

Equestrian Sports New Zealand Incorporated (ESNZ)

Paris 2024 Paralympic Games

Nomination Criteria

1 Application of this Criteria

- 1.1 This Criteria is issued by the Board of the **ESNZ** and forms part of Schedule **H** of the Paralympics New Zealand (PNZ) Selection Regulation. A copy of the PNZ Selection Regulation is available on the [PNZ website](#).
- 1.2 This Criteria shall take effect from 11 May 2023 or such other date specified by PNZ.
- 1.3 This Criteria applies to:
- a all Para athletes wishing to be considered for nomination to the Paralympic Games Team to compete in the Paralympic Games; and
 - b **ESNZ** including their Sport Specific Selectors that wish to nominate Para athletes to PNZ to be considered for selection to the Paralympic Games Team for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

2 Definitions

Application Date	means 20 October 2023 , or any other date as specified by PNZ, by which Para athletes must submit a completed Para athlete Application to PNZ in accordance with the PNZ Selection Regulation.
Para athlete	means a person who wishes to be considered for nomination to the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games Team.
Para athlete Agreement	means the agreement that must be completed by any Para athlete wishing to be considered for nomination and selection to the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games Team and which is attached to the PNZ Selection Regulation as Appendix 2 .
Para athlete Application	means the form that must be completed by any Para athlete applying to be nominated and selected to the Paris Paralympic Games Team and which is attached to the PNZ Selection Regulation as Appendix 1 .
Board	means the Board of ESNZ as constituted under the Constitution.
Board Members	means the members of the Board of ESNZ as defined in the Constitution.

Chief Executive	means the Chief Executive/Officer of ESNZ and includes their nominee.
Commencement Date	means the date this Criteria came into force, namely 11 May 2023.
Constitution	means the Constitution of ESNZ
Criteria	means this Criteria and is also known as the “Nomination Criteria”.
DFSNZ	means Drug Free Sport New Zealand.
Paralympic Games	means the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games to be held in Paris, France from 28 August – 8 September 2024.
Paralympic Games Team	means the New Zealand Paralympic Team selected in accordance with this Regulation to compete in the Paralympic Games and excludes any Para athletes selected as reserves.
General Nomination Criteria	means the criteria set out in clause 5.3.
IF	means an International Sports Federation.
IPC	means the International Paralympic Committee.
Member	means the members of PNZ as specified in the Constitution.
Nominated Para athlete	means a Para athlete nominated by ESNZ in accordance with the PNZ Selection Regulation.
Nomination Criteria	means the criteria made up of the General Nomination Criteria, the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria and the Specific Nomination Factors, and is also referred to as “this Criteria”.
Nomination Date	means 17 April 2024 or any other date specified by PNZ, by which ESNZ must submit any Nominated Para athletes to PNZ.
NSO	means a National Sporting Organisation.
Over-Riding Nomination Criteria	means the criteria set out in clause 5.4.
PNZ	means Paralympics New Zealand Incorporated.
PNZ Selection Regulation	means the regulation adopted by the PNZ Board to clearly document and make available to all Para athletes and NSOs the application, nomination and selection process

to be used by PNZ in selecting Para athletes for the Paralympic Games Team to compete in the Paralympic Games.

Supporting Evidence	means the supporting evidence set out in clause 5.5
Specific Nomination Factors	means the nomination factors set out in clause 5.6
NSO	means any National Sporting Organisation that is a Member of PNZ.
SSS	means sport specific selectors appointed by ESNZ .
Team	means a group of Para athletes in a team event.
Technical Considerations	means the technical considerations set out in clause 5.8
WADA	means the World Anti-Doping Agency.

Unless specified otherwise, any other terms used in this Criteria shall have the meanings set out in the PNZ Selection Regulation.

3 Sport Specific Selectors

3.1 **Composition:** The Sport Specific Selectors from **ESNZ** shall be appointed by **ESNZ**. The SSS from **ESNZ** who will consider nomination of Para athletes to PNZ to be considered for selection in the Paralympic Games Team are:

- a **Helen Hughes-Keen**
- b **TBC**

4 Nomination Procedure

4.1 **Nomination if Criteria met:** If the conditions of nomination set out in the PNZ Selection Regulation are met to the satisfaction of the SSS, the SSS shall then nominate those Para athletes it considers meet the Nomination Criteria set out below.

