

## Selection Handbook

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## 1. Defined Terms

For the purposes of this Selection Handbook, the terms set out below shall have the following meanings:-

**ADRV:** Anti-Doping Rule Violation

**Athlete Performance Data:** the data submitted by NGB's in relation to Individual Athletes and Individual Teams which is used to support Nomination. The data should be collated from:

**Key Events:** an international, continental or national competition which is a major or pinnacle event for the Sport or at least the equivalent of a Commonwealth Championship and have an equivalent or higher field of competitors to that which is likely to occur at the Games. Examples of "Key Events" include but are not limited to World Cups, World Championships and European Championships.

**GOC:** Organising Committee of the Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2026

**Board:** the board of directors of CGW

**Cap:** the maximum number of Individual Athletes including each member of the Individual Teams, CGF have identified for Team Wales

**CGA:** Commonwealth Games Association

**CGW:** Commonwealth Games Wales

**CGW Agreed Events List:** the agreed list between CGW and NGB's containing a complete list of the Key Events which each NGB will use to collate their Athlete Performance Data

**CGW Agreed Qualification Standard:** the requirement to achieve a top 6 finish in the Games or a medal prediction for Individual Team

**CGW Anti-Doping Policy:** the anti-doping policy operated by CGW which can be found at

[https://www.ukad.org.uk/sites/default/files/2019-10/The%20UK%20Anti-Doping%20Rules\\_0.pdf](https://www.ukad.org.uk/sites/default/files/2019-10/The%20UK%20Anti-Doping%20Rules_0.pdf)

**CGF:** Commonwealth Games Federation

**CGF Constitution:** the articles of association or other form of constitution adopted by the CGF, as amended from time to time

**CGF Qualification Standards:** standards or rankings set by an IF for Team Sports and Quota Sports

**Confirmation of Slot Usage Policy:** the Confirmation of Slot Usage Policy as amended from time to time

**Contingency Athletes:** Individual Athletes who meet the requirements for a Contingency Slot and are selected by CGF to fill a Contingency Slot

**Contingency Slots:** Contingency Slots are defined as Open Athlete Allocation Quota slots attributed to Open Allocation sports that have either been ringfenced for strategic distribution or become available for strategic distribution, due to slots being returned or unused by a CGA as outlined in the Confirmation of Slot Usage Policy

**Distribution of Contingency Slots Policy:** the Distribution of Contingency Slots Policy as amended from time to time

**Games:** the Commonwealth Games 2026 to be held in Glasgow Scotland

**Games Period:** the period of time linked to the Games as defined by the CGF

**IF:** the international federation for each Sport

**Individual Athletes:** athletes who compete in the Individual Sports

**Individual Sports:** athletics, swimming, boxing, track cycling, artistic gymnastics, lawn bowls and judo

**Individual Teams:** the relay or team entrants for athletics, artistic gymnastics, swimming, lawn bowls, track cycling team pursuit, track cycling team sprint

**Invitation Sports:** the Sports of weightlifting, all para-sports and Team Sports

**MQS:** the minimum qualification standards

**NGB:** the national governing body for each Sport

**Nominee:** any person or team or an NGB on behalf of a person or team who submits an appeal to the Appeal Panel

**Selection Committee:** a sub-committee of the Board to consider selection issues, prepare the Handbook and approve the NGB's nomination documentation

**Selection Panel:** a panel made up of the Selectors

**Selection Handbook:** shall mean this handbook with the title 'Selection Handbook' and all Appendices referred to

**Selection Meetings:** the meeting of the Selection Panel which will take place on 1st and 2nd June 2026 subject to Clause 9.1

**Selectors:** the individuals nominated by the Board to select athletes to compete at the Games

**Sport:** a sport which is to be competed at the Games

**SR:** the Sport Dispute Resolution Panel (UK)

**Team Leader:** the person appointed by each NGB in respect of their Sport to be the main contact between CGW and the NGB until the commencement of the Games

**Team Manager:** the person nominated by each NGB and appointed by the Selection Committee to attend the Games and manage the NGB's athletes and represent the NGB at the Games

**Team Sports:** the sports of basketball (3x3), wheelchair basketball and women's netball

**Team Wales:** the team comprising the Team Wales Members

**Team Wales Athletes:** the team of athletes which will represent Wales at the Games

**Team Wales Members:** the Team Wales Athletes and all other persons who are selected by CGW or invited by the CGF to attend the Games as representatives of Wales, including but not limited to Team Leaders and other staff members

