



EMPOWERED BY



# **NETBALL**

# **SELECTION POLICY & STANDARDS**

GLASGOW 2026

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

FIRST PUBLISHED: 26 June 2025

## DOCUMENT CONTROL

Policy Owner:	CGS
Approval Date:	26/06/2025
Approving Body:	Netball Scotland & CGS
Version Number:	V1.0

## AMENDMENT HISTORY

Version Number:	Effective Date:	Summary of Amendments:	Author
V1.0	26/06/2025	Inception of Policy	Netball Scotland & CGS

The information in this Selection Policy is accurate as at 26 June 2025 but remains subject to change. As a result of the unique and extenuating circumstances caused by the late confirmation of Glasgow as hosts for the 2026 Games and the consequential outstanding Commonwealth Games Federation requirements, CGS and Netball Scotland will be closely monitoring this Selection Policy to determine if any changes are necessary.

1. 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.
2. In addition, CGS and Netball 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.

## **INTRODUCTION**

3. This selection policy has been agreed by Netball Scotland and Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS). It provides detail on the process by which Netball Scotland will arrive at athlete nominations, which will be submitted to CGS for consideration, for final selection to Team Scotland for Glasgow 2026.
4. Achievement, by an athlete, of individual selection standards, detailed in this document, is therefore the first step by which nomination can be considered. The final decision in selection to the 2026 Games lies with CGS.
5. Netball Scotland will nominate only those athletes that have qualified under both the Netball 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.
6. 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 Netball Scotland will prioritise in accordance with this policy.

## **SELECTION AIM**

7. To select a team of athletes capable of competing with distinction for Scotland at the 2026 Commonwealth Games, and collectively:
  - Having a higher percentage of athletes meeting the general selection standards when in competition at these Games than in 2022.
  - Meeting the stated performance aims of each sport at the Games.
  - Team members having a positive experience within Team Scotland at the Games.
8. This Netball policy is consistent with this aim.

## **ELIGIBILITY & CONDITIONS FOR REPRESENTATION**

9. Athlete eligibility and conditions for representing Scotland will be as outlined in the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) Constitution and Byelaws. Please see Appendix 1 for the current eligibility Byelaw. Should these change, the most recent version will be used.

10. 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**

11. This will be based on a Women's 12 Team Event with 12 athletes per playing squad per country. Further details of format will be updated when available.

### **SPORT SPECIFIC SELECTION STANDARDS**

12. As host, Scotland will be offered an automatic place by the CGF and this will be accepted in line with the CGS General Selection Policy, Section 3.
13. Athletes will be selected based on the performance needs, expectations and competencies of their role in the team and needs of the National Team.
14. Three reserves will be selected and be part of the team preparations for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, providing robust management coverage for the group and athletes.
15. Players nominated to represent Scotland at Glasgow 2026 will meet the following criteria during the selection period:
  - 16.1 All players must be able to contribute fully to the goals of the team and be of a proven playing standard to support the team's ability to reach a top 8 position.
  - 16.2 Player's progress and development will be recorded in their 'IAPP'.
  - 16.3 Each player will have an individualised training programme and must comply with this, and all specific additional work as advised by the National Coach.
  - 16.4 Each player will be involved in their own specific competition programme.
  - 16.5 All players will be subject to fitness monitoring throughout the year either at their designated Institute of Sport or via the SGB Strength and Conditioning (S&C) personnel and must be deemed 'fit for purpose' by the National Coach.
  - 16.6 All national squad members must attend all training sessions, camps and competitions scheduled by the governing body, unless otherwise agreed by the National Coach. If a national squad member is unable to attend a training session/camp and/or competition due to extenuating circumstances, they must contact the National Coach directly to confirm their non-attendance.
  - 16.7 All players must adhere to the UK Anti-Doping Rules.
16. Characteristics/qualities of a Netball Scotland National Athlete:
  - 17.1 Players must demonstrate a level of all-round athleticism appropriate to the demands of international netball.

