

**SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS CONFEDERATION
AND OLYMPIC COMMITTEE**



**DISCUSSION DOCUMENT ON THE POLICY AND
GENERAL ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION
CRITERIA FOR
MULTI-CODED GAMES (2017 – 2024)**

Definition of Terms

1. **Athlete** – a competitor who is actively participating in competitive sport, is affiliated to a club which with affiliated to a National Federation
2. **Dispute** (i) any dispute contemplated to be resolved by SASCOC in terms of the Act or any other applicable legislation; and (ii) disputes contemplated in terms of the SASCOC's Constitution to be resolved through SASCOC structures;
3. **NF under dispute** - A SASCOC member who has transgressed the SASCOC Constitution
4. **NF under administration** – A SASCOC member who has been put under administration due to all dispute mechanisms having failed
5. **Official** – an administrator, coach or technical official who is actively involved in sport and is a registered member of a club which is affiliated to a National Federation
6. **Selection period** – A stipulated time period during which all athletes need to obtain qualification for the respective Games
7. **Official under suspension** – any person who is not allowed to officiate in any sport due to having transgressed the NF and/ or SASCOC Constitution

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ANOC	Association of National Olympic Committees
ANOCA	Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa
Athlete	Someone who is actively participating in organised sport and is registered with a recognised club affiliated to a NF affiliated and recognised by SASCOC
APC	African Paralympic Committee
CGF	Commonwealth Games Federation
CGA	Commonwealth Games Association
IF(s)	International Federation(s)
IOC	International Olympic Committee
IPC	International Paralympic Committee
IWGA	International World Games Association
NF	National Federation
SASCOC	South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee
SRSA	Sport and Recreation South Africa

DISCUSSION DOCUMENT ON THE POLICY AND GENERAL ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA FOR MULTI-CODED GAMES (2017 – 2024)

PREAMBLE

In the previous quadrennial, a process of developing selection policies was followed from May 2011 to December 2012 when the final general eligibility and selection criteria for multi coded games was circulated to all membership.

This was followed for Games such as the 2014 Commonwealth, the 2015 African Games, however it posed a challenge for the 2016 Olympic Games. Some NFs wanted their obtained continental slots to be considered even though the policy indicating otherwise was already signed and agreed to. As a result, about 15 slots (approx. 50 athletes) were turned down. The purpose of this document is to review the current selection processes and criteria and to develop policies for the 2017 – 2024 quadrennial.

As a reminder, the following Resolutions were taken by the Presidents Council on 15 May 2011:

- 1. There will be a Generic Team Selection Policy for all multi-coded events binding all SASCOC member NFs, including winter sports and sports for the disabled;*
- 2. SASCOC will consider Continental Qualification for major events, taking into consideration international ranking, number of countries participating, and the presence of stronger countries at the CQT.*
- 3. Sport-specific selection policies shall consider technical issues and the performance pathway and history of each athlete/ team;*
- 4. The age group competitions shall be used for exposure to international participation, without losing sight of performance;*
- 5. The policy cycle shall be for eight years, with evaluation **at the beginning of the quadrennial**;*
- 6. The Generic Selection Policy for 2016 shall be in place by December 2012.*

The membership needs to look at these resolutions and determine whether they are still applicable based on performances of athletes at various international events from 2013 to 2016. If not, new resolutions should be taken and new selection processes and criteria be adopted.

For the 2017 to 2024 quadrennials, the Games that need to be considered are:

- 2017 Commonwealth Youth Games- Nassau, Bahamas
- 2018 Winter Olympic Games – Pyeongchang, South Korea
- 2018 Winter Paralympic Games – Pyeongchang, South Korea
- 2018 Commonwealth Games – Gold Coast, Australia
- 2018 African Youth Games – Algiers, Algeria

