



## **VII Commonwealth Youth Games**

**Trinidad & Tobago 2023**

**04/08/2023 – 11/08/2023**

**Sport Selection Policy and Standards**

**March 2023**

**Scottish Volleyball**

**48 Pleasance, Edinburgh EH8 9TJ**

# Beach Volleyball Athlete Selection Policy

## Athlete - Sport Selection Policy

The information in this Selection Policy is accurate as of March 2023 but remains subject to change.

For the avoidance of doubt, Commonwealth Games Scotland (“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 Scottish Volleyball (“SV”) 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 circumstances.

## Introduction

1. This selection policy has been agreed by Scottish Volleyball and Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS) and outlines the general Commonwealth Youth Games Selection Principles for the 2023 Beach Volleyball Youth Games in Trinidad and Tobago (“the Games”). The Games are an invitational event for athletes born between 2005 and 2009. This selection policy provides details on the process by which Scottish Volleyball will arrive at its nominations for selection of athletes within the Scottish Team in Trinbago 2023 which will be submitted to CGS for consideration.
2. In all cases, selection by Scottish Volleyball represents a nomination to CGS for ratification. The final decision in selection to the 2023 Youth Games lies with CGS. Achievement of the selection criteria therefore represents **eligibility for nomination**, not selection or even nomination.
3. Scottish Volleyball will nominate only those athletes that have qualified under the selection criteria stated in this policy and the CGS General Selection Policy (available on the CGS Website) that should be read in conjunction with these standards.

## Selection Policy Aim

4. To select a team of athletes capable of competing with distinction for Scotland at the 2023 Commonwealth Youth Games and who have the potential to win medals for Scotland at future Commonwealth Games.

## Scottish Commonwealth Youth Games Athlete Eligibility

5. To be eligible to compete for Scotland in the Commonwealth Youth Games in Trinidad and Tobago, the eligibility criteria of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), Byelaw 17, must be met by all nominees, see Appendix 1.
6. Where prospective team members do not comply with the above, they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior dispensation from the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) through CGS
7. The eligible age category for beach volleyball for the Commonwealth Youth Games is for Men and Women who are born in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

## Games Competition Format

8. The Commonwealth Youth Games 2023 will include Beach Volleyball events in the following disciplines:
  - a. Women’s Medal Event (1) & Men’s Medal Event (1)
  - b. One CGA entry per event (2 athletes, 1 team)
  - c. Team tournament

## **Sport Specific Selection Criteria**

9. CGS has received an invitation to compete from the Commonwealth Games Federation for a women's beach volleyball team, which has been accepted.
10. Selection period: 1 January 2023 to 15 May 2023
  - a. In order for the athletes or pairs to gain selection to Team Scotland it is necessary to evidence performances showing potential.
  - b. Any athlete or pair receiving an invitation to compete from Scottish Volleyball will be required to achieve the following standards to be considered for nomination:
    - i. Has attended minimum 2 training sessions/camps in 2023 with the High Performance Beach Programme.
    - ii. Evidence of previous performance experience in a competitive Beach Volleyball setting (eg. Competing at UKBTs and/or other relevant beach volleyball events).
    - iii. Demonstrated knowledge of tactical and technical skills to play competitive beach volleyball.
    - iv. Participation at the formal try outs organised by Scottish Volleyball, in which physical tests will also be performed.
  - c. Prioritisation process in the case more athletes achieve the standards to be eligible to compete
    - i. High Performance Beach lead, based on performance at try outs organised by Scottish Volleyball, physical testing and Performance Management Group consideration.
    - ii. Ratification of the SV Beach Performance Management Group.
  - d. Reserves:
    - i. Scottish Volleyball will identify two reserve athletes:
    - ii. In discussion with CGS, reserve athlete(s) must meet the Sport Specific Selection standards.

## **Other Factors for Consideration**

11. Athletes must be a member of Scottish Volleyball.
12. Adherence to the Scottish Volleyball Performance programme and performance behaviours.
13. Commitment of athletes to preparing and competing for Scotland.
14. Illness/injury.
15. Disciplinary history & adherence to relevant Scottish Volleyball member and athlete codes of conducts/agreements.