## 2. Introduction

- 2.1. Competing for Wales at a Commonwealth Games is a highlight of any athlete's career. The opportunity to compete at a Games or to be a member of the support team at a Games is a privilege experienced by few people.
- 2.2. Wales has a clear selection policy based on performance standards. Team Wales has grown in strength culminating in the most successful 'home and away' Welsh teams at Glasgow 2014 and Gold Coast 2018.
- 2.3. This Selection Handbook describes the process for nomination and selection for the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. The Glasgow 2014 Games was the last Games in which Wales could freely determine the team size competing at a Commonwealth Games. A hybrid system of selection is now used.
- 2.4. With Victoria having withdrawn from the 2026 Games, and Glasgow taking over the responsibility at short notice, the 2026 Games is scaled down due to time and budget restrictions.
- 2.5. It is important to note that Sport National Governing Bodies can only nominate and not select in this process. Nomination by a Sport National Governing Body does not mean that the nominated person will be selected for the 2026 Games in Glasgow. It is Commonwealth Games Wales (CGW) who will select Team Wales Members.
- 2.6. Each Sport National Governing Body must meet its obligations as set out in this Selection Handbook within the time periods notified by the CGW prior to the 2026 Games.
- 2.7. CGW reserves the right to vary these selection principles and any other contents of this Handbook or the policies contained therein based on changes to competition format at the Games, the projected standard of the event, any essential changes to selection timeframes, issues of medal potential or any other associated items. CGW reserves the right to raise or lower the standard of qualification in relation to any event. Such alteration would be discussed in advance with each NGB.
- 2.8. The Board has delegated all matters relating to selection policy and implementation to the Selection Committee and Selection Panel. The Board will ratify all selections at its meeting in June 2026.
- 2.9. The Appendices form part of this Selection Handbook and shall have effect as if set out in full in the body of this Selection Handbook. Any reference to this Selection Handbook includes the Appendices.

### 3. Nomination and Selection Process – General

#### Hybrid Approach

3.1. As for Birmingham Games there will be a hybrid approach to nomination and selection, involving:-

3.1.1. all Individual Sports will nominate athletes based on standards agreed between the NGB and CGW. The achievement of these standards by an athlete does not mean CGW will select the athlete as the CGW selection panel can only select athletes up to the Cap as explained below at 3.2 and 3.3;

and

3.1.2. the Invitation Sports will qualify for an invitation through rankings or competition or other criteria set by CGF and the International Federations. Each qualifying team or individual from Invitation Sports will not form part of the Cap but CGW has the right to refuse any invitation if the athlete or team does not meet CGW agreed qualification standard

#### Cap for Individual Sports

3.2. The number of Individual Athletes to be included in Team Wales will be limited to the Cap

3.3. It is possible that the number of Individual Athletes nominated by NGBs will exceed the Cap. Should this be the case, the Selection Panel and, where necessary, the Appeals Panel, will exercise their respective discretion under Section 8 of this Selection Handbook to ensure that the number of Individual Athletes does not exceed the Cap. The results of such exercise of discretion could include (but is not limited to):-

3.3.1. An Individual Athlete who has met all of the standards referred to in paragraph 3.1 above and who has also met all of the requirements in Sections 6 and 7 of this Selection Handbook not being selected to join Team Wales;

3.3.2. An Individual Athlete who has been selected to join Team Wales being deselected following an appeal process by another athlete under Section 8 of this Selection Handbook.

#### Qualification Standard required for nomination

3.4. In order to be considered for nomination;

3.4.1. all Individual Athletes not including those in Invitation Sports must attain the CGW Agreed Qualification Standard, as set out below at 6.4-6.7;

- 3.4.2. all those athletes invited through qualification for Weightlifting, and all para-sport events must attain the CGW minimum consideration standard, as set out below at 6.8 and 6.9;
- 3.4.3. the athlete is considered an exceptional individual who will not be required to have met the qualification standards above but who is identified and agreed as a potential medal winner in the next Commonwealth Games, as set out in 8.19.

#### 4. Timetable

- 4.1. All Commonwealth Games have a series of deadlines and these Games will be no different. NGBs should ensure that all deadlines are met. CGW may need to bring forward some deadlines which may come forward by a few weeks and all NGBs will be notified if this is the case.
- 4.2. Additional dates may be added to the timetable below when the same are communicated by GOC.
- 4.3. CGW reserves the right to amend the dates listed below, and to add or remove any dates, at its discretion.

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
The Selection Committee will review and approve all nomination documents drafted by the NGBs and based upon the CGW Agreed Qualification Standard. This documentation should be based upon the Appendix A.	March /April 2025
The CGW Handbook will be published	March 2025
Regulations to be issued by the CGF regarding qualification for the Invitation Sports distribution 1.	April 2025
Sport standards to be agreed and published by CGW.	April 2025
Selection events/period.	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025 to 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2026
Each Sport must submit their proposed list of Key Events to CGW.	At least one month before their respective selection window closes or at least one month before nomination. 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2026 being the latest date this can be submitted.
Entry by Sport (1) – the first stage at which CGW will confirm the sports that it wishes to enter into the Games.	May 2025
Nominations from NGBs to CGW open.	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2025
Entry by Sport (2) – the second stage at which CGW will confirm the sports that it wishes to enter into the Games.	January 2026
Allocation of Invitation places.	TBC
Final contingency distribution	April 2026
Long list entry by number closes.	January 2026



Nominations close, with NGBs having completed its appeals process.	25 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
CGW Selection Panel Meetings	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026
Ratification of selections by the Board and communication of the same to NGBs	3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026
Athletes to be notified by NGBs of selection or non-selection	4 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
CGW selection appeals window	4 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
CGW Appeals Panel hearings	16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Appeal outcomes to be reviewed by Selection Panel and final selections made	18 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
CGW and NGB joint selection Announcements	19 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Closure of entries for the Games by GOC	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026