- 2018 Youth Olympic Games – Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2018 AUSC Region 5 U/20 Youth Games – Gaborone, Botswana
- 2019 African Games –
- 2019 Inaugural ANOCA Continental Beach Games, Praia, Cape Verde
- 2019 Inaugural ANOC World Beach Games, San Diego, USA
- 2020 Winter Youth Olympic Games – Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2020 Summer Olympic Games – Tokyo, Japan
- 2020 Summer Paralympic Games – Tokyo, Japan
- 2020 AUSC Region 5 U/20 Youth Games – Maseru, Lesotho
- 2021 IWGA World Games – Birmingham, Alabama – USA
- 2022 Winter Olympic Games, Beijing, China
- 2022 Winter Paralympic Games, Beijing, China
- 2022 Commonwealth Games, Birmingham
- 2022 AUSC Region 5 U/20 Youth Games, Malawi
- 2023 African Games
- 2024 Summer Olympic Games, Paris
- 2024 Summer Paralympic Games, Paris

For age-group Games such as the Commonwealth Youth and Youth Olympic Games (Summer and Winter), the conditions as set out by the IOC and IFs, and CGF and IFs shall be observed by SASCOC. These shall be used as a platform for ensuring our junior and youth athletes are nurtured for transition to senior levels. **Due to the fact that numbers for most Youth Games are capped, international qualification shall take precedence over continental where numbers the quota is reached.**

1. ELIGIBILITY

For National Federations (NFs), athletes and officials to be eligible for selection to the various Games, they should meet specific minimum criteria.

1.1 ELIGIBILITY OF NFs

For National Federations to be eligible for consideration for the Games from 2017 to 2024, the NF shall satisfy the following:

- 1.1.1 The NF shall be affiliated to and recognised by SASCOC;
- 1.1.2 The NF shall be in good standing with SASCOC and SRSA, ;
- 1.1.3 The NF shall be affiliated to and in good standing with the relevant Continental Confederation, International Federation (IF) recognised by the IOC, IPC, CGF, IWGA and ANOCA;
- 1.1.4 The NF shall not be under any dispute or administration during the selection period;
- 1.1.5 The NF shall comply and uphold the Constitution, Rules, Regulations and Code of Conduct of SASCOC and the relevant international Macro sports bodies, that is, the IOC, IPC, CGF and IWGA.

1.2 ELIGIBILITY OF ATHLETES

For athletes to be eligible for selection for the various Games delivered by SASCOC, the athletes shall satisfy the following:

- 1.2.1 The athlete shall be a South African Citizen with a valid RSA ID and passport. Citizens holding a dual citizenship shall not have participated in any event representing their adopted country, whether at national or international level
- 1.2.2 For athletes who have competed for other countries at international events, they shall observe the “cool-off” period prescribed by the IOC, IPC, CGF, IWGA and ANOCA for the respective Games.
- 1.2.3 The athlete shall be a member in good standing with the relevant NF;
- 1.2.4 The athlete shall not be under suspension for any offence (including but not limited to doping) during the selection period;
- 1.2.5 The athlete shall comply with and uphold the Constitution, Rules and Code of Conduct of SASCOC and the relevant international macro sports bodies, that is, the IOC, IPC, CGF, IWGA and ANOCA;
- 1.2.6 The athlete shall compete at the NF’s National Championships as prescribed by the NF internal selection policy.

1.3 ELIGIBILITY OF OFFICIALS

For officials to be eligible as coaches or team leaders/ code managers, for the various Games delivered by SASCOC, they shall satisfy the following criteria:

- 1.3.1 The official shall be a member in good standing with the relevant NF;
- 1.3.2 The official shall not be under suspension for any offence during the selection period;
- 1.3.3 The official shall have a proven track record in the position they are recommended for, and shall have demonstrated a level of competence acceptable to SASCOC. Where there is no track record, the NF shall motivate to SASCOC for such official to be considered.
- 1.3.4 The official shall comply and uphold the Constitution, Rules and Code of Conduct of SASCOC, relevant international Macro sports bodies, that is, the IOC, IPC, CGF, IWGA and ANOCA
- 1.3.5 In case of coaches, SASCOC shall consider foreign coaches based on the value add to the NF and the proven track record the coach has in delivering results at international events. The NF however, shall have to show a skills transfer and succession plan for the development of South African Coaches.
- 1.3.6 Foreign and local personal coaches shall be registered with and affiliated to the respective NF.

