



SWIMMING NEW ZEALAND SELECTION POLICY

Event
2026 OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS, 9th to 12th MAY 2026, Suva Fiji
Qualification Period
1 st November 2025 to 12 th April 2026, inclusive.
Selection Events
Any Swimming New Zealand and/or Swimming Australia Approved (Long Course) Meets within the qualification period (e.g. Regional Championships). <i>Note: While times for selection can be set at a range of meets, Clause 1.d. requires that, to be eligible for selection, Swimmers are expected to compete at the 2026 NAGS and/or NZ Swimming Championships, contesting the individual swimming event in which they are seeking selection in a committed and competitive manner. Being outside the Qualification Period, the NZ Swimming Championships are not a selection event, but swimmers are expected to compete on return from the Oceania Championships.</i>
Selectors
The Selectors appointed by Swimming New Zealand to execute this Policy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brent Layton• Rebecca Dubber• Phillip Rush• Nick Tongue

1. Eligibility

To be considered for selection, a Swimmer must:

- Be a New Zealand citizen who is eligible to represent New Zealand in competition as per World Aquatics Competition Regulations, Part One, Rule 3.
- Continuously be a registered and financial member of Swimming New Zealand (SNZ).
- Be a positive ambassador for SNZ.
- Unless granted prior dispensation by the Head of High Performance, compete at the 2026 NAGS and/or NZ Swimming Championships, contesting the individual swimming event in which they are seeking selection in a committed and competitive manner.
- Comply with any established code of conduct or Swimmer agreement of SNZ and otherwise conduct themselves in a way that does not bring their sport or the team into disrepute.
- Have not used or administered any substance which, if it had been detected as being present in the Swimmer's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted doping, or used any prohibited method or committed any other doping offence as

defined in swimming's Anti-Doping rules (including but not limited to World Aquatics and Swimming NZ).

- g. Have completed the mandatory Sport Integrity Level 1 or higher Anti-Doping Education.

2. Over-riding Selection Process

- a. The Team will comprise two elements: Youth and Development.
- b. For Youth consideration, swimmers must be 14 years or above but under 17 years as of 08 April 2026. For Development consideration, swimmers must be 19 years or above but under 22 years as of 13th May 2026.
- c. The maximum overall team size will be in accordance with Oceania rules.
- d. Selectors will consider up to 3 swimmers per event across the Youth and Development elements combined.
- e. Selectors will consider Swimmers for selection based on the Selection Standards below (note: the same standards apply to both Youth and Development elements).
- f. In any decision regarding the selection of Swimmers, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, consider any Extenuating Circumstances in accordance with Clause 4.
- g. Swimmers' selection will be announced no later than one week after the completion of the Qualification Period.

3. Individual Event Selection Standards

- a. An Individual Event is where a swimmer competes as an individual and not part of a relay team.
- b. To be considered for selection for an individual event, Swimmers must record a time equal to or better than the times detailed in Table 1 at the Selection Event.
- c. Heats, finals and single gender relay lead-off splits in the relevant swimming event will be included in Selectors' consideration.

TABLE 1 - Individual Event Selection Standards		
Female	Event	Male
27.25	50m Freestyle	24.13
59.69	100m Freestyle	53.56
02:09.56	200m Freestyle	01:57.75
04:31.72	400m Freestyle	04:14.05
09:19.64	800m Freestyle	08:41.93
17:42.61	1500m Freestyle	16:45.11
31.00	50m Backstroke	27.18
01:05.95	100m Backstroke	59.56
02:22.15	200m backstroke	02:09.20
33.66	50m Breaststroke	29.95
01:14.03	100m Breaststroke	01:05.66
02:38.79	200m Breaststroke	02:24.85
28.20	50m Butterfly	25.70
01:03.70	100m Butterfly	57.08
02:20.61	200m Butterfly	02:07.37
02:25.59	200m Individual Medley	02:11.60
05:05.20	400m Individual Medley	04:39.94