## 5. Personnel

### Team Officials – Manager, Leader and Coaches

- 5.1. The number of team officials that can accompany athletes is already capped and these limits will continue to apply. Glasgow 2026 will see the implementation of a new model to support athletes at a Games. This will recognise those support staff who have worked with the athletes/teams throughout the preparation for the Games. The number of support staff is limited and CGW will work with Sports to maximise the levels of support within the constraints set by GOC.
- 5.2. CGW will work with each Sport in forecasting the number of likely athletes meeting the CGW Agreed Qualification Standard so discussions can start on the likely size and composition of the support team.
- 5.3. CGW will appoint all Team Managers, coaches and support staff. Their appointment will be at the sole discretion of the Selection Panel following their nomination by the NGB. Each NGB will be asked to nominate high quality candidates. Many Sports have performance directors and CGW expects these performance leads to play a significant part in the preparation for the Games.

### Team Leader

- 5.4. Each NGB is required to appoint a Team Leader and notify their identity to CGW. In many cases this will be the NGB's performance director.
- 5.5. The Team Leader will be a vital link between CGW and the NGB. The Team Leader will lead, manage and represent the Sport as the single point of contact between the NGB and CGW until the start of the Games, at which point the Team Manager will assume this role.
- 5.6. It is essential that this person attends ALL Sports forum meetings and communicates back within their NGB and to their athletes and staff.
- 5.7. Each Sport must use best endeavours to maintain the same nominated Team Leader up to and throughout the Games. The initial appointment and any changes to the individual in this position must be agreed with the CGW.
- 5.8. Nominations for this key role will open in May 2025.

### Team Manager

- 5.9. Each NGB is also required to identify and nominate to CGW in writing a Team Manager, in many cases this will be the NGB's performance director.
- 5.10. The Selection Panel will appoint the Team Manager at a Selection Meeting, in January 2026 subject to the ratification process in paragraph 8.20. There is no right

of appeal against the decision of the Selection Panel in relation to the appointment of the Team Manager.

- 5.11. It is essential that this person attends ALL Sports forum meetings between the date of their appointment and the start of the Games. The Team Manager will attend the Games and be a vital link between CGW and the NGB at the Games.
- 5.12. Nominations for this role will open in November 2025.

#### Team Manager Training

- 5.13. WSA will co-ordinate all level 1 and 2 training with Sports. All Team Leaders and Managers should have completed this training and should contact WSA about courses
- 5.14. The final level of training for the Games will only be open to nominees for Team Managers. It will take place in 2026 and will be delivered by CGW. We will circulate more details in 2025.

## 6. Qualification and Nomination

- 6.1. CGW and each NGB will agree and sign a Sport specific Games nomination document establishing all aspects of the qualification, nomination and appeal process for that Sport for the Games.
- 6.2. The mere fact that a nominated athlete or team has qualified a placing for an event at the Games will not guarantee selection of the nominated athlete or team into Team Wales.
- 6.3. For reference, key definitions in this Section 6 are:-

**Athlete Performance Data:** the data submitted by NGB's in relation to Individual Athletes which is used to support Nomination. The data can be collated from the following:

**Key Events:** an international, continental or national competition which is a major or pinnacle event for the Sport or at least the equivalent of a Commonwealth Championship and have an equivalent or higher field of competitors to that which is likely to occur at the Games. Examples of "Key Events" include but are not limited to World Cups, World Championships and European Championships.

**Individual Athletes:** athletes who compete in the Individual Sports

**Individual Sports:** athletics, swimming, boxing, track cycling, artistic gymnastics, lawn bowls, and judo.

**Individual Teams:** the relay or team entrants for athletics, swimming, , gymnastics (artistic), lawn bowls, track cycling team pursuit, track cycling team sprint.

**Invitation Sports:** the sports of weightlifting, all para-sports and Team Sports.

**Team Sports:** the sports of basketball (3x3), wheelchair basketball, and women's netball.

**Team Wales Athletes:** the team of athletes which will represent Wales at the Games

### Qualification – Individual Sports

- 6.4. The qualification standard for the Games will be at least the CGW Agreed Qualification Standard being the minimum required by CGW of a Top 6 place or a medal prediction for an Individual Team at the forthcoming Games.
- 6.5. Any Individual Athlete or Individual Team that wishes to be selected for Team Wales must through their respective NGB demonstrate to the satisfaction of CGW that they either:-

- 6.5.1. are capable of achieving the CGW Agreed Qualification Standard in their event; or
  - 6.5.2. are identified by CGW to be exceptional individuals and are agreed to be potential medal winners at the next Commonwealth Games in accordance with Clause 8.19.
- 6.6. To demonstrate satisfaction of the criteria in clause 6.4 and 6.5 above, satisfactory evidence must be produced to the CGW by the NGB of the Individual Athlete's or Individual Team's performances, as defined in paragraphs 6.7 – 6.8, in the event(s) at which they seek to be selected for the Games.
- 6.7. The Athlete Performance Data must be agreed between the NGB and CGW and be listed in the NGB nomination criteria. Generally, the Athlete Performance Data must be obtained within the selection period of 1st January 2025 to 31st May 2026 or as otherwise agreed between the CGW and the NGB in the NGB nomination criteria.