Over and above the mentioned eligibility criteria, all officials and athletes shall:

- Respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence, and behave accordingly; and
- Respect and comply in all aspects with the World Anti- Doping Code.

2. SELECTION CRITERIA

Over and above the eligibility conditions set above, the following selection criteria shall be used to select athletes for participation at the various multi-coded Games mentioned above.

2.1. Continental Qualification

It is still believed that South African athletes, having previously demonstrated, can obtain direct qualification for the various Games. SASCOC therefore, did not consider continental qualification for the previous major Games delivered, especially at senior level. For this quadrennial *it is recommended* that Continental qualification be considered under the following conditions:

- 2.1.1 Continental Championships shall be considered and agreed to between SASCOC and the NF with minimum requirements as set out by the IF.
- 2.1.2 Additional criteria will be set by SASCOC considering the following
 - 2.1.2.1 **Competitiveness** of the sport on the African Continent,
 - 2.1.2.2 Number of countries participating **in that sport**,
 - 2.1.2.3 International rankings of individual athletes/ Teams;
 - 2.1.2.4 Most recent results of individuals or teams in the particular sport;
 - 2.1.2.5 Performance History of the athlete/ Team.

2.2 2018 Commonwealth Games

- 2.2.1 All individual athletes eligible for the Commonwealth Games shall be ranked in the Top 10 in the Commonwealth to be considered for final selection;
- 2.2.2 Team Sports eligible for the Commonwealth Games shall be considered as per the CGF/ IF qualification process, provided qualification is within the top 10 ranking in the Commonwealth;

2.3 2018 Winter Olympic Games

- 2.3.1 All athletes eligible for participation at the Winter Olympic Games shall be considered in line with the sport-specific selection policy as shall be agreed upon with the NF;
- 2.3.2 SASCOC, as the NOC shall modify the said policy to be signed-off with the NF;
- 2.3.3 International Ranking shall also be a factor in determining selection;
- 2.3.4 All athletes shall have participated at national and international events as shall be prescribed by the NF, unless otherwise exempted in writing by the NF.

2.4 2018 Winter Paralympic Games

- 2.4.1 All athletes eligible for participation at the Winter Paralympic Games shall be considered in line with the sport-specific selection policy as shall be agreed upon with the NF;
- 2.4.2 SASCOC, as the NPC shall modify the said policy to be signed-off with the NF;
- 2.4.3 International Ranking shall also be a factor in determining selection;
- 2.4.4 All athletes shall have participated at national and international events as shall be prescribed by the NF, unless otherwise exempted in writing by the NF.

2.5 2019 African Games

- 2.5.1 All athletes eligible for the African Games shall be ranked in the Top 10 and Team Sports shall be ranked in the Top 6 in Africa to be eligible for final selection;
- 2.5.2 Reigning Junior and Youth National Championships being earmarked for transition to senior events shall be considered for selection;
- 2.5.3 Whereby the African Games coincide with the various 2020 qualification events, senior athletes attempting to qualify for the Games shall be exempted from attending the African Games.
- 2.5.4 Athletes not attempting to qualify **OR** who have already qualified for Tokyo 2020, will still be expected to attend the 2019 African Games.
- 2.5.5 All athletes shall have participated at national events, as shall be prescribed by the NF, **unless otherwise exempted in writing by the NF.**

2.6 2019 ANOCA Beach Games

- 2.6.1 **All individual athletes eligible for the African Beach Games shall be ranked in the Top 5 and Team Sports shall be ranked in the Top 4 in the continent to be eligible for final selection;**
- 2.6.2 **Reigning Junior and Youth National Champs being earmarked for transition to senior events shall be considered for selection;**
- 2.6.3 All athletes shall have participated at national events as shall be prescribed by the NF, **unless otherwise exempted in writing by the NF.**