- 17.2 Team-first mentality: works well in a team environment and is respectful to team-mates.
- 17.3 High work ethic: demands quality work from self and team-mates at all times.
- 17.4 Committed, organized and disciplined as an elite level netball athlete.
- 17.5 Self-aware, honest, self-motivated/determined.
- 17.6 Communicates well, especially under pressure.
- 17.7 Mentally tough with the capacity to direct and control thoughts and emotions under pressure.

### **OTHER FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 17. All nominated athletes must have completed the required Anti-doping education.
- 18. Committed to the team-first values and behaviours in alignment with the collaborative views of Team Scotland.
- 19. Committed to the proud national representation of Scotland and supporting their National Team Members in the National Netball Squad and beyond in Team Scotland.

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

- 20. Nomination of individual players is the responsibility of Netball Scotland on the following basis:
  - 21.1 The competitions and testing details within the selection period will be made available to all athletes in advance.
  - 21.2 A panel of National Selectors, (three members) comprising the National Coach and two other nominated National Selectors will nominate to CGS a squad of 20 players. The National Coach is responsible for the final nomination of the 20 athletes.
- 21. Netball Scotland will submit their final squad nominations to CGS by 12 June 2026. CGS will confirm final squad selections by 15 June 2026.
- 22. Netball Scotland will decide the final 12 players and three non-travelling reserves between 15 June and 30 June. The National Coach is responsible for the final decision of the 15 athletes.
- 23. Final selection to the Games team is dependent on provision of relevant information required by CGS such as completion and signing of the CGF Eligibility form and CGS Team Member Agreement.

### **DE-SELECTION**

- 24. **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 Glasgow 2026 team.

25. **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 Netball Team Management. This will be specific to Netball 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 Netball Team Management and will be final.
26. Athletes in breach of CGS policies, code of conduct or team agreement may be de-selected.

### **APPEAL PROCESS**

27. An appeal against non-nomination to CGS by Netball Scotland is entirely a matter for the athlete and Netball Scotland. This should be held in accordance with Netball Scotland's own appeal procedures but taking into consideration only the CGS selection policy and agreed sport specific selections standards and conditions.
28. Any player not nominated to the squad or the team has the right to meet with the Performance Director and a member of the Selection Panel informally in order to seek further clarification on their non-nomination to the squad of 20 or the team of 12 players. This meeting should take place within 48 hours of the nomination decision. After this meeting a player may appeal in writing to Netball Scotland and that appeal must arrive at the Netball Scotland offices within three business days of the notification of the nomination decision. The CEO of Netball Scotland will convene a meeting in line with Netball Scotland policy and procedures. The player will be notified of the decision of the appeals panel, and the decision of the panel is final.
29. An appeal against non-selection, by CGS, of an athlete may only be submitted by Netball Scotland and not by any individual athlete. If an appeal is submitted to CGS by Netball 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](mailto:jon.doig@teamsotland.scot) within 48 hours of notification of selection outcomes to Netball Scotland by CGS.

### **APPOINTMENT OF TEAM STAFF**

30. A Team Manager will be appointed by CGS in consultation with Netball Scotland by July 2025. The final complement of Netball team staff attending the Games will ultimately depend upon team numbers and composition and will be determined by CGS in consultation with Netball Scotland. This will include different categories of accreditation and access to the Games accommodation and other secure areas.

## APPENDIX 1 – CGF BYELAW 17

1. ELIGIBILITY	
1.1.	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.	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Are in possession of a current valid passport of the Commonwealth Country which enters them, or:</li> <li>b) Are a subject who can demonstrate 'Belonger Status' in Great Britain or relevant British Overseas Territory of the Commonwealth Country which enters them.</li> <li>c) In respect of the following Affiliated CGAs: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
3. SECONDARY	
3.1.	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the Commonwealth Country of their birth; or</li> <li>b) the Commonwealth Country of birth of their parent; or</li> </ul>

- 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.