#### Qualification – Invitation Sports

- 6.8. CGW reserves the right to require standards over and above those set by CGF for Invitation Sports.
- 6.9. CGW is not obliged to accept places in the Games offered by the CGF for the Invitation Sports. Any such acceptance will be solely at the discretion of CGW and in accordance with this Selection Handbook.

#### Nomination process – Individual Sports

- 6.10. Each NGB nomination document must include a copy of that Sport's Games nomination standards, as approved by CGW in accordance with paragraph 6.5 above and CGW's selection criteria as set out in Section 7 below.
- 6.11. NGBs must refer to Appendix A when preparing their nomination document.
- 6.12. Each NGB is responsible for ensuring that its policies and timelines in relation to nomination are communicated to its athletes and support staff.
- 6.13. The final nomination criteria to be adopted by the NGB are subject to the approval of CGW.
- 6.14. When submitting their list of Individual Athletes and Individual Teams to be considered for selection, NGBs must document confirm and identify:-

#### Factual evidence

- 6.14.1. the proposed members of the Individual Teams;

- 6.14.2. The number of times that the Individual Athlete has attained a top 6 in accordance with the CGW Agreed Events List, identifying which category of Athlete Performance Data this has been achieved in.
- 6.14.3. the number of times that the Individual Athlete or Individual Team has medalled in accordance with the CGW Agreed Events List, identifying which category of Athlete Performance Data this has been achieved in.
- 6.14.4. details of the scores attained in the last year in Athlete Performance Data, if the Sport is one in which there are scores, identifying which category of Athlete Performance Data this has been achieved in.
- 6.14.5. any other factors such as injury/illness, availability/ability of the Individual Athlete or Individual Team to compete, and why that has impacted upon the Individual Athlete or Individual Team's rank/predictions – positive or negative.
- 6.14.6. the number of additional Individual Athletes that need to be taken to make up an Individual Team aside from those also nominated independently of an Individual Team.
- 6.14.7. confirmation of compliance with all eligibility requirements and IF rules and regulations

*Forecast considerations*

- 6.14.8. In addition to the above, when submitting their list of Individual Athletes and Individual Teams to be considered for selection, NGBs must:-
- 6.14.9. Confirm the conduct of any Individual Athlete – positive or negative;
- 6.14.10. Identify the potential of the Individual Athlete in the future;
- 6.14.11. Rank each Individual Athlete and each Individual Team as a team;
- 6.14.12. Predict the performance of each Individual Athlete or Individual Team as follows:-
  - 6.14.12.1. Is the Individual or Individual Team predicted a medal?
  - 6.14.12.2. Is a top 4 finish predicted for the Individual?
  - 6.14.12.3. Is Is a top 5 finish predicted for the Individual Athlete?
  - 6.14.12.4. Is a top 6 finish predicted for the Individual Athlete?
- 6.14.13. Predict the placing in % terms of the Individual Athlete or Individual Team within the total field of the event.

- 6.14.14. Confirm the degree of confidence that the NGB has in respect of paragraphs 6.14.13.1 - 6.14.13.4.

Nomination process– Invitation Sports

- 6.15. Each NGB nomination document must include a copy of that Sport's Games nomination standards, as approved by CGW in accordance with the CGF Qualification Standards.
- 6.16. NGBs must refer to Appendix A when preparing their nomination document.
- 6.17. Each NGB is responsible for ensuring that its policies and timelines in relation to nomination are communicated to its athletes and support staff.
- 6.18. Where the CGF provides discretion as to which Invitation Sport athlete shall fulfil the applicable Invitation place, the final nomination criteria to be adopted by the NGB for this purpose is subject to the approval of CGW

Documentary evidence and Athlete sign off sheet

- 6.19. NGBs must also provide the Athlete Performance Data, validated evidence in support of all of the above, such as links to formal results websites.
- 6.20. All Athlete Performance Data, submitted by the NGB in respect of 6.14.1 - 6.14.7 above, must be agreed with each Individual Athlete and Individual Team, and formally signed off by them, before the nomination document and its supporting evidence will be accepted by the CGW.
- 6.21. All nominated athletes must sign confirmation of their compliance with the Criteria as set out in Clause 7, before the nomination document will be accepted by the CGW.

Nomination appeals process

- 6.22. As in previous games all Sport nomination documents must include an appeals process with appropriate timelines. CGW advises NGBs to inform all athletes of their nomination or non-nomination as soon after the NGB nomination meeting as possible. This allows Sports to complete their appeal process well before the nomination deadline.
- 6.23. Those Sports using their full nomination period must complete any appeals by, Friday 29th May 2026. No changes to any nominations will be accepted by CGW after 5:00pm on Friday 29th May 2026.
- 6.24. The Sport nomination document must state that once the Sport nominations are made known to athletes or teams:-
- 6.24.1. any athlete or team not nominated; or

- 6.24.2. any athlete or team who was originally nominated but subsequently de-nominated

has the right of appeal. Appeals against non-nomination or de-nomination will be heard by the appeals committee within the relevant Sport, in accordance with the bye-laws and rules of that Sport.