2.7 2019 ANOC Beach Games

- 2.7.1 All athletes eligible for participation at the ANOC Games shall be considered in line with the sport-specific selection policy, including continental qualification (with the above set conditions) as shall be agreed upon with the NF;
- 2.7.2 SASCOC, as the NOC shall still modify the ANOC/IF sport specific policy to be signed off with the NF;
- 2.7.3 **International Ranking shall also be a factor in determining selection;**
- 2.7.4 Athletes shall have participated (where qualified and selected), at the relevant multi-coded events delivered by SASCOC, as shall be

stipulated and the NF's National Championships, **unless otherwise exempted in writing by the NF.**

2.8 2020 Olympic Games

- 2.8.1 All athletes eligible for participation at the Olympic Games shall be considered in line with the sport-specific selection policy, including continental qualification (with the above set conditions) as shall be agreed upon with the NF;
- 2.8.2 SASCOC, as the NOC shall still modify the IOC/IF sport specific policy to be signed off with the NF;
- 2.8.3 **International Ranking shall also be a factor in determining selection;**
- 2.8.4 Athletes shall have participated (where qualified and selected), at the relevant multi-coded events delivered by SASCOC, such as the Commonwealth Games and African Games and the NF's National Championships, **unless otherwise exempted in writing by the NF.**

2.9 2020 Paralympic Games

- 2.9.1 All athletes eligible for participation at the Paralympic Games shall be considered in line with the Sport specific selection policy, including continental slots (with conditions set above) as shall be agreed upon with the NF;
- 2.9.2 SASCOC, as the NPC shall still modify the IPC/IF sport specific policy to be signed off with the NF;
- 2.9.3 **International Ranking shall also be a factor in determining selection;**
- 2.9.4 Athletes shall have participated at the relevant multi-coded events delivered by SASCOC, such as the Commonwealth Games and African Games and NF's National Championships, **unless otherwise exempted in writing by the NF.**

2.10 2021 World Games

- 2.10.1 All athletes eligible for participation at the World Games shall be considered in line with the sport-specific selection policy, including continental qualification (with the above set conditions) as shall be agreed upon with the NF;
- 2.10.2 SASCOC, as the Confederation shall still modify the IWGA/IF sport specific policy to be signed off with the NF;
- 2.10.3 **International Ranking shall also be a factor in determining selection;**
- 2.10.4 Athletes shall have participated at the NF's National Championships, **unless otherwise exempted in writing by the NF.**

3. REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUALIFICATION PLACES

3.1 It is specifically recorded that in the event of any reallocation, wild card or Universality places being allocated or offered to South Africa, such reallocation, wild card or Universality slot will not be taken up by SASCOC.

4. FINAL SELECTION POLICY SIGN OFF

SASCOC shall not accept a signed selection policy unless it is accompanied by the following:

- 4.1 Minutes and attendance registers of meetings with the Executive Committee where the said selection policy was discussed and accepted;
- 4.2 Minutes and attendance registers of meetings with Athletes Commissions where the selection policy was discussed and accepted;
- 4.3 Minutes and attendance registers of meetings with Coaches Commissions and Technical Committees where the selection policy was discussed and accepted;
- 4.4 Reflect that it was disseminated to all the key NF stakeholders

It is recommended that the NFs invite SASCOC to their meetings to discuss and clarify the selection policy.

5. NF INTERNAL SELECTION POLICIES

5.1 It will be compulsory for all NFs to provide SASCOC with their internal selection policies for the various events to ensure the following:

- 5.1.1 Alignment with Macro selection policy for the Games being considered for
- 5.1.2 Consistency in the application of selection processes and criteria
- 5.1.3 Transparency in the selection process.

6. It is specifically recorded that irrespective of the provisions of the sport specific selection policy, final confirmation of selection and participation for Team South Africa shall vest with SASCOC.