5 Nomination Criteria

5.1 **Nomination Criteria:** The **ESNZ** Nomination Criteria for nomination to the Paralympic Games Team is made up of the following parts:

- a the General Criteria specified in clause 5.3;
- b the Over-Riding Criteria specified in clause 5.4; and
- c the Supporting Evidence specified in clause 5.5

5.2 In determining the General Nomination Criteria and the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria the SSS must also take into account:

- a any Specific Nomination Factors specified in clause 5.6 of this criteria; **and**
- b **any Technical Considerations specified in clause 5.8** of this criteria.

5.3 **General Nomination Criteria:** Firstly, taking into account the Specific Nomination Factors **and Technical Considerations**, the SSS **must** be satisfied that the Para athlete:

- a has met the conditions of nomination specified in clause 8.2 of the PNZ Selection Regulation;
- b will, in the opinion of the SSS, be an effective and harmonious member of the Paralympic Games Team;
- c has not acted in such a manner so as to bring the Para athlete, the sport, **ESNZ** or PNZ into public disrepute; and
- d in the opinion of the SSS, has acted and will continue to act, as a positive role model to all New Zealand Para athletes.

5.4 **Over-Riding Nomination Criteria:** Secondly, taking into account the Specific Nomination Factors **and Technical Considerations**, the SSS **must** be satisfied overall that, in their opinion, that the Para athlete or Team has met the following:

5.4.1 **Individuals:** A Para athlete and horse being considered for individual events, has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the SSS that they are capable of:

- a. achieving a medal placing in the Paralympic Games in their event; or
- b. achieving a top eight (8) placing in the Paralympic Games in their event and a medal placing at Los Angeles 2028 Paralympic Games.

5.4.2 **Teams:** A Team has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the SSS that the Team is capable of:

- a. achieving a medal placing in the Paralympic Games in their event; or
- b. achieving a top five (5) placing in the Paralympic Games in their event **and** a medal placing at the Los Angeles 2028 Paralympic Games.

5.5 **Supporting Evidence:** In demonstrating a Para athlete or Team's capability, the SSS must assess the evidence showing tracking of the Para athlete's and Team's performances and results. This evidence may include, but is not limited to, the following information:

- a The shortfall, if any, in performance to achieve a medal placing based on the performances and results to date;
- b The rate of the Para athlete's or Team's progression and forecasted placing at the Paralympic Games;

- c The rate of the Para athlete's or Team's progression and forecasted placing at the Los Angeles 2028 Paralympic Games;
- d The rate of progression of other Para athletes and teams from other nations in that event; and
- e The likelihood of Para athletes or teams from other nations being selected for the Paralympic Games (based on that nation's selection criteria).

5.6 **Specific Nomination Factors:** When considering the General Nomination Criteria and the Over-riding Nomination Criteria above, the SSS **shall** also take into account any one or more of the following factors about a Para athlete and a Team:

- a the performance and results of the Para athlete, or Team in which the Para athlete was a member, including consistency of performance and results at events (particularly internationally), competitions, and activities (such as camps and trials), in the period two (2) years preceding the possible selection of the Nominated Para athlete;
- b adequate fitness and a commitment to maintain a fitness and training programme as agreed with the applicable coach(es);
- c demonstrated good behaviour, including a commitment to training and attendance at training camps;
- d demonstrated compatibility with others in a team environment;
- e demonstrated compliance with the rules of events and competitions;
- f understanding and respect for the position on the Team and/or when competing in the Paralympic Games Team at the Paralympic Games, including respect for team members and officials;
- g willingness to promote PNZ in a positive manner;
- h demonstrated ability to take personal responsibility for self and their results;
- i proven ability to be reliable; and
- j any other factor(s) the SSS considers relevant.

In considering any one or more of the above factors, the SSS may make such enquiries of the Nominated Para athletes, or other persons, as it sees fit.

5.7 **Weight to be given to Specific Nomination Factors:** The SSS **may** give weight to any one or more of the Specific Nomination Factors and if it does, to apply such weighting to one or more Para athletes. No particular factor shall be weighted more or less significantly by reason only of the order in which that factor appears in this Criteria.