- 6.25. Typical grounds for appeal include (not an exclusive list): -

- 6.25.1. That the applicable nomination criteria was not properly followed and/or implemented; or
- 6.25.2. That the athlete or team was not afforded a reasonable opportunity by the NGB to satisfy the applicable nomination criteria; or
- 6.25.3. The nomination decision or ranking or predicted result/finish was affected by apparent bias; or
- 6.25.4. There was no material on which the nomination or ranking or predicted result/finish decision could reasonably be based.

- 6.26. It is important to remember that an athlete or team who is not nominated; is de-nominated may not appeal directly to CGW. Appeal to CGW can only be made by athletes or teams who are nominated by the NGB but not selected by CGW – see Section 8 below.



## 7. Criteria

- 7.1. It is not sufficient for an athlete or team to be nominated by their Sport. In order to be considered for selection, athletes and teams must also comply with the requirements of this section.
- 7.2. All nominated athletes and teams who wish to be considered for selection to the Games Team must meet all eligibility requirements set out in the CGF Constitution and rules applicable to the Games, this Selection Handbook, the NGB nomination criteria, the IF rules and regulations and any requirements of the Sport.
- 7.3. This Section 7 shall apply to all Team Wales Athletes, whether nominated by an NGB or offered an Invitation place by the CGF.

### Eligibility of Athletes

- 7.4. All athletes must be eligible to compete by nationality for Wales as per the CGF Constitution.
- 7.5. All athletes must hold a British passport.
- 7.6. Each athlete must either have been:-
  - 7.6.1. Born in Wales;
  - 7.6.2. Have a Welsh parent;
  - 7.6.3. Or where the relevant International Federation recognises grandparents as part of its eligibility criteria a Welsh grandparent
  - 7.6.4. Or a minimum of three years continuous residency prior to the Commonwealth Games (final entries deadline)
  - 7.6.5. Have applied for and been granted a dispensation.
- 7.7. There are some areas where we ask for dispensation. Please alert the CGW office –to [redwardssymmons@teamwales.cymru](mailto:redwardssymmons@teamwales.cymru) any athlete who may need dispensation.

### Accreditation – security checks

- 7.8. All athletes and staff selected by CGW are subject to final ratification by GOC. If accreditation is denied, the CGW will consider whether it can assist. However, it is the individual athlete or member of staff's responsibility to deal with the issues with GOC as these matters are confidential between the individual and GOC. CGW cannot be held responsible in the event that accreditation is ultimately denied.
- 7.9. GOC reserves the right to refuse entry to the Games. The accreditation manual is not due to be published until one year out from the Games. In the meantime CGW

is working with GOC on clarification of likely rules. CGW will keep Sports informed of any updates ahead of the Games.

#### Anti-doping and Health and Fitness

- 7.10. Each NGB must be signed up to and be committed to the implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code. Athletes and staff must attend, all education and training provided by CGW and/or UKAD.
- 7.11. NGBs must not nominate any athlete who has or will be banned or suspended from competition during the Games due to an ADRV ruling or investigation.
- 7.12. The selection and/or accreditation of any athlete and/or ASP under any form of doping investigation is at the sole discretion of CWG-Wales and will be done so after consultation with UKAD as to the extent and status of such investigation.
- 7.13. Each NGB is responsible for ensuring selected athletes and staff are fit and healthy prior to entering an NGB pre-Games preparation camp or the Games Village.
- 7.14. Each NGB is required to monitor the fitness and health of selected athletes and staff and promptly notify CGW of any significant fitness or health related issues.

#### Child Protection

- 7.15. No person shall be permitted to become a Team Wales Member if they have:-
  - 7.15.1. Been disqualified or are under suspension by an NGB for inappropriate behaviour towards children, and CGW may not permit them to become a Team Wales Member if they are not suspended but are under investigation for inappropriate behaviour towards children;
  - 7.15.2. Have been convicted of a criminal offence involving children as outlined in Schedule 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933; or
  - 7.15.3. Are currently charged with a criminal offence against children as outlined in Schedule 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933

#### Disrepute

- 7.16. No person shall be permitted to become a Team Wales Member if they have been found guilty of an offence liable, in the opinion of CGW, to bring the CGW or its teams into disrepute. The NGB and/or the nominated person must disclose to CGW any information regarding such offence of which they have knowledge.
- 7.17. The NGB is responsible for ensuring its athletes and staff members are aware of the CGW's code of conduct and ensuring its athletes and staff members comply with such policy at all times.