- d. **Ranking:** At the conclusion of the Qualification Period, each qualifying swim will be ranked in order of time, fastest to slowest. Where swimmers from both Youth and Development elements have achieved the standard, the fastest qualifying swim from each element will be selected, along with the next fastest qualifying swim overall, regardless of age element. Where swimmers from only one element have achieved the standard, up to three qualifying swims from that element will be selected.
- e. **Tie Break:** Where times are equal for any third qualifying place, rank order will be determined using the Swimmers' second best times during the qualification period, followed by their third best times and so forth until the tie is resolved.
- f. **Discretionary:** Where no eligible Swimmer has met the qualifying standards for any individual event in Table 1, the SNZ Head Coach may recommend to the Selectors for consideration for selection the fastest eligible non-qualified Swimmer in the individual event at a Selection Event on the basis of prospects for the 2032 Olympic Games. Selection of any Head Coach's recommendation remains at the discretion of the Selectors. For clarity, this means the single fastest eligible swimmer regardless of age element.

4. Extenuating Circumstances

- a. In considering the selection of Swimmers in accordance with this Policy, the Selectors may, in their sole discretion, give weight to any Extenuating Circumstances which may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - i. injury or illness;
 - ii. travel delays;
 - iii. equipment failure;
 - iv. bereavement or personal misfortune; and/or
 - v. any other factors reasonably considered by the Selectors to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- b. **Athlete to Advise:** Swimmers wishing for Extenuating Circumstances to be considered must personally and/or through a delegate advise the SNZ Head of High-Performance of the Extenuating Circumstances and reasons, in writing, with as much advance notice as possible and ideally seven (7) days prior to the 2026 New Zealand Swimming Championships. If the Head of High Performance is not notified of any Extenuating Circumstances, then the Selectors have no obligation to consider such circumstances.
- c. **Medical Certificate:** In the case of injury or illness, Swimmers may be required by the Head of High Performance to provide a medical certificate and/or to undergo an examination by a health practitioner/s nominated by the Head of High Performance, 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.
- d. **Return to Fitness:** Selection of any Swimmers in relation to Extenuating Circumstances, may be subject to conditions, such as satisfactory return to fitness. Such a process may or may not include a test in the swimming event that they have been selected for, with a target time by a given date, determined by the SNZ Head of High Performance and Head Coach.

- e. **Case by Case:** In the case of any Extenuating Circumstance/s, the Selectors will make a decision on a case-by-case basis.

5. Appeals

- a. **Grounds of Appeal:** A Swimmer may appeal non-selection on any one or more of the following grounds:
 - i. That the applicable Nomination Criteria was not properly followed and/or implemented; or
 - ii. The Athlete was not afforded a reasonable opportunity to satisfy the applicable Nomination Criteria; or
 - iii. The nomination decision was affected by actual bias; or
 - iv. There was no material on which the nomination decision could reasonably be based.
- b. **Procedure for Appeals:** The procedure for a Selection Appeal shall be as follows:
 - i. A Swimmer wishing to appeal must give written notice of appeal to the SNZ Chief Executive within 48 hours of the selection announcement, stating their grounds for appeal.
 - ii. Within 48 hours of receipt of the appeal, the Chief Executive may propose a meeting between the parties and their representatives (if any) at which meeting the parties shall endeavour to resolve the appeal by discussion. Such a meeting, which may be held in person, by telephone or online, shall be held as soon as possible and in any event no later than 5 business days after the receipt of the appeal.
 - iii. Any such meeting shall be held on a confidential and without prejudice basis. In particular, the content of any matters discussed during such meeting may not be used by either party in respect of any further hearing of the appeal.
 - iv. If the appeal is not resolved at the meeting and the Swimmer wishes to proceed further with their appeal, the Swimmer must file an application for Appeal with the Sports Tribunal of New Zealand and serve a copy of such application for Appeal to the Chief Executive within 5 business days of the meeting or of the initial notice of appeal, whichever is later.
 - v. Appeals in the Sports Tribunal shall be determined in accordance with its Rules.
 - vi. The decision of the Sports Tribunal will be final and binding on the parties.

6. Notes

- a. SNZ may amend this Policy at any time, by giving reasonable notice to all Swimmers eligible for selection. Publication on the SNZ website will constitute reasonable notice.

7. Version Tracking

- a. V1 November 2025