5.8 **Technical Considerations:** When considering the General Nomination Criteria and the Over-Riding Nomination Criteria the SSS shall also consider the performances of a combination when determining nomination as per 5.4.1.a:

- a Grade 1 – The ability to achieve scores of 75% or greater at key events;
- b Grade 2 – The ability to achieve scores of 74% or greater at key events;
- c Grade 3 – The ability to achieve scores of 75% or greater at key events;
- d Grade 4 – The ability to achieve scores of 74% or greater at key events;
- e Grade 5 – The ability to achieve scores of 75% or greater at key events;

The SSS may give greater weighting to the consistency of performance results, international results and current form shown in 2024.

The SSS may also consider a combination's results at key events to determine nomination under clause 5.4.1.b.

Key Events – Individual and Team Test at any CPEDI or a Test judged by at least one FEI PE judge at the NZ Para-Dressage National Championships, the NZ Horse of the Year or other such events (being national events domestically or overseas or able-bodied events) as approved by the General Manager of High Performance. At a CPEDI event the total test score will count, at all other events only the score of the FEI PE Judges will be considered. If there is more than one FEI PE Judge, the average of the scores from those judges will be considered.

5.9 **Extenuating Circumstances:** In any decision regarding the nomination of Para athletes and Teams to PNZ for the Paralympic Games Team, the SSS may, in their sole discretion, take into account any extenuating circumstances in accordance with clause 5.12 below.

5.10 **Nomination Procedure:** After consideration of the Nomination Criteria the SSS shall follow the procedure set out in the PNZ Selection Regulation.

5.11 **Overriding Discretion:** Notwithstanding the criteria, in considering Para athletes and Teams for selection, PNZ has an absolute overriding discretion to select (or not select) Para athletes or Teams (including those who may not meet the above criteria) for the Paralympic Games Team. In doing so it may take into account factors such as, but not limited to, compatibility of Para athletes, Para athletes prior conduct, or factors that may affect the Paralympic Games Team as a whole.

5.12 **Extenuating Circumstances:** PNZ may in its sole discretion take into account extenuating circumstances and therefore waive or vary some or all of the above criteria. Detailed evidence must be provided with any nomination seeking consideration of extenuating circumstances which has affected a Para athlete's/team's progress. For the purpose of this Policy, "extenuating circumstances" means the inability of a Para athlete or Team to compete or perform to an optimum level due to factors such as:

- a injury or illness of a Para athlete;

- b equipment failure;
- c travel delays;
- d bereavement or personal misfortune; and
- e such other circumstances as the selectors reasonably consider constitute “extenuating circumstances.”

5.13 Para athletes unable to compete at events, trials, or other attendances required under this Criteria, must advise the Chief Executive of the extenuating circumstances, and reasons, in writing, with as much advance notice as possible and ideally 5 working days prior to the commencement of the event, trial or other attendance. If the Chief Executive is not notified of any extenuating circumstances in accordance with this Criteria, then the SSS has no obligation to rely on such circumstances. In the case of injury or illness, Para athletes may be required by the SSS to provide a medical certificate and/or to undergo an examination by a health practitioner/s nominated by the SSS, and to provide that opinion and/or report to the SSS. Any failure to agree to such a request may result in the SSS being unable to consider the injury or illness as an extenuating circumstance.

5.14 In the case of any extenuating circumstance/s, the SSS will make a nomination decision on a case by case basis.

6 Appeal Procedure

6.1 **Nomination Appeals:** Any Para athlete who has applied for nomination and selection to the Paralympic Games Team and who has returned a completed Para athlete Application to PNZ by the Application Date and a Para athlete Agreement to PNZ by the Nomination Date may appeal to the **ESNZ** against their non-nomination to PNZ by the SSS of the **ESNZ** in accordance with the procedures set out in the PNZ Selection Regulation.

7 Inconsistencies

7.1 In the event there is any inconsistency between this Criteria and the PNZ Selection Regulation, the PNZ Selection Regulation shall prevail.

7.2 If this Criteria imposes a higher qualification standard or a lesser number of participants than stated by the IPC this shall not be regarded as an inconsistency.

8 Amendments to this Criteria

8.1 This Criteria may be amended or supplemented from time to time by the Board.

8.2 The Board will give as much notice as possible of any amendment/s or supplement/s to this Regulation, to persons it considers may be affected by any such amendment/s or supplement/s.

8.3 This Criteria includes any amendments to the IPC rules, regulations, policies and codes.

Version control amendments

28 September 2023 Clause 2 – Definitions - Para Athlete Application Form close date

19 February 2024 Clause 2 - Definitions - Nomination Date change