## 8. Selection Process

- 8.1. Performance at the Games represents the pinnacle of athletic achievement within the Commonwealth nations and this policy reflects the need to ensure a high entry standard into the Games Team is maintained.
- 8.2. The CGW has ultimate authority to determine its representation at the Games, including the sports represented within the Welsh team, and any Games qualification process.
- 8.3. The size of the team selected by CGW to represent Wales will be capped by the CGF in agreement with GOC.
- 8.4. Team Wales represents CGW not the individual NGB. All Team Wales Members will be accountable to CGW, through the Chef de Mission appointed by CGW, for all Games related matters.
- 8.5. The purpose of this policy is to set out the principles which CGW will apply in selecting Team Wales.
- 8.6. This policy along with the contents of Sections 6 and 7 above and Appendix A are to be reflected in the nomination criteria to be adopted by each NGB for all athletes wishing to be considered for nomination to compete in the Games.

### Selection Panel

- 8.7. CGW has determined that the following individuals will act as the Selection Panel on its behalf:-
  - 8.7.1. Claire Warnes Board member of CGW who shall act as Chair of the Selection Panel;
  - 8.7.2. Tim Naylor Board member of CGW;
  - 8.7.3. 2 x independent members TBI: and
  - 8.7.4. Rebecca Edwards-Symmons Chief Executive of CGW and Matt Cosgrove Head of Games Operations of CGW (in an advisory, non-voting role)
- 8.8. CGW reserves the right to appoint additional Selectors or to replace any or all of the Selectors listed at paragraph 8.7.
- 8.9. Each Selector shall have one vote in relation to any issue of selection, save that in the event of any tie between the votes of the Selectors, the Chair shall have the casting vote

- 8.10. In the event that any of the Selectors has a conflict of interest in relation to the selection any person or team, they shall declare it to the other Selectors and shall not exercise their vote in relation to the selection of that person or team.

#### Selection Criteria

- 8.11. The CGW will consider all eligible nominated athletes for selection as Team Wales Athletes against the Agreed Qualification Standard and the criteria set out in Sections 6 and 7 above, alongside the other factors set out below in this Section 8.

#### Other factors

##### *The Cap*

- 8.12. The Selectors must have regard to the Cap when considering the selection of any Individual Athlete or Individual Team and shall have the sole discretion to take all necessary steps to ensure that the Cap is not exceeded, including but not limited to de-selecting any Individual Athlete or Individual Team. This discretion shall, where necessary, override all other standards, criteria and/or factors set out in this Selection Handbook or otherwise in relation to selection. The Selection Panel may select less than the maximum number of Individual Athletes provided for under the Cap.
- 8.13. It is for the Selection Committee to determine what factors and/or issues it wishes to take into account when exercising its discretion under paragraph 8.12 above.

##### *Extenuating circumstances*

- 8.14. In considering the performance of nominated athletes, specific circumstances may be taken into account and CGW may therefore waive or vary some or all of its criteria. NGBs must supply detailed evidence to support consideration of extenuating circumstances under this clause. For the purpose of this policy, "extenuating circumstances" means the inability of an athlete or team to compete or perform to an optimum level due to factors such as:

- 8.14.1. Injury, incapacity illness of an athlete;
- 8.14.2. Equipment failure;
- 8.14.3. Travel delays;
- 8.14.4. Bereavement or personal misfortune; and/or
- 8.14.5. Such other circumstances as the Selectors reasonably consider constitute extenuating circumstance.

##### *Evidence after nomination*

- 8.15. The CGW may take into account any validated evidence of performances by nominated athletes at Key Events that take place between the date of nomination, 25/5/26 and the date of the Selection Panel meetings on 1st and 2nd June 2026, on the basis that this evidence is submitted immediately that it is available to the Selection Panel prior to 1st June 2026.

*Level of confidence*

- 8.16. CGW may also, in its sole discretion, take into account the level of confidence that it has in the data that is provided to it by the NGB. CGW may (but is not obliged to) give consideration to matters including, but not limited to:-

- 8.16.1. medal success for the applicable Sport in the previous 3 Commonwealth Games;
- 8.16.2. how the Sport has performed in the previous 3 Commonwealth Games, taking into account the number of top 6 places in proportion to the number of athletes entered); and/or
- 8.16.3. how the performance of the Sport has trended over the preceding 2 years.

*Conduct*

- 8.17. Team Wales must operate as a harmonious and cohesive unit and CGW may therefore also take into consideration and history of ability or inability of an athlete to function appropriately in a team environment.

*Anti-doping*

- 8.18. CGW will only select nominated athletes who have fully complied with the CGW Anti-Doping Policy.

*Medal Potential*

- 8.19. Consideration will be given by CGW to selecting a very limited number of exceptional individuals who will not be required to have met the qualification standards but who are identified and are agreed to be potential medal winners in the next Commonwealth Games.

Ratification

- 8.20. The Selection Panel shall submit a list of all athletes which it wishes to select to the Board. A ratification committee consisting of at least three Board members, to be determined by the Board but excluding:-

- 8.20.1. any member of the Board who is appointed to the appeals panel;
- 8.20.2. any person who acted as a member of or advised the Selection Panel;  
and

8.20.3. the Chair of CGW;

shall review the list submitted by the Selection Committee with a view to ratifying the selection of the listed athletes, subject to paragraph 8.30 below.

