Are a subject who can demonstrate 'Belonger Status' in Great Britain or relevant British Overseas Territory of the Commonwealth Country which enters them
 - c) In respect of the following Affiliated CGAs: -
 - i. Guernsey, Jersey, and Isle of Man. The governments of these three Crown Dependencies do not define citizenship. For these Affiliated CGAs, citizenship shall be defined as three (3) years continuous residency immediately prior to the Commonwealth Games. For the avoidance of doubt, the immediately prior three-year period shall mean the three-year period that immediately precedes the "final entries deadline"* date of the relevant Games as determined by the respective Organising Committee ("Continuous Residency") and the competitor must be in possession of a current valid UK passport.
 - ii. Northern Ireland. Byelaw 17 will defer to the Belfast Agreement (1998). Northern Ireland athletes who meet birth right criteria are to be treated equally regardless of their possession of either a current valid UK or Irish passport (but must hold one of these). This right is enshrined within the Constitution Issues (iv) of the 1998 Belfast Agreement.
 - iii. Norfolk Island. Any individual who was in possession of a current valid New Zealand passport and was also deemed eligible to compete at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games for Norfolk Islands may continue to compete for Norfolk Islands at future iterations of the Games.

3. Secondary

3.1 Subject to Byelaw 17(4) 17(5) 17(6) and 17(7), where a competitor was born in a Commonwealth Country which has common citizenship/passport with other Commonwealth Countries, the competitor may represent either:

- a) the Commonwealth Country of their birth;
- or
- b) the Commonwealth Country of birth of their parent;
- or
- c) where the relevant IF recognises grandparents as part of its eligibility criteria, the competitor may represent the Commonwealth Country of birth of their grandparent;

or

- d) the Commonwealth Country where they have completed a minimum period of three (3) years continuous residency immediately prior to the Commonwealth Games. For the avoidance of doubt, the immediately prior three-year period shall mean the three-year period that immediately precedes the “final entries deadline”* of the relevant Games as determined by the respective Organising Committee.

3.2 Subject to the other provisions of this Byelaw 17, where a competitor is eligible to represent more than one Affiliated CGA due to common passport privileges they may choose which Affiliated CGA to represent. For the avoidance of doubt, if an individual has competed at a Commonwealth Youth Games this will not be deemed to be a choice of country, and the competitor may choose to represent a different Affiliated CGA at a Commonwealth Games.

3.3 For the avoidance of doubt subject to Byelaw 17(4) and 17(5) any competitor of a common passport area who competes for their common passport country (i.e. Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia) at either the Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games and/or any World Championships or any other major sporting event shall be entitled to choose to represent their home Affiliated CGA (e.g. Turks and Caicos) at the Commonwealth Games.

4 Disqualifications and Suspensions

4.1 A competitor shall not be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them if they:

- a) are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by the Federation;

and/or

- b) are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by their respective Affiliated CGA;

and/or

- c) are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by their respective IF, National Federation

and/or

- d) are currently under disqualification or suspension under the World Anti-Doping Code.

5 Compliance with applicable rules and regulations

5.1 A competitor shall only be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them if they:

- a) Satisfy and comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federation;

and

- b) Satisfy and comply their respective IF rules and regulations (including but not limited to, complying with respective IF eligibility rules as applied within each respective edition of the Commonwealth Games Athlete Allocation Systems);

and

- c) Satisfy and comply with the World Anti-Doping Code as applied within the Federation Anti-Doping Standard to ensure that the overriding principles of the Commonwealth Games are observed.

5.2 For the avoidance of doubt, where there is an inconsistency between respective IF Nationality rules and regulations and those of the Commonwealth Games Federation, the Commonwealth Games Federation Bye Law 17 shall prevail.

6 Transfer of Allegiance

6.1 After having established eligibility status under this Byelaw 17 a competitor who has previously represented one Commonwealth Country at a Commonwealth Games may not represent another Commonwealth Country unless they also receive the prior approval of the Federation, the relevant IF and the relevant previously represented Affiliated CGA. For the avoidance of doubt, this Byelaw shall not apply if an individual has represented a Commonwealth Country at a Commonwealth Youth Games. Applications under this Byelaw 17(6) must be submitted to the Executive Board two calendar months before the “final entries deadline”* for the respective Commonwealth Games. Applications must include formal confirmation of the prior approval of the relevant IF and the relevant previously represented Affiliated CGA.

6.2 All applications for transfer of allegiance under Byelaw 17(6) and/or discretionary eligibility dispensation under Byelaw 17(7) including all relevant paperwork and documentation must be submitted no later than two calendar months prior to the published “final entries deadline”*, as outlined by the respective Organising Committee.

7 Dispensations

7.1 The Executive Board shall delegate authority to the Governance and Integrity Committee (GIC) who have the power to grant dispensations to Byelaw 17 in exceptional circumstances and to consider any matters relating generally to Byelaw 17. Each application for dispensation under Byelaw 17 shall be considered on its own merits and will not create a precedent for any future applications. Decisions made by GIC are subject to the right of appeal directly to the Executive Board, whose decision shall be final and binding.

*“final entries deadline” means the final date that an individual athlete may be entered in a particular event(s) for the relevant Commonwealth Games, usually completed via an online entry system. Such date to be communicated for each relevant Commonwealth Games in the Sport Handbook.