## **Injury, Illness and other exceptional circumstances**

16. Failure to meet any of the selection criteria for reasons of injury, illness, or any other exceptional circumstances by an athlete under consideration, must be backed by medical evidence, or any such additional evidence as may be reasonably requested by the Scottish Volleyball High Performance Beach lead and Performance Management Group.
17. Any unavailability for competition or training, for any of the reasons above, must be advised and agreed with the Scottish Volleyball High Performance Beach programme in advance.

## Selection process

18. All nominated athletes must have completed relevant Anti-doping education.
19. At the close of the selection period, the Scottish Volleyball Nomination Panel will consider all relevant information for eligible players against the selection criteria.
  - a. The Scottish Volleyball Nomination Panel will consist of Scottish Volleyball High Performance Beach lead (1), a member from the Scottish Volleyball Board (1) and a member of the Performance Management Group (1), who are not involved in any appeals process.
20. Scottish Volleyball will communicate the nominations to eligible players and send their final nominations, in priority order, to CGS by no later than 22 May 2023.
21. CGS will confirm the final team selections by 30 May 2023.
22. Final selection to the Games team is dependent on receipt of relevant information required by CGS such as the Team Member Agreement.
23. Deadlines:

Timeline	
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2023	Selection period starts
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Announcement of involvement
15 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Closing of selection period
16 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Athletes informed of decision
18 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Appeals submission by 1200hrs
20 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Notification of appeal outcome
22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2023	Scottish Volleyball submits final nominations to CGS
30 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Confirmation of the final team selections by CGS
4 <sup>th</sup> to 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	Commonwealth Youth Games Trinbago 2023

## Appeals Process

24. An appeal against CGS non-selection on behalf of an athlete may only be submitted by Scottish Volleyball and not by any individual athlete. If an appeal is submitted to CGS by Scottish Volleyball, a CGS Appeal Panel will consider the case along with any additional information provided. The appeal must be made in writing within 3 days after selection outcomes to Scottish Volleyball by CGS.

Any appeal against non-nomination to CGS by Scottish Volleyball is entirely a matter for the athlete and Scottish Volleyball. Following the Scottish Volleyball announcement of nominated players by 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023, appeals will be heard in accordance with Scottish Volleyball own appeals procedure and this policy:

- All appeals must be sent, in writing, including the grounds upon which the appeal is made, to the Scottish Volleyball Chief Executive Officer at [margaretann@scottishvolleyball.org](mailto:margaretann@scottishvolleyball.org) by 12:00 noon on May 18<sup>th</sup> 2023. Any appeal will be considered by an appeals panel independent of the Scottish Volleyball nominations panel. The appeals panel will consist of the Scottish Volleyball CEO and two (2) Scottish Volleyball board members by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022 with athletes informed, in writing, of the outcome on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023.

## De-selection

25. Players may be deemed ineligible for selection or deselected for the following reasons:

- Anti-doping: Athletes suspended by Scottish Volleyball as a result of ongoing or concluded anti-doping violation allegations will not be considered for selection, and if previously selected, will be de-selected from Team Scotland.
- Form and Fitness - Injury Management: Where form and fitness 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 Commonwealth Youth Games. The format will be determined by CGS after discussion with the Beach Volleyball Team Management. This will be specific to Beach Volleyball 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 final.
- CGS Policies: Athletes in breach of CGS policies, code of conduct and Youth Team Agreement may be de-selected.

### **Appointment of Team Staff**

26. One initial sport specific member of staff will be appointed by CGS in consultation with Scottish Volleyball by the end March 2023. The final complement of the Scottish Volleyball Team staff attending the Games will ultimately depend upon team composition and will be determined by CGS in consultation with Scottish Volleyball.

## 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”<sup>\*\*</sup> 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”<sup>\*\*</sup>, 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.

<sup>\*\*</sup>“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.