8.21. Once the decisions of the Selection Panel have been ratified, the NGBs will be notified by the CGW CEO of the selected and non-selected athletes. The NGBs will notify the athletes of their selection or non-selection.

### Appeal

8.22. A Nominee has the right to appeal to CGW against non-selection.

8.23. The CGW and all athletes, teams and NGBs agree:-

8.23.1. to submit any dispute concerning any matter connected with or arising out of selection issues to the binding process in accordance with the provisions of this appeal procedure;

8.23.2. not to commence, continue or maintain any legal challenge to any matter falling under the jurisdiction of this appeal procedure, or any decision made under this appeal procedure, before any court of law or other dispute resolution body, including the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS);

8.23.3. That in the matter of selection for teams there is a need for certainty and that where a decision is challenged that it is fair, in the interests of the proper management of Team Wales, that a quick method of resolving any dispute permitted by this appeal procedure is adopted even at the expense of further procedural steps such as recourse to the courts of law or CAS;

8.23.4. That this appeal procedure supersedes and operates exclusively in relation to any other grievance or appeal procedure published by CGW and they shall not have recourse to any other appeals or grievance or dispute resolution policy or procedure in respect of the selection decisions covered by this appeal procedure; and

8.23.5. That this appeal procedure is to be considered as an arbitration procedure under Part 1 of the Arbitration Act 1996 ('the Act') and the provisions of this paragraph 8.23 amount to a binding arbitration agreement for the purposes of section 6 of the Act. The seat of the Arbitration shall be England. This appeal procedure sets out the entire agreement of all parties in respect of the matters covered by it and no prior or subsequent oral or written agreement or representation shall have binding effect save for a bona fide amendment to this appeal procedure enacted by CGW acting through duly authorised officers or employees and notified to the athletes.

- 8.24. For the avoidance of doubt, there is no right of appeal to CGW in respect of any non-nomination by an NGB. Such non-nomination appeal must be submitted to the NGB in accordance with the rules and practices of that NGB, as referred to in Section 6 above.

*Appeal process*

- 8.25. In the event of an appeal being submitted, an appeal panel comprising three members, at least one of whom will be a Board member who was not involved in the initial selection decision and at least one of whom will be an independent person will consider each case with any additional information provided (the “Appeal Panel”).
- 8.26. Appeals must be made in writing and sent by email to the Appeal Panel via the Chair of CGW at Gareth.Davies@teamwales.cymru and received by no later than 4pm, on 10th June 2026.
- 8.27. The Appeal Panel will only consider issues of CGW’s compliance with the selection policy in this Section 8. It will not consider the levels of the qualification standards and conditions or issues relating to nomination.
- 8.28. Appeals shall be made only on the following grounds:-
- 8.28.1. that the evidence given to the Selection Panel and/or the Board contained factual errors which had a material effect on the decision of the Selection Panel and/or the Board; and/or
  - 8.28.2. that new circumstances have arisen since the nomination process which could satisfy the selection criteria and which would have had a material effect on the decision of the Selection Panel and/or the Board; and/or
  - 8.28.3. that the selection process was not correctly followed and this had a material effect on the decision of the Selection Panel and/or the Board; and/or
  - 8.28.4. that the selection panel has not exercised its discretion under paragraphs 7.16 and 8.12 to 8.19 above inclusive reasonably or fairly.
- 8.29. The Appeal Panel shall be appointed by the Chair of CGW and consist of three persons, at least one of whom must be independent, meaning that that person will not sit on or advise the Board of CGW or any committees of CGW. The independent person shall act as Chair of the Appeal Panel.
- 8.30. The Board reserves the right to change the members of the Appeal Panel at any time.
- 8.31. Each member of the Appeal Panel shall have one vote in relation to any issue of selection, save that in the event of any tie between the votes of the members of the Appeal Panel, the Chair shall have the casting vote.

- 8.32. In the event that any member of the Appeal Panel has a conflict of interest in relation to the appeal of any person or team, they shall declare it to the other Appeal Panel members and shall not exercise their vote in relation to the appeal of that person or team. The Board may exercise its rights under paragraph 8.30 above in such circumstances.
- 8.33. The Nominee shall be informed of the date, time and location when the Appeal Panel will hear the appeal (“Appeal Hearing”).
- 8.34. The Nominee shall be entitled to make oral or written representations to the Appeal Panel at the Appeal Hearing, and the Appeal Panel may also, at its own discretion, invite oral or written representations from the Selection Panel, the NGB for the applicable Sport or any other third party.
- 8.35. In the event that an appeal is successful, the Appeal Panel will refer the issue back to the Selection Panel.
- 8.36. The Nominee shall be notified in writing of the outcome of the appeal by no later than one week following the date of the appeal hearing.
- 8.37. No athlete, team or NGB on behalf of the same athlete or team may exercise more than one right of appeal to CGW under these paragraphs 8.23 – 8.34 in relation to the Games.
- 8.38. The decision of the Appeal Panel shall be final and binding.

*Other appeal related issues*

- 8.39. Irrespective of whether any appeal is submitted, the Board has the right to rectify an error and/or reverse its own decision or the decision of the Selection Panel to apply to selection and de-selection on the grounds listed at paragraph 8.28 above.



## 9. Withdrawal/deselection

- 9.1. At any point following the selection announcement the Board reserves the right to request that the Selection Panel reconvenes the Selection Meeting with a view to deselection of any Team Wales Members for any reason at the discretion of the Board, subject but not limited to, those Team Members who no longer meet the criteria set out in section 7, in order to select another Individual Athlete to represent Team Wales. The Board also reserves the right to request that the Selection Panel reconvenes the Selection Meeting in the event that any Individual Athlete withdraws for any reason, in order to select another Individual Athlete to represent Team Wales.
- 9.2. If an Individual Athlete withdraws for any reason after the closure of entries, then the Board reserves the right to either select another Individual Athlete as a replacement, or not to replace the withdrawn Individual Athlete at all.
- 9.3. Following nomination and at all times thereafter NGB's are under a continuing duty to keep under review and disclose to the Selection Panel, any circumstances which may have an impact on the accuracy of the information that has been disclosed to CGW, in respect of any Individual Athlete or individual Team.
- 9.4. There is no right of appeal to any decisions made by the Board under this section 9.

## 10. Contingency Slots

- 10.1. The CGF is committed to ensure that the maximum usage of the total number of athlete slots for the Games is reached. Therefore, Contingency Slots may become available at any time before the Games, in a Sport that has either been ringfenced for strategic distribution, or has become available for strategic distribution due to slots being returned or unused by a CGA.
- 10.2. Should a Contingency Slot become available, CGW will be notified by CGF to ascertain whether there are any suitable athletes in the Sport to which the Contingency Slot relates.
- 10.3. CGW will notify the relevant NGB who may then consider identifying a proposed suitable athlete to fill the Contingency Slot.
- 10.4. If the relevant NGB wishes to identify a proposed suitable athlete, the NGB must give regard to the following criteria when identifying the proposed suitable athlete (this list is not exhaustive);
  - 10.4.1. the individual must be very close to the nomination standard but would not have been expected to be nominated; or
  - 10.4.2. the individual must be an up and coming athlete who is likely to become successful in a future Commonwealth Games; or
  - 10.4.3. if the individual became a Contingency Athlete, it would result in that Sport being able to enter a Individual Team.
- 10.5. CGW will at their sole discretion accept the NGB's proposed suitable athlete or reject the NGB's proposed suitable athlete. The decision of CGW will be final and binding and there will be no right of appeal.
- 10.6. If CGW accept the proposed suitable athlete, CGW will complete and submit an expression of interest to CGF.
- 10.7. CGF will then in accordance with the Confirmation of Slot Usage Policy and the Distribution of Contingency Slots Policy decide whether to award a Contingency Slot to the proposed suitable athlete.
- 10.8. The implementation of the Confirmation of Slot Usage Policy and the Distribution of Contingency Slots Policy will be the responsibility of the CGF Sports Committee. Any disputes shall be addressed to the CGF Executive Board. The decision of the Executive Board will be final and binding. Each dispute will be considered in its own merit and will not create a precedent.
- 10.9. If the proposed suitable athlete is selected by CGF, they will become a Contingency Athlete and will in turn become a Team Wales Athlete. For the avoidance of doubt, if CGW accepts the NGB's proposed suitable athlete and completes and submits an

expression of interest, this will not guarantee that the proposed suitable athlete will become a Contingency Athlete as this decision will be made by CGF.

10.10. A Contingency Athlete will not form part of the Cap.

## 11. Personal Data/Privacy Notice

- 11.1. For the purposes of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”) it is anticipated that CGW, during the selection process, will be collecting, sharing and otherwise processing Personal Data which may include Special Categories of Personal Data (both as defined in the GDPR) about athletes.
- 11.2. Whenever CGW processes personal data about individuals in connection with CGW’s policies, CGW will process it in accordance with its Privacy Standard. Please see the Privacy Notice attached at Appendix B for further information.

## 12. Force Majeure

12.1. “Force Majeure” means any act, event, omission, cause or circumstance not within the reasonable control of Commonwealth Games Wales, the NGB’s or the Commonwealth Games Federation, including but not limited to any strike, lockout or other industrial action, any civil commotion or disorder, riot, invasion, war or terrorist activity or threat of war or terrorist activity, any action taken by a governmental or public authority of any kind (including, without limitation, not granting a consent, exemption, approval or clearance), any fire, explosion, storm, flood, earthquake, subsidence, epidemic, pandemic or other natural physical disaster. In the event of such Force Majeure affecting the application of this Selection Handbook, Commonwealth Games Wales shall have the sole discretion, in consultation with the Commonwealth Games Federation and NGB’s, to invoke any reasonable amendments it considers are required which are in line with the purpose of this Selection Handbook and shall not be considered to be in breach of this Selection Handbook or otherwise liable for any such failure or delay in the performance of such obligations within this Selection Handbook. The time for performance of such obligations shall be extended accordingly.



**This Selection Handbook remains the property of CGW. CGW reserves the right to amend this Selection Handbook wholly or in part from time to time at its sole discretion.**

**Approved by the Board**